

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 28, 2021**

Pursuant to due notice the regularly scheduled Commission meeting was held in the Commission Chambers at 360 East Main Street, Pahokee, Palm Beach County, Florida on September 28, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Babb at 6:00 p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.	Present
	Vice-Mayor Regina Bohlen	Present
	Commissioner Juan Gonzalez	Present
	Commissioner Clara M. Murvin	Present
	Commissioner Sara Perez	Present
	Interim City Manager Greg Thompson	Present
	City Attorney Gary Brandenburg	Present
	Sergeant At Arms Lieutenant Mugridge	Present
	City Clerk Tijuana Warner	Present

Additions, Deletions, and Approval of Agenda Items:

Reorder of the agenda to hear Liability Insurance (Mike Morrill Florida League of Cities) and Centennial Celebration prior to the Regular Agenda.

Approval of Agenda with additions.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Bohlen, Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Service Announcements: *(none)*

Approval of Minutes: *(none)*

Consent Agenda: *(none)*

Presentation

Mike Morrill of the Florida League of Cities presented to the Commission regarding their Liability Insurance Program. He explained the cost-benefit analysis of partnering with the Florida League of Cities (FMIT).

Approval of Agreement with the Florida League of Cities

Motion by Vice-Mayor Bohlen, Seconded by Commissioner Perez

Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Centennial Discussion, Interim City Manager Thompson suggested that a Centennial Committee be implemented to ensure a great celebration.

Mr. Collin Walkes elaborated on the importance of planning the Centennial Celebration and had intentions to volunteer.

Citizen Comments (Agenda Items Only): *(none)*

Ms. Ellen questioned when the scoreboard would be installed at the football field. Interim City Manager Thompson explained that Mr. Reggie Jackson donated \$5k for the scoreboard, and announced that there was a need for an additional \$10k for installation of the scoreboard. Attorney Brandenburg agreed to donate \$1k towards the project. Interim City Manager Thompson urged the Commission to reach out to possible sponsors for donations. Attorney Brandenburg suggested proceeding with the purchase and replacing the funds with donations.

Approval of Purchase of the Electronic Scoreboard.
Motion by Vice-Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.
Motion carried unanimously.

Franklin Butler explained that he had recently purchased a home in the City of Pahokee. He announced that he was aware of the \$8k Lien on the property. He requested to pay the lien in three payments. Commissioner Murvin announced that the property had been an eyesore for 12 years and that Mr. Butler should be allowed to make payments. Attorney Brandenburg offered to draft an agreement with stipulations for non-payments.

Approval of Agreement with Franklin Butler.
Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.
Motion carried unanimously.

Sanquetta Cowan requested an update for the hiring of a permanent City Manager. Mayor Babb announced that the selection process was ongoing, however, he did not have a definite timeline.

Annie Ifill of Healthier Glades announced their willingness to participate and support the City of Pahokee Centennial.

Everett McPherson commended Mr. Franklin Butler for his recent purchase and suggested that the City assist residents with a positive attitude.

Carolyn Slydell expressed concerns and disappointment regarding the decorum and professionalism of the Commission. She expressed concerns regarding the playground and urged the Commission to provide a safe playground for the children of the Community.

Regular Agenda

Ordinances:

Mr. Brandenburg read Ordinance 2021 -06 into the record and Interim City Manager Thompson explained the purpose of the ordinance.

- A. ORDINANCE 2021 – 06 (second reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, DESIGNATING THE CITY CLERK AS THE CITY’S OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL TRANSACTIONS WITH THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS IN RELATION TO MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE USE OF REGISTRATION BOOKS AND RECORDS FOR THE HOLDING OF ALL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE CANVASSING BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO CANVASS ALL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, COMPOSITION OF CANVASSING BOARD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Adoption of Ordinance 2021-06 (Second Reading).
Motion by Vice-Mayor Bohlen Seconded by Commissioner Perez
Motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions

Mr. Brandenburg read Resolution 2021 -33 into the record and Interim City Manager Thompson explained the purpose of the Resolution. Mr. Thompson directed the attention of the Commission to their Agenda packets and explained the breakdown of the millage rate, tax rate and roll-back rate.

- B. RESOLUTION 2021 – 33 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A FINAL MILLAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2021, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2022, PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; COMPUTING THE ROLLED-BACK RATE; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CITY MANAGER; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Public Hearing Opened

Sanquetta Cowen questioned if a notice was sent out to residents. Attorney Brandenburg announced that the TRIM Notice was forwarded to residents and the Tax Rate would increase 7.39 percent; Mr. Thompson reiterated the aforementioned rates.

Public Hearing Closed

Discussion ensued regarding the rates. Attorney Brandenburg explained the options regarding the increase and or decrease of the tax rate and roll back rate.

Approval of Resolution 2021-33 adopting the Rollback Millage Rate as 6.0917.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Commissioner Perez.

No Vote.

Approval of Resolution 2021-33 adopting the Tax Rate at 7.39 percent

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Mayor Babb

Motion carried 4-1

Mr. Brandenburg read Resolution 2021 -34 into the record and Interim City Manager Thompson explained the purpose of the Resolution.

- C. RESOLUTION 2021 – 34 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA RELATING TO FINANCES, PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION AND FUNDING OF THE FINAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,246,112.00, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Public Hearing Opened

Sanquetta Cowan asked if the budget could be amended to include the costs for the electronic scoreboard. Mayor Babb announced that the funding source would be determined by the Interim City Manager and Finance Director.

Public Hearing Closed

Approval of Resolution 2021-34

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brandenburg read Resolution 2021 -35 into the record and Interim City Manager Thompson explained the purpose of the resolution.

- D. RESOLUTION 2021 – 35 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE POLLING LOCATION AGREEMENT FORM BETWEEN PALM BEACH COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS AND CITY OF PAHOKEE.**

Approval of Resolution 2021-35.

Motion by Vice Mayor Bohlen. Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brandenburg read Resolution 2021 -36 into the record and Interim City Manager Thompson explained the purpose of the resolution. Mr. Thompson directed the attention of the Commission to their agenda packets.

- E. RESOLUTION 2021 – 36 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF STATE-FUNDED GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT “A,” WHICH SPECIFIES THE DELIVERABLES FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR MCCLURE ROAD FROM PALM ROAD TO SOUTH LAKE DRIVE; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Commissioner Murvin asked Interim City Manager Thompson to provide clarification of allocated funds and grant expenditures. Interim City Manager Thompson explained that some grants are received on a reimbursement basis; the City of Pahokee is reimbursed per the submittal of invoices for projects. He explained that funds are released per the completion of the project.

Approval of Resolution 2021 - 36.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Bohlen Seconded by Commissioner Perez.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brandenburg read Resolution 2021 - 37 into the record and Interim City Manager Thompson explained the purpose of the resolution.

- F. RESOLUTION 2021 – 37 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION VOTE PROCESSING EQUIPMENT USE AND ELECTIONS SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PAHOKEE AND PALM BEACH COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT “A”; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Approval of Resolution 2021 - 37.

Motion by Commissioner Perez. Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez

Motion carried unanimously.

Report of the City Manager:

Interim City Manager Thompson announced that he had the pleasure of meeting with the new Commander of the Army Corps of Engineers and Farmers of the Glades. He announced that he met with the Engineer and Contractor for Barfield Highway (Progress Meeting). He announced that he met with a Contractor to close the Brownfield Project as soon as possible.

Report of the City Attorney:

Attorney Brandenburg announced a funding opportunity related to Case Number 534nw 5th LLC. v. Tarpin 4 LLC.

Old Business

1. Observed Holidays 2021-2022

Interim City Manager Thompson explained the item and his recommendation.

Approval of the Presented Schedule of Holidays

Motion by Vice-Mayor Bohlen, Seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez

Motion carried unanimously.

City Commission Comments:

Commissioner Gonzalez had no comments.

Vice-Mayor Bohlen made the following motion:

Vice-Mayor Bohlen motioned to Hire Greg Thompson as the City Manager for the Year. Seconded by Commissioner Perez.

Motion carried 3-2.

Discussion ensued regarding the qualifications of Interim City Manager Thompson. Mayor Babb explained that the formal hiring process should take place.

Vice-Mayor Bohlen motioned to Present the State of Florida with a Contract for ERH and the Camp-ground without the Restaurant. Seconded by Commissioner Perez.

Motion carried 3-2.

Mayor Babb and Commissioner Murvin commented that there needs to be an official Request for Proposals process. Attorney Brandenburg informed that the above motion was completely legal and could be voted upon.

Mayor Babb expressed condolences to Lisa and Mayor Steve Wilson for their loss of six family members due to COVID-19. He announced that the City of Belle Glade hosted a COVID Vaccination Drive where Belle Glade Residents were incentivized for participation. He suggested that the City of Pahokee host a similar event.

Mayor Babb motioned to terminate the employment of Attorney Brandenburg, Seconded by Commissioner Murvin.

Motion failed 3-2.

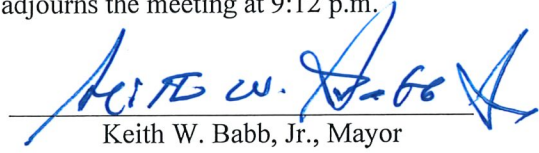
Commissioner Perez expressed condolences to all that have lost family members to COVID-19.

Commissioner Murvin expressed displeasure with the professionalism and decorum of the Commission.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourns the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'T. Warner', written over a horizontal line.

ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Keith W. Babb, Jr.', written over a horizontal line.

Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor