

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

MINUTES
November 6, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Present: **Mayor Tony Boni**
 Deputy Mayor Matthew McMillan
 Commissioner Abby Shoemaker
 Commissioner Matt Morgan
 Commissioner Brian D. Sackett
 Dan Langley, City Attorney
 Clint Gioielli, City Manager
 Michelle Longo, City Clerk
 David Dowda, Police Chief
 Michael Peters, Fire Chief
 Chris Kintner, Community Development Director
 Shad Smith, Public Works Director
 Magdala Ridore, Human Resources Director

- 1. CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Boni called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- 2. OPENING INVOCATION.** Pastor Eric Scholten with First Baptist Church of Longwood gave the invocation.
- 3. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Commissioner Sackett led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 4. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Ms. Longo read the following announcements.
 - A. The “Downtown Longwood Cruise-In” Car Show will be held on Saturday, November 11, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Historic District of Longwood, located off of Church Avenue.**
 - B. The Heroes Strong Event will be held on Sunday, November 12, 2023, from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in Reiter Park, 311 West Warren Avenue. This is a free event honoring local heroes.**

- C. **The Senior Matinee will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, from 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. at the Longwood Community Building, 200 West Warren Avenue. This month's feature is *Machine Gun Preacher*.**
- D. **Longwood Movie in the Park will be held on Friday, November 17, 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Reiter Park, 311 West Warren Avenue. This is a free event and the movie will be *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*.**
- E. **The Longwood Arts and Crafts Festival will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2023, and Sunday, November 19, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Artists and crafters will line the streets in the Historic District of Longwood located off Church Street. There will be food, beverages, and live entertainment. This is a free event, and free parking is available at the Longwood SunRail Station Parking lots and the Orlando Health South Seminole back parking lot.**

5. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

- A. **Presentation of the Mayor John Land Years of Service Award to Commissioner Brian D. Sackett, recognizing his 20 years of service.**

Eryn Russell, Membership Programs Specialist with the Florida League of Cities, Inc. presented Commissioner Sackett with a resolution and 20 years of service pin. Photographs were then taken.

The Commission recessed at 6:10 p.m. and reconvened at 6:12 p.m.

- B. **District #2 Nomination of the Business Person of the Month Award for November 2023.**

Mayor Boni nominated Rebecca Waldron, Manager of Jack the Dipper Ice Cream for the Business Person of the Month for November 2023. Nomination carried by a unanimous voice vote.

6. BOARD APPOINTMENTS

- A. **District #2 (At Large) Nomination to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.**

Mayor Boni nominated William Overbeek for appointment to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Nomination carried by a unanimous voice vote.

B. District #3 (At Large) Nomination to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

Deputy Mayor McMillan nominated Amanda Sackett for reappointment to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Nomination carried by a unanimous voice vote.

7. PUBLIC INPUT

A. Public Participation.

James Roark, 733 Orange Avenue, Longwood. He spoke about the property at 741 Orange Avenue next to his and noted it is possibly abandoned and that the resident has passed away. He has called Code Enforcement twice. He stated no one had been taking care of the grounds and had seen increased rodents and snakes. He wanted the City Commission to be aware of the situation.

James Howard, 1065 Ridge Street, Winter Springs. He stated he is located in the City of Longwood. He spoke about his concern regarding a vacant lot at the end of Ridge Street that has homeless people. He has talked to the police about the issue. He stated the property owner is supposed to take care of the property, but weeds have grown, and it was difficult to see if anyone is on the property. He commented his next-door neighbor has a garden, and she catches people stealing things and moving her furniture around. He was unsure what to do about this issue since half his neighborhood is in the City and the other half is in the County. He said his family has five (5) generations in Longwood, and they love the City and all the activities, especially the car shows. He was hoping the City could do something about this issue.

8. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

District #2. Mayor Boni attended National Night Out and helped grill hot dogs. He attended the Lyman High School Homecoming Parade and Pray For Our Leaders, presented by Christian Tech Center. He attended the luncheon fundraiser for the Rescue Outreach Mission. He reported that the Rotary Club District put together a welcome party for the new Rotary Club of Longwood at Historic Cigars Longwood. Many people showed up to give their support, and they were able to induct Commissioner Morgan and Commissioner Shoemaker as charter members. The Rotary Club of

Longwood meetings are every Monday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Longwood Historic Civic Center. He attended the Seminole County Chamber's Mayor's Update and the Meals on Wheels volunteer celebration at the Longwood Community Building.

Mayor Boni attended the First Annual Halloween Dance Party and dressed as Mayor Vader. He noted that the turnout was good and thanked Amanda Sackett and the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for putting the event together. There was a record turnout for the Longwood Historic Society Monster Dash, and money was raised towards a new roof for the historic Inside-Outside House, where the Cottage Gift Shop is located. He attended the Air Show in Sanford and Senior Discovery Day at the Longwood Community Building. He said the event was in partnership with the Senior Resource Alliance, which organized a group to educate seniors on monies available for home improvements and power bills. There was a good turnout on the second day of the event. He hopes this to be a precursor to a Senior Activity Center in the City of Longwood beginning in January. He thanked program participants, including Senior Resource Alliance, Meals on Wheels, Longwood Police and Fire Departments, COPs (Citizens on Patrol), CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), Longwood Fire Department, Orlando Health, and Sunshine Pharmacy.

District #3. Deputy Mayor McMillan missed some of the local events but attended the All Hallows in Old Longwood. He saw Mayor Boni giving a tour around the Historic District, and Commissioner Morgan gave a tour in his place later that afternoon. On November 4, he attended his 30th Class reunion from Lake Mary High School. A group met at Reiter Park in Longwood and made their way to Historic Cigars Longwood. He commented that those who attended were impressed with the changes in the area.

Deputy Mayor McMillan reported on the true, good, and beautiful. For the "true," he found an interesting scientific fact that the wood in the trees does not just grow out of the ground but is actually captured from photosynthesis from the air. For the "good," he saw good neighborliness on Halloween Night—groups of children with their parents trick or treating safely in his neighborhood. For the "beautiful," he mentioned his class reunion. Everyone sat on the patio outside Historic Cigars around the fire pit, enjoying a beautiful fall evening.

District #4. Commissioner Morgan confirmed with the City Manager that he had the information needed to address the issues brought up during public participation.

Commissioner Morgan mentioned a homeowner in the City who abused the squatter's law, allowing drug addicts and dealers on the property. He thanked Mr. Gioielli, the Longwood Police Department, and Seminole County Sheriff Dennis Lemma for fixing that issue.

Commissioner Morgan, on October 18, attended a Leadership Seminole call to service meeting and visited Longwood Elementary School. He spoke with Vice Principal Amy Sink about a shade structure for their playground, which gets very hot in the sunlight. He brought a playground builder from Longwood to see what they could do to help the school and explained that there is a process to follow for Seminole County Public Schools and working with vendors. He reported that he and Commissioner Shoemaker were inducted into the Rotary Club of Longwood and thanked Mayor Boni for bringing the Rotary Club to the City. He attended the Teen Challenge Annual Gala, and they raised the most money ever. On October 28, he attended the Longwood Historic Society Monster Dash. Later that day, he was the emcee at the NextStep Orlando annual Walk-n-Roll-a-Thon held at Cranes Roost Park in Altamonte Springs. He suggested that staff bring out the mobile walkway at Longwood Park events so everyone knows the park is handicap adaptable.

Commissioner Morgan thanked the Longwood Historic Society for setting up the walking tours led by himself and Mayor Boni at their All Hallows in Old Longwood event. He also thanked Jason Byrne, Vice President of the Longwood Historic Society, for leading a historic walking tour on November 4. He also thanked his neighbors for helping put up holiday decorations at the entrance of his neighborhood. He spoke at Teen Challenge earlier that day and helped fund-raise. Teen Challenge raises money through a thrift shop, car washes, and wood carvings made by young men in the program. He spoke at Judge Rudisill's Drug Court program to the teenage graduates and current program members, telling them of the big opportunity still in front of them and how they can do something with it while in the program.

District #5. Commissioner Sackett thanked everyone for presenting the Mayor John Land Years of Service Award in recognition of his twenty (20) years of service. He attended a meeting at Lyman High School (LHS) regarding the Boys and Girls Wrestling Club, and they now have five (5) or six (6) girls wrestling. The Lyman Boosters paid for a wrestling mat costing \$17,000. He welcomed the LHS Basketball Team, which was kicking off their season. The LHS Varsity Football Team finished with a winning season 6-4, the second year in a row, the first time since 2004. The LHS Bowling Team finished in sixteenth (16th) place out of 231 teams in the state.

Commissioner Sackett attended a motorcycle ride for a single mothers' event in Longwood. He attended the Truck or Treat event at Reiter Park and mentioned that the First Annual Halloween Dance Party was successful. He went on the walking tour led by Jason Byrne in the Historic District and participated in the Longwood Historic Society Monster Dash 5K. He attended a CALNO (Council of Local Governments in Seminole County) meeting with a presentation by Alan Harris, a FEMA emergency response person in Seminole County. Mr. Harris spoke about animal control and how the shelters have changed, trying to save dogs as long as possible. He encouraged everyone to adopt a dog for a reduced fee of \$10. At the CALNO meeting, he shared how Longwood celebrated City Government Week.

Commissioner Sackett attended a meeting with MetroPlan Orlando. The main topic was about vehicle crashes and fatalities. He reported that 28% of all crashes in Seminole and Orange Counties are fatalities. They also looked at a website called Vision Zero Central Florida, which provided in-depth statistics on local road dangers and where accidents occur. He noted that many accidents are pedestrian-related and encouraged others to review the website. They also looked at the 2024 to 2029 roadwork that will occur. He attended Senior Discovery Day at the Longwood Community Building, commenting the second day was better attended.

Commissioner Sackett expressed concern over the new internet service called WOW!. The company was in his neighborhood that day and needed to cover their work with landscaping correctly. In addition, they broke a water pipe. The Public Works Department had to come out and make repairs. He reported a similar situation happening in the neighborhood of Sleepy Hollow. He hoped WOW! would pay for water loss and other damages.

Commissioner Sackett asked if the final paving was done at E.E. Williamson Road. He noted the road was partially bumpy and could be marked better heading west on the left-hand side. He commented that Anchor Road was also bumpy and needed to be addressed, but was not sure whose jurisdiction it was in. He mentioned a woman who came before the Commission about six (6) months ago about selling her house after dealing with Code Enforcement. He said the house was still not for sale, and he believed fines continue to accrue on that house.

Commissioner Sackett could not attend Lyman High School's Veterans Day Ceremony but hoped others could attend on Friday, November 10, at

8:00 a.m. He will be attending a special event at Woodlands Elementary School that day.

District #1. Commissioner Shoemaker attended a few events, including Bunco at the Cottage Gift Shop, and encouraged others to join the monthly game. The cost is \$10, with all proceeds going to the Longwood Historic Society. On October 21, she visited Truck or Treat and noted that the event was packed with people. She attended Mayor Boni's Poker Tournament for the Scouts and thanked the mayor for all his help with the non-profit organizations. On November 2, she attended Senior Discovery Day, which provided information to help seniors in the community.

Commissioner Shoemaker joined the Rotary Club of Longwood. She reminded everyone about a Tri-County League of Cities meeting on November 16, which she anticipated would provide valuable information on online formatting changes for local elected officials.

9. **ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.** None.
10. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Approve the Minutes of the October 2, 2023 Regular Meeting.**
 - B. **Approve the Monthly Expenditures for October 2023.**
 - C. **Approve a purchase order in the amount of \$307,000 for ETR, L.L.C. for the remounting of a Fire Department Rescue Truck.**
 - D. **Approve a donation in the amount of \$1,000 to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Florida from the State Law Enforcement Confiscation Fund.**

Commissioner Sackett moved to approve Items 10A through 10D as presented. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

11. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**
 - A. **Read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 23-2247, a Longwood City Code amendment which proposes removing the requirement for Homeowners' Association approval for certain residential permits.**

Mr. Langley read Ordinance No. 23-2247 by title only.

Mr. Kintner presented the Item.

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 23-2247.

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

Commissioner Sackett moved to adopt Ordinance No. 23-2247 as presented Item 11A. Seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

12. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. Read by title only, set November 20, 2023, as the public hearing date and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 23-2248, a Longwood City Code amendment amending and updating Longwood City Code Chapter 18 “Buildings and Building Regulations.”**

Mr. Langley read Ordinance No. 23-2248 by title only.

Mr. Kintner presented the Item.

Commissioner Morgan moved to approve Ordinance No. 23-2248 and set November 20, 2023 as the public hearing date. Seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

- B. Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 23-1644, which adopts the City of Longwood Purchasing Card Policy.**

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 23-1644 by title only.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item and answered questions.

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-1644 as presented Item 12B. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

- C. Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 23-1645, adopting the updated City of Longwood Purchasing Policies and Procedures Manual.**

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 23-1645 by title only.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item.

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-1645 as presented Item 12C. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

D. City Commission to consider a Historic District Matching Grant Application from the Central Florida Society for Historical Preservation, Inc. for the Cottage Gift Shop at 141 West Church Avenue (Inside-Outside House).

Mr. Kintner presented the Item.

Commissioner Morgan moved to approved Item 12D as presented. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Gioielli congratulated Commissioner Sackett on his twenty (20) years of service. He addressed E.E. Williamson Road, stating that staff was aware of some uneven pavement west of the intersection on Rangeline Road. They will follow up with the County, either confirming that they have a plan to pave or requesting that they adjust the uneven pavement. Staff was aware that the project was not yet complete, but they wanted to make sure the County was aware of their concerns.

Mr. Gioielli reported that Christmas decorations have started to be put up in the Historic District. The 2nd Annual Light Up Longwood, a contest for Christmas Lights, was scheduled from November 15 until December 15. There are two (2) categories, residential and commercial, and instructions would be released to the public. The Commission would be involved in recognizing winners whom the residents select.

Commissioner Sackett suggested the contest should also be held for Halloween since many people decorate for that holiday.

Mr. Gioielli stated that one-way traffic arrows would get painted at Candyland Sports Complex along with other striping projects. Staff was working on quotes to redo the parking lot at City Hall. At the next Commission meeting, he would provide information regarding an email for a temporary use permit (TUP) for 150 Wildmere Avenue. There had been allegations of TUP violations, and all involved parties would get invited to the next meeting.

Mr. Gioielli provided an update on the U.S. Highway 17-92 street median project. He previously voiced concern to the Commission that he did not think the vendor was doing very well. They were fined daily and received stern feedback from staff. He reported progress along U.S. Highway 17-92, and that work was finally coming together. He noted that staff installed a water meter at St. Laurent Street and West Warren Avenue. Per a request from Commissioner Sackett, staff would put in irrigation and plants in that area behind Wendy's and Winn Dixie.

Mr. Gioielli addressed an issue regarding a troubled house in the City, which Commissioner Morgan commented on earlier. He stated everyone worked very hard, including Commissioner Morgan, to eventually have a remodeled home on East Warren Avenue for a family to move into. He congratulated Trisha Fuston, Payroll/HR Coordinator, on her thirty-five (35) years of service to the City.

Commissioner Morgan asked about an update on the Gibbs Group Study, specifically on the woman rehired to bring big brand business to the City.

Mr. Gioielli responded that the woman designated to bring national brand retailers to the City was still on staff, and pay was built into the contract for her effort. He explained that she makes her money when she lands a deal. She voiced concern about the difficulty of putting together some of the properties and volunteered to reduce her pay. Her contract was recently restructured to reduce the amount she gets paid.

14. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT. No report.

15. CITY CLERK'S REPORT

A. Consider canceling the January 1, 2024, Regular City Commission Meeting.

Ms. Longo said that in review of the 2024 meeting calendar and fiscal year holidays for 2023-2024, Monday, January 1, the City would be closed in observance of the New Year's Day Holiday. She asked the Commission to consider canceling this meeting, noting the next meeting would be January 15.

Deputy Mayor McMillan moved to cancel the January 1, 2024, City Commission Regular Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Longo would send the Commissioners the information for the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Good Citizenship Award this week. The nominations would be made at the December 18 City Commission

Meeting, and the presentation would be scheduled for the January 15, 2024 meeting.

Ms. Longo noted that the annual rotation of the Deputy Mayor would take place at the next meeting on November 20 and would move from District #3, Commissioner McMillan, to District #4, Commissioner Morgan. She thanked Commissioner McMillan for his service as Deputy Mayor.

Ms. Longo stated the next Tri-County League of Cities meeting would be held in the City of Sanford on Thursday, November 16, at noon, and the guest speaker would be Gray Schafer, Assistant General Counsel, Florida Commission on Ethics, who would discuss the Form 6: Full and Public Financial Disclosure. She asked the Commissioners if they would like to attend but still needed to register to let her know, and she would get them registered. She also noted that on Friday, November 17, the City would be closing at noon in preparation for the 2023 Longwood Arts & Crafts Festival and would be closed on Thursday, November 23, and Friday, November 24, for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

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

Minutes approved by City Commission: 11-20-2022

Tony Boni, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Longo, MMC, FCRM
City Clerk

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