



Ocala

City Council

Minutes

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

3:00 PM

1. Call to Order

NOTE: Following the Call to Order, the City Council will participate in a private, attorney-client meeting from approximately 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. At the end of that meeting (approximately 4:00 PM), City Council will return to reopen the regular meeting, announce the conclusion of the private, attorney-client meeting and to address the remainder of the agenda items.

Council President Mansfield called the meeting to order and announced the commencement of a private attorney-client meeting in accordance with Section 286.011-8, Florida Statutes, in the matter of Rojas et al vs City of Ocala. In attendance was Council President Barry Mansfield, Pro Tem Kristen Dreyer, Council Members Ire Bethea, Jim Hilty and Jay Musleh, as well as City Manager Pete Lee, City Attorney Will Sexton, Outside Council Abigail Sutherland, Jeffrey Certos and a court reporter. The meeting went into Recess at 3:01pm and reconvened with the regular session at 4:00pm.

2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Ben Marciano
Pro Tem Kristen M. Dreyer
Council Member Ire J. Bethea Sr
Council Member James P. Hilty Sr
Council Member Jay A. Musleh
Council President Barry Mansfield

Municipal Officers/Others Present: The meeting was also attended by City Manager Peter Lee, City Attorney William Sexton, Assistant City Manager Ken Whitehead, City Clerk Angel Jacobs, Deputy City Clerk Pamela Omichinski, Fire Chief Clint Welborn, Police Chief Michael Balken, Internal Auditor Randall Bridgeman, Assistant Finance Director Peter Brill, City Projects Director Tye Chighizola, Multimedia & Communications Coordinator Danielle Dyals, Director of Airport Matthew Grow, Planning Director Aubrey Hale, Budget Director Tammi Haslam, Community Development Services Director James Haynes, Director of Parks & Recreation Julie Johnson, HR/Risk Management Director Devan Kikendall, City Engineer & Director of Water Resources Sean Lanier, Chief Financial Officer Janice Mitchell, Director of Public Works Darren Park, Director of Electric Utility Doug Peebles, Director of Ocala Fiber Network Mel Poole, IT Director Christopher Ramos, Strategic & Legislative Affairs Administrator Jeannine Robbins, Procurement & Contracting Officer Daphne Robinson, Growth Management Director Jeff Shrum, Chief of Staff Chris Watt, Ocala Police Dept Representative, IT Representative, The Press and other interested parties.

2a. New Employees

- Barnabas Tanczos, Information Technology

3. Public Notice

- **Public Notice for the November 5, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting was posted on October 17, 2024**

4. Proclamations and Awards

5. Presentations

- 5a.** Recognize Ocala Electric Utility employees for their contributions in providing mutual aid to Morgan City and Houma, Louisiana, as well as to Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative, following the impact of Hurricanes Francine and Helene

Mayor Marciano and City Manager Pete Lee presented Certificates of Appreciation honoring the Ocala Electric Utility employees for their emergency response efforts during the hurricanes.

- 5b.** Public Information Officer, Gregory Davis - Communications Update

Public Information Officer Gregory Davis presented a communications update. He provided a brief overview of earned media, the reach of the City's social media platforms, and event coverage. The Heritage Trail Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Facebook post is considered a top performing post, reaching over 50,000 people.

Mayor Marciano recognized Mr. Davis for his hard work.

6. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of Council or the public request specific items to be removed for separate discussion and action.

RESULT: APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOVER: James P. Hilty Sr

SECONDER: Kristen M. Dreyer

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 6a.** Approve award of contract to Bruce Wayne Wiley LLC for residential rehabilitation services for the Follins residence located at 2411 NW Second Street with a total project cost not to exceed \$61,380
- 6b.** September 2024, outside counsel invoices for general city business legal services in the amount of \$1,315 and for risk management-related legal services in the amount of \$105
- 6c.** Accept funds from the Florida Department of Transportation to reimburse expenses relating to the Speed and Aggressive Driving program funds in the amount of \$55,000
- 6d.** Adopt Budget Resolution 2025-109 amending the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget to accept and appropriate funds from the Florida Department of Transportation to reimburse expenses relating to the Speed and Aggressive Driving Program funds in the amount of

\$55,000

- 6e. Adopt Budget Resolution 2025-110 amending the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget to accept and appropriate funds from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for online sting operations in the amount of \$28,578
- 6f. Adopt Budget Resolution 2025-111 amending the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget to accept and appropriate funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance to reimburse expenses relating to the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program in the amount of \$29,345
- 6g. Approve the Market Street at Heathbrook Lot 1 Replat Final Plat (SUB23-45407)
- 6h. Approve re-appointment of Robert Davis to the Ocala Firefighters' Retirement System Board of Trustees for a two-year term ending October 4, 2026
- 6i. Approve appointment of Austin Ridge to the Ocala Police Officers' Retirement System Board of Trustees for a two-year term ending August 6, 2026
- 6j. Approve minutes from October 15, 2024 City Council Meeting

7. Consent Agenda Items Held for Discussion

Should any items be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion, they will be discussed at this time.

8. Introduction and First Readings of Ordinances

(Second and Final Reading - November 19, 2024)

- 8a. Introduce Ordinance 2025-3 to rezone approximately 21.00 acres for property located at 2495 NW 21st Street along with the parcel to the north (Parcel 21404-000-00 and 21411-000-00) from INST, Institutional, and R-2, Two-Family Residential, to R-3, Multi-Family Residential (Case ZON24-45772) (Quasi-Judicial)

Introduced By: Ire J. Bethea Sr

- 8b. Introduce Ordinance 2025-4 to rezone approximately 1.20 acres for property located at the southeast corner of the intersection of East Silver Springs Boulevard and NE 39th Road (Parcel 2730-1000-00) from Limited Community Business (B-2A) to Multi-Family Residential (R-3) (Case ZON24-45770) (Quasi-Judicial)

Introduced By: James P. Hilty Sr

- 8c. Introduce Ordinance 2025-5 to rezone approximately 10.88 acres for property located at 2400 SW College Road (Parcel 23560-002-02 and 23560-002-12) from B-4, General Business, to SC, Shopping Center (Case ZON24-45818) (Quasi-Judicial)

Introduced By: Jay A. Musleh

- 8d. Introduce Ordinance 2025-6 to rezone approximately 12.61 acres for property located at the northeast corner of the intersection of NE 25th Avenue and NE 28th Street (Parcel 24274-000-00) from INST, Institutional to PD, Planned Development (Case PD24-45735) (Quasi-Judicial)

Introduced By: Kristen M. Dreyer

- 8e. Introduce Ordinance 2025-7 to rezone approximately 30.49 acres for property located at 5019 West Highway 40 along with the parcel to the northwest (Parcels 23176-003-00

and 23180-000-00) from Wholesale Business (B-5) and No Zoning to Planned Development (PD) (Case PD24-45515) (Quasi-Judicial)

Introduced By: Ire J. Bethea Sr

- 8f.** Introduce Ordinance 2025-8 to rezone approximately 1.99 acres for property located at 517 SW 27th Avenue along with the property located directly north (Parcel 22687-001-00 and 22686-000-00) from R-2, Two-Family Residential, and INST, Institutional, to B-1, Neighborhood Business (Case ZON24-45815) (Quasi-Judicial)

Introduced By: James P. Hilty Sr

- 8g.** Introduce Ordinance 2025-9 to rezone approximately 11.62 acres for property located at 3635 and 3521 SW 42nd Street (Parcels 23901-000-00 and 23900-000-00) from Community Business (B-2) and No Zoning to Planned Development (PD) (Case PD24-45730) (Quasi-Judicial)

Introduced By: Jay A. Musleh

9. Public Hearings / Second and Final Readings / Adoption of Ordinances

- 9a.** Adopt Ordinance 2024-57 to annex approximately 5.86 acres for property located at 4040 W Silver Springs Boulevard (Parcel 22866-000-02), along with the parcel located directly to the south (Parcel 22866-000-03) (Case ANX24-45690) (Quasi-Judicial) - Request to postpone until the November 19, 2024 City Council meeting. Previously postponed from the September 17, 2024, City Council meeting

Introduced By: Jay A. Musleh

City Attorney Will Sexton advised Council that, due to a miscommunication, items 9a, 9b and 9c had included a request from the applicant to postpone the items to the November 19, 2024 City Council meeting. The applicant was in fact ready to proceed with the cases at the current meeting, and all parties included with the case were present. He asked Council if they would like to proceed with the case or postpone until the November 19 meeting. Council Member Dreyer noted the public did not expect this item to be discussed until the 19th, so if there were any objections it would be inappropriate to consider the item now.

Rob Batsel, 1531 SE 36th Ave, requested Council consider discussing the items at the current meeting. He stated all interested parties were in attendance, it was properly advertised in September, and it had been postponed to the November 5 meeting at the previous meeting. He noted one of the interested parties had flown in for this Council meeting, and commented he does not believe there are any legal concerns with these items.

Ms. Dreyer stated all previous requests to postpone have been granted in the past without

exception during her time on Council, and she would prefer to err on the side of caution and give the public an opportunity to attend on the 19th should there be any objections.

There being no further discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: POSTPONED

MOVER: Jay A. Musleh

SECONDER: Kristen M. Dreyer

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 9b.** Adopt Ordinance 2024-58 to change the Future Land Use designation on approximately 5.86 acres located at 4040 W Silver Springs Boulevard (Parcel 22866-000-02) along with the parcel located directly to the south (Parcel # 22866-000-03) from Commercial (County) to Low Intensity (City) (Case LUC24-45691) (Quasi-Judicial) - Request to postpone until the November 19, 2024, City Council meeting. Previously postponed from the September 17, 2024, City Council meeting

Introduced By: James P. Hilty Sr

There being no discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: POSTPONED

MOVER: Kristen M. Dreyer

SECONDER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 9c.** Adopt Ordinance 2024-59 to rezone approximately 5.86 acres, located at 4040 W Silver Springs Boulevard (Parcel 22866-000-02) along with the parcel located directly to the south (Parcel # 22866-000-03) from B-2, Community Business (County), to B-2, Community Business (City) (Case ZON24-45692) (Quasi-Judicial) - Request to postpone until the November 19, 2024 City Council meeting. Previously postponed from the September 17, 2024, City Council meeting

Introduced By: Ire J. Bethea Sr

There being no discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: POSTPONED

MOVER: James P. Hilty Sr

SECONDER: Kristen M. Dreyer

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

10. General Business

- 10a.** Approve a two-year contract with McShea Contracting, LLC for citywide traffic striping services in an amount not to exceed \$1,100,000

There being no discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Kristen M. Dreyer

SECONDER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10b.** Approve the annual agreement for business creation, retention, and attraction services with the Ocala Metro Chamber & Economic Partnership in the amount of \$190,000

Planning Director Aubrey Hale reviewed the history of the agreement with the CEP.

Council Member Musleh expressed concern regarding the contract. He stated he supports the CEP and believes they have done an excellent job with the City, however he thinks it is time for the City to reconsider how they move forward with the CEP to ensure the City's taxpayers' money is being spent appropriately. He discussed his concerns about the rail project approved by the County and endorsed by the CEP that will bring more rail traffic into the City, including the Downtown core. The location of the new facility will also bring increased traffic to Baseline Road which is already overburdened.

Mr. Musleh reviewed the City's contributions since 2013 between the annual contract and in-kind payments amounting to approximately \$6,350,000, and expressed further concern that more of the CEP's focus is occurring outside of the City limits. He recognized the CEP is expected to advocate for growth within Marion County, but commented that when their goals don't align with the City's goals, the City doesn't get a voice at the table, and therefore he will not support this contract.

Kevin Sheilley, CEP, 310 SE 3rd Street, spoke on the CEP's work in the City. He questioned the dollar amount Mr. Musleh had quoted. Mr. Musleh replied it included in-kind donations, such as the sale of a building for one dollar. Mr. Sheilley stated the vast majority of the employment of CEP members is within the City, but commented employment centers should be spread out as to not create more traffic issues. He noted the location of the rail project has long been a rail serve site and CSX has repeatedly stated they have no intentions of abandoning the rail line. He loves and supports the downtown and pointed out other cities have freight trains that run through their downtown multiple times a day and maintain a vibrant downtown.

Council Member Dreyer noted she met privately with Mr. Sheilley, as well as attended a presentation he had given to the Board of Realtors, and complimented his knowledge and the job he has done since joining the CEP. She requested some modifications to the agreement, including a definitions page, a focus on higher wage jobs within the City, and language that refocuses the mission within the City from "Ocala Metro" to specific downtown redevelopment. She recognized the City lacks land for warehouses and manufacturing, and so a new focus for the next ten years will be different than the previous ten years.

Mr. Sheilley spoke on how the organization focuses on development within the City, noting it is difficult to separate City from County in the overall picture; however, there is a lot of focus on downtown development.

Ms. Dreyer requested the agreement be reviewed with a better focus on what the \$190,000 investment will be spent on for the City's interests, as well as the CEP agree not to promote the rail project.

Mr. Sheilley responded that the organization was unaware the City opposed the rail project when they announced their support.

Ms. Dreyer stated Council had discussed it, and letters of opposition were sent to the School Board and Marion County Board of County Commissioners. She suggested a procedure be included in the contract where the City informs the CEP of objections to a project within a specified time period to prevent future miscommunication. She also suggested changing the service contract terms from a flat annual fee to something more commission-like.

Council Member Musleh requested the organization provide information to support the requested amount. He questioned where the amounts the City of Ocala, Marion County, and Belleview pay are derived.

Council Member Hilty shared his experience on the Chamber Board. He expressed disappointment regarding the organization's lack of transparency with the City regarding the rail project. Furthermore, he concurs with his fellow Members' requests to modify the proposed agreement.

Council Member Bethea concurs with his fellow Members. He requested the CEP demonstrate to Council how the requested funds will be allocated towards City projects.

Council President Mansfield spoke in support of the CEP's work within the City. The organization is greatly known for supporting local businesses. He believes the City is getting a bargain for their marketing efforts on behalf of the City.

Mr. Sheilley stated the CEP will take into consideration Council's recommendations and work with City staff to modify the partnership agreement.

City Council Member Hilty withdrew the motion for approval.

There being no further discussion the motion to table the item carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: TABLED

MOVER: Kristen M. Dreyer

SECONDER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10c.** Approve a five-year renewal agreement with Avail Technologies, Inc. to provide system maintenance and support to SunTran’s intelligent transportation system in the amount of \$239,778

There being no discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

SECONDER: James P. Hilty Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10d.** Approve the purchase of a Federal Transit Administration Category 3 Electric Trolley Bus from Hometown Manufacturing, Inc. using Georgia contract for Public Mass Transit Vehicles and Related Options, Equipment, and Accessories, in the amount of \$575,235

Rock Gibboney, 597 NE 45th Terrace, spoke in opposition of the purchase request. He expressed concern the weight of the bus due to the batteries could cause additional stress on the roads, as well as potential fire hazard issues due to the electric batteries.

Transit Administrator Tom Duncan confirmed the request is for one bus.

Council Member Musleh noted the City utilizes electric sanitation vehicles.

Assistant City Manager Ken Whitehead stated the City has no concerns regarding weight or fire hazards related to electric vehicles currently in the fleet.

Director of Public Works Darren Park shared the department’s experience using electric sanitation vehicles. The only complaint has been the longevity of the batteries, however he noted the drivers love them because they are cooler in the summer heat, as well as much quieter.

Fire Chief Clint Welborn spoke on the lithium-ion battery concern.

Mr. Whitehead clarified the benefits of electric vehicles.

Mr. Duncan stated the purchase is grant funded. He noted the electric vehicle will be very quiet.

Mayor Marciano and City Council spoke in support of the purchase request.

There being no further discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

SECONDER: James P. Hilty Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10e.** Approve a three-year agreement for firewall hardware and software maintenance and

support in an estimated expenditure of \$120,000

There being no discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Kristen M. Dreyer

SECONDER: James P. Hilty Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10f. Approve a two-year contract with Fleetwing Corporation for the provision of bulk fuel and tank wagon fuel deliveries, with an estimated aggregate expenditure of \$263,442

There being no discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Jay A. Musleh

SECONDER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10g. Approve and adopt update to the City of Ocala’s Procurement Policy

Procurement Director Daphne Robinson explained the modifications to the Procurement Policy will bring the policy into compliance with State regulations, as well as modernize and streamline outdated inefficient procedures, establish clearer guidelines to increase fair and open competition and decrease favoritism, as well as inspire public confidence. She noted all changes have been reviewed by the offices of the City Auditor and City Attorney.

There being no further discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: James P. Hilty Sr

SECONDER: Kristen M. Dreyer

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10h. Adopt Budget Resolution 2025-112 amending the Fiscal Year 2023-24 budget to appropriate funds to support expenditures incurred as a result of Hurricane Debby in the amount of \$428,847

Finance Director Peter Brill confirmed the funds are not reimbursable through FEMA with Council Member Hilty.

There being no further discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: ADOPTED

MOVER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

SECONDER: Kristen M. Dreyer

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10i.** Adopt Budget Resolution 2025-113 amending the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget to accept and appropriate 2024-25 State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program grant funding in the amount of \$200,832

There being no discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: ADOPTED

MOVER: Kristen M. Dreyer

SECONDER: James P. Hilty Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10j.** Approve the purchase of inventory items for Ocala Electric Utility from multiple vendors in an amount not to exceed \$1,702,179

Finance Director Peter Brill clarified the threshold for FEMA reimbursement with Council President Mansfield. The City will be reimbursed for Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Reimbursement can take up to a year for smaller requests, but larger storms like Irma may take years for full reimbursement due to the extra scrutiny involved in very large claims.

There being no further discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Kristen M. Dreyer

SECONDER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10k.** Approve one-year renewal of contract with SHI for Palo Alto Firewall hardware and software renewals with an estimated expenditure amount of \$137,867

There being no discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

SECONDER: Kristen M. Dreyer

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 10l.** Approve one-year renewal of contract with PCN-Strategies for Getac In-Car Video and Body Camera computer aided hardware and software with an estimated expenditure amount of \$244,000

There being no discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: James P. Hilty Sr

SECONDER: Ire J. Bethea Sr

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

11. Internal Auditor's Report

12. City Manager's Report

- Smoking in City Parks

City Manager Pete Lee reported two organizations have requested the City post tobacco free signs around the City parks to discourage smoking. Several communities have passed a no smoking ban. The City would like feedback from Council regarding the enforcement of smoke-free parks in the community.

Council Member Musleh expressed concern enforcing smoke-free parks. He favors posting signage to discourage smoking at public parks.

City Council favored posting signage to discourage smoking and not enforce smoke free parks at this time.

- Employee Health Fair

City Manager Pete Lee encouraged Council to attend the Employee Health Fair on November 6, 2024, from 11 am to 2 pm.

- Farewell to Community Outreach Manager Rachel Fautsch

City Manager Pete Lee announced Rachel Fautsch, Community Outreach Manager, will be resigning this week. The City wishes Ms. Fautsch a farewell in her future endeavors.

13. Ocala Police Department Report

- Police Chief Mike Balken – Public Safety Opioid Response Efforts

Police Chief Mike Balken discussed the public safety Opioid response efforts for October 21, 2024 to November 3, 2024. The Police Departments Opioid response efforts 2, overdose deaths 0, Narcan leave behind 2, and Amnesty participation 3. Year to date, service calls 53,000, traffic crashes 3,000, fatalities 11, Baker Acts 580, Marchman Acts 246, self-initiated calls for service 8,300, and public records requests 5,000. He provided a brief overview of the department's emergency response efforts for hurricane Milton. Furthermore, the Annual Cops & Cars Show is scheduled for November 9, 2024.

14. Ocala Fire Rescue Department Report

- Fire Chief Clint Welborn – Public Safety Opioid Response Efforts & Community Paramedicine

Fire Chief Welborn discussed the public safety Opioid response efforts and community paramedicine program, for October 21, 2024 to November 3, 2024. The overdose response efforts 2, overdose deaths 0, Narcan leave behind 1. For the month, community paramedicine calls 49, OD2A calls 102, service calls 2,259, motor vehicle accidents 196,

and structure fires 10.

15. City Attorney's Report

- 15a.** Approval of letter to Robert W. Batsel, as counsel for the College of Central Florida, providing the position of the City of Ocala as to the “municipal purpose” of the College’s intent to lease the former Pioneer Garden Club property to the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida for use as an employee health care center

City Attorney Sexton discussed a draft letter to the College of Central Florida regarding their intent to lease the former Pioneer Garden Club property to the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, for use as an employee health care center. He provided a brief overview of the City’s position in the draft letter. He requested City Council approve the letter.

Council Member Hilty expressed disappointment that the building will be used as an employee health care center.

There being no further discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Jay A. Musleh

SECONDER: Kristen M. Dreyer

AYE: Dreyer, Bethea Sr, Hilty Sr, Musleh, and Mansfield

- 15b.** Provision of direction to staff (legal counsel) regarding potential settlement with Plaintiffs in the matter of Rojas v. City of Ocala, Florida, (Case Number 24-12634 / 5:14-cv-00651), an appeal currently pending before the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

City Attorney Sexton commented he had included this item in case direction was required following the attorney-client meeting prior to the Council meeting. The City does not need to take any action at this time.

16. Public Comments

- **Kent Guinn, 320 NW 3rd Avenue, commented on rail project**

Kent Guinn, 320 NW 3rd Avenue, spoke in opposition of the rail project. Furthermore, he agrees with Council Member Musleh’s comments regarding the project.

- **Chris Prusak, PRP Aviation, 2998 SW 60th Avenue, commented on Airport development**

Chris Prusak, PRP Aviation, 2998 SW 60th Avenue, requested Council adopt a flexible method for development at the Airport. The City’s RFP process has hindered their expansion project. The goal is to expand business operations.

Council Member Musleh requested the City Manager follow up on a remedy for Mr.

Prusak's request.

City Manager Pete Lee stated he will schedule a meeting to meet with Mr. Prusak.

Council President Mansfield suggested evaluating the development process to encourage development in the City.

Mr. Prusak thanked the City for their support. Furthermore, their revenue has greatly increased, which is why they want to expand operations to continue growing in the community.

17. Informational Items and Calendaring Items

- Monday, November 11, 2024 - Veterans Day Holiday - City Offices closed
- Tuesday, November 19, 2024 - Community Redevelopment Area Agency meeting - 3:45pm, Council Chambers
- Tuesday, November 19, 2024 - City Council Meeting - 4:00pm, Council Chambers
- Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29, 2024 - Thanksgiving Day Holiday - City Offices closed

17a. Inform City Council of an Interagency Agreement between the Ocala Police Department and Arnette House

17b. Power Cost Adjustment Report - September 2024

18. Comments by Mayor

- **Mayor Marciano discussed his Fire Department shadowing experience**

Mayor Marciano shared his wonderful experience shadowing the Fire Department.

- **Mayor Marciano requested the City consider the Lillian Bryant Center for a Lineman Training Program location**

Mayor Marciano spoke in support of utilizing the Lillian Bryant Center for a Lineman Training Program in the community.

- **Mayor Marciano Recognized Director of Electric Utility Doug Peebles**

Mayor Marciano recognized Doug Peebles, Director of Electric Utility, for his community support efforts.

19. Comments by City Council Members

- **Council Members Bethea and Dreyer commented on Lineman Program**

Council Members Bethea and Dreyer spoke in support of utilizing the Lillian Bryant Center to expand the Lineman Program to youth in the community.

- **Council President Mansfield recognized the Fire Department for their community support efforts**

20. Adjournment

- Adjourned at 6:02 pm

Minutes

Barry Mansfield
Council President

Angel B. Jacobs
City Clerk