

CITY OF APOPKA

Minutes of the City Council regular meeting held on April 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., in the City of Apopka Council Chambers.

PRESENT: Mayor Bryan Nelson
Commissioner Doug Bankson
Commissioner Kyle Becker
Commissioner Alexander Smith
Commissioner Diane Velazquez
City Administrator Edward Bass – (Absent)
City Attorney Michael Rodriguez – (Absent)

PRESS PRESENT: John Peery, The Apopka Chief

INVOCATION – Commissioner Bankson provided the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then read the Fact of the Day as follows: On April 19, 1775 in the early morning, 700 British troops were on a mission to capture Patriot leaders and seize a Patriot arsenal. The British marched into Lexington, Massachusetts to find 77 armed minutemen under Captain John Parker waiting for them on the town's common green. British Major John Pitcairn ordered the outnumbered Patriots to disperse. As they did so, a shot was fired from an undetermined gun, and a cloud of musket smoke soon covered the green. When the brief Battle of Lexington ended, eight Americans lay dead or dying and 10 others were wounded. Only one British soldier was injured, but the American Revolution had begun.

PROCLAMATION

1. Denim Day Proclamation presented to the Victim Service Center of Central Florida
Presented by: Mayor Nelson

Mayor Nelson said we have a proclamation for Denim Day which is presented each year to the Victim Service Center of Central Florida. He said he'll read this and will then introduce his good friend, Lui Damiani, who will say a few words. He then read the proclamation and said the Denim Day movement started in 1999 as a grass roots protest against the controversial Italian Supreme Court decision, in which a sexual assault conviction was overturned because the victim was wearing tight jeans during her attack. Lui Damiani, the executive director of the VSC thanked the Mayor for recognizing Denim Day and said Chief McKinley was a former member of the board of directors for the VSC when he took over that role. He said the VSC has been in business for nearly 23 years, providing help and healing to victims of violent crime, sexual assault and other kinds of traumatic circumstances. He said they have a 24 hour help line, staffed by master's level counselors and said they're the only certified rape crisis center in all of Central Florida and said we do

prevention work as well. He said every year, the month of April is sexual assault awareness month and said he's honored to be with you all today and hopes that everyone joins in on April 27th for Denim Day in solidarity with the victims and survivors here in our community.

2. April as Water Conservation Month Proclamation presented to SJRWMD
Presented by: Mayor Nelson

Mayor Nelson said April is Water Conservation Month, and said the City of Apopka has always been a proponent of water conservation programs and we couldn't do some of the projects we do without the funding we receive from the SJRWMD. He then read a proclamation and presented it to Susan Davis of the SJRWMD. Susan expressed her gratitude and said the City of Apopka is a wonderful partner and has a robust water conservation program.

PRESENTATION

1. Recognition of providing safe drinking water in central Florida.
Presented by: American Water Works Association

Glenn Brooks, Water Resource Manager, said we're proud to announce that on April 13, 2022, the City of Apopka entered into a "Best Drinking Water" contest, held in Orlando, Florida and endorsed by the Florida section of the American Water Works Association. He said all of Central Florida drinking water utilities were invited to participate and provided a sample of their potable water. He said all samples were analyzed at room temperature by a 4 person panel for taste, color, odor and clarity. He said with 15 water production cities competing, he's proud to announce that the City of Apopka received the runner up award and we will be placing the plaque we received on the wall at our Jack G. Grossenbacher Water Plant. He gave a shout out to the skilled and dedicated men and women state licensed operators that we have here at the City of Apopka who operate 5 water plants on a daily basis with integrity and professionalism.

2. Gilliam Training Center - Recruit Training Facility Opportunities
Presented by: Chief Wylam

Sean Wylam, Fire Chief, said he's excited to speak to you about some of our ongoing current operations and training opportunities for the future at our Leroy F. Gilliam Training Center. He spoke about the importance of training in the fire service and said it's near and dear to his heart as well as his departments heart. He said the Apopka Fire Department is an all hazard fire department and said we respond to anything that 911 is called about. He said

the important part of training is to replicate realistic situations in a safe environment including what we call high risk, low frequency events. He said these are events that happen not that often but are at higher risk and said these are the situations that we try and identify and look at when we're doing our training. He said the education and experience through training equals true knowledge. He said this is important to the foundation of our department for a long time. He said Leroy F. Gilliam was a former Chief with a great emphasis on training and whom our training facility is named after and stated that this will be our 40th year this year. He said we've come a long way since then and in 2009, we moved to our current location. He said our model for training requirements is our ISO certification and said this is a big driving force for us at the Apopka Fire Department. He provided a list of annual training requirements for every fire fighter throughout the year in order to maintain the ISO designation. He spoke about some of the opportunities we have coming up in the future and said currently, because of our location, we've been approached by the Maitland Fire Department who has signed an Interlocal Agreement to utilize our training facility and said there are other municipalities as well including Winter Garden and Ocoee who are looking at utilizing our facility as well.

3. Preliminary findings and recommendations from the Stormwater Study.
Presented by: Henry Thomas, Raftelis.

Richard Earp, City Engineer, said he wanted to say a few words before introducing our consultant, Henry Thomas with Raftelis. He said the City of Apopka has been collecting stormwater utility fees since the 1990's and said over the past decade, the stormwater fee has not been increased. He further stated that also over the last decade, the City has only utilized a very small percentage of the collected funds. He said in order to modernize the City's stormwater program, the stormwater fee also needs to be updated. This will provide the resources to not only clean, inspect, repair and replace the improvements to the stormwater system, but also to implement water quality improvements such as the Dream Lake nutrient separating baffle box. He said this baffle box improves the water quality of not only Dream Lake but all of the downstream lakes that it's connected to, including the Wekiva River. He said the purpose of the baffle box on the North shore of Dream Lake is to trap all of the leaves and other debris, dirt in the stormwater prior to it reaching Dream Lake. In addition, the baffle box includes an up flow filter which reduces the nitrogen and phosphorus of the discharge to the lake. He said the nitrogen and phosphorus is the bad stuff and is what the DEP considers to be a formal pollutant as that's what causes the algae blooms and deterioration of the water quality. He provided an overview of the flow and said the water from Dream Lake is treated in the baffle box, goes into Dream Lake, flows under Park Avenue in a stormwater pipe; through an open ditch at Apopka Middle School. From there, it flows between where the buses are stored at the track and falls into a stream and wetland system that flows into Lake McCoy and then flows North out of Lake McCoy along Sandpiper Road and over a flood control weir and under a pipe under Sandpiper Road

and into Lake Coroni, which during wet years, the water will flow through Lake Coroni and through the Wekiva Woods subdivision and then under Welch Road and the stormwater gets it to Wekiva State Park and eventually gets into the Wekiva River. He said in addition, there are a number of HOA's that are not maintaining their ponds any longer and the City has had to go in and clean these out however, we're in the process of creating a MSBU in order for the folks that live in those subdivisions will be responsible for maintaining those ponds.

Richard provided a lead in to Henry Thomas from Raftalis who then gave a presentation about his recommendations. Henry began a lengthy presentation which included rate comparisons; tracking of data bases; mapping; inspections as well as a public outreach programs in order to train the public about these things. He covered a great deal of information throughout his presentation; however, the presentation was cut short as it was determined that the next steps would require the Council to take some type of action in order to further any of his suggested recommendations.

AGENDA REVIEW

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Monique Morris, 1019 Ocoee Apopka Road, Apopka, FL 32703 provided information on the upcoming Juneteenth Festival which will be held on June 18, 2022 at Alonzo Williams Park.

The following members of the Public expressed their appreciation and gratitude to Commissioner Kyle Becker and congratulated him for his 6 years of service to the City of Apopka and wished him well in his future endeavors, during the Public Comment Period.

Stuart Morrell, 2432 Dearmeadow Drive, Apopka, FL 32703.

Terri Morrell, 2432 Deermeadow Drive, Apopka, FL 32703.

Leroy Bell, 2308 Blue Meadows Court, Apopka, FL 32703.

Rod Olsen, 3156 Rolling Hills Lane, Apopka, FL 32712.

Kelly Becker, 1388 Kintla Road, Apopka, FL 32712.

Gary McSweeney, 1629 Spinfisher Drive, Apopka, FL 32712.

David Hoffman, 3610 Tayside Court, Apopka, FL 32712.

Sylvester Hall, 3091 Rolling Hills Lane, Apopka, FL 32712.

Pastor Hezekiah Bradford, 573 Smokemont Court, Apopka, FL 32712.

CONSENT (Action Item)

1. Authorize the Fire Department to submit the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant application for funding for vehicle extrication equipment.
2. Approve the second extension of the contracts with Southeastern Surveying and Mapping Corp. and CPH, Inc. for a period of one year.
3. Execute Opioid Litigation Participation Agreements - Settlement Agreements between Governmental Plaintiffs and Teva Pharmaceuticals, CVS Pharmacies, and Allergan
4. Approve the amendment to Traffic Signal and Maintenance Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation to address advertising on state owned traffic signal cabinets
5. Accept the disbursement report for March 2022.

Mayor Nelson asked if anyone needed to pull any of the items or had any questions. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the five (5) items on consent.

MOTION by Commissioner by Becker and seconded by Commissioner Velazquez to approve the five (5) items on consent. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Bankson, Becker, Smith & Velazquez voting aye.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES/RESOLUTION (Action Item)

1. Resolution No. 2022-19 - FY21/22 Budget Amendment
Presented by: Gladymir Ortega

Gladymir Ortega, Finance Director, said Resolution 2022-19, amends the budget beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022. She provided an overview of the 3 budget amendments included in this resolution and said the total request under budget amendment #11 is for \$137,235.75..

Mayor Nelson asked if there were any additional questions and hearing none, he asked for a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-19.

MOTION by Commissioner Velazquez and seconded by Commissioner Becker to adopt Resolution No. 2022-19. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Bankson, Becker, Smith & Velazquez voting aye.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Nelson addressed Commissioner Becker and said you challenged us and made us better. He said you've made a difference here in Apopka and said hopefully we're not seeing you for the last time. He thanked him for his 6 years of service and congratulated him on whatever his next chapter will be.

Commissioner Velazquez said tonight is about our friend and Commissioner Kyle Becker. She said she's worked with him through her first term from 2014-2018 and said she recalls calling him her little Einstein and said she relied upon his finance and data skills. She said knew that every time he came to the meeting, he was on point with that and said this will be a void in our dais and said she's hopeful that Commissioner-Elect Nesta will fill that void a little. She said he's been a mentor and a friend to her and said he always treated her with respect. She said she's looking forward to being able to talk to him after April 26th and thanked him and his family.

Commissioner Bankson said we both came in at the same time and it was so fun being the vertically challenged one of the two. He said he echoes what he's heard tonight in this room and said the thoughtfulness and depth you brought to everything. He said we really work together in this and said it's what each person brings that helps us come to good conclusions. He said there were differing viewpoints but said that's healthy. He said we always sought to utilize all of those things and come to the best conclusion. He said we have a superhero title for him and that is Data-man. He said you really shine in those things and said he always appreciated your handshake and said it comes from your heart right down your arm and said it's been a joy working together. He thanked him for his service and said it'll be fun to get past this and just be friends.

Commissioner Smith said he's had the least amount of time of serving with you and said in the 4 years that he's been able to sit next to you have been very enjoyable. He said as he's recognized and heard the things that you've said, he's always been taught that you can always measure a man by his handshake and said he's always had a firm handshake and a smile and a welcoming about him. He said as he said before this meeting, one good thing about your departing is that he is now the tallest man on the Council. He said watching you and observing what you've done while on the Council and said he has a special place in his heart for students and when he noticed that you were giving the scholarships that you were giving the students, he picked that up and began to do the same thing. He said it's a pleasure to stand on the stage with you and be able to reward the students for their outstanding work and knows there's a lot more work to be done. He said just continue to be the man that you are and the servant that you are and said he wanted to applaud your wife for allowing him to give of yourself and be a servant to this community. He said that honey-do list doesn't get any shorter and thanked him for his service.

Commissioner Becker said he told Lucy she can come sit on his lap and close it out with him. He said Lucy is one of the founding student council members for Wolf Lake Elementary and said she'll be an elected official someday. He said he prefers to speak from the heart but decided to write a few things down as sometimes the words don't come out correctly. He said first, he wanted to

extend his sincere condolences to the Land family as we had the loss of Ms. Betty Land this past week and said he's reflecting on 6 years of service tonight, which pales in comparison to the 60 years of service and investment in our City that she did under Mayor Land's tenure and wished the family comfort during this time of loss.

With that said, this is proof that all good books come to an end and said that while he's not at the end of his personal book, tonight marks the closing of a spectacular chapter in his life. He said it's important to highlight this chapter and said first and foremost, he couldn't have done this without his wife Kelly, his daughters and his family. He said his wife Kelly has been his sounding board and said his three daughters, Madeline, Emily and Lucy are so important to Kelly and he. He thanked those who he's had the opportunity to serve with on this Council and prior Council. He also thanked City staff. He said he's proud of how many people reached out and how many lives he was able to touch during his 6 years of service and said that he'd like to think he helped shape this community for the better. He stated that success comes in small and large forms and said I celebrated all of those successes, whether they are large or big. He said there were so many during my two-terms as commissioner and said I created the Seat 4 Good Scholarship, (a play on words) and said together he and his predecessor, Bill Arrowsmith, would present scholarships to seniors at Wekiva and Apopka, that stressed a passion for civic engagement and community service. He said I started family portrait day, an annual event, and said it's about is an opportunity to take pictures with your family. He would schedule thirty families to come out and take professional photos with photographers and then we provided them with a matted framed print, for the holidays. He said he was honored to serve in Seat 4, following a 40 year term of former Commissioner, Bill Arrowsmith and said as Nick Nesta begins his journey in Seat 4, he'll bring something to the table that no one else can offer and said he wishes him and his family all the best.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Bryan Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Susan M. Bone, City Clerk