



CITY OF WINTER GARDEN

City Commission BUDGET HEARING & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2022

(Rescheduled from September 29, 2022 per State of Florida - Executive Order No. 22-218 due to Hurricane Ian)

BUDGET HEARINGS & REGULAR MEETING of the Winter Garden City Commission was called to order by Mayor Rees at 6:32 p.m. at City Hall, 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida. An Opening Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were given.

Present:

Mayor John Rees
Commissioner District 1 - Lisa L. Bennett
Commissioner District 2 - Ron Mueller
Commissioner District 3 - Mark A. Maciel
Commissioner District 4 - Colin Sharman

Also Present:

Assistant City Manager Frank Gilbert
City Attorney A. Kurt Dan Langley
City Clerk Angee Grimmage

BUDGET HEARINGS

1. **SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS TO ADOPT PROPOSED BUDGETS AND MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023**

- A. **Ordinance 22-32:** AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAX UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA, FOR THE TAX YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2022, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

City Attorney Dan Langley read Ordinance 22-32 by title and stated that the City Commission of the City of Winter Garden hereby adopts, establishes and levies a millage rate for ad valorem taxation of real and tangible personal property within the City of Winter Garden for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2022, and ending on September 30, 2023, at the rate of 4.5000 mills (\$4.5000 for every \$1,000 of assessed valuation) upon the assessed valuation of property within the corporate limits of the City of Winter Garden, Florida. This millage rate is greater than the rolled back rate of 4.2255 mills by 6.50 percent.

Finance Director Laura Zielonka stated that this ordinance sets the millage rate for the next fiscal year. Staff recommends keeping the millage rate flat at 4.5 mills.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; hearing and seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Mueller to adopt Ordinance 22-32. Second By Commissioner Maciel and carried unanimously 5-0.

- B. Ordinance 22-33: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND ALLOCATING ALL REVENUE AND FUNDS OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA, FOR THE TAX YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2022, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

City Attorney Dan Langley read Ordinance 22-33 by title and the following excerpt, which states that it is anticipated that there will be available for use and disbursement from the general funds of said City, revenue in the following amounts:

Collection of Ad Valorem	\$21,351,106
Revenue other than Ad Valorem	<u>29,497,280</u>
TOTAL REVENUES AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURES	\$50,848,386

Finance Director Laura Zielonka stated that this ordinance is tied to the proposed budget discussed at the August 25, 2022 workshop and the budget hearing of September 15, 2022.

Commissioner Mueller commented that he would like the City to look into reviewing the possibility of a vacation or Paid Time Off (PTO) buyback as a consideration. He noted that this would be an evaluation of \$250,000 in cost to the City.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; hearing and seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

Mayor Rees commented that we really like our employees to take their vacations and want them to spend time with their families and get away from work. He noted that the City hesitated incentivizing the employees to stay at work. He inserted that he would rather see the \$250,000 used in putting more police officers on the street. Commissioner Mueller agreed.

Motion by Commissioner Sharman to adopt Ordinance 22-33. Second By Commissioner Bennett and carried unanimously 5-0.

- C. Ordinance 22-34: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND ALLOCATING ALL REVENUE AND FUNDS OF THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CRA) OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA, FOR THE TAX YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2022, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

City Attorney Dan Langley read Ordinance 22-34 by title and the following excerpt, which states that it is anticipated that it will be available for use and disbursement from the CRA funds of the City, revenue in the following amounts:

Finance Director Laura Zielonka stated that this ordinance allocates the anticipated CRA revenues for fiscal year 2023. She informed that these were unanimously approved by the CRA and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; hearing and seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett to adopt Ordinance 22-34. Second By Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 5-0.

- D. **Ordinance 22-35:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATIONS OF CITY FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3 SECTION 30 (5) OF THE CITY CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA, AND FLORIDA STATUTE 166.241 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FULFILLING THE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY

City Attorney Dan Langley read Ordinance 22-35 by title only. Finance Director Laura Zielonka noted that this last budget item authorizes the appropriations set forth in the budget and noted the availability of staff for answering any questions.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; hearing and seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Maciel to adopt Ordinance 22-35. Second By Commissioner Mueller and carried unanimously 5-0.

REGULAR MEETING

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Mueller to approve regular meeting minutes of September 15, 2022 as submitted. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 5-0.

3. **PRESENTATION**

This item was addressed later in the meeting.

- A. **Proclamation 22-10:** Proclaiming Diaper Need Awareness Week was read by Mayor Rees.

4. **SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES**

- A. **Ordinance 22-23:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA REZONING APPROXIMATELY 3.04 ± ACRES LOCATED AT 14990 WEST COLONIAL DRIVE GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF W. COLONIAL DRIVE, WEST OF ORANGE WEST BOULEVARD, AND NORTH OF ROLLING ROCK WAY FROM C-2 (ARTERIAL COMMERCIAL

DISTRICT) TO PCD (PLANNED COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

City Attorney Dan Langley read Ordinances 22-23 by title only. Community Development Director Stephen Pash stated that this item is requested for postponement until the October 13, 2022 meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Mueller to **POSTPONE Ordinance 22-23 to the October 13, 2022 meeting at 6:30 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 5-0.**

- B. **Ordinance 22-24:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA REZONING APPROXIMATELY 31.00 ± ACRES LOCATED AT 115 ROPER ROAD, AND 705 & 721 WINTER GARDEN VINELAND ROAD, EAST OF WINTER GARDEN VINELAND ROAD, WEST OF LOST GROVE CIRCLE, NORTH OF DUFF DRIVE, AND SOUTH OF ROPER ROAD, FROM R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) TO PUD (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT); PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN PUD REQUIREMENTS AND DESCRIBING THE DEVELOPMENT AS THE DUPPENTHALER PUD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

City Attorney Dan Langley read Ordinance 22-24 by title only. Community Development Director Stephen Pash stated that this is a rezoning to PUD for the development of 87 homes. He stated that this ordinance sets the design standards, open space requirements, and setbacks on the condition that they enter into a developer's agreement. The agreement requires that they pay their fair share for the traffic light at Winter Garden Vineland and Roper Road. Mr. Pash noted that there was discussion at the last meeting regarding additional elevations, which the applicant is working on as well as efforts to save the trees. Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 22-24.

Commissioner Mueller inquired as to whether this is still to be a gated community. Mr. Pash responded yes.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; hearing and seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Sharman to adopt Ordinance 22-24. Seconded by Commissioner Maciel and carried 4-1; Commissioner Mueller opposed.

- C. **Ordinance 22-26:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN ADDITIONAL LANDS GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS APPROXIMATELY 0.59 ± ACRES LOCATED AT 13023 WEST COLONIAL DRIVE, WEST OF 9TH STREET, EAST OF SOUTH DILLARD STREET, SOUTH OF REGAL DOWNS CIRCLE, AND NORTH OF WEST COLONIAL DRIVE INTO THE CITY OF WINTER

GARDEN, FLORIDA; REDEFINING THE CITY BOUNDARIES TO GIVE THE CITY JURISDICTION OVER SAID PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

- D. **Ordinance 22-27:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE WINTER GARDEN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY CHANGING THE LAND USE DESIGNATION OF REAL PROPERTY GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS APPROXIMATELY 0.59 ± ACRES LOCATED AT 13023 WEST COLONIAL DRIVE, WEST OF 9TH STREET, EAST OF SOUTH DILLARD STREET, SOUTH OF REGAL DOWNS CIRCLE, AND NORTH OF WEST COLONIAL DRIVE FROM ORANGE COUNTY COMMERCIAL TO CITY COMMERCIAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE
- E. **Ordinance 22-28:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA REZONING APPROXIMATELY 0.59 ± ACRES LOCATED AT 13023 WEST COLONIAL DRIVE, WEST OF 9TH STREET, EAST OF SOUTH DILLARD STREET, SOUTH OF REGAL DOWNS CIRCLE, AND NORTH OF WEST COLONIAL DRIVE FROM ORANGE COUNTY C-1 RETAIL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO CITY C-2 ARTERIAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

City Attorney Dan Langley read Ordinances 22-26, 22-27 and 22-28 by title only. Community Development Director Stephen Pash stated that this is a voluntary annexation at 13023 West Colonial Drive, amending future land use and sets the zoning to C-2. Staff recommends approval of Ordinances 22-26, 22-27 and 22-28.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; hearing and seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Maciel to adopt Ordinances 22-26, 22-27 and 22-28. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 5-0.

- F. **Ordinance 22-29:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN ADDITIONAL LANDS GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS APPROXIMATELY 0.75 ± ACRES LOCATED AT 9TH STREET, WEST OF 9TH STREET, EAST OF SOUTH DILLARD STREET, SOUTH OF REGAL DOWNS CIRCLE, AND NORTH OF WEST COLONIAL DRIVE INTO THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA; REDEFINING THE CITY BOUNDARIES TO GIVE THE CITY JURISDICTION OVER SAID PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE
- G. **Ordinance 22-30:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE WINTER GARDEN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY CHANGING THE LAND USE DESIGNATION OF REAL PROPERTY GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS APPROXIMATELY 0.75 ± ACRES LOCATED AT 9TH STREET, WEST OF 9TH STREET, EAST OF SOUTH DILLARD STREET, SOUTH OF REGAL DOWNS CIRCLE, AND NORTH OF WEST COLONIAL DRIVE FROM ORANGE COUNTY LOW MEDIUM DENSITY

RESIDENTIAL TO CITY COMMERCIAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

- H. **Ordinance 22-31:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA REZONING APPROXIMATELY 0.75 ± ACRES LOCATED AT 9TH STREET, WEST OF 9TH STREET, EAST OF SOUTH DILLARD STREET, SOUTH OF REGAL DOWNS CIRCLE, AND NORTH OF WEST COLONIAL DRIVE FROM ORANGE COUNTY R-2 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO CITY C-2 ARTERIAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

City Attorney Dan Langley read Ordinances 22-29, 22-30 and 22-31 by title only. Community Development Director Stephen Pash stated that this is a voluntary annexation at parcel identification number 12-22-27-6496-21-000. It amends future land use and sets the zoning to C-2. He noted that it is consistent with the surrounding areas. Staff recommends approval of Ordinances 22-29, 22-30 and 22-31.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; hearing and seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Sharman to adopt Ordinances 22-29, 22-30 and 22-31. Seconded by Commissioner Maciel and carried unanimously 5-0.

- I. **Ordinance 22-36:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA, AMENDING AND REPLACING ORDINANCE 20-08 GENERALLY KNOWN AS THE SONATA WEST MOB II / NHCC PCD PERTAINING TO THE 5.51 +/- ACRE PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED AT 541 WINTER GARDEN VINELAND ROAD, WEST OF DANIELS ROAD, EAST OF WINTER GARDEN VINELAND ROAD, SOUTH OF SUNBRIDGE CIRCLE, AND NORTH OF ROPER ROAD; AMENDING THE PCD TO MODIFY THE SITE PLAN AND PERMITTED USES, AMENDING THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT RESTRICTIONS, AND RENAMING THE DEVELOPMENT AS THE PAM REHAB HOSPITAL PCD; PROVIDING FOR NONSEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

City Attorney Dan Langley read Ordinance 22-36 by title only. Community Development Director Stephen Pash stated that this is a request to amend and replace Ordinance 20-08, which approved developing the site with two two-story medical offices buildings and a church. The current request is to develop the site with a single-story physical rehabilitation hospital and other site improvements. Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 22-36.

Mayor Rees commented that there must be a need for these types of rehabilitation facilities, noting others that are in the area.

Mayor Rees opened the public hearing; hearing and seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Sharman to adopt Ordinance 22-36. Seconded by Commissioner Bennett and carried unanimously 5-0.

5. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. Recommendation to approve RFQ ranking for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services Contract for Crest Avenue WWTF Upgrades and begin negotiations for Task Order 1 Pre-Construction Services with Wharton Smith, Inc.

City Engineer Jim Monahan stated that staff has completed the request for qualifications process for the CMAR services contract for the upgrades to the Crest Avenue Wastewater Treatment Facility. He noted that two firms responded with submittals for this contract and explained how they were independently scored. Wharton-Smith, Inc. receiving 391 Points and PC Construction receiving 379 Points. He noted that the CMAR services would be divided into two task orders: Task Order 1 – Pre-Construction Services and Task Order 2 – Construction Phase Services. He indicated that each Task Order would be brought to the Commission for approval following the completion of negotiations.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett to approve RFQ ranking for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services Contract for Crest Avenue WWTF Upgrades and begin negotiations for Task Order 1 Pre-Construction Services with Wharton Smith, Inc. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 5-0.

- B. Recommendation to approve SITE PLAN for 1275 E. Story Road (Manheim Inspection Building and Rim Shop), subject to conditions

Community Development Director Stephen Pash states that this is the site plan review for 1275 E. Story Road. The applicant requests approval to build a new inspection facility and rim shop. He described the location of the building and noted that the plans have been reviewed and approved by the Development Review Committee. Staff recommends approval, subject to conditions.

Motion by Commissioner Sharman to approve SITE PLAN for 1275 E. Story Road (Manheim Inspection Building and Rim Shop), subject to conditions. Seconded by Commissioner Maciel and carried unanimously 5-0.

- C. Recommendation to approve SITE PLAN for 411 N. Dillard Street (Health Central Park Addition & Renovation), subject to conditions

Community Development Director Stephen Pash stated that this is the site plan review for property located at 411 N. Dillard Street. The owner proposes demolition of a portion of the building and he described the new building facility, which would allow for 110 beds. He also described the associated development, such as parking areas, landscaping, tree removal and replacement. He indicated that a community meeting was held and there were five attendees, who inquired about the development. He

noted that concerns were voiced regarding removal or improvement of the laundry facility and noted that it would be demolished and removed. Mr. Pash noted that the plans have been reviewed and approved by the Development Review Committee and staff recommends approval, subject to conditions.

Commissioner Mueller inquired of there being any lighting concerns. Mr. Pash responded that these would have to meet certain City requirements.

Mayor Rees inquired if there were plans discussed on what they would do with the existing remaining buildings. Mr. Pash described the proposed plans, noted requested permits and indicated possible improvements for everything at this location.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett to approve SITE PLAN 411 N. Dillard Street (Health Central Park Addition & Renovation), subject to conditions. Seconded by Commissioner Mueller and carried unanimously 5-0.

- D. Recommendation to approve SPECIAL EVENT – American Legion Post 63 “Ruck Walk” to change location from Veterans Park to Plant Street Market/Crooked Can Brewery on Saturday, November 12, 2022 for 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., subject to conditions

Community Development Director Stephen Pash stated that this is a request for a special event for the American Legion Post 63 Ruck Walk, who would like to change the location. The event was approved for November 12, 2022 at Veterans Park and is now requested to move to Crooked Can Brewery. He noted its similarity to other events held there, such as closing South Central, stage location, outdoor seating, live music, vendor tents and activities. He shared the event times and other activities related to the Ruck Walk. Staff recommends approval, subject to conditions.

There was discussion that the noise would be monitored and the neighbor voicing past concerns would be contacted.

Motion by Commissioner Mueller to approve SPECIAL EVENT American Legion Post 63 “Ruck Walk” to change location from Veterans Park to Plant Street Market/Crooked Can Brewery on Saturday, November 12, 2022 for 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., subject to conditions. Seconded by Commissioner Maciel and carried unanimously 5-0.

- E. BOARD APPOINTMENT: Police & Firefighters’ Pension Board

City Clerk Grimmage stated that board appointments are required to fill two expired seats for the Winter Garden Police & Firefighters Pension Board. She noted that the Commission-appointed trustees for these positions are Erik Halluska and Bruce Schobel, both of which have expressed their desire to serve the new four-year term, as recently adopted by Ordinance 22-03. She stated that the new terms would expire November 30, 2026. She also informed of five board appointment Interest applications included in the

agenda packet for consideration. Staff recommends approval of two appointments for the four-year terms.

Commissioner Mueller recommended Erik Halluska, noting his qualifications and stated that he would like to see that he be reappointed to the board.

Motion by Commissioner Mueller to appoint Erik Halluska to the Police and Firefighters' Pension Board for a four-year term through November 30, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Maciel and Commissioner Bennett simultaneously and carried unanimously 5-0.

There was discussion on Bruce Schobel, who also desires to retain his seat, that he resides in District 2. Commissioner Mueller noted that Gequita Cowan was also a good candidate for the seat having been on the Pension board for the City of Ocoee. There was discussion on experience being preferred in these nominations.

Motion by Commissioner Mueller to appoint Bruce Schobel to the Police and Firefighters' Pension Board for a four-year term through November 30, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Bennett and carried unanimously 5-0.

F. BOARD APPOINTMENT: General Employees' Pension Board

City Clerk Grimmage stated that a board appointment is required to fill an expired 2-year term for a General Employees' Pension Board trustee. She noted that the Commission-appointed trustee for this position is Ed McKinney and he has expressed his desire to serve the new four-year term, as recently adopted by Ordinance 22-02. That new term would expire September 30, 2026. She informed that four board appointment interest applications were also included in the agenda packet for consideration.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett to appoint Ed McKinney to the General Employees' Pension Board for a four-year term through September 30, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 5-0.

6. **MATTERS FROM PUBLIC**

Norine Dworkin, VoxPopuli news organization of Winter Garden, informed of Yom Kippur as one of the most important days for the Jewish community and voiced concerns about holding a City Commission meeting on a day that observing Jews could not attend.

Mayor Rees expressed his apologies, explained circumstances in relation to the hurricane, and noted that it resulted in the City Commission rescheduling the meeting to a day when all City Commissioners could be present.

Commissioner Mueller asked for forgiveness on this Day of Atonement, and noted that this City Commission, who are now wiser to this going forward, has heard her words.

Ms. Dworkin noted that the Hurricane did throw schedules into disarray, but asked that the City Commission be cognizant of others beliefs and faiths.

Gretchen Tope, 512 N. Lakeview Avenue, Winter Garden, Florida, thanked City staff for their efforts following clean up after Hurricane Ian. She thanked the City for the wonderful staff.

7. **MATTERS FROM CITY ATTORNEY** – There were no items.

8. **MATTERS FROM CITY MANAGER**

Debris Clean up

Assistant City Manager Frank Gilbert updated the City Commission on efforts concerning debris cleanup. He noted that staff is working as quickly as they can and informed of landfill closure causing delays. He asked for everyone's patience.

October Meetings

Assistant City Manager Frank Gilbert informed that there would be three meetings for the month of October, noting the regularly scheduled meetings would still be held.

Commend City Staff

Assistant City Manager Frank Gilbert commended City Staff on how well they handled issues during to the hurricane, specifically noting emergency response and also staff's quick response for cleanup.

A. Assignment of Grant Agreement between West Orange Healthcare District and City of Winter Garden

Assistant City Manager Frank Gilbert informed that he signed a letter of assignment for the previously approved \$6 million grant received from the West Orange Health District for Tucker Ranch. He reminded of related information regarding the agreement.

West Orange Homecoming Parade

Assistant City Manager Frank Gilbert announced that the West Orange Homecoming Parade would be held on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 starting at 6:00 p.m. and noted event details.

9. **MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Sharman thanked staff for their efforts after the storm and spoke of Duke Energy's efforts to have residents power restored.

Commissioner Maciel addressed concerns relating to Yom Kippur and appreciates the fact that it was acknowledged that it was unintentional. He expressed that the City Commission would do better and apologized to anyone that might have been offended.

Commissioner Maciel thanked everyone for their efforts during the hurricane. He commended Assistant City Manager Frank Gilbert for stepping in for City Manager Jon C. Williams during this time and he again thanked all of the staff.

Commissioner Mueller read a letter from residents, who commended the City for their sandbagging efforts. Commissioner Mueller commented on the sandbagging effort and thanked all who assisted.

Commissioner Mueller shared that National Night Out was a fabulous event, which happened on the heels of the hurricane efforts and voiced his thanks to everyone.

Commissioner Mueller specifically thanked Finance Director Laura Zielonka for an excellent budget, noting confidence under her guidance and leadership going into 2023.

Commissioner Bennett spoke of feedback received regarding the City’s hard work and she named certain staff and noted their efforts.

Commissioner Bennett apologized regarding Yom Kippur, noting it was not intentional.

Mayor Rees, delaying this item to give the recipient time to arrive, read Proclamation 22-10 proclaiming Diaper Awareness Week at this point in the meeting. He stated that this awareness would continue into October.

Mayor Rees spoke of phone calls and emails commending the City on its sandbagging efforts and what a wonderful job our City does. He shared how staff and volunteers worked in the rain; he thanked Assistant City Manager Frank Gilbert for his assistance and expressed that he also thanks Duke Energy for their hard work.

Mayor Rees commented on National Night Out and the great comments he received about the great job that the Police and Firefighters were doing and voiced his appreciation for them. He apologized to City staff for all that they had been through with the hurricane and then having to follow it up with events like National Night Out and the Homecoming parade. He thanked them, how they make these things happen and expressed how important these are to our school and community.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

 /S/
City Clerk Angee Grimage, CMC

 /S/
Mayor John Rees