

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

MINUTES
September 18, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Tony Boni
Deputy Mayor Matthew McMillan
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
Michael Peters, Fire Chief
Judith Rosado, Financial Services Director
Chris Kintner, Community Development Director
Shad Smith, Public Works Director

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Boni called the meeting to order at 6:01 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.** Mayor Boni led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Ms. Longo read the following announcement.
 - A. The Senior Matinee will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, from 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. at the Longwood Community Building, 200 West Warren Avenue. This month's feature is *About My Father*.
 - B. The Ultimate Car Show will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Reiter Park.

5. **PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS**

A. **Nomination of the Beautification Award.**

Commissioner Morgan nominated Get Fueled Meals for the Beautification Award. Nomination carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Sackett mentioned the sign and would like to have it updated.

Commissioner Morgan moved to have options for an updated Beautification sign brought to the Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a four-to-one (4-1) roll call vote with Deputy Mayor McMillan voting nay.

11. **PUBLIC HEARINGS (PART I)**

A. **Read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 23-2243, which fixes the tentative rate of ad valorem taxation for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.**

The final tax rate being proposed for fiscal year 2023/2024 is 5.5000 per \$1,000 of non-exempt assessed valuation. Said rate is 10.76% higher than the rolled-back rate of 4.9655 per \$1,000 of non-exempt assessed valuation as computed by Florida Statute 200.065.

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing by announcing the City of Longwood's City Commission convenes this public hearing on the City of Longwood's fiscal year 2023/2024 final millage rates and final budget as required by Florida Statutes, Chapters 129 and 200. He said Item 11A recommends the City Commission read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 23-2243, which fixes the final millage rate of ad valorem taxation for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. The final tax rate being proposed is 5.5000 per \$1,000 of non-exempt assessed valuation. This rate is 10.76% higher than the rolled-back rate of 4.9655 per \$1,000 of non-exempt assessed valuation as computed by Florida Statute 200.065. Chapter 200 requires that a final public hearing on the budget be preceded by a two-to-five-day notice of that hearing. Chapter 129 requires an advertisement with a summary of the final budget.

Mr. Langley announced having proof of publication and read Ordinance No. 23-2243 by title only.

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 23-2243.

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

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Ordinance No. 23-2243 as presented Item 11A. Seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Boni stated the City of Longwood has determined that a final millage rate of 5.5000 mills is necessary to fund the final budget. The final millage rate represents an increase of 10.76% from the rolled-back rate of 4.9655 mills.

B. Read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 23-2244, which adopts tentative revenues, expenditures, and fund balances for the City’s fiscal year budget commencing October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024.

Mayor Boni stated Item 11B recommends that the City Commission read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 23-2244, which adopts final revenues, expenditures, and fund balances for the City’s fiscal year budget commencing on October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024. Chapter 200 requires that a final public hearing on the budget be preceded by a two-to-five-day notice of that hearing. Chapter 129 requires that they advertise a summary of the final budget.

Mr. Langley announced having proof of publication and read Ordinance No. 23-2244 by title only.

Mayor Boni said the City of Longwood’s fiscal year 2023/2024 budget proposed revenues, expenditures, and fund balances for the City’s fiscal year budget commencing on October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024, are as follows:

GENERAL FUND	\$22,336,740
PUBLIC UTILITIES	\$17,934,405
PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT	\$5,356,864
CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$10,768,876
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	\$979,429

OTHER FUNDS	\$5,861,685
FUND BALANCE - RESERVES	\$15,221,560
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$78,459,559

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 23-2244.

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

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Ordinance No. 23-2244 as presented Item 11B. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

6. BOARD APPOINTMENTS

A. District #2 (At Large) Nomination to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

Mayor Boni deferred the nomination until the next meeting.

7. PUBLIC INPUT

A. Public Participation. None.

8. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

District #4. Commissioner Morgan attended the ribbon cutting for Milestone Gems on August 7 and Elise Esthetics Institute on August 12. He participated in an event on August 13 at Cascade Heights, helping to build the world's largest banana split. He took part in an interview on Howard 101's new programming A Hard Look With Jon Leiberman. He promoted the City of Longwood and upcoming events at Reiter Park.

Commissioner Morgan attended Opening Day Ceremonies for Longwood Babe Ruth Baseball & Softball and commended President Patrick McFadden and his Board of Directors for their hard work growing the league. He spoke at Milwee Middle School about politics and local elected officials and addressed five (5) different civics classes. After the talk, several students expressed interest in running for political office in their local areas.

District #5. Commissioner Sackett attended ribbon cuttings for Milestone Gems and Elise Esthetics Institute. He was pleased to see progress on construction at Rangeline Road and the commitment to finish it by the end of this month. That evening, he wore a teal-colored shirt for the

19th anniversary of his wife being cancer-free from ovarian cancer. September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, and his wife and their team have raised about \$4 million for ovarian research.

Commissioner Sackett attended Opening Day Ceremonies for Longwood Babe Ruth Baseball & Softball and thanked President Patrick McFadden and his team for a wonderful event. There are 350 ball players for the fall season. He commended the staff for the superior condition of the ball fields and the job well done at Candyland Sports Complex and the cemetery. He noted that the Citizens on Patrol (COPs) did a good job getting vehicles parked, with about 600 going in and out of the parking lot at Candyland Sports Complex.

Commissioner Sackett said he was glad to see the former SunTrust Bank on State Road 434 being disassembled and prepared for a new business, Chipotle Mexican Grill. He thanked Mr. Gioielli for taking care of the underground internet problem affecting residential sprinkling systems. Commissioner Sackett met with Lyman High School boosters, and they were developing ideas and will get the City involved. He reported that the football team continues to be undefeated.

District #1. Commissioner Shoemaker attended ribbon cuttings for Milestone Gems and Elise Esthetics Institute. She attended the Car Show and enjoyed the spaghetti dinner. She pitched the ball at Opening Day Ceremonies for Longwood Babe Ruth Baseball & Softball and agreed the fields looked wonderful. She will attend the upcoming Brightline Grand Opening Event on Friday.

District #2. Mayor Boni has visited Milwee Middle School with Commissioner Morgan, and getting the students involved in student government is a win-win situation. He participated in the Leadership Seminole Mayors Panel for Government Day.

Mayor Boni successfully held two (2) Longwood Rotary Club informational meetings. They will have their first charter meeting on Monday, October 2, at the Longwood Historic Civic Center. He attended ribbon cuttings for Milestone Gems and Elise Esthetics Institute. He attended Opening Day Ceremonies for Longwood Babe Ruth Baseball & Softball and thanked President Patrick McFadden for a great job. He commended Chris Capizzi and his entire Leisure Services team for an unbelievable job with the fields, lights, and batting cages. He missed the Longwood Historic Society's Annual Potluck but heard the talk by Tom Milwee on the history of Longwood was phenomenal.

Mayor Boni addressed the traffic light issue at Dog Track Road and Ronald Reagan Boulevard. He said the school crossing guard stops traffic while on duty, but afterward, students and teachers find themselves in the middle of the crosswalk later in the day while cars are making their turns. He asked staff to look into this issue.

Mr. Gioielli responded that he sent Mayor Boni an update before the meeting. Dog Track Road and Ronald Reagan Boulevard are county-maintained roadways, and staff notified Seminole County of their concerns. County officials responded that they are preparing to resurface Ronald Reagan Boulevard in the next couple of months. They have agreed to add more striping and signage and replace existing striping. City staff trimmed bushes along the sidewalk, and Police Chief Dowda established a traffic area patrol for after school-hours.

District #3. Deputy Mayor McMillan was unable to attend the Longwood Historic Society's meeting but heard the speech would be put online. He attended the ribbon cutting for Elise Esthetics Institute. He explained earlier that he voted no for an update to the beautification sign because he does not like being asked aesthetic questions about signs as a commissioner.

Deputy Mayor McMillan attended a ribbon cutting for Milestone Gems and the Downtown Car Show. He attended an informational meeting for the Longwood Rotary Club hosted by Mayor Boni. By chance, he encountered a pedestrian at the intersection of Rangeline Road and E.E. Williamson Road. He expressed concern with the intersection and being aware of the trail.

Deputy Mayor McMillan attended a Seminole County Chamber Longwood Council Lunch and Learn and heard an update from the Vice President of Brightline and plans to connect Orlando with Miami and later Tampa. He attended the Florida League of Cities Legislative Policy Committee meeting. Topics discussed included sovereign immunity, mobility plan, Live Local Act, storms, and acts related to hurricane relief. He reported on a bill that could affect the City, which allows the destruction of historic structures if a storm hits and buildings are deemed unsafe. He said the good news is that there is an exception if a structure is on the National Register of Historic Places. Another bill possibly impacting the City is in reference to the Live Local Act. It specifies that a county or City shall not adopt more restrictive or burdensome procedures to its comprehensive plan or propose any adoption of amendment before October 1, 2024. More information will follow at the next meeting of the Legislative Policy Committee scheduled on October 6.

Deputy Mayor McMillan reported on the true, good, and beautiful. For the “true,” he commented that the county has had 1.02 inches less rain than normal, which makes Seminole County the thirty-seventh (37) driest in the last 129 years. These facts are important because water and irrigation cost affects people’s budgets. For the “good,” he saw sportsmanship and teamwork at the Opening Day Ceremonies for Longwood Babe Ruth Baseball & Softball. The teams were lined up with their banners, marched around the bases, and assembled into two rows. For the “beautiful,” he viewed right after sunset a waxing crescent moon in his neighborhood.

Commissioner Morgan stated it has been sixty (60) days since the City Attorney has worked out an amendment to add to the Live Local Act in the State of Florida. He sent the amendment to the office of State Representative Rachel Plakon but has not heard anything yet on the subject.

Commissioner Shoemaker asked Deputy Mayor McMillan to bring up auto insurance rates at his next Legislative Policy Committee meeting.

9. **ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.** None.
10. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Approve the Minutes of the August 21, 2023, Regular Meeting and the August 29, 2023, Emergency Meeting.**
 - B. **Approve the Monthly Expenditures for September 2023.**
 - C. **Approve the Monthly Financial Report for August 2023.**
 - D. **Approve a Public Emergency Medical Transportation Letter of Agreement with the Agency for Health Care Administration and inter-government transfer not to exceed \$55,363.22.**

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

11. **PUBLIC HEARINGS (PART II)**
 - C. **Read by title only, set October 2, 2023, as the second public hearing date, and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 23-2240, a Longwood Development Code Amendment related to the implementation of the Live Local Act.**

Mr. Langley read Ordinance No. 23-2240 by title only.

Mr. Kintner presented the Item and answered questions.

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 23-2240.

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

Commissioner Sackett moved to approve Ordinance No. 23-2240 and set October 2, 2023 as the second public hearing date. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

D. Read by title only, set October 2, 2023 as the second public hearing date, and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 23-2241, a Longwood Development Code Amendment addressing uses restricted by the passage of Ordinance No. 23-2236.

Mr. Langley read Ordinance No. 23-2241 by title only.

Mr. Kintner presented the Item.

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 23-2241.

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

Commissioner Sackett moved to approve Ordinance No. 23-2241 and set October 2, 2023 as the second public hearing date. Seconded by Deputy Mayor McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

E. Read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 23-2245, approving the extension of the Non-Exclusive Franchises for the Collection of Commercial Solid Waste and/or Recovered Materials for an additional twelve (12) months.

Mr. Langley read Ordinance No. 23-2245 by title only.

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 23-2245.

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

Deputy Mayor McMillan moved to approve Ordinance No. 23-2245 as presented Item 11E. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

F. Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 23-1643, adopting a Five-Year Capital Improvement Program for the Fiscal Years 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028 pursuant to the requirements of Section 6.07 of the City Charter.

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 23-1643 by title only.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item.

Mayor Boni opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Resolution No. 23-1643.

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

Commissioner Morgan moved to approve Resolution No. 23-1643 as presented Item 11F. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

12. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. City Commission approval of a United States Department of Agriculture and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Grant and Agreement Award for the Raven Avenue Outfall Rehabilitation Project and authorize the City Manager to execute any associated documents.

Mr. Smith presented the Item.

Commissioner Morgan moved to approve the agreement as presented Item 12A. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Gioielli announced from September 18 to September 24 is Rail Safety Week. The City has posted educational messages through digital media notifying residents and others traveling through the City to be safe around railroad crossings. For Rail Safety Week, police officers will be on site every morning and afternoon to educate and conduct enforcement. He congratulated the Police Department and Information Technology Department for passing the FDLE (Florida Department of Law Enforcement) CJIS (Criminal Justice Information Services) Audit. The audit ensures that police departments protect all the critical and sensitive information it collects, including over 600 standards.

Mr. Gioielli reported that new signs for Candyland Sports Complex have been ordered for Ronald Reagan Boulevard and U.S. Highway 17-92 to provide directions to the sports complex. The signs will be larger, state-standard brown signs and more visible. He stated they are preparing to repaint the portable buildings located by Fire Station 17 with a contemporary blue and gray color. He reported the U.S. Highway 17-92 landscaping project is being completed by a landscaping contractor. Staff has worked hard to get the contractor back on track and is seeing some improvement. He said that until the contractor has completely corrected the issues, they are paying a daily fine of \$750, which is over \$30,000 at this time.

14. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT. No report.

15. CITY CLERK'S REPORT. No report.

16. ADJOURN. Mayor Boni adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Minutes approved by City Commission: 10-16-2023

Tony Boni, Mayor

ATTEST:

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