

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

MINUTES
April 3, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Matt Morgan
Commissioner Abby Shoemaker
Commissioner Tony Boni
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 Capizzi, Leisure Services Director
Chris Kintner, Community Development Director

Absent: Deputy Mayor Matthew McMillan (Excused)

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **OPENING INVOCATION.** There was no volunteer invocation speaker present at the meeting, therefore a moment of silent meditation was observed.
3. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Commissioner Boni led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Ms. Longo read the following announcements.
 - A. **The City of Longwood will host the 2023 Magic 107.7 Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8, 2023, from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. The hunt will be held in the Historic District around Longwood City Hall, 175 West Warren Avenue, featuring an egg hunt, prizes, and giveaways. Parking will be available at the SunRail Station, Downtown Longwood, and Orlando Health South Seminole Hospital's back parking lot. This is a free event.**

- B. **The “Downtown Longwood Cruise-In” Car Show will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Historic District of Longwood.**
- C. **The Longwood Community Health Fair will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the Longwood Community Building, 200 West Warren Avenue. There will be Health and Wellness related vendors, raffle prize giveaways, and more. This is a free event.**
- D. **A Food Truck Battle and Concert in the Park will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Reiter Park. The concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. and feature *Actual Bank Robbers*.**
- E. **The Senior Matinee will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, from 1:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Longwood Community Building, 200 West Warren Avenue. This month’s feature is *A Man Called Otto*.**
- F. **The City of Longwood will host a Walk for Autism Awareness & Inclusion on Saturday, April 29, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Reiter Park.**

5. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

- A. **City Commission to recognize the Fire and Police Departments on a recent water rescue after a vehicle drove into a retention pond within Longwood.**

Mr. Gioielli, Chief Peters, and Chief Dowda recognized and presented certificates to FD Driver Fire Fighter A. Coleman, FD Jump Fire Fighter/Paramedic Caroline Gibson, FD OIC-Engineer/Paramedic C. Minard, PD Officer B. Snyder, and PD Sergeant Kris Burnham. Photographs were then taken.

- B. **Presentation of the Beautification Award to Grace for Living Ministries, 585 S. Ronald Reagan Blvd., Longwood.**

Mayor Morgan deferred the presentation to the next meeting for Deputy Mayor McMillan to present.

- C. **Proclaiming the month of April 2023 as “Water Conservation Month.”**

Mayor Morgan read the Proclamation and then presented it to Ms. Susan Davis. Photographs were then taken.

6. BOARD APPOINTMENTS. None.

7. PUBLIC INPUT

A. Public Participation.

Philip S. Kaprow, 800 N. Magnolia Avenue, Suite 1500, Orlando. He was present on behalf of a client who is looking to purchase property in Longwood. He provided the City Clerk with a survey to distribute to the Commission. He said the property is a non-conforming structure built in 1995 as a prefab steel structure and is located at 235 West Marvin Avenue. Mr. Kaprow said the building pushes into the ten (10) foot setback area by four (4) feet on the west side. His client is trying to get the issue resolved by the end of the month, and was previously told because it is a non-conforming structure there is no need to worry. His client is concerned about the structure and is requesting a variance. He said because of the time restriction he and his client are approaching the Commission directly about expediting a variance for the building.

8. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

District #4. Mayor Morgan asked Mr. Gioielli to see what could be done to help Mr. Kaprow if it is the wish of the Commission.

Mr. Gioielli responded that he could collect information and ask Community Development to work with Mr. Kaprow's client. He would provide an update at the next Commission meeting, which should meet the client's time restraint.

Mr. Langley advised there is a process in the City Code for a variance, and if the Commission circumvents the notice process, any variance granted could be voided. He explained notices have to go out to adjacent property owners within a certain distance, and staff could review the request to see if it could be completed within thirty (30) days. He further stated staff is limited to what can be done by what is in the City Code. In the end, if the variance can be challenged for lack of notice in an attempt to fast-track the process, it does not help Mr. Kaprow's client.

Mr. Gioielli said he would follow up at the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Shoemaker mentioned she might have to excuse herself because she has clients in the West Marvin Avenue area and would need more information.

Mayor Morgan stated she would excuse herself only if there were an opportunity that she or her clients would benefit financially, which she understands.

Mayor Morgan thanked the staff for an amazing job on the Prayer Breakfast and suggested getting other faiths to speak at the event in the future. He attended a Mayors and Managers meeting on the same day. On March 24, he met with a Longwood resident who works for a special needs employer training company called RAISE (Recognizing Abilities and Inclusion of Special Employees), presented by Shalom Orlando. He explained what the organization does. The company RAISE plans to participate in the upcoming Walk for Autism Awareness & Inclusion at Reiter Park on April 29. He and Mr. Gioielli planned to meet with representatives from RAISE to discuss the possibility of hiring a special needs employee at the City of Longwood. He added taxpayers would not pay for this employee, and RAISE would provide payment for salary and insurance.

Mayor Morgan, on March 25, attended the Pirate Seafood Festival at Reiter Park, the grand opening of We Rock the Spectrum Kid's Gym for Autism in Casselberry and the Taste of Oviedo. Regarding the Pirate Seafood Festival, he said he would like to see more booths and more vendors serving seafood at the event. The next day he attended a Women's History Month celebration led by Nancy Acevedo and Sheriff Dennis Lemma. On March 28, he visited the American Muslim Community Center to celebrate Ramadan. The next day he went to Masjid Al Hayy in Sanford to celebrate an Interfaith Iftar. He went to Rock Lake Middle School, along with David Rubin with Heroes Strong, to speak to their Beta Club. Members of the club had collected supplies for overseas heroes as part of the Heroes Strong HOP Program (Heroes Overseas Packages). They wrote 117 individualized letters to heroes serving in the military overseas. He thanked School Principal Martin Dunlop and their Beta Club for their contributions.

Mayor Morgan, on March 31, attended the Sharing Center's Good Samaritan Luncheon at the Marriott in Lake Mary. That same day he went to the Longwood Employee Appreciation Night Out and thanked Maggie Ridore, Liane Cartagena, and other staff for their help on the successful event. On that same evening, he received his pin at a ceremony as a newly appointed South Seminole County Sertoma Club member. The next morning, he was honored to kick off Orlando's World Autism Day, where

he could talk to vendors who agreed to participate in the Walk for Autism event in Longwood. That same day, he visited the Great American Camp Out at Reiter Park and was impressed with the event. He mentioned having more advertising to promote the event and thanked Ryan Rinaldo for his hard work. He congratulated Nan & Pop's Ice Cream Shop for their return to Longwood and attended their grand reopening. He also celebrated seventeen (17) years of sobriety. He thanked fellow Commissioners for attending the State of the County Luncheon and heard Longwood mentioned several times. He also thanked Managing Director Bryan Borland of Wood Partners, who helped create the Alta Apartments in Longwood, for contributing to The Parc's Foundation toward a special needs playground in unincorporated Longwood in the Rolling Hills community.

District #5. Commissioner Sackett was proud of Lyman High School and their seniors who had just finished the musical production Tuck Everlasting, and he thought it was the best he had seen. He suggested putting QR codes on sidewalks in the Historic District to bring attention to different places and events. He mentioned he painted a QR code on his grandson's parking space and added QR codes that could go at Candyland Sports Complex listing various events and the pickleball schedule.

District #1. Commissioner Shoemaker attended the Prayer Breakfast, the FDOT meeting regarding State Road 434 improvements, the Pirate Seafood Festival, the Longwood Employee Appreciation Night Out, and the State of the County Luncheon.

District #2. Commissioner Boni congratulated Mayor Morgan on his seventeen (17) years of sobriety. He thanked everyone for their get-well wishes during his bout with COVID and was unable to attend events then. After his recovery, he attended the Pirate Seafood Festival, which was fun, but he agreed they needed more seafood vendors. He thoroughly enjoyed the Interfaith Iftar in celebration of Ramadan, and it was his first visit to a mosque. He attended the Longwood Employee Appreciation Night Out and the State of the County Luncheon. He wished everyone in Longwood a safe and happy Easter for the upcoming weekend.

District #3. No report.

9. **ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.** None.
10. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Approve the Minutes of the March 20, 2023, Regular Meeting.**
 - B. **Approve the Monthly Expenditures for April 2023.**

- C. **Approve a donation in the amount of \$2,000 to the Rescue Outreach Mission from the State Law Enforcement Confiscation Fund.**
- D. **Approve a donation in the amount of \$2,000 to the Boy Scouts of America Central Florida Council from the State Law Enforcement Confiscation Fund.**

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

11. **PUBLIC HEARINGS.** None.

12. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

- A. **City Commission consideration of a request to reduce an outstanding lien at 986 Wayman Street.**

Mr. Kintner presented the Item and provided the background of the lien. The request to reduce the lien was made at the March 20, 2023, City Commission meeting. Dayna Webb requested to reduce an outstanding lien at 986 Wayman Street. The property was assessed three (3) \$50 per day daily fines starting on January 12, 2021, and ending on October 26, 2022, the total of which is \$98,048.30 inclusive of the administrative fee of \$248.30. The violations were for high grass and weeds, minimum property standards, and trash and debris. Staff had discussed the issue of the outstanding lien with Troy Eggleston of Shoreview Investments, who indicated he had a contract to purchase the property. Staff indicated that the lien reduction policy would reduce the overall cost to \$14,707.25. Mr. Eggleston has asked for a reduction beyond the reduced amount.

Ms. Webb stated that the property was currently up to code.

Discussion ensued about the possibility of removing the fines altogether since the property is currently up to code, the need to adhere to lien reduction policy, property issues taking almost two years for resolution, the purpose of liens, if the Commission votes to lower or waive the lien it compromises a system in place that allows for a fifteen percent (15%) reduction, and the process of notification to the property owner regarding fines and liens.

Commissioner Sackett made a motion to leave the lien at its current amount allowing the applicant to pursue a reduction to 15% of the total amount under the Lien Reduction resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Boni and carried by a unanimous roll call vote with Deputy Mayor McMillan absent.

Discussion ensued on revising the Lien Reduction Program. The situation the Commission expressed to review would be those from residents who want to address the violations and intend to remain at their property, not those looking to sell.

B. City Commission discussion and direction on the location of six (6) to twelve (12) 30" X 60" Local Hero and First Responder Banners on six (6) designated poles around the Longwood Community Building parking Lot.

Mr. Capizzi presented the Item explaining the banners and locations. He stated that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board brought forward a banner program to recognize military heroes and first responders within and outside the City. The program could be used as a fundraiser for Leisure Services.

Discussion ensued, and it was noted that the City already has a Heroes Monument where the names of heroes could be placed. Further discussion was held on who would manage the banner installation and removal, and the Community Building is a venue for events and weddings, the Car Show takes place in the area, police officer photos on banners require individual consent, not the best location for banners, there are too many banners, and the fundraiser possibility.

It was the consensus of the Commission not to add banners in the Community Building parking lot.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Gioielli noticed new signs had been put up around the Longwood Historic Hotel using the City colors, which he thought was a good synergy with the promotion of the City. He recognized the following members of the Employee Event Committee: Maggie Ridore, Adam Bryant, Marie Tollas, Liane Cartagena, Molly Ralston, Trisha Fuston, Ryan Rinaldo, Donna Alt-Bowes, Eric Nagowski, Nik Kopp, Laura Stevens, and Michael Saylor.

Mr. Gioielli stated that the Fire Chief is restructuring the Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) mentioned by Mayor Morgan at the last Commission meeting. The Fire Chief has assigned a Battalion Chief as a program coordinator to facilitate more accountability and activity.

Mayor Morgan emphasized the need for more functionality rather than the organization just selling hot dogs and hamburgers.

Mr. Gioielli responded that CERT might have to move away from concession sales which is much work for the City and CERT members whose time can be better used elsewhere. The staff planned to ask the group to focus on training, public education, and response during certain events. In addition, the group should include periodic refresher training for its members, provide support at events such as a refresh tent to help those who need to cool down, help with inspections, and emergency response during catastrophic and prolonged events.

Mr. Gioielli reported that Outfront Media has asked to complete a presentation at the next Commission meeting. He said Outfront Media had changed their proposal, which he thought had some actual benefits to the City, and he and Commissioner Boni met with them last week. He stated that this week a new light would be installed at the playground at Reiter Park, and new sod would be installed along State Road 434. Staff is doing the sod work to save taxpayer dollars. He reported that staff had a preconstruction meeting with Huey Magoo's, and they anticipate being open for business by the end of this year, if not earlier. Mr. Gioielli reported that the March 2023 Community Building revenue was the highest to date.

14. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT. No report.

15. CITY CLERK'S REPORT

A. Consider canceling the July 3, 2023, City Commission Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Sackett moved to cancel the July 3, 2023, City Commission Regular Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker and carried by a three-to-one (3-1) voice vote with Mayor Morgan voting nay and Deputy Mayor McMillan absent.

Ms. Longo noted that Longwood would be hosting the CALNO (Council of Local Governments in Seminole County) meeting this Wednesday, April 5, which begins at 6:00 p.m. There will be a Public Health Celebration in honor of National Public Health Week held on Thursday, April 6, at the

Florida Department of Health in Seminole County from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. She also noted there would be a PBAS (Private Business Association of Seminole County) meeting on Wednesday, April 12, beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Heathrow County Club. Seminole County Chairman Amy Lockhart will provide an update regarding various County initiatives. She will highlight countywide efforts, including broadband expansion, community health and paramedicine, the Third Generation Infrastructure Sales Tax, and the County's first-time homebuyer program launch. She will be joined by County Manager Darren Gray.

Ms. Longo said if the Commissioners wished to attend any of the meetings, please let her know to be sure the proper notice is placed, and she would confirm their attendance if needed.

16. ADJOURN. Mayor Morgan adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Minutes approved by City Commission: 04-17-2023

Matt Morgan, Mayor

ATTEST:

**Michelle Longo, MMC, FCRM
City Clerk**

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