

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

MINUTES
February 15, 2021
6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Richard Drummond
Deputy Mayor Abby Shoemaker
Commissioner Matt McMillan
Commissioner Matt Morgan
Commissioner Brian D. Sackett
Dan Langley, City Attorney
Clint Gioielli, Acting City Manager
Michelle Longo, City Clerk
David P. Dowda, Police Chief
Chris Kintner, Community Development Director (Zoom)
Shad Smith, Public Works Director (Zoom)
Craig Dunn, Information Technology Director
Judith Rosado, Financial Services Director
Lee Ricci, Human Resources Director
Officer Kim Feld

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Drummond called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION**
3. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Commissioner Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Ms. Longo read the following announcements.
 - A. **The Senior Matinee will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, from 1:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Longwood Community Building, 200 West Warren Avenue. This month's feature is *The War with Grandpa*.**

- B. **Longwood Movie in the Park will be held on Friday, February 19, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Reiter Park, 311 West Warren Avenue. This is a free event and the movie will be *Monster Zone*.**
- C. **The City of Longwood will host the final tryouts for the Orlando Prowlers Professional Dance Team at Reiter Park, 311 West Warren Avenue, on Saturday, February 27, 2021, from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Come and see these professional dancers give it their all in an attempt to make the team! Food and beverages will be available for purchase.**

5. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

- A. **District #1 Nomination of the Business Person of the Month Award for March 2021.**

Deputy Mayor Shoemaker nominated Ms. Sharon Kern, Branch Manager with Fairwinds Credit Union for the Business Person of the month for March 2021. Nomination carried by a unanimous voice vote.

6. BOARD APPOINTMENTS. None.

7. PUBLIC INPUT

- A. **Presentation. The Board of Directors of the Seniors Intervention Group to recognize Longwood Police Officer Kim Feld with a Community Service Award for her outstanding dedication and service to the community.**

Ms. Cyndy Kingston and Ms. Channi Sodhi with the Seniors Intervention Group presented Officer Feld with a Community Service Award. Photographs were then taken.

- B. **Public Participation. None.**

8. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

District #4. Commissioner Morgan wished everyone a Happy President's Day, Black History Month, and Valentine's Day. He reported attending the Wekiva Wild and Scenic River System's Advisory Management Committee on Tuesday, February 4. The next day, he attended a class at Leadership Seminole. He said he had graduated from the Leadership Seminole class but there were two classes he wanted to make up. One of them was Arts and Culture. He advised the Central Florida Zoo is struggling and the virus hit them hard. He said that is our number one tourist spot in Seminole County. He recommended visiting the zoo if you are looking for

something fun to do on the weekend with your family. He said he was happy to hear a lot of Longwood residents go there.

Commissioner Morgan reported meeting with Nicole Dupre, Creative Director of Opera del Sol, on Monday, February 8. He said they worked on Project Opioid which is also sponsored by the Seminole County Sheriff's Office. Ms. Dupre and the team of Opera del Sol are attacking the Opioid Crisis on a different front. He said since it is next to impossible to have guest speakers into schools to speak to kids, he spoke to Superintendent Dr. Walt Griffin to figure out a way around that. He is partnering with Nicole Dupre to make a video for the kids warning them about the trials and tribulations of opioid addiction. He said hopefully it will captivate their attention. This is where Opera del Sol comes into play. The videos will be released throughout Orange and Seminole County Public Schools. On the same day, he reported representing the City of Longwood at the St. Johns River Water Management Groundbreaking Ceremony for their new building located in Apopka. He thought it was important to be there because we work hand in hand with them and need to further the partnership.

Commissioner Morgan reported attending the Seminole Soil & Water Conservation District meeting on Tuesday, February 9, where they announced the winner of their photography contest. He commended Amy Volpe who created this idea and said it was a successful event with at least over fifty (50) entries. He also reported attending a meeting the next day with Principal Michael Rice from Lyman High School. He mentioned speaking to the Young Men of Excellence group, predominantly composed of minority men that want to be leaders within their community. He said Principal Rice and he were trying to find out different ways to give them more responsibility and help them feel what it is like to be in a position of leadership. They were also getting ready for Lyman's Business Partner's Breakfast on Friday, February 12 at 7:30 a.m. He noted the event was a success and its purpose was to get these businesses to partner with the school and provide internships, job opportunities, and financial help. He said many local business owners attended and it was great to see so many there from Longwood. He announced he would share this online with other businesses that were unable to attend the breakfast.

Commissioner Morgan reported attending the Longwood Cruise-In Car Show on Saturday, February 13, and said it was well attended. He noted Deputy Mayor Shoemaker was there as well at the Longwood Civic Center trying to raise money for the Longwood Historic Society. He said it is the Longwood Historic Society's job to maintain the Bradlee-McIntyre House, the Inside-Outside House, and the Civic Center, along with

preserving our City's history. He encouraged the public to contribute by attending the Car Show, grabbing a burger with our Citizens on Patrol (COPs), or visiting the Longwood Historic Society. He mentioned Milwee Middle School's Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) announced and honored Mr. Colbert Sims as Milwee Middle Schools Teacher of the Year at the 2022 Seminole County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Celebration. Mr. Sims has been a Behavioral Interventionist for twenty-six (26) years and is the contact and leader of the Young Men of Excellence group at Milwee. He said it was great to see him honored as Milwee Middle School's Teacher of the Year.

Commissioner Morgan noted Milwee's PTSA president, Rachel Holler, put on a great online event through Zoom featuring Special Agent Kevin Kaufman with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), who talked about how to keep our kids safe online. He said because of the virus statistics for depression, opioid dependency, addiction, and suicide have spiked. He said we need to make sure to take the precautions needed to protect our kids who are plugged in now more than they have ever been. Special Agent Kevin Kaufman, a sixteen (16) year veteran of the FBI who has worked in violent crimes against children, put together a slideshow on the grooming of a child for sex trafficking, anti-bullying, and cyber-bullying. He said the seminar was very well done and encouraged all to visit Milwee's PTSA Facebook and watch it. He also said they did a great job and he was proud of them for tackling such a major subject. He is putting them in contact with Jan Edwards, head of Paving the Way Foundation, non-profit organization fighting to stop human trafficking.

District #5. Commissioner Sackett reported receiving his second shot of Moderna vaccine. He also reported meeting with the Boosters Committee at Lyman High School on Monday with Mr. Rice. On Wednesday, he learned Mr. Rice is no longer the Principal of Lyman High School and is now moving on to be the District High School Director. He noted Walt Griffin, Superintendent of Schools who retired, came to his classroom last Tuesday to say goodbye. He also noted Chad Farnsworth is the new Superintendent of the Schools coming from Lake County. He said he is excited about the change of things happening. He hopes they do not throw out all of the old but said it would be great to move forward with the new with Mr. Farnsworth.

Commissioner Sackett reported announcing the start of Book Walk for Elementary Kids to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. He explained what Book Walk is. He noted driving by Reiter Park to get to the meeting and being impressed with its activity. He said the basketball court had about twenty-five (25) to thirty (30) people playing basketball and there

were people on the tennis courts and playground. He was glad to see it used by so many people and said it is a great thing to have in the City.

District #1. Deputy Mayor Shoemaker reported facilitating Leadership Seminole on February 5. She noted the Casselberry Art House brought everything to the Zoo and did their art projects there. She said she could not stay for the art projects but thought it was awesome they brought that there. She reported attending the Car Show and said the weather was beautiful, the cars stopped at City Hall, and it was a nice Car Show. She noted there was a fundraiser for the Longwood Historic Society and said the COP's are out fundraising as well. She recommended visiting the Car Show and donating to the fundraisers.

District #2. Mayor Drummond reported attending the Council of Local Governments in Seminole County (CALNO) meeting two weeks ago at Altamonte Springs. They had a presentation by Altamonte Springs City Manager, Frank Martz. He said Altamonte Springs has developed this predictive model for COVID-19 where they can sample the wastewater and sewage, predict when there will be an increase in the number of COVID cases through their testing, and try to alert the hospitals of increases in patients. He said they have amazing technology and they think they can use that to predict other illnesses.

Mayor Drummond reported attending Mid-Florida's 34th Annual Mustang and Ford Roundup held in the Historic District. There were 200 registered mustangs, booths, and law enforcement agencies showing their vehicles. He said it was an amazing day and although the weather was overcast, it was a good turnout and great to see the City having these activities and events weekend after weekend. It is bringing people downtown.

Mayor Drummond reported attending a virtual meeting with the Florida League of Cities and Jared Moskowitz, the Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management, who gave a presentation on Florida's response to COVID-19 and their distribution of the vaccine. He said Florida is doing an excellent job of distributing the vaccine and is on the cutting edge of this. He also reported attending the Municipal Advisory Committee with Metroplan Orlando. He said there is a lot of information that is distributed. They talk about all aspects of transportation in Central Florida and what type of projects they have going on and how that affects everybody on the roadways. They are constantly trying to find ways to improve traffic flow, make the roads safer, and improve public transportation.

District #3. Commissioner McMillan said today was the first time he noticed the banners on Ronald Reagan Boulevard. He observed that the

ones closer to Longwood Hills Road are harder to see because of the speed at which he is moving, he cannot drag his eyes up and off the road. He said they are a little more visible towards the railroad tracks and where they are now, the Commission Chambers.

Commissioner McMillan reported attending both the Mustang and Ford Roundup and the Car Show. He also reported attending a Soil and Water Conservation District meeting a couple of months ago and mentioned talking to Leisure Services Director, Mr. Capizzi, about ideas he has to try to find community partners for events as well as to the Purchasing Manager, Mr. Kirby about working with them to get something ecologically themed at Reiter Park. He said he had not followed up much on it but was reminded of Deputy Mayor Shoemaker's suggestion on having a Shred-a-Thon and thought there may be synergy with ecology. He said if they can run it by next year it could be an interesting event.

Commissioner McMillan reported on his theme of "The true, the good, and the beautiful". For "The True" he quoted George Washington, *"For if men are to be precluded from offering their sentiments on a matter, which may involve the most serious and alarming consequences, that can invite the consideration of Mankind, a reason is of no use to us; the freedom of Speech may be taken away, and, dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep, to the Slaughter."* He said he had seen this quote in particular posted a lot in our current social upheaval when talking about free speech in light of the impeachment. He noted this was our first president's statement on one of the first principals. The quote comes from the Newburgh Address to his officers on March 15, 1783, responding to an anonymous petition which would encourage officers to protest if congress did not provide promised pay in pensions. Washington told his troops that the petition had some valid points and that he supported his officers but the proposed solution of mutiny was not the answer. Washington supported the freedom to express their opinions and used this very petition to remind his troops that they were fighting for freedom. He said he mentioned this quote because he used very strong language to define free speech in 1783 before the first amendment, the United States constitution, six months before the treaty ended the American Revolution, and two years after the big victory of Yorktown. Congress was dithering over financial matters and the Army had not been paid. The petition showed they were at the very brink of throwing away everything that they had fought for. Commissioner McMillan thinks it is a testament to Washington's leadership to have been able to call a meeting of officers and dissuade them from that action but that even in the context of military discipline and taking steps to prevent informal meetings and mutinies, he nevertheless, using that strong language, defended the right of them to be heard. He also thinks it

is important to remember that the best response to bad and false speech is true and good speech. Commissioner McMillan noted today is the official observance of George Washington's birthday and said it is important to remember the high regard he had for our first principle of freedom of speech. He encouraged the citizens of Longwood to speak to the Commission about everything. He found that in his first three months as a Commissioner, our staff and Commissioners have been very responsive to citizens when they speak to us. He said you should never feel you could not exercise your freedom of speech when addressing the Commission.

Commissioner McMillan reported on "The Good" commending the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) for providing CPR training to save lives. He said taking the time to learn these skills and to save a life of a stranger is a good civic virtue. He thanked the CERT for leading the effort and said he is willing to get in there at the next opportunity. For "The Beautiful", Commissioner McMillan reported seeing a sunset he had never seen before on State Road 434 and Rangeline Road heading west. He said he took a picture and it was a new view because the old building at Township Plaza had been bulldozed. It was an interesting site because he grew up in Longwood but knows new things are coming and looks forward to them He cannot wait to see the changes there and the changes at Dog Track Road.

9. **ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.** None.
10. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Approve Minutes of the February 1, 2021, Regular Meeting.**
 - B. **Approve the Monthly Expenditures for February 2021.**
 - C. **Approve the Monthly Financial Report for January 2021.**
 - D. **Approve a purchase order in the amount of \$209,252.68 to P & S Paving Inc. for milling and resurfacing of West Warren Avenue.**

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

11. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**
 - A. **Read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 21-2196, amending Longwood City Code Chapter 18 - Buildings and Building Regulations.**

Mr. Langley read Ordinance No. 21-2196 by title only.

Mr. Gioielli reviewed the Item.

Mayor Drummond opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 21-2196.

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

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Ordinance No. 21-2196 as presented Item 11A. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

12. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 21-1550, amending the Building Fee Schedule.

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 21-1550 by title only.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item.

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-1550 as presented Item 12A. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

B. Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 21-1553, which amends the fiscal year 2020/2021 budget by adjusting the cash brought forward amount for the Capital Projects Fund (320) and the Public Utilities Fund (401).

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 21-1553 by title only.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item.

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-1553 as presented Item 12B. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Shoemaker and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

C. Read by title only, set March 1, 2021, as the public hearing date, and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-2197, which updates Longwood City Code Chapter 6 – Alcoholic Beverages.

Mr. Langley read Ordinance No. 21-2197 by title only.

Mr. Kintner presented the Item and said this was a follow-up to the discussion at the last Commission meeting regarding a request from an applicant at 212 West Bay Avenue who wanted to do a salon with an accessory wine bar. The request is prohibited by City Code, which contains a provision that has not been updated since 1982 and prohibited the on-premises consumption of alcohol within 500 feet of schools, churches, or daycare centers. He noted there is a daycare center roughly 436 feet from where this location would be. He said with the Commission's direction at the last meeting, staff wanted to get this turned around quickly and help get this business moving. Staff has proposed a few things and considers this a conservative approach. The first thing was remove daycare centers entirely from consideration because they are uncommon and their hours do not lineup. This addressed the 212 West Bay Avenue situation by itself. He noted since they had an opportunity to change the code, make things better, and be forward-thinking, they added other changes with the help of Mr. Langley. He commended Mr. Langley for his contribution. He said there is language exempting individual properties from the requirement but not a provision for that which became an issue when this business came in. Staff proposed a special exemption process, and the development agreement process to address that. The special exemption process allows for notification of neighbors, a public hearing before the Commission, and a newspaper advertisement. The development agreement has the same notice requirements. Also included was language about exempting hotel bars because it is a different function than a stand-alone bar and should be calculated differently. He said if the Commission had an interest in moving forward, a step they could take could be to expand this outside Historic District not limit themselves. He then answered questions.

Discussion ensued on the difference between schools and daycare centers and how it may affect the Ordinance.

Mr. Langley noted this Ordinance is derived from state law. There is a statute that talks about distance and separation between schools and places of worship. He thinks they would look at the state law for guidance on what a school is.

Further discussion ensued on the differences between schools and daycares, the distance and separation of these, and places of worship.

Mr. Kintner asked questions to clarify distinctions. He also made suggestions to update the Ordinance.

Discussion ensued on updating the language in the Ordinance to suit the current business and future businesses.

Mr. Langley said this is the first reading and the Commission can make changes to how the Ordinance is read. It has been advertised for the second reading. He asked if the preference is to not move forward with the first reading and redo it. He noted the advertisement for the second reading had already been paid for. Staff can make changes and the Commission can adopt those changes at the second reading if they want to move forward.

Discussion ensued on whether to make changes and bring back for a first reading or move forward and set the public hearing.

Commissioner McMillan moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-2197 and set March 1, 2021, as the public hearing date. Seconded by Mayor Drummond and carried by a three-to-two (3-2) roll call vote with Commissioner Sackett and Deputy Mayor Shoemaker voting nay.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Gioielli reported increases in COVID cases recently but noted that overall current active cases are down since the last three meetings. Longwood is seeing the same numbers as Seminole County with a decline. Current hospitalizations and positivity rates are down compared to the last two meetings. He also reported a decrease in active cases at Seminole County Public Schools. In addition to the Federal Consolidated Relief Act offering rental assistance, he said he is excited to report there is a proposed Federal Legislation, referred to as the State Local Coronavirus Relief Act, that may offer the City of Longwood direct federal funding. It will not only be restricted to COVID expenses but also for different expenses such as revenue replacements from revenue losses as a result of COVID. He mentioned the same vaccine sites are there including the base site at the Oviedo Mall, as well as testing sites including pop-up sites at Northland Church on February 18. He noted all Hospitals, Emergency Rooms (ER), and Urgent Care facilities can do testing with a doctor's order. He reported vaccinations in Seminole County are up to 43,000. They are doing about 850 vaccinations a day at the old Sears in the Oviedo Mall, with the continuation of the Seminole County Mobilization Unit, which travels around different locations. He announced Publix Pharmacies, including twenty-two (22) locations in

Seminole County are offering vaccinations as of late last week. Second doses have started and the priority list is unchanged.

Mr. Gioielli reported Babe Ruth Registrations are over 150 players compared to Pre-COVID numbers where we had 134 registrants. He said we have become aware that the West Seminole Pony League has disbanded and staff is putting effort into persuading those families to move to our Babe Ruth League. He noted they are still in negotiations with the Blue Collar Teamsters Employee Union. He said that as of tonight, they are still waiting on the Union Membership to provide feedback on the last proposed agreement offer.

Mr. Gioielli reported receiving permission to move forward with an agreement to terminate our lease agreement with Tract K of the Longwood Plantation Homeowners Association at the January 18 Commission meeting. He said as of tonight, that agreement has not been approved by the Association because they had asked staff to meet with them virtually to answer some other questions. In reviewing the original lease agreement, he understood the only way for the lease to be terminated would be with the Association's approval. If they decide not to terminate the lease it will be business as usual, if they do, the association will sign off what the Commission had approved.

Mr. Gioielli reported the City is taking preliminary steps to improve communication with the citizens and residents. He said in addition to the steps the Clerk has taken to improve how she distributes agenda items, records meetings, and offers video options, staff is going to start a refresh and update of the Website. Staff has implemented a request to improve and reintroduce the City's mobile app. The app is going to tie into the website and any information that is added on there is going to automatically make notifications to anybody that has downloaded the app. He said in addition to this, Mr. Dunn is working on consolidating our social media into one platform, which is referred to as a dashboard. He explained how the process works. He said they are also planning on creating and consolidating email and contact lists for some of our more involved citizens, businesses, and dignitaries. He and the Clerk have already started to work together on a Communication Model/Plan/Policy that will allow us to set out parameters and keep everything within certain boundaries so that we are consistent across all departments.

Mr. Gioielli announced Lester Eugene Westfall will be retiring. He said his last day is February 28. He started with the City on July 6, 1988, as a Public Works Equipment Operator I at about \$6.00 an hour. He later worked at the Park's Department for three years before transferring to the Utility Department. He is skilled in heavy equipment operation and is

currently one of the few City employees that has an active Commercial Driver License (CDL). He is a certified Wastewater Collections C Technician and was a Certified Backflow Prevention Tester. In reviewing Gene's performance reviews for the past thirty (30) years, he said Gene was described as reliable and humble. His dedication to our City is further confirmed by the multiple letters of appreciation from his personnel files. In those letters, Gene is appreciated by other City employees as well as multiple residents who wished to thank him for assisting them with emergencies like tree hazards, water main breaks, and the extreme task of debris clean up and removal after multiple hurricanes throughout several years. While invited to the meeting tonight, Gene is such a humble and quiet person, he elected not to attend. Mr. Gioielli thanked him for his thirty-three (33) years of dedicated service to our community and wished him a long and healthy retirement.

14. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT. No report.

15. CITY CLERK'S REPORT

A. City Commission consideration to move the JOY Award Presentation to a meeting in April.

Ms. Longo reviewed the request and stated after the letters were mailed to the schools outlining the adjustments and the presentation date rescheduled to March 15, it was brought to her attention that date was the start of Spring Break. To avoid any concerns with a student, family, or school representative attending, she asked the Commission to consider moving the presentation to the April 5 or the April 19 meeting. All other adjustments will remain the same.

It was the consensus of the Commission to move the presentation to the April 19, 2021 meeting.

She also reported she was still pending a date from Principal Rice for the presentation of the certificates for the Lyman HS Girls Volleyball Team. This was to be done at the same time the school has the unveiling of the banner for the team's championship.

She reminded the Commission the 2021 Annual State of the County Luncheon will be held at the Westin Lake Mary on Thursday, February 25 starting at 11:30 a.m. Additionally, she asked if for some reason anyone was unable to attend, to let her know and she would try to fill his or her seat.

16. ADJOURN. Mayor Drummond adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Minutes approved by City Commission: 03-01-2021

Richard Drummond, Mayor

ATTEST:

**Michelle Longo, CMC, FCRM
City Clerk**

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