

## CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

March 26, 2024

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Mayor LaCascia called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Bob Baker, Planning Commission Chairman gave the invocation.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor LaCascia.

### **ROLL CALL** – Assistant City Manager Sheandolen Dunn

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

### **APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion by Commissioner Nichols** to approve the **February 20, 2024** (Regular City Commission Meeting and Workshop) and the reports and other items on the Consent Agenda; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Blethen.

**Motion carried 3/0 by Voice Vote.**

### **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS** - None

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bob Baker (525 Orange Boulevard) – discussed the Mock Planning Commission Meeting held by Polk County. Key factors taken away from the meeting were *Consistency and Compatible*. He will attend the April 12 Mock Planning Commission Meeting as well as another on April 19.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

#### **ORDINANCE 2024-01**

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury presented a PowerPoint and discussion regarding the Future Land Use Map Amendment in the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern is an applicant-initiated Future Land Use Map Amendment in the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern "X" to change the Future Land Use from Convenience Center-X (CCX) to Residential Suburban-X (RSX) on approximately 1.44 acres in Polk City, located at 9600 SR 33 (Parcel number 252631-000000-044210). **First Reading**

City Attorney Cloud Read the short title only. Mayor LaCascia opened the Public Hearing. No one spoke for or against this Ordinance. Mayor LaCascia closed the Public Hearing.

**Motion by Commissioner Nichols** to approve Ordinance 2024-01 Applicant Initiated Future Land Use Map Amendment; this motion was seconded by Mayor LaCascia.

**Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Nichols – aye, Commissioner Blethen – nay, Mayor LaCascia – aye

**Motion carried 2/1.**

**ORDINANCE 2024-02**

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury discussed Ordinance 2024-02, Rezoning in the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern is an applicant-initiated rezoning in the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern “X” to change the zoning from Convenience Center-X (CCX) to Residential Suburban-X (RSX) on approximately 1.44 acres in Polk City, located at 9600 SR 33 (Parcel number 252631-000000-044210). **First Reading**

City Attorney Cloud Read the short title only. Mayor LaCascia opened the Public Hearing. No one spoke for or against this Ordinance. Mayor LaCascia closed the Public Hearing.

No Discussion.

**Motion by Commissioner Nichols** to approve Ordinance 2024-02 on First Reading; this Ordinance was seconded by Commissioner Blethen.

**Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Nichols – aye, Commissioner Blethen – aye, Mayor LaCascia – aye

**Motion carried 3/0.**

**RESOLUTION 2024-02**

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury (CFRPC) discussed a Resolution of the City Commission of Polk City, Florida; approving a Preliminary Site Plan for 9,720 square foot Retail Plaza located on approximately 1.37 Acres in Polk City, at 0 SR 33 (Parcel Number 242701-000000-021020) in the Green Swamp Area of Critical State Concern; providing a condition of approval; providing an effective date.

City Attorney Cloud Read the short title only.

Commissioner Blethen inquired about flooding in that area. Has all due diligence been done?

Mrs. Codo-Salisbury responded this is a Preliminary and in the green Swamp there are much more strict guidelines.

City Attorney Cloud also responded with Stormwater and Drainage Plans must be submitted. This Preliminary Site Plan will go to Florida Commerce for a 60-90 day Review. The Preliminary Site Plan comes before the Engineer.

Additional condition stated that Engineering Plans shall be submitted and reviewed prior to the Construction Plan approval.

Lynn Newman inquired about the community having any recourse if the drainage is not maintained.

City Attorney Cloud responded that SWFWMD issues the permit. Therefore, that matter would have to be taken up with them.

**Motion by Commissioner Nichols** to adopt Resolution 2024-02 Preliminary Site Plan for 9,720 Square Foot Retail Plaza; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Blethen.

**Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Nichols – aye, Commissioner Blethen – aye, Mayor LaCascia – aye

**Motion carried 3/0.**

### CITY MANAGER ITEMS

**Letters of Interest** – A notice will be placed on the website for residents interested in serving on the City Commission, as Polk City still needs to fill the District #2 Seat as well as the At-Large Seat.

**Vacation** – City Manager Jackson will be out of the office on April 4, April 8 and April 11.

### CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

City Attorney Cloud briefly discussed a new start time for the City Commission Meetings. Recommended 6pm. Motion by Commissioner Nichols to approve the start time of 6pm; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Blethen. **Motion carried by Voice Vote.**

### COMMISSIONER ITEMS

**Commissioner Nichols** – None

**Commissioner Blethen** – Discussed Berkley Road signs will be removed as well as traffic enforcement. City Manager Jackson responded Polk County has gone to FDOT to get permanent signs.

**Mayor LaCascia** – Discussed the need for a new Sound System for the Commission Chamber.

City Manager Jackson and Rick Jiles responded that Carlton Music will be coming out to survey what can be done.

City Commission Vacancies – are being advertised on Polk City’s website, newsletter and emailed to the Water customers. Commissioner Blethen would like staff to research utilizing text messaging to share items of great importance to the residents. Chasity Guinn mentioned that we are currently utilizing Twillo. She will investigate using Twillo for texting information out to the Public.

Mayor LaCascia briefly discussed the homeless population on public property.

City Attorney Cloud responded that Polk City does not own any type of camping facility. The bill that Governor DeSantis recently passed protects us for the Van Fleet Trail as it is a State Park.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None

**ADJOURNMENT** – 6:55 pm



Patricia Jackson, City Manager



Joe LaCascia, Mayor