

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

MINUTES
April 17, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Matt Morgan
Deputy Mayor Matthew McMillan
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
Judith Rosado, Financial Services Director
Shad Smith, Public Works Director

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. **OPENING INVOCATION.** Mother Michelle with Christ Episcopal Church gave the invocation.
3. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Deputy Mayor McMillan led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Ms. Longo read the following announcements.
 - A. **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*.**
 - B. **The City of Longwood and the Lyman High School Band program present the 2nd Annual "Longwood Jazz Festival" to be held on Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Reiter Park.**

- C. **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. **Proclaiming the month of April 2023 as “Autism Acceptance Month.”**

Mayor Morgan read the Proclamation and then presented it to Ms. Nancy Johnston with Central Florida Therapy Solutions. Photographs were then taken.

- B. **Recognition of the Rock Lake Middle School Beta Club.**

Mayor Morgan recognized the Officers of the Beta Club and then presented a Certificate of Recognition. Photographs were then taken.

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

The presentation will be moved to the next meeting.

- D. **District #4 Nomination of the Business Person of the Month Award for May 2023.**

Mayor Morgan nominated Alestone Brewing for Business Person of the Month for May 2023.

6. **BOARD APPOINTMENTS. None.**

7. **PUBLIC INPUT**

- A. **Presentation: OutFront Media.**

Courtney Karolick, a representative from OutFront Media, gave a presentation on their proposed signage and answered questions.

Commissioner Boni made a motion to have an item regarding OutFront Media’s conversion project brought back to a Commission meeting for consideration. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a four-to-one (4-1) roll call vote with Commissioner Sackett voting nay.

B. Public Participation.

David Putz, 280 West Warren Avenue, Longwood. He has been a resident of Longwood for forty-three (43) years and a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for sixteen (16) years. He referenced the banners of gratitude discussed at the last City Commission meeting and stated they are not just for deceased members of the military or first responders. The banners are for any citizen who wants to show gratitude to those who have served as police officers, firefighters, or military personnel. He explained why the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board chose the Community Building parking lot and understood why the Commission did not want the banners in wedding photos. He suggested using the nine (9) poles in the parking lot of Reiter Park and asked the Commission to consider this location. He displayed a copy of his father's banner as an example of the banners of gratitude.

Discussion ensued about the banners used as a fundraiser and other locations such as the cemetery, VFW Post, Warren Avenue, or Candyland Sports Complex. Also discussed was the installation of the banners; they cannot be on electrical poles, and the timeline for the banners to be up would be from Memorial Day to Veterans Day, with Leisure Services likely taking care of the details.

Mayor Morgan asked Mr. Gioielli to have staff bring forward options for the proposed banners other than the Community Building parking lot.

8. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

District #5. Commissioner Sackett noticed that street signs were crooked on his drive to Candyland Sports Complex in the area of Wayman Street and Longdale Avenue.

Mr. Gioielli responded that the recent storm resulted in trees down, minor street flooding, and twisted signs in the City. After removing trees over the weekend, staff started straightening out and replacing signs this week.

Commissioner Sackett mentioned Breakfast with the Easter Bunny was the best he had seen and was impressed with the new business partner Huey Magoo's. He noted there were over 300 served. Families attended the Breakfast at different times, allowing for a rotation of people in the Community Building. He thanked other sponsors, including the church on

State Road 434 and Magic 107.7. He commended the Public Works staff for clearing trees out of roadways quickly following the storm on April 14.

Commissioner Sackett attended a golf tournament on April 15, sponsored by Lyman High School at Wekiva Golf Club. They raised thousands of dollars in scholarship money. He went to his grandson's Longwood Babe Ruth baseball game, where a fight erupted among the five (5) to eight (8) year-old players and resulting in dismissing a parent. He was asked to intervene and commented that the League is about kids having fun, but it does not condone improper behavior. He attended the Battle of the Food Trucks, noting more seafood vendors were there than at the Pirate Seafood Festival in March.

Commissioner Sackett stated that this week was Senior Week at Lyman High School. He attended Honors Night in recognition of students with a 3.5 Grade Point Average and above, which totaled about ten percent (10%) of the graduating class. He welcomed the new Code Enforcement Officer, who previously worked as a 911 Dispatcher at the City of Winter Springs. He reminded everyone that road sweeping would occur Wednesday and Thursday this week. He felt parking at the Candyland Sports Complex continues to be a problem and asked if four lanes could be considered in next year's budget. He recognized Donna Alt-Bowes, Leisure Services staff member, for supporting City events and attending the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meetings.

District #1. No report.

District #2. Commissioner Boni attended a celebration at the Florida Department of Health held by Ladies 327, the Living on Your Own event at Milwee Middle School, Battle of the Food Trucks, the Easter Egg Hunt, and the Public Works Celebration of Life for Don Edmonds.

Commissioner Boni reported to Mr. Gioielli that he received phone calls regarding the wall at the Wildmere development, where there are cones and roped-off areas.

District #3. Deputy Mayor McMillan attended the Legislative Action Days for the Florida League of Cities in Tallahassee and discussed prospective amendments and changes with other elected officials. He spoke about a pending utility bill that regulates and caps surcharges by cities for customers outside their boundaries. He was unaware of how many cities opposed this bill because they relied upon surplus utility funds to fund their operations. He stated that the City of Longwood does not do this and is not dependent upon such funds.

Deputy Mayor McMillan listened to the last Commission meeting on his way to Tallahassee and was concerned the banners discussed were only for the deceased, but Mr. Putz confirmed they were not. Whether the banners were a fundraising activity, he wanted to ensure no one felt priced out and rules were needed on obtaining a banner. He commented on the lien discussion suggesting an amnesty program. If someone applies and pays by a specific date, they can clear their lien amount, which would help those properties with high liens and lack of compliance. He explained that the program could be held every few years to clear out older liens. He attended the Prayer Breakfast and looks forward to the next one.

Deputy Mayor McMillan reported he attended a MegaCon Convention in Orlando and a Christian Ministry panel hosted by local Pastor Tony Talavera. His team reaches out to young adults through popular cultures, such as comic books, superheroes, and science fiction. Pastor Talavera talked about how excited he was to find Longwood and plant his church in such a great community. Deputy Mayor McMillan introduced himself after the discussion and noted Pastor Talavera broadcast his remarks on his podcast Nerd of Godcast. Regarding the Pirate Seafood Festival, Deputy Mayor McMillan supported having a tent in the future for shade, agreed there should be more seafood options, and suggested holding the seafood festival in conjunction with other events. He attended the Longwood Employee Appreciation Night Out, the State of the County Luncheon, and the Longwood Health Fair. He asked that the Seminole County Manager's Report get included in the media distribution for residents to review.

Deputy Mayor McMillan reported on the true, good, and beautiful. For the "true," he stated at the Seminole Chamber Lunch & Learn as they promoted the 50th Anniversary of Lake Mary that 1973 was the same year the Bradlee-McIntyre House was moved to Longwood from Altamonte Springs. For the "good," he mentioned the memory of Don Edmonds, recognized by a tree and marker at the Public Works Celebration of Life. For the "beautiful," he referred to the Easter Egg Hunt, which had great weather and many beautiful families.

District #4. Mayor Morgan, on April 4, attended the Seminole County Symposium, followed by a meeting with Mr. Gioielli and Shalom Orlando regarding the RAISE (Recognizing Abilities and Inclusion of Special Employees) Program. He announced that the City of Longwood is the first government organization in the State to train and hire special needs adults.

Mr. Gioielli commented that one of the adults who has completed the RAISE Program visited the City recently and applied for a job.

Mayor Morgan attended a Parish Seder Meal at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church in Altamonte Springs, commemorating the Jewish Passover tradition. The next day, he met former U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos at a luncheon in Orlando. The following day he met with Chris Capizzi and Ryan Rinaldo at City Hall along with his wife Larissa and gave an update on the “Walk for Autism Awareness & Inclusion.” He stated that according to the Autism Society of Greater Orlando, the Walk is shaping up to be the biggest informational sharing event in Central Florida. Mayor Morgan and his wife have signed up vendors and raised money to cover event expenses. He thanked Chris Capizzi and Ryan Rinaldo for their time and input into the April 29 event.

Mayor Morgan participated in the “Living on Your Own” event at Milwee Middle School along with Commissioner Boni. He attended the Celebration of Life for Don Edmonds and thanked Mr. Gioielli for his speech. The next day he went to Seminole County’s Golden Eagle Dinner, a fundraiser to send Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts who are in need to camps and outings. He attended the Longwood Health Fair along with fellow Commissioners. He reminded seniors who do not have a dental plan that assistance is available at the American Muslim Community Clinic in Longwood. He and his wife promoted the upcoming Walk for Autism on Channel 9 News and thanked them for the interview at their home. He also thanked Mr. Capizzi for picking up a donation check from KultureCity USA. This non-profit organization creates sensory-inclusive rooms for venues like the ones at the Camping World Stadium and the Amway Center.

Mayor Morgan asked that the Seminole County Public School Board Members be invited by email to attend meetings when the Commission recognizes any Seminole County schools.

9. **ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.** None.
10. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Approve the Minutes of the April 3, 2023, Regular Meeting.**
 - B. **Approve the Monthly Expenditures for April 2023.**
 - C. **Approve the Monthly Financial Report for March 2023.**

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

11. **PUBLIC HEARINGS.** None.

12. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

A. **Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 23-1628, amending the budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023 including adjustments for revenue and expenditures.**

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 23-1628 by title only.

Commissioner Shoemaker moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-1628 as presented Item 12A. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

B. **Approve a purchase order in the amount of \$70,696.17 and Contract for Maintenance of Traffic Services for EE Williamson Road - Water Main Relocation Project with Hubbard Construction Company and authorize the City Manager to execute associated documents.**

Mr. Smith presented the Item and answered questions.

Deputy Mayor McMillan moved to approve Item 12B as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

13. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Gioielli reported there was a failed stormwater system at Grant Street and Wildmere Avenue and anticipated completion within the next month. He noted that the staff is working through supply and utility line issues.

Mr. Gioielli stated that inclement weather occurred last Thursday, and staff worked extended hours on Friday and Saturday removing trees, fixing signs, and clearing out stormwater. He reported that several staff departments have been working on sponsorship and vendor packages which will provide additional revenue to support the Leisure Services Department and the City events. In addition, the sponsorship packages will provide marketing opportunities for businesses and staff plans to find different distribution methods, including shared advertising, the business tax receipt process, new utility customers, and social media.

Mr. Gioielli provided an update regarding an issue at the last Commission meeting where an attorney requested an exception at 235 West Marvin Avenue. The staff is working through that and will bring it to a future meeting. He reminded Commissioners that the next day they were scheduled to meet at 4:00 p.m. at the 451 Building for the unveiling of the new Fire Department.

14. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT. No report.

15. CITY CLERK'S REPORT

Ms. Longo reported that National Volunteer Week is celebrated annually during the third week of April. This year it will be observed from April 16 to 22. She thanked all the Longwood volunteers for giving their time, skills, kindness, and dedication to give back to our community.

Tomorrow, Longwood will host the Mayors and Managers meeting at the Longwood Community Building at 11:30 am. Thursday is the Tri-County League of Cities Meeting in Winter Park at noon. The next meeting will be held in Casselberry and will offer Ethics Training. You can reserve your spot if you are interested in attending the training. There will be a ribbon cutting for Retro City Cycles on Wednesday, April 26, at 5:00 pm. They are located at 355 N. Ronald Reagan Blvd., Suite 1031. She reminded the Commission that they should be receiving the Statement of Financial Interests (Form 1) form in the mail any time now. Upon completion, please mail the completed form, including their signature and date, to the Seminole County Supervisor of Elections by July 1.

16. ADJOURN. Mayor Morgan adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes approved by City Commission: 05-01-2023

Matt Morgan, Mayor

ATTEST:

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