

City of Live Oak
City Council Meeting Minutes
May 09, 2023

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The Live Oak City Council met Tuesday, May 09, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall located at 101 SE White Ave., Live Oak, Florida 32064 for a regular monthly meeting. The following officials were present: Mayor Frank Davis, Councilmember Matt Campbell, Councilmember Tommie Jefferson, Council President David Burch, Councilmember Lynda Brown-Owens, Councilmember Tesie Allen, City Attorney Todd Kennon, City Clerk John Gill, & City Manager Larry Sessions.

Council President Burch called the meeting to order.

Mayor Frank Davis led the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council President Burch presented the agenda for any additions, deletions, or changes. Councilmember Campbell requested that discussion regarding the code enforcement process and procedures be added to the agenda under 5B. Councilmember Jefferson made a motion to add this item to the agenda under 5B, which Councilmember Allen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council President Burch proceeded to the next agenda item, the approval of the April 11th regular monthly city council meeting minutes and the April 21st special called council meeting minutes. Councilmember Campbell moved to approve regular monthly city council meeting minutes and special called council meeting minutes as presented, which Councilmember Jefferson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council President Burch then opened the floor for public comment.

The following individual's spoke:

Mr. Vince Smith spoke regarding truck routes and having the meetings being recorded.

Mrs. Gloria Hancock spoke regarding trash near her home being burned.

With no other comments, Council President Burch closed public comments.

Council President Burch turned the floor over to Mayor Frank Davis for discussion with possible council action on Resolution 2023-10, a resolution appointing a tenant commissioner to the Housing Authority Board. City Attorney Todd Kenon explained the procedures on appointing a commissioner as per state statues to the board. Councilmember Jefferson requested that he would like to hear from each applicant. Mayor Davis advised each applicant to approach the board and give an introduction.

Ms. Juwana Coker approached the board stating why she would like to have the position on the Housing Authority Board.

Ms. Shirley Cooper spoke stating why she would be best for the position on the Housing Authority Board.

Ms. Christina Johnson gave her reason to why she would make a good fit for the position on the Housing Authority Board.

Mayor Davis made the recommendation to appoint Juwana Coker as tenant commissioner for seat #4 to the Housing Authority Board with the term ending September 30, 2023. Councilmember Jefferson made a motion denying the mayor's recommendation. The motion died for lack of a second. Councilmember Campbell made a motion to accept the recommendation for applicant Juwana Coker for seat #4 on The Housing Authority Board, which Councilmember Allen seconded. The motion carried 4 to 1 with Councilmember Jefferson opposed.

Mayor Davis informed council that the Department of Transportation is willing to attend the workshop on May 23, 2023 at 3:30 and requested that council and staff have all their questions prepared prior to the meeting. Mayor Davis also advised that Freedom Fest is July 4, 2023.

Council President Burch proceeded to the council portion of the agenda and turned the floor over to Councilmember Owens for discussion regarding sheds being used as dwellings. Councilmember Owens stated that there is a problem with there being no utilities in these sheds. She stated people are using the restroom outside and it's becoming a problem in her district. She is requesting that code enforcement follow up on this issue as there is a code for living in a shed. Mr. Curtis approached

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the council stating the LDR prohibits people from using sheds as dwellings. He also stated that the sheds are only certified for storage space only.

Councilmember Owens proceeded with discussion regarding Walker Street parking, signage and enforcement. City Manager Larry Sessions stated that he went out to Walker Street and measured the street to see if parking could be available, he stated that the street was not wide enough to accommodate parking. Mr. Sessions stated that an exception will be made to allow parking on Walker Street during funerals.

Councilmember Owens moved to the next item regarding public notification of city ordinance. She stated that some of the ordinances are outdated and need to be updated and to remind public that ordinances are on the city's website.

Council President Burch moved on to Councilmember Campbell items regarding discussion concerning the regulations and ordinance pertaining to manufactured homes in the city limits. Councilmember Campbell provided maps to staff to show where manufactured homes can be setup. Councilmember Campbell believes people will have an opportunity to have better options when purchasing homes and it will be an upgrade in aesthetics in the city. Councilmember Campbell also suggested that the zoning map should be on the website, he advised it would really help realtors and residents.

Councilmember Campbell moved on with discussion about the direction of the city as it relates to existing and future businesses. Councilmember Campbell stated that while there are businesses going towards interstate 10, he wants to know what can be done as a community to get more business in the empty buildings in the old Live Oak mall area.

Councilmember Campbell proceeded with discussion about a plan for replacing the fire chief and then turned the floor to the City Manager. Mr. Session read a letter from Chief Croft regarding his retirement, Mr. Sessions stated that he is working on a plan for a new fire chief.

Councilmember Campbell proceeded with discussion on code enforcement process & procedures and allowed resident Susan Duhaime to approach the board. Mrs. Duhaime stated that her neighbor is running a recycling business in their neighborhood and is burning constantly. Mr. Sessions stated that the code enforcement officer, Mr. Travis Shott was away at training and that he (Sessions) will be over the next day to address the problem.

Council President Burch moved on to Councilmember Jefferson discussion regarding policy and procedures for board appointments. Councilmember Jefferson stated there needs to be a better way to appoint members to different boards and he printed out some examples from other cities. Mr. Kennon, City Attorney stated that he would look it over. He also explained that the Housing Authority Board is the only board that is hands off when it comes to the policy & procedures for board appointment.

Councilmember Jefferson moved on with discussion regarding a grant writer. Councilmember Jefferson was informed by staff that a grant writer was recently hired to assist the city in locating and applying for grants.

Council President Burch turned the floor over to Mr. Sessions who the discussed the items on his list pertaining to the city issues such as truck routes, the Fire Chief's position, shed ordinances, and the new digital water meters. He reiterated that each issue will be addressed one at a time. He also stated that he grateful to be the city manager.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Councilmember David Burch
City Council President

Attest:
Mr. John Gill
City Clerk