

**CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES**  
April 16, 2024

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

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

Prior to the start of the Business portion of the Workshop, Mayor LaCascia had a brief discussion about the possibility of a Salary increase for the City Commission. Commissioners would move from \$150/month to \$250/month and the Mayor would move from \$300/month to \$500/month. This increase would possibly of attracting more interest in the City Commission candidates.

Commissioner Blethen asked what would be cut to support this increase. Mayor LaCascia responded that this is only \$6,000.

City Manager Jackson stated this change would have to be done by Ordinance after a 2<sup>nd</sup> and Final Reading.

Commissioner Blethen stated remembering during budget time last year regarding the discussion of giving back to the community.

Commissioner Nichols stated based on inflation and staff only received a 2% raise, it is recommended that this waits until October.

City Attorney Cloud stated Commissioner Nichols suggestion was a great idea.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCE 2024-03**

Stefanie Von Pelaske-Bush and Jeff Schmucker (CFRPC) made a brief presentation and lengthy discussion regarding Ordinance 2024-03.

Currently, only 48% of the homes are non-conforming. This is a corrective measure and approving this Ordinance would bring all homes in this area into conformance; this is not changing the maximum density. City-wide is all R-1 zoning. If a home burned down today, the homeowner would not be able to rebuild to the same standard or better if more than 50% of the home is damaged.

City Manager Jackson stated that Polk City is simply trying to protect the people that are currently non-conforming so they can rebuild if something were to happen to their property.

Kathy Delp stated when zoning was assigned, they did not make sure all these homes were annexed.

Commissioner Blethen stated this Ordinance looks fishy.

City Attorney Cloud asked Commissioner Blethen what was he afraid of?

Commissioner Blethen stated there is not enough information presented. More changes coming will affect the homeowners in the long run.

Commissioner Blethen would like Ordinance 2024-03 tabled during the Regular Meeting until the May City Commission Meeting.

**ORDINANCE 2024-04**

Stefanie Von Pelaske-Bush (CFRPC) made a brief presentation and after lengthy discussion on Ordinance 2024-03 (Companion Ordinance). Commissioner Blethen is requesting that this Ordinance item be TABLED as well during the Regular Meeting until the May City Commission Meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None

**ADJOURNMENT** – 7:00 pm

  
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Patricia Jackson, City Manager

  
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Joe LaCascia, Mayor