

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

MINUTES
May 1, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Present: **Mayor Tony Boni**
 Commissioner Abby Shoemaker
 Commissioner Matt Morgan
 Commissioner Brian D. Sackett
 Dan Langley, City Attorney
 Clint Gioielli, City Manager
 Michelle Longo, City Clerk
 David Dowda, Police Chief
 Chris Capizzi, Leisure Services Director

Absent: **Deputy Mayor Matthew McMillan (Excused)**

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
2. **OPENING INVOCATION.** Chaplain Buddy Balagia with Life Point Christian Church gave the invocation.
3. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Mayor Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Election of Mayor

Mayor Morgan turned the meeting over to the City Attorney to conduct the Election of the Mayor.

Mr. Langley stated the election of the Mayor occurs at the first meeting in May of every year and is elected amongst the Members of the Commission. He opened the floor for nominations.

Mayor Morgan nominated Commissioner Boni as Mayor.

Commissioner Sackett also nominated Commissioner Boni as Mayor.

Commissioner Boni stated he accepted the nomination.

Mr. Langley closed the floor for nominations.

Nomination carried by a unanimous roll call vote with Deputy Mayor McMillan absent.

4. **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Ms. Longo read the following announcements.
 - A. **The City of Longwood will host a “Longwood Luau,” a Hawaiian-themed party on Saturday, May 6, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Reiter Park.**
 - B. **The City of Longwood will host a “Mother & Son” Dance on Thursday, May 11, 2023, from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Longwood Community Building. Tickets have sold out for this dance.**
 - C. **The “Downtown Longwood Cruise-In” Car Show will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Historic District of Longwood.**

5. **PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS**

- A. **Recognition of the American Muslim Community Clinic for its contributions to the community over the past year.**

Commissioner Morgan recognized the American Muslim Community Clinic and presented them with a certificate of recognition. Photographs were then taken.

- B. **District #4 Presentation of the Business Person of the Month Award for May 2023 to Alestone Brewing Co., located at 351 N. Ronald Reagan Blvd., Suite #1055.**

Commissioner Morgan read a brief biography on Mr. Sky Conley, the owner, then presented him with the Business Person of the Month Award for May 2023. Photographs were then taken.

6. **BOARD APPOINTMENTS.** None.

7. **PUBLIC INPUT**

- A. **Public Participation.** None.

8. **MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT**

District #1. Commissioner Shoemaker congratulated newly appointed Mayor Boni as well as wished he and his wife a happy anniversary. On April 18, she attended the unveiling of the new Fire Station and noted it was a goal of herself and Commissioners Morgan and Drummond when they were elected in 2017. On April 20, she attended the Tri-County

League of Cities Meeting and an event at Wekiva Island for the PARC's Foundation supporting Seminole County Parks. They want to put in a sensory playground at the former Rolling Hills Golf Course. On April 26, she attended the ribbon cutting for Retro City Cycles. On April 29, she attended the Longwood Walk for Autism Awareness & Inclusion and commended Commissioner Morgan and his wife Larissa for a well-organized and spectacular event.

District #2. Mayor Boni thanked fellow commissioners for his mayor nomination and hoped to make them proud, as well as the residents of Longwood. He mentioned his 25th wedding anniversary and said he and his wife Amy planned to go to dinner after the Commission meeting. He attended the unveiling of the new Fire Station and thanked Mr. Gioielli and the staff for putting together the event. He attended the Longwood Jazz Festival featuring local school bands and the Longwood Walk for Autism Awareness & Inclusion, thanking Commissioner Morgan and his wife Larissa for their achievement in making people aware of autism and how they can support those organizations.

District #3. No report.

District #4. Commissioner Morgan, on April 18, attended the unveiling of the new Fire Station and thanked staff and fellow commissioners for their promotion of the project despite difficult financial times and the cost of building. He mentioned that the new fire station was a campaign promise that he and others made in 2017. On April 20, he attended a South Seminole Sertoma Club meeting. He announced the Club would hold a fundraising bowling tournament on Sunday, May 21, at the Oviedo Bowling Center, with check-in at 2:30 p.m. and bowling at 3:00 p.m. He offered to cover the cost of the tournament for fellow commissioners who would like to participate. Tournament fees are \$150 for a team or \$30 for an individual, and information is available at southseminolesertoma.com.

Commissioner Morgan attended the Tri-County League of Cities Meeting and the PARC'S Foundation fundraiser at Wekiva Island. The fundraiser was to help build the first all-inclusive playground offering activities for everyone from a child in a wheelchair to someone with sensory issues. The playground location is planned for the former Rolling Hills Golf Course in unincorporated Longwood.

Commissioner Morgan attended the Longwood Jazz Festival and received a comment from a School Board Member that the event was on the same night as another jazz festival. He noted that the event was still well attended. He recognized his nephew Roy, a competitive cheerleader, and

his team finished second in the country. He attended the ribbon cutting for Retro City Cycles and thanked Commissioner Shoemaker for her speech. He thanked Police Chief David Dowda for visiting Rock Lake Middle School on April 27 and delivering a speech to the future leaders of tomorrow in the Beta Club.

Commissioner Morgan and his wife, on April 29, held the first Walk for Autism Awareness & Inclusion in Longwood and later found out the event was the first Walk for Autism in Seminole County. He thanked his wife Larissa for her help and business sponsors: Alestone Brewing Co., Oakwood Construction, KultureCity, and Central Florida Therapy Solutions. The Walk featured a variety of interests, including from mini horses and rabbits for petting, funding options, and community services for families dealing with autism. He commented that Shalom Orlando participated as a vendor at the Walk and is working with the City of Longwood on hiring special needs young adults. He thanked Shalom Orlando, fellow commissioners, and all the families that participated in the Walk. That same evening he and his wife attended the Blue & White Be Great Gala, an annual fundraiser held by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida to support their Seminole County Clubs. He thanked Wood Partners for their contribution to the Boys & Clubs. He also congratulated Mayor Boni on his appointment.

District #5. Commissioner Sackett congratulated Mayor Boni on his 25th wedding anniversary and appointment as mayor. He mentioned unveiling the new Fire Station and asked for the banner to be returned to the site.

Commissioner Sackett attended the Senior Matinee and said it was the largest in attendance, with over forty (40) people. He stated there is a need for a Senior Center. The City used to have Longwood Elementary for senior activities, but the school has since reopened, and that option is no longer available. He commented that Longwood is the only city without a Senior Center in the area. He proposed using the old Fire Station once it is vacated. He attended the Tri-County League of Cities Meeting and toured the AdventHealth facility where it was held.

Commissioner Sackett mentioned that the Farmers Market is in a good spot at Reiter Park and enjoyed music from the Longwood Jazz Festival. He and his grandson attended the ribbon cutting for Retro City Cycles, and he purchased a helmet for his grandson, later getting bicycle gloves.

Commissioner Sackett mentioned that the Walk for Autism Awareness & Inclusion was helpful and noted that his original degree was in autism. He had three (3) children in his class who were autistic while he taught at

Woodlands Elementary. He stated that the three (3) Winn-Dixie stores in Longwood, Lake Mary, and Winter Springs want to be involved in the employment aspect of special needs children.

Commissioner Sackett visited Arbor Park Dog Park and liked the new safety fences and recently installed dog training equipment. He would be attending a CALNO (Council of Local Governments) meeting where they would discuss the basins and how the cities plan to deal with their water issues. He requested to meet with Mr. Gioielli to review Longwood's plans. On Thursday, he has a MetroPlan Orlando meeting in downtown Orlando.

Commissioner Sackett mentioned that construction related to the Cross Seminole Trail at the Tiberon subdivision was a traffic nightmare that day. He liked how the neighborhood was blocked off for safety and the police department's advertisement of the closure. Forty (40) kids were late for school that day because of the construction. He reported that baseball playoffs would start at Candyland Sports Complex, but the parking lot still has many things scattered about, including old lights, equipment, and a sand pile. He suggested establishing one common area for these items. He is a member of the Boosters at Lyman High School, and the group gave away eight (8) scholarships the past week. High school proms are happening at local schools, including Lyman and Winter Springs. He stated that Seminole County is considering a facility to host graduations instead of the University of Central Florida. He congratulated Lyman High School's iBuild Trades Team that competed the past weekend and took first, second, and third place in the HVAC competition. In carpentry, they took first, and in electrical wiring, they took first and third.

9. ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Gioielli stated the applicant requested Item 12A be moved to the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Sackett made a motion to have Item 12A moved to the May 15, 2023 Commission meeting. Seconded by Mayor Boni and motion carried by a unanimous voice vote with Deputy Mayor McMillan absent.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve the Minutes of the April 17, 2023, Regular Meeting.**
- B. Approve the Monthly Expenditures for April 2023.**

C. Approve the purchase of five (5) vehicles for the Police Department.

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

11. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. The City Commission to hear a public request for a Special Exception (SPE 01-23) to allow an outdoor seating area to encroach into the required 15' front setback of the 17-92 zoning district at 1015 South U.S. Highway 17-92.

Mr. Langley stated that this is a quasi-judicial matter, and anyone wishing to speak on behalf or in opposition to this agenda item is requested to step forward, stand, and be sworn in. He then swore in Mr. Kintner and Mr. Vance Maiorana.

Mr. Kintner presented the item and explained staff issued a temporary use permit for the outdoor seating area essentially to act as a pilot program for this proposed use. Staff received no complaints or concerns about the use during its temporary time period. There is a significant distance between the road and the front of the property's patio. Staff did include a condition, if there is a roadway expansion in the future, the outdoor seating permit will be reviewed by staff to ensure that the right-of-way improvements do not materially affect the safety of the outdoor patrons. He and staff recommended approval.

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing.

Mr. Vance Maiorana spoke in favor of the item. He stated he is one of the owners of the business and he is the one who requested the seating for outside. He said the property is limited in outdoor seating, and he met with staff prior to the temporary use permit to discuss the best location for seating. He added that customers for the past six (6) months had enjoyed the outdoor seating.

No one else spoke in favor or opposition to Special Exception (SPE 01-23).

Commissioner Shoemaker moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried

by a unanimous voice vote with Deputy Mayor McMillan absent.

Commissioner Morgan moved to approve Special Exception (SPE 01-23) as presented Item 11A. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote with Deputy Mayor McMillan absent.

B. The City Commission to hear a public request for a Special Exception (SPE 02-23) to allow the reduction of the required 10' side setback to 4.2' feet for an existing legally non-conforming building at 235 West Marvin Avenue.

Mr. Langley stated that this is a quasi-judicial matter, and anyone wishing to speak on behalf or in opposition to this agenda item is requested to step forward, stand, and be sworn in. He then swore in Mr. Kintner.

Mr. Kintner presented the item, and the request was initially made at the April 3rd Commission meeting. The applicant was asking for a permanent reduction to a setback. This situation will only apply if the entire building is destroyed or if the building is rehabilitated beyond fifty percent (50%) of its value. The request is to maintain the status quo and formalize the nonconformity. The existing non-conforming condition has no obvious negative impacts on this property or surrounding properties due to the relatively minor impact of the reduced setback and the fact that it is an existing condition with no apparent negative impact on surrounding properties. He and the staff recommended approval.

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing.

Mr. Philip S. Kaprow, 800 N. Magnolia Avenue, Suite 1500, Orlando spoke in favor of the item. He expressed appreciation to the Commission and city management stating the process has been very smooth and easy, noting the professionalism and kindness of staff.

No one else spoke in favor or opposition to Special Exception (SPE 02-23).

Commissioner Sackett moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Morgan and carried by a unanimous voice vote with Deputy Mayor McMillan absent.

Commissioner Sackett moved to approve Special Exception (SPE 02-23) as presented Item 11B. Seconded by Commissioner Morgan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote with Deputy Mayor McMillan absent.

12. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. Read by title only, set May 15, 2023, as the public hearing date and approve the first reading of Ordinance. No. 23-2237, a Small-Scale Comprehensive Plan Amendment (SPA 01-23) requesting a land use and zoning change to Infill and Mixed-Use for the property located at 250 North Street.**

Item was pulled from the agenda and moved to the next Commission meeting.

- B. City Commission consideration and approval of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Winter Springs regarding a Limited Transfer of Jurisdiction.**

Mr. Kintner presented the Item. He explained there are two parcels on East State Road 434, one within the jurisdiction of the City of Longwood and the other within the jurisdiction of the City of Winter Springs. The owner wants to do a single project which creates some issues for Longwood. In order to resolve the issue, the cities have proposed this interlocal agreement wherein the City of Winter Springs will have limited jurisdiction to issue development approvals solely for the purposes of this development plan over the .70-acre parcel located in the City of Longwood, which largely only contains landscaping, parking spaces, and a buffer wall adjoining a residential property that is within Longwood City limits. This solution allows Longwood to maintain the taxable value associated with the smaller parcel, and the project to proceed in a practical manner.

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

- C. City Commission discussion and approval on the location of the Armed Services Member and First Responder Banners on designated poles at either the Reiter Park parking lot or within Candyland Sports Complex.**

Mr. Capizzi presented the Item and reviewed the options for installing memorial and service appreciation banners. One being at Reiter Park and the other at Candyland Sports Complex. He reviewed the locations, banner sizes, the length of time the banners would be up, and the associated costs.

Discussion ensued on the associated costs, fundraising possibilities, guidelines, and banner locations.

The City Clerk read a letter from Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member David Putz. He could not attend the meeting and expressed his support for installing banners at the Reiter Park parking lot. He felt this location would provide more exposure and bucket trucks could be used for installation.

Commissioner Sackett moved to have the banners placed at Candyland Sports Complex for a one (1) year trial period. Seconded by Commissioner Morgan and carried by a three-to-one (3-1) roll call vote with Commissioner Shoemaker voting nay and Deputy Mayor McMillan absent.

Mr. Gioielli asked the Commission for direction on whether the banners would be a fundraising program.

Mr. Capizzi stated the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board approved the banners for fundraising purposes, and approved a charge of \$300 per banner. He estimated banners at Candyland Sports Complex would cost about \$175, including the banner, background check, and hardware.

It was the consensus of the Commission to give the option to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to have the banner program as a fundraiser.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Gioielli wished Deputy Mayor McMillan well, congratulated Mayor Boni on his 25th wedding anniversary and appointment as mayor, and thanked Commissioner Morgan for his continued service. He reported that the City of Longwood continues participation in the Best Foot Forward Program, a regional program to help improve pedestrian safety along the roadways. The landscape improvements on medians along U.S. Highway 17-92 have started.

Mr. Gioielli reported that the City has moved to a multifactor authentication system, one of the best ways to protect an IT system. Union negotiations have started with both the blue-collar and police departments. The staff has begun budget preparations for next year. He reported that the City had received several complaints regarding the E.E. Williamson Road construction, primarily a Seminole County project. He hopes to finish construction quickly and has posted signs to keep residents and passing motorists safe.

14. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT. No report.

15. CITY CLERK'S REPORT

Ms. Longo congratulated the new Mayor, Tony Boni, and thanked Commissioner Morgan for his service as Mayor.

Ms. Longo received a request for a Proclamation from the Salvation Army of Seminole County to recognize National Salvation Army Week May 15-21, 2023, and have it placed on the next Commission agenda.

There was no objection from the Commission.

16. ADJOURN. Mayor Morgan adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Minutes approved by City Commission: 05-15-2023

Tony Boni, Mayor

ATTEST:

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