

CITY COMMISSION MINUTES
August 15, 2022

Mayor LaCascia called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pastor Lawlor, New Life Community Church gave the invocation.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor LaCascia

ROLL CALL –City Manager Patricia Jackson

Present: Mayor Joe LaCascia, Commissioner Micheal T. Blethen, Commissioner Charles Nichols, City Attorney Thomas Cloud and City Manager Patricia Jackson

Absent: Vice Mayor Wayne Harper, Commissioner Randy Carroll

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Nichols to approve the June 23, 2022 (Workshop), July 18 (Workshop and Regular Meeting) minutes; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Blethen. **Unanimously approved by Voice Vote.**

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The persons listed below spoke in regards to Polk City creating an Ordinance that would allow Golf Carts to ride freely on the streets of Polk City.

1. Bruce Hutchings (3250 Chisholm Trail)
2. Jennifer Alls (710 Reba Road)
3. Debora Kepler (688 4th Street)
4. George Harper (422 2nd Street)
5. Brianna & Jack Darley (116 Sunshine Boulevard)
6. Eddie & Terry Bloomfield (227 Sunshine Boulevard)

Mark Lanier (334 Clearwater Lake Drive) – spoke in regards to not wanting the motorcycle gang in the Polk City Community. He also addressed the zoning for the address where the motorcycle gang occupies space.

City Manager Jackson stated the zoning is Commercial and they have a Business Tax Receipt (BTR) from Polk County and Polk City for consulting for high performance motors. We received an application for a BTR, and the guidelines must be followed. This organization has done what they were supposed to do as far as Polk City is concerned.

City Attorney Cloud stated Polk City could adopt a Golf Cart Ordinance. However, it will be difficult for Polk City to get the Ordinance approved because FDOT will not

provide their approval because of all the truck traffic on State highways going directly through Polk City. A number of criteria will have to be met prior to getting approval for this type of Ordinance.

City Manager Jackson commented about the hazards of some of the golf cart drivers. Some of the areas that the residents are driving golf carts in the County area which Polk City has no jurisdiction. Quite a bit more study would have to be done.

Commissioner Blethen stated he agrees with all the concerns that have been brought forth, whether good or bad about the golf carts; but Polk City does need to put some thought into an Ordinance for golf carts. Think outside the box!

City Attorney Cloud suggested Polk City pick a neighborhood for a trial run with the golf carts. But, have some discussion with FDOT and PCSO first!

Lengthy discussion ensued.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Polk City/City of Lakeland Emergency Water Service Agreement

City Manager Jackson explained that Polk City and Lakeland previously established an Emergency Water Service Agreement, which expired July 10, 2021.

In Section 4. TERM, this agreement shall continue in effect from the complete execution hereof and thereafter for then (10) years with options for extensions of four (4) five (5) years consecutive terms each on mutual written consent of the parties. In the absence of a written signed extension on the effective termination date, this Agreement shall expire on its own accord.

The extension of the Original Agreement by ten (10) years until August 1, 2031, plus any extensions thereafter.

Lakeland and Polk City have agreed that this needs to be a Perpetual (never ending) Agreement.

Staff recommended approval of the Extension to Emergency Water Service Agreement with Lakeland to August 1, 2031, plus any extensions as prescribed in Section 4 – TERM.

Motion by Commissioner Blethen to approve the Extension to Emergency Water Service Agreement with Lakeland as a Perpetual Agreement; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Nichols.

Motion carried 3/0 by Voice Vote.

FY 21 Audit Presentation

Mike Brynjulfson, Brynjulfson CPA's presented the Financial Statement for the year ending September 30, 2021. He also addressed any questions or concerns from the City Commission.

If Polk City never gets another dime, it can operate for 14 months with what is currently in Reserves.

Commissioner Blethen asked if Mr. Brynjulfson worked with other cities or counties.

Mr. Brynjulfson responded yes, Jacksonville, Seminole County, just to name a few. Will send all that information to Mrs. Jackson and she can share with the City Commission.

Mayor LaCascia stated he is happy with the audit presentation. Thanked Mr. Brynjulfson for a wonderful report.

City Manager Jackson stated in FY 21 Polk City had a lot of repairs. FY 22 may be one of those light years.

Staff recommended approval of the Financial Statement for the year ending September 30, 2021.

Motion by Commissioner Nichols to approve the Financial Statement for the year ending September 30, 2021; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Blethen.

Motion carried 3/0 by Voice Vote.

CITY MANAGER ITEM

SS4A Letter of Support – City Manager Jackson explained to the City Commission a request that Polk City has received from the County regarding a Safe Streets grant for Polk County. One criterion for this grant is to have letters of support from the seventeen (17) municipalities within Polk County. City Manager will send the letter under her signature. **The City Commission provided consensus.**

Golf Carts – Discussed at the beginning of this meeting.

FY 2023 Budget Workshop – August 20, 2022 at 9 am in the Commission Chamber. The First Reading is September 8 at 6:30 pm and the Second Reading is September 22 at 6:30 pm.

Ridge League of Cities Dinner Meeting – September 6, 2022 at the Auburndale Civic Center. Please RSVP no later than August 30, 2022.

Tree Removal – A tree in the area of Brooke Lane and Berkeley Road split several days ago. That tree is being removed.

Planning Session with CFRPC and Staff – City Manager Jackson is looking at dates for this planning session. October 8th – 9 am, October 29th – 9 am, November 19 – 9 am. This will be to prioritize what the City Commission would like to achieve and will assist with future budget planning.

Thank You – City Manager Jackson thanked the Commission for allowing her to take vacation to be with her brother before and during his passing. Also acknowledged the flowers sent by Polk City.

CITY ATTORNEY - None

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Commissioner Nichols – Is there any thought to getting new trash receptacles?

City Manager Jackson responded that we will call Republic Services and find out.

Commissioner Blethen – Spoke about the upcoming Budget Workshop and the traffic needs of Polk City need to be a topic of discussion.

City Manager Jackson responded the Polk City does not govern county roads. We can contact Polk County to get an answer.

Mayor LaCascia – Electricity bills in City Hall. Wants to see electricity comparison. Also wants the city to do an Air Conditioner Audit for City facilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

ADJOURNMENT – 8:45 pm



Patricia Jackson, City Manager



Joe LaCascia, Mayor