



**TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 1, 2022– 4:00 PM
TAVARES CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 EAST MAIN STREET, TAVARES**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

**Lori Pfister, Mayor
Walter Price, Vice Mayor
Amanda Boggus, Council Member
Sandy Gamble, Council Member
Troy Singer, Council Member**

STAFF PRESENT

**John Drury, City Administrator
Lindsay Holt, City Attorney
Susie Novack, City Clerk
Scott Aldrich, Community Services Director
Crissy Bublitz, Human Resources Director
Phil Clark, Utilities Director
James Dillon, Public Works Director
Mike Fitzgerald, Community Development Director
Lori Houghton, Finance Director
Richard Keith, Fire Chief
Stoney Lubins, Police Chief
Mark O'Keefe, Public Communications Director
Bob Tweedie, Economic Development Director**

OTHER

Sean Norfleet, Court Reporter, The Court Reporter

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pfister called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. She asked those who wished to speak on an agenda item to complete and submit a Request to Speak form.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tab 1. Pastor Michael Watkins, Friendship C.M.E. Church

Pastor Michael Watkins, Friendship C.M.E. Church provided the invocation and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pfister asked if anyone had changes to the Agenda. Mr. Drury said staff had no changes.

Council Member Gamble asked to table Tab 5 [Ordinance 2022-05 – Gorgeous Groves, Inc. – Rezoning of Approximately 220 Acres Located West of the Intersection of Woodlea Road and Lane Park Road] until a final draft of the ordinance is available. Council Member Gamble stated he did not feel comfortable approving an ordinance at first reading that was not in its final draft. Mr. Drury said Ordinance 2022-05, First Reading, could be tabled to the June 15, 2022, City Council meeting.

MOTION

Sandy Gamble moved to table Tab 5 [Ordinance 2022-05 – Gorgeous Groves, Inc. – Rezoning of Approximately 220 Acres Located West of the Intersection of Woodlea Road and Lane Park Road, First Reading] to June 15, 2022, seconded by Walter Price. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Mr. Drury advised the audience that Tab 5, Ordinance 2022-05, would be included on the June 15, 2022, agenda for first reading.

Mayor Pfister noted discussion on Ordinance 2022-05 would not be held until the second reading on July 6, 2022.

MOTION

Sandy Gamble moved to approve the remaining Agenda [less Tab 5 - Ordinance 2022-05], seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Tab 2. Government Finance Officers Award Presentation

Mayor Pfister provided the following presentation:

The “Distinguished Budget Presentation Award” has been awarded to the City of Tavares by the Government Finance Officers’ Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada for the Fiscal Year 2022 Adopted Budget.

The Award reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the budget document had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for an effective budget presentation.

Mayor Pfister and Vice Mayor Price presented the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to Ms. Houghton and the Finance Staff.

Ms. Houghton thanked the Council and Mr. Drury for their support. She said every Finance Department staff member contributed to the award.

V. SWEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Attorney Holt stated there were no quasi-judicial matters before the Council for discussion.

VI. READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS INTO THE RECORD

Ms. Novack read the following Ordinances, at first reading, by title only:

ORDINANCE 2022-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES AMENDING ORDINANCES 2000-19 AND 2003-47 OF THE CITY OF TAVARES FOR APPROXIMATELY 02.00 ACRES LOCATED SOUTH OF DORA AVENUE, WEST OF DILLARD ROAD, SUPERCEDING ALL SAID ORDINANCES WITH A NEWLY STATED PLANNED DEVELOPMENT (PD) ORDINANCE; SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE 2022-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA; SUSPENDING CERTAIN CITY WATER, SEWER, POLICE, FIRE AND PARK IMPACT FEES FOR A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME; SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND CONFLICTS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pfister asked if anyone wished to pull an item from the Consent Agenda for discussion. There were none.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved to approve the Consent Agenda [Tab 3, Approval of the May 4 and May 18, 2022, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes], seconded by Troy Singer. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Tab 3. Approval of the May 4 and May 18, 2022, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

IX. ORDINANCES – PUBLIC HEARING

First Reading

Tab 4. Ordinance 2022-03 – Conner Property – Rezoning of Approximately 2 Acres Located South of Dora Avenue, West of Dillard Road

No discussion at first reading.

Tab 5. Ordinance 2022-05 – Gorgeous Groves, Inc. – Rezoning of Approximately 220 Acres Located West of the Intersection of Woodlea Road and Lane Park Road

Tabled to the June 15, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting.

Tab 6. Ordinance 2022-04 – City Impact Fee Waiver for Property Located in Within the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA)

No discussion at first reading.

Second Reading

X. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Tab 7. Board Appointments

Mayor Pfister provided the following presentation:

Library Board

There are three expiring seats on the Tavares Library Board. The City received the following request for reappointment and two new applications for the term June 2022 through June 2024 (2-year terms):

- *Erika Buigas - New Application*
- *Lurlene Lawton - Request for Reappointment*
- *Michael Watkins - New Application*

The City advertised the open positions in the Daily Commercial and on the City website.

Planning and Zoning Board

There are four expiring seats on the Tavares Planning and Zoning Board. The City received the following four requests for reappointment and no new applications for the term June 2022 through June 2025 (3-year terms):

- *Brooke Matthews - Request for Reappointment*
- *Bruce Peterman - Request for Reappointment*
- *Dara Treadwell - Request for Reappointment*
- *James Sweeza - Request for Reappointment*

The City advertised the open positions in the Daily Commercial and on the City website.

Mayor Pfister appointed Erika Buigas, Lurlene Lawton, and Michael Watkins to the Tavares Library Board for the term June 2022 to June 2024. She appointed Brook Mathews, Bruce Peterman, Dara Treadwell, and James Sweeza to the Tavares Planning and Zoning Board for the term June 2022 to June 2025.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved to approve the Mayor’s Board appointments, seconded by Sandy Gamble. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

The Council congratulated the Board Members and thanked them for their service.

Tab 8. FLC Annual Conference and Voting Delegate

Mayor Pfister provided the following presentation:

The Florida League of Cities Annual Conference will be held in Hollywood, Florida on August 11-13, 2022. This conference provides valuable educational opportunities to help Florida’s municipal officials serve their citizenry more effectively. 2022 is the 100th-anniversary conference.

The Florida League of Cities requests each member municipality to designate one of their officials to cast their votes at the Annual Business Session. (see attached request) Election of League leadership and adoption of resolutions are undertaken during the business meeting. One official from each municipality will

make decisions that determine the direction of the League. Traditionally, the Mayor attends (depending upon schedules), the Florida League of Cities annual conference on behalf of the City of Tavares.

Mayor Pfister said she would like the entire Council to have an opportunity to attend the Florida League of Cities annual conference as it is their 100th anniversary. Mr. Drury said an internal budget amendment could pay the costs for all Council members to attend the conference.

Council Member Gamble noted his support.

Council Member Boggus said she enjoyed attending the Florida League of Cities conference the previous year. She stated the 100th-anniversary conference event would be well-attended by many Council members throughout Lake County. She said the Mayor is typically designated as the voting delegate and recommended Mayor Pfister serve as the City's voting delegate.

Vice Mayor Price noted his support for all Council members to attend. He said he recently represented the City at the Florida League of Cities Legislative Days in Tallahassee and would like to attend if his schedule permits. Vice Mayor Price concurred with Council Member Boggus that Mayor Pfister should serve as the City's voting delegate.

Council Member Singer said he supports the Mayor serving as the voting delegate for the City, or first right of refusal, with the second right of refusal going to the Vice Mayor. He said the City should have at least one Council member attend. Council Member Singer said Council Member Boggus attended the FLC conference the previous year as Mayor, and he attended personally and paid his way. Council Member Singer said it should be up to each Council member if they would like the City to cover the cost or if they wish to cover the cost on their own. Council Member Boggus said she concurred with Council Member Singer.

Mayor Pfister asked if there were funds available for the entire Council to attend. Mr. Drury confirmed.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved to approve Mayor Pfister as the voting delegate at the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference and to make the event accessible for all Council members to attend if their schedules allow, seconded by Walter Price. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

Mr. Drury said he received a document from an audience member who wished to ask the Council to table Tab 5. He said the item was tabled to the June 15, 2022, City Council meeting and was no longer applicable.

Vance Jochim 12619 Milwaukee Avenue, Lake County, commended the Finance Department on their awards throughout the years and presented Ms. Houghton with a Wells Fargo money bag, Newport Beach Wooden Boat Festival 1987 plaque, and stock certificate for Drain Holes, Inc. He said the stock certificate has no monetary value.

Danielle Olivani, 3688 Lake Eleanor Drive, Mount Dora, asked the Council to consider honoring June as Pride Month with a Proclamation. She said she had a sample proclamation to provide. Ms. Olivani said she provided a community pantry at Aesop's Park and would like to gift another to the City. She said she would like to speak to someone regarding the appropriate permit required. She asked the Council to consider both requests during the June 15, 2022, City Council meeting.

Mr. Drury said her request had been received and asked Ms. Olivani to provide her documents and information to the City Clerk.

XIV. REPORTS

Tab 9. City Administrator Report

Mr. Drury said trail negotiation meetings with CSX and Lake County were ongoing. He said he met with the Lake County Manager earlier in the day, and the purchase of the railroad right of way between downtown Tavares and downtown Mount Dora with CSX continues between Lake County and CSX. He said he hopes to have a progress update at the next City Council meeting.

Mr. Drury said YMCA negotiations are ongoing. He said a meeting was held earlier in the day with Lake County, Tavares, and the YMCA, and updates would follow in the near future.

Mr. Drury provided an update on a recent quarterly B.E.T.T.E.R. race relations meeting. He thanked Pastor Michael Watkins for hosting the meeting and said City staff and the Police Department attended. The Lake County Clerk of Court, Gary Cooney, provided a history of Lake County and Florida and was well received.

Mr. Aldrich provided an update on the Babe Ruth Allstar teams. He said a flag football league had been implemented and included over 90 players. Mr. Aldrich said the Summer Camp would begin the following week with 70 registered participants.

He said the history museum commemorated the first-anniversary celebration recently and had over 500 visitors in its first year.

Tab 10. City Council Member Reports

Council Member Gamble

- Said he attended the Babe Ruth games during the past weekend. He asked Mr. Aldrich to ensure coaches were equipped with the required player documentation at each game. He asked that the 6/under All-Starr team is well prepared for their games. He said the uniforms were amazing, the players looked great, and they gave their 'all' during the games.
- Said he attended a Memorial Day Service at Petersons Gun Shop where soldiers who gave their lives for the country were recognized and honored.

Council Member Singer

- Commended staff for putting up American flags and bunting on Ruby Street, Main Street, and at City Hall. He said the flags and bunting would be displayed through the 4th of July.

Vice Mayor Price

- Said he attended the All-Star games the past weekend, and noted the uniforms included seaplanes.
- Said he appreciates the American flags placed downtown, reflecting an outpouring of patriotic spirit in Tavares.

Mayor Pfister

- Commended Mr. Aldrich for his efforts with the All-Star program. She said she attended the recent All-Star games. Mayor Pfister said she was pleased the City has a flag football program.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Mayor Pfister adjourned the meeting at 4:31.

Respectfully,

Susie Novack, MMC, FCRM
City Clerk