

CITY OF APOPKA

Minutes of the City Council regular meeting held on January 6, 2021 at 1:30 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
City Attorney Michael Rodriguez

PRESS PRESENT: John Peery – The Apopka Chief

INVOCATION/PLEDGE – Commissioner Smith led in the Invocation, Mark Creaser and our Color Guard did the Presentation of Colors, followed by the Pledge. Commissioner Smith then read the fact of the day regarding the Morse Code and stated that on January 6, 1838, Samuel Morris demonstrated the telegraph system for the first time, in Morrisontown, New Jersey. He went on to provide a brief history of the Morse Code which last telegraph delivered by Western Union was in January of 2006.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2020

Mayor Nelson asked if anyone had any questions about any of the minutes. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2020.

MOTION by Commissioner Bankson and seconded by Commissioner Becker, to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2020. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Bankson, Becker, Smith and Velazquez voting aye.

AGENDA REVIEW

Edward Bass, City Administrator, stated that there are no changes to the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Introduction of Representative Keith Truenow, State House District 31
Presented by: Mayor Bryan Nelson

Mayor Nelson introduced Representative Keith Truenow, State House, District 3, who said he's very honored to be representing District 31 and this piece of Apopka, in Northwest Orange County. He introduced our District Secretary, Aline Guy and his Legislative Aid, Eric Raimundo. He said Mr. Raimundo will be here once a week on Tuesdays and stated that he wants to represent for the constituents in this area, as well as the work they're doing in Lake County. He said he's been in business in this area for a long time and understands the local issues. He assured everyone that he will a voice in Tallahassee for us and he looks forward to doing great things.

Commissioner Becker stated that he looks forward to working with Mr. Truenow and making sure that Orange County is his primary focus.

Mayor Nelson stated that we will Mr. Truenow's schedule, for when he and his team will be in Apopka, and contact information, on the City website and Facebook page.

Commissioner Velazquez stated that it has been very nice meeting Representative Truenow.

2. Facility Maintenance Update
Presented by: Joseph Crisafulli

Joe Crisafulli, Facilities Administrator, provided an overview of the Facilities Maintenance Department. He stated that his departments maintains all of the city facilities, with the exception of the Water Plants and their lift stations. A total of about fifty-five buildings. Including himself, there are three full-time employees in this department: William (fifteen-year employee) and Jose (ten-year employee). In 2020 a few projects that were completed include, but are not limited to, a roof at Fire Station 3, a roof at Public Services, City Hall boiler, and some of the security and handicap accessible doors at City Hall. He went over current and future projects of different city facilities.

Commissioner Velazquez welcomed Mr. Crisafulli and stated that he did a very thorough inventory. She asked how big the facilities maintenance staff is to which Mr. Crisafulli stated that he is him plus two, so a total of three.

Mayor Nelson stated that as we get more proactive, there will be more minor work versus major work.

Commissioner Bankson welcomed Mr. Crisafulli. He gave kudos on the roofing replacement cost and stated that he is one-hundred percent in agreeance on the LED lighting. That is smart money, because it will pay for itself in the longer run.

Commissioner Smith also welcomed Mr. Crisafulli and asked him to provide the Council with a copy of the report he presented.

Commissioner Becker asked how he gauges the employees, as far as how many should be on staff to which Mr. Crisafulli stated that the main gauge is the number of work orders.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Rod Olsen, of Rolling Hills Lane, Apopka Florida, wished the council a Happy New Year. He stated that he came within an eyelash of a head-on crash on Rock Springs Road. He urged that something has got to be done with the speeds between Lester and the County building. He stated that nine years ago his daughter and three granddaughters, were involved in a head-on crash on Rock Springs Road and said he knows of at least two pedestrian incidents that have occurred within the last eighteen months.

Mayor Nelson stated that he believes that is the County portion of Rock Springs Road to which Pam Richmond, Transportation Planner, concurred.

Commissioner Becker stated that the only accidents that he has seen recently are people leaving Publix and trying to make a left hand turn instead of a right. He stated that previously they discussed a reflector partition going up and he asked if it is still happening.

Ms. Richmond stated that the County does not want to do the reflector, but instead they want to put a large cement barrier to force a right in, right out, so that you cannot left into the Publix. However, they do not want to do it as a stand-alone project, so whenever they have a crew out there, that is when they will commit to doing that for us.

Commissioner Becker stated that Orange County did two right-hand turn lanes, going north on Rocksprings Road, but he has not seen one car actually make a turn from that center lane yet. He asked if we could solid stripe that arc, so that people are aware that they should stay in their lane on the right-hand side and the ones going north from the middle lane.

Ms. Richmond replied that she thinks it's possible, but the better solution is to take it back to where it was before we made that improvement, which was, we had a continuous right green arrow, so if you were trying to make that right-hand turn, you did not have to stop before you turn right on red and stated that people seemed to adapt to that better. She further stated that she is happy to try the solid line before we do anything else. She added that the study will be kicking off soon, we are just waiting on Metro Plan; they will be paying for it.

David Hoffman, of Tayside Court, Apopka, Florida, wished the Council a Happy New Year. He went on to state that homeowners of Rock Springs Ridge have made it clear that

they oppose the plan, building, and development assault against their community. He said January 20th will be 40th anniversary of Ronald Ragan taking the Presidential Oath of Office. If they have their way, the Gold Group Owners will make a mockery of Ronald Ragan's evaluation of foundational terms. He speaks for his family and many of his neighbors.

CONSENT (Action Item)

1. Approve an agreement for professional engineering services with Metric Engineering to design improvements to the intersection of US 441 and Bradshaw Road in the amount of \$80,973.45.
2. Approve a change order to the agreement for Professional Engineering Services with Newkirk Engineering for Harmon Road extension design in the amount of \$46,090.78.
3. Authorize the execution of piggyback contracts for fiscal year 2021.

Mayor Nelson asked if anyone had any questions about any of the items on Consent.

Commissioner Bankson stated that on item #1, the agreement with Metric Engineering seems very expensive and stated that the staff hour's average seemed to be higher than the others.

Edward Bass, City Administrator, stated that we have contract with these individuals and one is a change order, so we have to stay within their contract. The other is a new one and Pam can example that one in more detail.

Ms. Richmond stated that we selected Metric to do the signal at Errol and Hwy 441 as they specialize in doing signal work and are known around the state as being one of the best. In addition, they are one of FDOT's consultants, so they have relationships with them, which will allow smoother process as we are already dealing with them.

Commissioner Becker inquired as to item #2 regarding the Newkirk Engineering, stating that he knows that within the scope of work they are going to do the engineering for the emergency signalization coming out of the station but asked if they are making assumptions using the design. He said that was one of the benefits we had with designing Station 5 was the reuse of the plans.

Mayor Nelson said yes and noted that Chief Wylam is responding to the affirmative.

Mayor Nelson asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as read.

MOTION by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Becker, to approve the consent agenda, as read. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Bankson, Becker, Smith & Velazquez voting aye.

BUSINESS (Action Item)

1. Authorize expenditures for the purchase of Air-Paks for the Fire Department via piggyback contract with Municipal Emergency Services.

Presented by: Chief Wylam

Sean Wylam, Fire Chief, provided an overview of this item, which is a budget amendment request. He stated that SCBA is a self-contained breathing apparatus, also called Air-Paks. They are the Air-Paks worn when they have to enter immediately dangerous to life environments. He stated that we currently operate with a total of seventy-five which cost about \$7,000 a piece, on average. Every five years standards get updated; in 2019, there were two updates. We are currently fully compliant; however, after 2022 all Air-Paks must be updated to meet the 2018 standards. The new Air-Paks are a substantial saving and the replacement is cheaper. He informed the council that we have \$165,000 budgeted for new Air-Paks and they come with lifetime warranties. All of the new Air-Paks come with a lifetime warranty, whereas the old ones had a limited warranty; that is an immediate \$15,000 that we are saving as well. All of the seventy-five Air-Paks will be covered under the new warranty and the existing Air-Paks that we have, are covered under warranty for the next fifteen years. All new Air-Paks are also washable.

Commissioner Becker inquired whether we are just accelerating the purchase of the Air-Paks, and \$50,000 is needed to do that, Chief Wylam agreed. Commissioner Becker asked if the capital outlay and the future use plan can be reallocated to something else to which Chief Wylam responded to the affirmative. Chief also stated that we will be good, with these Air-Paks, for the next sixteen years.

Commissioner Smith stated that this sounds like a good plan.

Commissioner Bankson asked what if they change the standard four-years from now, do these go obsolete or do we have a guarantee that because they can last sixteen years, we can use them for sixteen years to which Chief Wylam stated that we have a plan called 'As Long As You Own It, Air-Pak Warranty from Scott.' This warranty includes any future updates.

Commissioner Bankson asked, in regards to the ones where we have to increase by \$500, are we going to do that to bring them up or will we be replacing those.

Chief Wylam stated that that is part of that cost.

Commissioner Velazquez questioned the state reimbursement, asking where it is coming from to which Chief Wylam responded. He stated that in going through their system they found that they had not been submitting their quarterly reports to the State of Florida, particularly to the Fire Marshall's Office. He further stated that any Firefighter who has a college degree or degree that is fire or EMS related, gets a supplement with each check, from the state. The City has been paying that out since 2014, so we reported it to the State

and the state instructed us to turn in all of the past reports, back to 2014, they will send us a check for everything owed. Supplemental Compensation is a program where a firefighter gets reimbursed from the state anywhere from \$50-\$100 each paycheck for having their degree. It is state allocated money. City of Apopka was paying it out, but never received that money back from the state, since 2014.

Commissioner Velazquez asked if firefighters are required to go for recertification, on any of their degrees to which Chief Wylam stated that it depends; firefighter one and two, as long as you are actively working, you do not have to seek a recertification. If you are a fire officer one, two, three, or four, you do not have to seek recertification. A fire inspector has to take a class every four years.

Mayor Nelson asked for a motion to authorize the expenditures for the purchase of Air-Paks.

MOTION by Commissioner Bankson and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to authorize the expenditures for the purchase of Air-Paks. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Bankson, Becker, Smith & Velazquez voting aye.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES/RESOLUTION (Action Item)

1. Ordinance No. 2810 – First Reading – Comprehensive Plan – Small Scale Future Land Use Amendment
From: Office (Max. 0.3 FAR)
To: Mixed Use (Max. 1.0 FAR, 15 DU/AC)
Owner/Applicant: Carpenter Companies Florida LLC
Location: South of E. Oak Street and west of N. Forest Avenue
Project: 0.13 +/- acres
Project Manager: Phil Martinez

Phil Martinez, Planner II, said that the applicant is proposing a small-scale future land use amendment from office to mixed-use for approximately 0.13 acres. He said the subject property is located South of E. Oak Street and West of N. Forest Avenue. He said to the North is the Advent Health Medical Plaza and to the East is a Bright-house substation and the Fran Carlton Center. To the South is a vacant property and single-family homes and to the West are medical offices and a place of worship. He stated that the applicant has expressed intent to construct a single-family home on the property. He said the property is zoned mixed-use downtown district, which is compatible with the proposed mixed-use future land use and said the mixed-use downtown zoning permits single family homes. He said the subject area is approximately 0.13 acres with office future land use and the office future land use with mixed-use downtown zoning does not permit residential units. He said a mixture of uses can be found in the vicinity, ranging from offices to single family as well as civic uses. He said that staff and the applicant view the

proposed mixed-use future land use to be appropriate for the subject area as well as the area comprising the mixture of uses. The Development Review Committee and Planning Commission recommend approval of the proposed small-scale future land use amendment, from office to mixed use. The recommended motion is to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2810 and hold it over for second reading and adoption, on January 20, 2021.

Commissioner Becker said he didn't realize that it was the intent to do just one residential home and seems to be creating an enclave in terms of residential use versus its current use; he asked if there are any concerns with this.

Mr. Martinez stated that there is park in a nearby area that will serve as a great amenity for nearby residential units and should one have the ability to provide non-residential uses, such as, office space, places of worship, restaurants, etc. It could create a mixed-use area.

Mayor Nelson asked if the applicant was present to which Mr. Martinez stated the applicant was not present. Mayor Nelson asked if anyone from the public would like to speak.

David Hoffman, of 3610 Tayside Court, asked how big the home is, for this item. Mayor Nelson stated that the proposal for home size has not yet be submitted.

Mayor Nelson closed the public hearing and asked for a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2810 at first reading and hold over for second reading and adoption.

MOTION by Commissioner Bankson and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve Ordinance No. 2810 at first reading and hold over for second reading and adoption. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Bankson, Becker, Smith and Velazquez voting aye.

2. Ordinance No. 2812 – First Reading - Annexation

Owner: Apopka Centerline Development, LLC

Applicant: VHB c/o Erika Hughes

Location: 1879 Boy Scout Road – located north of Boy Scout Road and east of South Binion Road

Project: 9.487 +/- acres

Project Manager: Allyson Williams

Allyson Williams, Planner I, stated that today we have a request to annex a 9.487 parcel into the City of Apopka. The subject property is located at 1879 Boy Scout Road and it is contiguous to the city limits and eligible for annexation pursuant to Section 171, Florida Statutes. The annexation will eliminate an existing enclave and the proposed property is a

part of a larger proposed planned development and is currently under staff review. The DRC recommends approval, staff recommends approval, and she and the applicant are available if there are any questions.

Commissioner Smith stated it will go back to the intersection at Johns Road and Clarcona Apopka Road, depending on what the development will be.

Erica Hughes, with VHB of Orlando, Florida, stated that they concur with staff's recommendation and are available for any questions.

Mayor Nelson asked if there were any questions, there were none. He then asked if anyone from the public would like to speak on this item.

Kelly Shirley, of Boy Scout Road, stated that he owns the 40-acres in the back of the annexation and he has an easement of thirty-feet that goes from the road all the way back to his property, which is about 1,500ft x 30ft. He wanted to know exactly what they were doing and how.

Mayor Nelson suggested that he make an appointment to come down to City Hall and review everything in more detail.

Mayor Nelson closed the public hearing and asked for a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2812 at first reading and hold over for second reading and adoption.

MOTION by Commissioner Becker and seconded by Commissioner Velazquez, to approve Ordinance No. 2812 at first reading and hold over for second reading and adoption. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Bankson, Becker, Smith and Velazquez voting aye.

3. Resolution No. 2021-01 - FY21 Budget Amendment
Presented by: Jamie Roberson

Jamie Roberson, Finance Director, stated that the budget amended presented has several items; the first being the Air-Paks, as Chief Wylam presented. We have \$134,000 approximately coming from the supplemental compensation, as well as \$51,697 coming from the general fund reserves, for a total amendment of \$186,564. The second item on the budget amendment is the funding for the Golden Gem project. Many of you are fully aware of the pond that we were digging out, in the northwest rec area, so we have a bid actually out, that will be closing soon. This is the budget amendment to fund it. A portion of it is coming from the utility impact fee fund reserves and from the dirt sale proceeds that we have collected over the years for the dredging of that area. The third item is for the amendment for one of the transportation projects for US Hwy 441 and Bradshaw Rd; the intersection improvement there, it was not included in the fiscal year 2021 budget. The funding source is the transportation impact fee fund reserves. This is a project that we are in extreme need to complete. The last item is a budget amendment for the repairs

associated with the damage to the Public Services building, which was referenced previously in this meeting. The storm that hit in early August, with all the damage we received insurance proceeds over last fiscal year and this fiscal year, so we are taking the \$10,000 from the insurance proceeds from the reserves, in fiscal year '20, and recognizing the insurance proceed that we received this fiscal year in the amount of approximately \$11, 784; for a total amendment of \$21,784.

Mayor Nelson asked if there were any questions for Jamie. He then asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-01.

MOTION by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Velazquez to approve Resolution No. 2021-01. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Bankson, Becker, Smith and Velazquez voting aye.

Jamie Roberson stated that is has been a pleasure working with everyone, she is thankful and grateful that Edward and Mayor Nelson has given her over the last 2.5 years. She appreciates and hopes she has been impactful to the City to make it better and get it on the right path. She was actually sworn in as a Clerk Deputy, at the swearing in of the new Clerk. She is looking forward to her new endeavors and opportunities in the Osceola County Clerk's Office.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Commissioner Velazquez thanked Edward Bass, for addressing her questions and concerns as well as the staff.

Commissioner Bankson thanked Jamie and wished her well on her new endeavors. He also stated that we have our new signal at Martin and Vick, which is wonderful; however, he noticed there and still at Park and Summit, the left turn lanes, sometimes they just sit there and there are no cars to trigger it, so it holds the traffic. He asked if we can look at that, it could help and Edward Bass stated that we are still looking at that and tweaking some things.

Commissioner Bankson went on to say that he came from a special meeting at the Chamber of Commerce, we have many people going to bigger and more challenging positions. Robert is doing that and he is doing a very good job; he left us in a very good situation and we were in a net positive position, which was very good for this season that we've been through. We are soon to see the website for the economic development, he is very excited about that. Lastly, he stated that the trees at McGee and 6th have still not been trimmed and they look terrible.

Commissioner Smith wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that it has been a blessing to have Jamie here with the City of Apopka. He said she has made a great impact and will be missed and wished her the best in her new endeavor. He also mentioned the light at the high school operating has been a big help to relieve some of the traffic that we have in that area. If we can just get that Publix turning lane fixed, that would be a big help as well. Lastly, we are still waiting on the Deputy Chief for the Police Department. Edward Bass stated that we will have something for him in the near future.

Commissioner Becker thanked Jamie for her services and wished her luck in Osceola County. He echoed Commissioner Smith and asked what the plan is to replace Jamie and other posts we need to fill, such as the Human Resources Director, Deputy Police Chief, etc.

Edward Bass stated that finance is very critical right now, HR is moving in the right direction; we have reconciled a lot of items, we have bought a lot of things up to date, such as orientations, insurance bills, etc. His goal right now is to get finance filled as quickly as possible. He said that as we move into audit and finish, we move into budget season, so it is very critical. We have been advertising across the state and we've reached out to all of the organizations. We've had a few applicants, which one of them is kind of promising, so we are going to contact with that individual. In the interim I will have to sit in the role, as you know that used to be my role, before I became the City Administrator. He stated that Jamie has done a great job and hates to lose her but has tried everything to keep her and understands that this it is a great opportunity and closer to her home. I have also asked her to help us by keeping an eye out for her replacement that would be a good fit for that position. As soon as we get that under our belt, we will move the HR position.

Commissioner Becker reiterated that it is a continuing concern, not having someone in the HR Director position. When we are hiring someone in a director level position, or any other position, the process is intact, in terms of HR policies, laws, state statutes, etc. Absent having someone that is skilled, risks that are presented. He believes that having a sound person in the HR position is at top priority versus a finance director.

Commissioner Velazquez asked if we've announced the HR position

Mr. Bass stated not yet as the Finance Director position is very critical to secure as we move forward as the audit is coming up as well as budget season.

Commissioner Velazquez asked who the current HR Person was to which Mr. Bass stated that Jeanne Green currently is the HR Manager. She has done a great job getting things organized in there as there has been a lot of turnover in that position. She has bought everything up-to-date and current, which is important before bringing someone new in.

Mayor Nelson agreed with Edward and stated that we will get there.

Mr. Bass further stated that the employees are taken care of and we have not had any major issues, just positive feedback on how Jeanne has provided help that was not provided in the past.

Commissioner Bankson stated that he was called yesterday, behind the Park Animal Hospital on Park, there is apparently some people living in tents, there has been gun fire in the middle of the night, and there are some very concerned citizens. They are in the County, but they believe that the people are on City property. He stated that he encouraged them to check with Jim. I don't know if we knew anything about it. I have heard gun fire in the night and I live quite a way down.

Mayor Nelson stated that he thinks there is a gun range off of Ustler and asked Chief McKinley to look into it.

Chief McKinley stated he will look into this.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

1. Financial update

Edward Bass wished everyone a Happy New Year. He stated that we accomplished a lot in 2020, we still have a long way to go, but we are on the right track. We are going to miss Jamie, she has done a remarkable job. He went on to give an update on the sales tax: we are down 26% again this month, from last year. There is a continuing pattern, we have not seen much upward movement. Overall on the right side, there is about a 4.6% reduction that is if it's annualized. Keep in mind, sales tax number fluctuate from month to month. We are down about \$461,000 from our budget on an annualized basis. We will continue to monitor it each month. Lastly, if you recall our Utility Billing (receivables), we were about 9% non-collected, that was our aging report and we were starting to go in the wrong direction. COVID hit and we did not cutoff for services and it was approved to start cutoffs again, at the end of this last quarter and that we would do penalties starting January 1st. By doing this we have gone from 8.9% down to about 2.7% so the receivables are back in line. He stated we are still helping our citizens assisting with payment arrangements, if needed, He further stated that we currently have about 200 payment arrangements that we are monitoring and working through.

Commissioner Smith asked if we've had to cut off services, as of our January 1st deadline.

Mr. Bass stated that yes, we have done cutoffs, but it was because nothing has been paid. We are opening that our citizens have taken advantage of the funding resources through the County. Her strongly encourage and push that.

Mayor Nelson stated that while Representative Truenow is here, he wants to go back to the sales tax issue. The League of Cities is pushing what they call E-Fairness however this should be named the Main Street Protection Act which is all of the retailers on Main

Street that are competing with out-of-state, e-retailers, that are at that 6% sales tax disadvantage, so we need help from the House to bring that into compliance so that all e-retailers pay their sales tax so that we can support our local retailers.

Eric Raymundo, Representative from Truenow's Office, stated that this is something that the State Legislator has been working on for some time. It has come up in conversation again recently, so it is something that is actively being looked at.

Commissioner Velazquez stated that COVID has changed how people are buying products, because they are not going into the businesses. For the recent holidays, a lot of consumers were forced to go on the internet to do their shopping, because a lot of stores were closed and there were so many restrictions and didn't allow people to shop as they normally would. She said she hopes that the COVID vaccine will help a lot of businesses open back up and more people will begin to go back into their community and support the local stores.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Restarting community center programs

Mayor Nelson stated that he knows the vaccines are starting to roll out for the 65-years-old and older crowd, but he is looking on some direction on how to handle opening the community center programs again. He stated that we planned to begin again in January, but during December and January there has been a spike. His thought is to open it up to the 65 and up crowd, but only if they have gotten the vaccination. We can leave the option to wear a mask, up to them. However, until we get the vaccinations for the over 65 crowd, he is not comfortable with it.

Commissioner Smith asked how we'd know if they've been vaccinated. There has been evidence that people have not been truthful when asked COVID questions.

Chief Wylam stated that everyone who gets the vaccination will get a card to show.

Michael, City Attorney, stated that we do have the right to request to see the card as proof of vaccination; which is similar to schools requesting shot records. He also stated that some of the airlines for international travels will begin using vaccination records to create what is basically a vaccination passport for you to be able to travel internationally, as well.

Commissioner Becker asked is there a lot of demand for the programs to which Brian Forman, Recreation Director, stated to the affirmative.

Commissioner Becker stated that if there is interest, then let's do it, but in the safest way possible.

Mayor Nelson said that one of the issues is, for example, a Zumba class. If we have the over 65 crowd that are eligible for the vaccination, and the under 65 crowd are not eligible yet, do we allow them to show up without the vaccination? No one knows when those vaccinations will open. He stated that we will get everyone together and get everyone's recommendations and come back with it, the first meeting in February.

Mayor Nelson stated that there is a Rock Springs Ridge community meeting on January 12th at 6:00pm, at the Amphitheatre. This meeting is for residence of Rock Springs Ridge.

Commissioner Becker asked if there are any restrictions on the council attending that meeting.

Commissioner Smith stated that the notice that was posted stated 'no elected officials.

Commissioner Velazquez stated that she lives there.

Michael Rodriguez, City Attorney, stated that there is no restriction, even if all five of the council members decide to attend, so long as none of them speak as to matters that are pertaining to or that could potentially be before them, as a voting matter.

Mayor Nelson stated that Pam Richmond has been working with the folks from the Wekiva Riverwalk Complex on a driveway reconfiguration to come up with a way to get two-way access, to the north side of the complex.

He further stated that the Florida Department of Transportation is holding a public hearing at the VFW coming up regarding the area of Central and Bradshaw. In addition, the Central Florida Expressway will be public hearing on January 27th at 6:30pm. The subject will be the road widening on the 429 in Apopka back toward Winter Garden. It'll be a virtual meeting. One thing that we will be asking for is an "on" ramp, at the 414.

Mayor Nelson said that the Covid numbers are still rising, and said he recently had a great conversation with Danny Banks, who runs a program at the convention center where they are doing vaccinations. He stated that they would love to be able to spread out and go to smaller communities to do the vaccinations, but we don't have enough vaccinations to spread them around currently. He said they would love to come to Apopka however and indicated that in the next few weeks, he thought they may have enough vaccinations coming into Orange County to accomplish this. He said the plan would be to send out 200 vaccinations into Apopka, every day. We wouldn't have to store them, we would just do the vaccinations. By the end of the week twenty of our paramedics will be certified by DOA to give the vaccinations. As soon as Orange County is ready, we should be first up.

Mayor Nelson thanked Robert Agrusso, from the Chamber, for all of the good work he's done and said the website is up and running prior to his departure. Lastly, he thanked Jamie for all she's done. He said she came in, rolled up her sleeves and took on a big challenge. He said she really got us in a good position to where she will be handing over a much better department, than what she walked into.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Bryan Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Susan M. Bone, City Clerk