

LONGWOOD CITY COMMISSION
Longwood City Commission Chambers
175 West Warren Avenue
Longwood, Florida

MINUTES
December 19, 2022
6:00 P.M.

Present: **Mayor Matt Morgan**
 Deputy Mayor Matthew McMillan
 Commissioner Abby Shoemaker
 Commissioner Tony Boni
 Commissioner Brian D. Sackett
 Dan Langley, City Attorney
 Clint Gioielli, Acting City Manager
 Michelle Longo, City Clerk
 David Dowda, Police Chief
 Chris Kintner, Community Development Director

- 1. CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.
- 2. OPENING INVOCATION.** Pastor Phil Ayers with LifePoint Christian Church gave the invocation.
- 3. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Commissioner Shoemaker led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 4. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Ms. Longo read the following announcements.
 - A. The Senior Matinee will be held on Wednesday, December 21, 2022, from 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. at the Longwood Community Building, 200 West Warren Avenue. This month's feature is *Last Holiday*.**
 - B. The City of Longwood will host the 9th Annual "Chili Cook-Off" in conjunction with the monthly car show on Saturday, January 14, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. in the Historic District of Longwood located off of Church Avenue. A taster's kit can be purchased in advance for \$5.00 or on the day of the show for \$7.00.**

- C. **The “Downtown Longwood Cruise-In” Car Show will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Historic District of Longwood located off of Church Avenue.**

5. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

- A. **District #2 Nomination of Business Person of the Month Award for January 2023 (Presentation scheduled for January 16, 2023).**

Commissioner Boni nominated Richard Grimaldi, owner of Gameroom Concepts Unlimited for the Business Person of the Month for January 2023. Nomination carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- B. **Nomination of the Beautification Award (Presentation scheduled for January 16, 2023).**

Commissioner Boni nominated Fancy Fruit on US Highway 17-92 for the Beautification Award. Nomination carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- C. **Nomination and selection of the recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Good Citizenship Award (Presentation scheduled for January 16, 2023).**

Commissioner Sacket nominated Warren and Cathy Brown for the Martin Luther King Jr. Good Citizenship Award.

Mayor Morgan nominated Jon Ham for the Martin Luther King Jr. Good Citizenship Award.

Commissioner Boni nominated Ian Schneider for the Martin Luther King Jr. Good Citizenship Award.

Commissioner Shoemaker nominated Matt Morgan for the Martin Luther King Jr. Good Citizenship Award.

All nominations were carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- D. **Recognition of Northland Church for their participation in the Hurricane cleanup.**

Commissioner Boni recognized Pastor Josh Laxton with Northland Church for their outstanding community service and efforts through the clean-up following Hurricane Ian and presented him with a certificate of recognition. Photographs were then taken.

6. BOARD APPOINTMENTS. None.

7. PUBLIC INPUT

A. Public Participation.

Jon Ham, 107 Meadowlark Drive, Altamonte Springs, 32701. He stated the City asked him five (5) years ago to drive Santa through Longwood and he agreed. He participates in Santa Visits Longwood for children and adults. For the last five (5) years he has seen kids grow up, the joy and smiles on their faces, as they see Santa Claus. He expressed his gratitude to the City Commission for allowing him to be a part of it. He added we do not know what type of home life these kids have and to see just one smiling kid brings him to tears. He commented in this world there is so much hate that will tear you down, but two days a year he gets to see the smiling kids. He noted his appreciation for his nomination for the Martin Luther King Jr. Good Citizenship Award. He suggested getting a tracker for next year so everyone can see where Santa Claus is.

8. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

District #3. Deputy Mayor McMillan thanked Mr. Ham for his remarks during Public Participation and said his good citizenship award nomination is well deserved demonstrating the theme of community.

Deputy Mayor McMillan referred to the last Commission meeting and clarified his position on the Longwood Babe Ruth Baseball contract. He stated he voted no both times not because he does not support Longwood Babe Ruth Baseball but because he prefers to have time to think about changes being proposed by the Commission and felt like he did not have the opportunity to do that. He said he does like Longwood Babe Ruth as a community partner.

Deputy Mayor McMillan commented on the proposed development by the Public Works building for storage as discussed at an earlier meeting. He requested that proposal be added to the agenda of a future Commission meeting. He explained the property owner took the time to address the Commission, and he read Mr. Kintner's email about a potential code change to aggregate preexisting retail for flag lots. He also addressed a major development by Orlando Health South Seminole Hospital, and that an item is on the agenda to approve bonds, which are part of that process. He looks forward to the development proposal for the 15-acre site and noted Reiter Park is an amenity for the entire City not just adjacent properties. Residents should be able to access the park meaning having places to park. The arrangement the City currently has with Orlando Health South Seminole Hospital to use their parking lot is

great however, the City needs to formalize something with the upcoming development whether a garage or otherwise to allow the park to function as it has. He also mentioned the Warren Smart Street project and whether that would include burying utility lines in that area.

Deputy Mayor McMillan addressed the preservation of the City's rural character. He referred to properties not in the City but near his neighborhood north of Longwood Hills Road and stated the City has received public record requests about prospective developments even though there have been no applications. He requested having on a future agenda an idea to have the Commission pass a resolution to express the City's vision of development in that area and have the Community Development Director discuss and present options. He added he would like to see an equestrian enclave that preserves existing residences commenting Crossroads Corral, a non-profit, just moved into that area.

Deputy Mayor McMillan reported he is representing the Longwood Historic Society at the Seminole County Chamber, Longwood Council's monthly Lunch & Learn meetings held at the Longwood Community Building. Attorney John Morgan was the speaker at the meeting held that day. He donated personal funds to the Longwood Historic Society, now a member of the Chamber, and sponsored a table so he could speak about the City's historic district at every meeting, talking about the Bradlee-McIntyre House, Inside-Out House, and Historic Civic Center. He wanted small business owners to be aware of the opportunity to hold a meeting in the Longwood Historic District. He planned to attend the Pinecastle Pioneer Days and talk about Longwood's historic district at the History Tent. He plans to network with other historic societies in terms of communication and sponsorships.

Deputy Mayor McMillan attended the Celebrate the Season and tree lighting event and had a great time. He reported on the true, good, and beautiful. For the "true", he was happy to say there is a Santa Claus, as well as, generosity throughout the City and demonstrated by Mr. Ham, the events at the park, and city employees. For the "good", he saw a lot of heart and team spirit at the Annual Employee Holiday Luncheon & Awards Ceremony. He commented the Christmas Tree Contest was fantastic and he loved the Public Works Department tree which had a working water pump, and the IT Department had a tree with a cell phone tower with Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer playing on it. For the "beautiful", he saw the Lyman High School Jazz Band in the park and heard a beautiful trumpet solo along with other students playing at the Holiday Jazz Concert.

District #4. Mayor Morgan noticed people using walkers and/or wheelchairs at the various events at Reiter Park and mentioned there are roll-out walkways that can be put across the grass field at the park. He said these walkways are lightweight, affordable, easy to put in place and provide an option to go on the field instead of the concrete. He asked Mr. Gioielli to look into a roll-out walkway for Reiter Park.

Mayor Morgan commented about the official tree lighting at Celebrate the Season event that takes place two weeks into December and by then a majority of the City has already seen the tree lit. He asked Mr. Gioielli to discuss two items of interest with individual Commissioners throughout the week. The first, scheduling the lighting of the tree as a stand-alone ceremony. He believed the event should be held the first week in December. The second, reverse the Christmas Parade date so Longwood is not competing with other cities. He felt attendance has decreased each year due to other parades.

Mr. Gioielli asked Mayor Morgan about moving the Celebrate the Season to the first week in December and doing the tree lighting at the same time.

Mayor Morgan responded he would like to know the thoughts of the other Commissioners along with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members.

Discussion ensued about checking with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on an earlier date for Celebrate the Season, options regarding scheduling the Christmas Parade and Celebrate the Season on the same day, reversing the dates for Celebrate the Season and the Christmas Parade, competition from other cities on the proposed date, and change the parade route to show businesses on both sides of Ronald Reagan Boulevard.

Mayor Morgan asked Mr. Gioielli to speak with individual Commissioners, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and staff in regarding his original request.

Mayor Morgan thanked newly elected state Representative Rachel Plakon for visiting Longwood City Hall and meeting staff. He planned to meet with newly elected state Representative Doug Bankson the next day. He said it was important to have good relationships with these representatives who can help the City of Longwood. He also thanked Mr. Gioielli and staff members for being available to meet with the representatives.

Mayor Morgan mentioned the upcoming Prayer Breakfast to be held in Longwood and he thanked Deputy Mayor McMillan and staff for their work on the event. He congratulated Maggie Ridore, Liane Cartagena, and the Employee Committee members for an outstanding job on the Annual Employee Holiday Luncheon & Awards Ceremony.

Mayor Morgan reported he set up an interview for Head Football Coach Jermel Jones of Lyman High School on the Roger Williams Show. He commented Coach Jones is a good coach on the field and off the field teaching life lessons to the young men who play on the team.

Mayor Morgan noted a resident stated online they did not see Santa Claus at the end of the Longwood Christmas Parade. He responded Santa and Mrs. Claus were both in the parade in a fire truck. He decided a week later to put on his Santa costume and visit the resident's grandchildren. He brought the three children gifts and made their day. He said he was able to turn a negative statement online into something good by using kindness. He thanked President Tracy Putnam of the Longwood Historic Society and members of the society for their time at the 7-Foot Santa event the past weekend at the Bradlee-McIntyre House. They asked for a \$5 donation. Mayor Morgan likes that the event is free to attract young families to the City's historic district.

Mayor Morgan participated in a "Shop with a Sheik" event for the Boys & Girls Club of America. The underprivileged members of the Club go shopping with the Sanford Police and the resident Sheik in the Sanford area. He thanked Super Target in Sanford for their help each year with the event.

District #5. Commissioner Sackett will provide an update on MetroPlan Orlando at their January meeting. He reported CALNO will hold its February meeting in Longwood and he alerted Mr. Gioielli since the City will host that meeting.

Commissioner Sackett commented he did his annual bicycle donation and has donated over 2,000 bicycles. Commissioner Sackett stated the events at Reiter Park have gone far beyond his expectations with many fantastic shows for people to enjoy. He attended the Lyman High School Jazz Band show, Celebrate the Season, the Longwood Christmas Parade, and Breakfast with Santa. He noted Santa Claus was inside the fire truck at the parade. He visited the Chanukah Celebration at Reiter Park earlier that evening and wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year.

District #1. Commissioner Shoemaker noted she appreciates everything Mr. Ham does and understands when it comes to seeing the children because she was once Mrs. Claus and an Elf for the holidays. She is glad Santa Visits Longwood has been brought back after a lapse for the community to enjoy. She liked the tracker idea for Santa and suggested the truck go slower so everyone can see it.

Commissioner Shoemaker attended the Annual Employee Holiday Luncheon & Awards Ceremony and commented on the phenomenal Christmas Tree scene submitted by the Public Works Department. She was unable to attend the concert by the Lyman High School Jazz Band because she participated in the Ladies Clay Shooting. She attended the ribbon cutting for Siam O-Cha, a new Thai restaurant in Longwood. She commented that the Celebrate the Season event was phenomenal and thanked everyone who participated.

District #2. Commissioner Boni commented on Deputy Mayor McMillan's development ideas and said he liked them. He attended the Seminole County Chamber Longwood Council's Lunch & Learn meeting earlier that day and mentioned Deputy Mayor McMillan's presentation on behalf of the Longwood Historic Society was awesome. He officially announced the 2nd Annual Longwood Historic Society Charity Poker Tournament will be held on March 4, 2023.

Commissioner Boni agreed with Mayor Morgan regarding the tree lighting, and he did not care if the event is combined with the parade. He requested a longer parade route to cover more businesses on Ronald Reagan Boulevard. He thanked Mr. Ham for not only what he does but for the passion that he expressed earlier for his participation in Santa Visits Longwood. Commissioner Boni said his children have grown up seeing Santa come through Longwood and Mr. Ham has made a difference with each child.

Commissioner Boni attended the Annual Employee Holiday Luncheon & Awards Ceremony and thanked the staff who helped put together the event. He attended Celebrate the Season and it was a phenomenal event. He commented Reiter Park is becoming a destination for Seminole County residents, not just Longwood. He wished the Commission, staff, and residents a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year.

Commissioner Shoemaker also wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year.

9. ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA. None.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes of December 5, 2022, Regular Meeting.**
- B. Approve the Monthly Expenditures for December 2022.**
- C. Approve the Monthly Financial Report for November 2022.**

Commissioner Sackett moved to approve Items 10A through 10C as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

11. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 22-1623, regarding bonds sought by Orlando Health for a new free-standing emergency department.**

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 22-1623 by title only.

Mayor Morgan opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Resolution No. 22-1623.

Commissioner Sackett moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker and carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Cortez Whatley, Government Affairs Manager with Orlando Health thanked the City for working with them on the bond process.

Commissioner Boni moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-1623 as presented Item 11A. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

12. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. City Commission to consider extending an allowance for vehicles over 12,000 pounds to travel over a portion of Wildmere Avenue in association with a Temporary Use Permit (TUP 01-23) at 150 Wildmere Avenue.**

Mr. Kintner presented the Item and answered questions.

Commissioner Boni moved to approve the Temporary Use Permit (TUP 01-23) at 150 Wildmere Avenue as presented. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Gioielli stated that the Commission expressed an interest in options for the City to assist with the debris cleanup from Hurricane Nicole which is not covered through FEMA. He received pricing that staff thought was high and City staff volunteered to work overtime to clear out the larger debris piles left in the right-of-way, covering storm drains or left on the roadside. Mr. Gioielli said an information campaign has been created through social media and the website, and staff has been in contact with Waste Pro employees traveling around the City. A message has been provided through utility billing either on an automated calling service or by email. The majority of the residents seem to understand the debris is not covered by FEMA, and they have been taking care of their hurricane waste.

Mr. Gioielli noted at the last meeting Commissioner Sackett asked about the possible annexation of businesses along Ronald Reagan Boulevard specifically on the west side of the road. He reported in 2018 the City entered into a joint planning agreement with the City of Altamonte Springs related to the same area. The agreement was the City of Altamonte Springs would provide utilities, and if a business or property owner came in to set up utilities, they would be encouraged or sent to the City of Longwood to start an annexation application. He explained this process is not mandatory and there has not been any change in services to his knowledge that has compelled the City of Altamonte Springs to direct those businesses to our area. At the time the agreement was set up, the City of Longwood notified those business owners or property owners in that area and made them aware of the agreement, and encouraged them to come in for voluntary annexation. There was only one interested party and they wanted stormwater upgrades that were too expensive to install. He said at the request of Commissioner Sackett, they will reengage these property owners again to see if they can encourage annexation into Longwood.

Mr. Gioielli said at the last meeting Deputy Mayor McMillan asked about increasing the City's sense of community by communicating and sharing information with families moving into multi-family dwellings. He said staff has created a new Resident Guide, a one-page guide being provided to all customers who come in to sign up for utilities. The staff has been working on a tri-fold flyer that is still in creation and he recently approved mapping which will be included. The staff has provided flyers both digital and printed versions as well as flyers provided in community areas inside all multi-family dwellings. Flyers had been delivered, posted, and distributed as of that day.

Mr. Gioielli reported the Light up Longwood Contest closed that day at noon, and staff is counting the votes, ordering the plaques, and will be in contact with the Commission to ask them to go with staff to deliver the recognition. In regards to Arbor Dog Park, he stated the perimeter fence is scheduled to be in place by mid-January. He said the staff is disappointed the date for the fence is not sooner but there have been supply issues with the contractor. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year.

14. CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT. No report.

15. CITY CLERK’S REPORT

Ms. Longo reminded the Commission that the City offices will be closed Friday, December 23, Monday, December 26, Friday, December 30, and Monday, January 2 for the Christmas and New Year’s Holidays. She stated the regular January 2 meeting was canceled and the next regular meeting will be held on January 16, 2023. She said the Clerk’s office has begun the work for the 43rd Annual JOY “Juvenile of the Year” Awards. The award presentation will be held at the February 6, 2023, Commission Meeting, and the eleven (11) schools serving Longwood have been sent their invitation and nomination form. The Seminole County School Board Members, Superintendent, and Deputy Superintendent have been notified. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year full of health, wealth, and happiness.

16. ADJOURN. Mayor Morgan adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Minutes approved by City Commission: 01-16-2023

Matt Morgan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Longo, MMC, FCRM
City Clerk