

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

MINUTES
September 20, 2021
6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Brian D. Sackett
Deputy Mayor Abby Shoemaker
Commissioner Tony Boni
Commissioner Matt McMillan
Commissioner Matt Morgan
Dan Langley, City Attorney
Clint Gioielli, Acting City Manager
Michelle Longo, City Clerk
David Dowda, Police Chief
Michael Peters, Fire Chief
Judith Rosado, Financial Services Director
Chris Kintner, Community Development Director
Magdala Ridore, Interim Human Resources Director

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Sackett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **OPENING INVOCATION.** Pastor Augustine "Gus" Davies, with Northland Church, gave the invocation.
3. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Commissioner Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.
11. **PUBLIC HEARINGS (PART I)**
 - A. The City Manager recommends the City Commission recommends to Read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 21-2208 which fixes the final rate of ad valorem taxation for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022.

The final tax rate being proposed for fiscal year 2021/2022 is 5.5000 per \$1,000 of non-exempt assessed valuation. Said rate

is 5.29% higher than the rolled-back rate of \$5.2238 per \$1,000 of non-exempt assessed valuation as computed by F.S. 200.065.

Mayor Sackett 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 2021/2022 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. 21-2208, which fixes the final millage rate of ad valorem taxation for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. The final tax rate being proposed is 5.5000 per \$1,000 of non-exempt assessed valuation. This rate is 5.29% higher than the rolled-back rate of 5.2238 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. 21-2208 by title only.

Mayor Sackett opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 21-2208.

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

Commissioner Boni moved to adopt Ordinance No. 21-2208 as presented Item 11A. Seconded by Commissioner McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Sackett 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 5.29% from the rolled-back rate of 5.2238 mills.

B. Read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 21-2209, which adopts final revenues, expenditures, and fund balances for the City's fiscal year budget commencing October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022.

Mayor Sackett stated Item 11B recommends that the City Commission read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 21-2209,

which adopts final revenues, expenditures, and fund balances for the City’s fiscal year budget commencing on October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. 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. 21-2209 by title only.

Mayor Sackett said the City of Longwood’s fiscal year 2021/2022 budget proposed revenues, expenditures, and fund balances for the City’s fiscal year budget commencing on October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022, are as follows:

GENERAL FUND	\$18,859,972
PUBLIC UTILITIES	\$13,130,101
PUBLIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT	\$5,599,181
CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$5,332,488
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	\$834,333
OTHER FUNDS (Special Revenue Funds)	\$1,956,190
FUND BALANCE - RESERVES	\$12,127,166
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$57,839,432

Mayor Sackett opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 21-2209.

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

Mayor Sackett asked about the reserve percentage and Mr. Gioielli advised the reserve of the General Fund is a little over 27%.

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Ordinance No. 21-2209 as presented Item 11B. Seconded by Commissioner McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

- 4. **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Ms. Longo read the following announcements.
 - A. **The City of Longwood will host a Food Truck Battle Event with over 30 food trucks on Saturday, September 25, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Reiter Park, 311 West Warren Avenue.**

- B. **Orlando Health South Seminole Hospital will sponsor the “Concert in the Park” Event on Saturday, September 25, 2021, from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Reiter Park, 311 West Warren Avenue. Food and beverages will be available for purchase at the Food Truck Battle. The band will be Caribbean Crew and this is a free event.**

5. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

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

Nomination deferred to the next meeting.

- B. **District #4 Presentation of the Business Person of the Month Award for September 2021 to Adventures R US Academy, located at 880 East State Road 434.**

Commissioner Morgan read a brief biography on Kay and Kardeem Evans and then presented them with the Business Person of the Month Award for September 2021. Photographs were then taken.

6. BOARD APPOINTMENTS

- A. **District #3 Nomination to the Land Planning Agency.**

The nomination was deferred to the next meeting.

7. PUBLIC INPUT

- A. **Public Participation.**

Samuel Radyvonyuk, 829 East Wildmere Ave, Apt. 103, Longwood. He said there was a new church established and their first service was the past Sunday. He welcomed everyone to attend. He noted they expanded to Longwood from Orlando Sanctuary Church and located at 220 E. Wildmere Avenue, service is held at 10:30 a.m.

8. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS’ REPORT

District #5. Mayor Sackett reported attending on September 10 the leadership panel along with the other city Mayors for Leadership Seminole Class 31. He noted the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony was wonderful and thanked those involved in coordinating the event. That same day he went to a bridal shower at the Longwood Community Building. On September 12 he attended Saint Paul’s Orthodox Church of Greater Orlando, on West Church Avenue, they celebrated their thirty (30) year anniversary. On September 13 he attended the Lyman High School Boosters meeting and they had asked for more details on the bill

received from the city regarding police and fire staff members who are in attendance at their games. On September 14 he attended the Lyman Powder Puff game. On September 17 he attended the Leadership Seminole Board of Directors meeting and Mr. Frank Wells would like to set a meeting with the Acting City Manager and him. Mayor Sackett mentioned he liked Mr. Zach Hudson's innovation on mental health and would like to be more aware of what they do. Also on September 17, he attended the Lyman Homecoming Parade through Longwood along with the Employee Recognition Luncheon. He noted the luncheon was well done.

Mayor Sackett said September 18 was the first day for the Longwood Farmers Market being held on Saturday. He attended the Florida League of Cities Mayor's meeting via Zoom this morning. There is a concern on House Bill (HB) 403B, the licensing and regulations on small businesses, and noted there was a request to repeal it and the Governor refused.

Mayor Sackett reported September 19 was the opening day for Babe Ruth Baseball. He mentioned the Ribbon Cutting for the Shade Structure at Reiter Park, which was nice to see. He attend the Longwood Historic Society meeting yesterday, noting they will have many events coming in October, and to check out their website. The Mayor and Managers Group met and they looked at the fourth generation sales tax that ends in 2024. He thanked Mr. Gioielli for working to level street signs in the City and reorganization of departments. He said the City Clerk has put together a list of subdivisions in each District for each of the Commissioners if they wish to attend their monthly or quarterly meetings, they will have a contact.

District #1. Deputy Mayor Shoemaker reported attending the 9/11 event and the Employee Recognition Luncheon on September 17.

District #2. Commissioner Boni stated he attended the 9/11 event and thanked everyone who was involved in organizing it. He went to the Longwood VFW after the event to see all the motorcycles leave for their Memorial Ride.

Commissioner Boni said he was contacted by a Milwee Middle School teacher who asked him to speak to his 7th Grade Civics Class about his election. Since he was not able to attend in person this was set up via Zoom and a total of six classes were in attendance.

Commissioner Boni also attended the Lyman High School homecoming parade where he rode in the back of a truck. His wife attended with him. He attended the Employee Appreciation Luncheon and noted it was a

great event and he was able to meet and speak with a lot of the employees. He attended his first meeting with the Longwood Historic Society and sang a theme song they put together for the upcoming Monster Dash 5K.

Commissioner Boni thanked Mr. Gioielli for setting up meetings with him and the Directors since being sworn in.

District #3. Commissioner McMillian thanked everyone for their condolences on the passing of his grandmother. He reported attending the concert in the park on August 28 and it was well attended. He visited the shop at the Sharing Center and purchased three books which he deposited into the Free Library at Reiter Park. The books were My friend Flicka, 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, and The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.

Commissioner McMillan stated he was honored to participate in the Lyman High School homecoming parade. He liked that the Historic District is being used for things like the parade and a pep rally. He also enjoyed the Employee Luncheon and said it was well done. He noted it fell on Constitution Day and his remarks to the employees were about federalism and under our constitution, local government has the most direct impact on our citizens and that's where democracy happens and they are the most important people in our system.

Commissioner McMillan reported attending the Shade Structure at Reiter Park Ribbon Cutting. He came back later that same day for the School Rock event at Reiter Park. He also stopped by Candyland Park to see some baseball but did not make the Babe Ruth Baseball opening ceremony.

Commissioner McMillan reported on "The true, the good, and the beautiful. For "the true" his comments were about COVID 19 and the good news was some of the hospitals are down to "Green" status from "Black". He said he tested positive for COVID 19 and only suffered mild systems, lost his sense of smell for about seven days, and did deal with the disruption of isolation. He noted he was fully vaccinated. He also mentioned two people he knows passed away from COVID. There are those still struggling from this virus and he hopes the Commission will look at the rescue funds and use the money to help our citizens recover.

Commissioner McMillan reported on "the good" as the 9/11 memorial event. He was not there and watched it via Facebook while he was in New York. He is proud Longwood recognizes this event and has a beautiful monument prominently visible all year long. For "the beautiful"

he recalled his 9/11 experience and noted twenty years ago he started at the University of Washington and had driven cross country and was in Portland, Oregon, and woke up on September 11 to see the Towers coming down. He said that semester there was a lot of grieving. He flew to New York in January 2002 due to the passing of his grandfather and at the service a sobering remark made by his uncle, a recently retired New York Police Rescue Officer, about "he had attended too many funerals because he lost so many" stuck with him. Commissioner McMillan said twenty years later his grandmother passes away and again he finds himself on a long road trip and state after state he can see the disruption from the virus with job advertisements posted on trucks and billboards. He feels 2021 has been harder than 2020 and the one thing that has been hard to quantify is grief. He said it is like a shadow over our community and we need to be mindful of that as we do our jobs to help. He then closed with a quote from C. S. Lewis, "If you've been up all night and cried till you have no more tears left in you - you will know that there comes, in the end, a sort of quietness. You feel as if nothing was ever going to happen again."

District #4. Commissioner Morgan thanked everyone involved in the 9/11 event. He noted that the Heroes Monument has a piece of the World Trade Center in the center of the monument that many citizens do not realize. He thanked former Mayor John C. Maingot for all his assistance with the event along with other contributions he has made to the city and asked about recognizing him. He reported attending in Winter Springs a community association featuring Amy Pennock, Vice Chairman of the Seminole County School Board who gave an update on the School Board. Commissioner Morgan reported on September 14 he and Mr. Gioielli met with Representative Scott Palkon and Representative David Smith by phone, about funding for a Fire Station. On September 15 he went to the Meridian Club in Orlando, where five Longwood residents who are part of this club, asked him to come and speak to them about his transition from Pro-Wrestling to Politics, along with what he is proud of in Longwood since taking office in 2017.

Commissioner Morgan discussed a resident concern regarding the storm warning system at Reiter Park but more specifically Candyland Park. He explained how the Thor Guard system works, noting a siren goes off when a storm is near and how this is used in larger parks. He said more parks are using a Weather App that gives a warning of a storm about six to eight miles out and then staff will go and close the field/park, which is what is currently being done in Longwood. In discussions with Mr. Gioielli and Mr. Capizzi, he sent to them for review the LD-350 Voltech Long-Range Lightning Detection system. He noted it is \$1,400 and what

many parks are using. He feels it should be used in conjunction with the App and at least reviewed.

Mr. Gioielli said the LD-350 Voltech system discussed may not work, it is an internal system that works off of a computer program. He said they had the Thor Guard system at Candyland Park but as they aged they became less reliable and decided not to replace the system and rely upon the app. He also noted that with the Thor Guard system residents close to the Park are disturbed by the loud alarm system. He is looking into options and will report back to the Commission.

Commissioner Morgan reported on September 12 he participated in a "Pie in the Face" fundraiser for Robbie Poe who has been battling brain cancer for seven years. He said you could bid on throwing a pie at him or other officials/leaders/teachers in the community. It was held at Dominick's Restaurant in Winter Springs and the money raised went to help the family pay for medical bills.

Commissioner Morgan attended the Lyman Homecoming Parade as well as the Employee Appreciation Luncheon. He expressed how the Shade Structures at Reiter Park are a wonderful addition. He extended appreciation to the Parks and Recreation Board for being instrumental in getting them. He reminded everyone about the Longwood Historic Society annual Monster Dash 5K Race which benefits the Society in their upkeep and maintenance of the Historic Buildings. The City does not own any of the buildings, the Longwood Historic Society is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the historic buildings.

9. ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Sackett stated the applicant requested that Item 12A be pulled and placed on a future agenda.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes of the September 9, 2021, Regular Meeting.**
- B. Approve the Monthly Expenditures for September 2021.**
- C. Approve the Monthly Financial Report for August 2021.**

Commissioner Morgan moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items 10A through 10C as presented. Seconded by Commissioner McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

11. PUBLIC HEARINGS (PART II)

- C. Read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 21-2210, 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. 21-2210 by title only.

Mayor Sackett opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 21-2210.

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

Discussion ensued regarding this ordinance and that it extends the agreements with the Commercial haulers for an additional twelve (12) months and a separate item will be brought before the Commission for the rate increase from Waste Pro for the residential agreement.

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Ordinance No. 21-2210 as presented Item 11C. Seconded by Commissioner Boni and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

- D. Read by title only, and adopt Resolution No. 21-1577, adopting a Five Year Capital Improvement Program for the Fiscal Years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026.**

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 21-1577 by title only.

Mayor Sackett opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Resolution No. 21-1577.

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

Commissioner Morgan moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-1577 as presented Item 11D. Seconded by Commissioner Boni and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

12. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. Read by title only, set October 4, 2021, as the second reading and public hearing date, and approve the first reading of**

Ordinance No. 21-2205, a Small Scale Comprehensive Plan Amendment (SPA 01-21) for properties at 250 North Street and Pineda Street. (Item was originally scheduled for September 9, 2021, but was rescheduled at the request of the applicant. Persons desiring to speak on this item may speak during public participation and/or at the second reading and public hearing to be held on October 4, 2021).

Item was pulled from the agenda at the applicant's request.

B. City Commission discussion and consideration of a proposal from Tax Fees Collection related to the collection of business taxes.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item and invited Mr. Nassar forward to provide a presentation to the Commission on their services.

Mr. Nassar provided a presentation to the Commission on their services and how they work exclusively with government agencies to collect unpaid fees and collection of Business Tax Receipt (BTR).

Discussion ensued on staff time spent on collecting these fees, how using this service could benefit the City, and getting a business into compliance.

Commissioner McMillan moved to approve the Tax Fees Collection (TFC) agreement as presented. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Shoemaker and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

C. City Commission to approve and confirm the appointment of Mrs. Magdala Ridore as the Director of Human Resources and Risk Management.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item.

It was the consensus of the Commission to appoint Magdala Rigdore as Director of Human Resources and Risk Management.

D. Approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Longwood Professional Firefighters Association Local 3163 for the period of October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2024.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item.

Commissioner Morgan moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Longwood Professional Firefighters Association Local 3163 as presented. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Shoemaker and carried by a unanimous roll call voice vote.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Gioielli reported there is a start in a downtrend of active COVID cases reported in Seminole County. He reviewed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding which staff is finalizing and tomorrow with City Managers reviewing the suggested initiatives to partner with Seminole County and other municipalities to offer collaborative citizen outreach efforts. The initiatives will address topics to include mental healthcare, non-profit organization support, homelessness diversion, direct assistance to small businesses and not just to individuals, along with workforce training and a broadband internet study. He stated he plans to bring this to the Commission at a Workshop. He would like to provide a document for each Commissioner and meet with each of them individually to discuss their priorities and see if they would be allowable under the law. Then move forward with the Workshop.

Mr. Gioielli addressed Township Plaza and gave a basic overview of what the staff knows. He said the building and roof have been painted, interior work is taking place, lighting on the exterior of the building and parking lot have been upgraded. There is a permit for restriping and resealing the parking lot. He also noted it appears there are new businesses in the planning stages to go into that plaza.

Mr. Gioielli thanked the Commission for attending the Employee Lunch. He noted work on the Clock Tower is moving forward and the City Clerk was able to get some additional maintenance coverage. He said on Warren Avenue at St. Laurant there is a right turn arrow sign that does not say right only and it is a mistake that staff is already addressing. He is waiting on additional information from Waste Pro and did attempt to negotiate a lower rate and was notified by Waste Pro that they have just realized the increase from Seminole County on the disposal rate and would like the Commission to consider that when they review their request for a rate increase. He noted he is waiting on what the resident rate would be should recycling be removed.

Discussion ensued on recycling and pricing.

Mr. Gioielli reported staff is checking street signs and some are not able to be leveled and new ones are being ordered. He noted staff has a study in place and a work order request with Duke Energy for lights along Bay

and Warren Avenue, the east side of town. There is also a work order request for the lights along Ronald Reagan Boulevard near 14th Street for the ones that were flashing.

- 14. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT.** No report.
- 15. CITY CLERK'S REPORT.** No report.
- 16. ADJOURN.** Mayor Sackett adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Minutes approved by City Commission: 10-04-2021

Brian D. Sackett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Longo, CMC, FCRM
City Clerk