



# Ocala City Council Minutes

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

## Regular Meeting

110 SE Watula Avenue  
Ocala, FL 34471  
www.ocalafl.org

Angel B. Jacobs  
(352) 629-8266

### 1. Call to Order

The Ocala City Council held a meeting at the Ocala City Hall on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 4:00 PM.

#### a. Opening Ceremony

1. Invocation - Chaplain Hugh Brockington

2. Pledge of Allegiance

#### b. Welcome and Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Reuben Kent Guinn	Mayor	Present	
Jay A. Musleh	Pro Tem	Present	
Justin Grabelle	Council Member	Present	
Brent R. Malever	Council Member	Present	
Matthew Wardell	Council Member	Present	
Mary S. Rich	Council President	Present	

Municipal Officers/Others Present: City Manager John Zobler, Deputy City Manager Sandra Wilson, Assistant City Attorney Robert Batsel Jr., Assistant City Manager Bill Kauffman, Assistant City Manager Ken Whitehead, Deputy City Clerk Roseann Fusco, Fire Chief Shane Alexander, Senior Assistant Internal Auditor Randall Bridgeman, Assistant Finance Director Peter Brill, Growth Management Director Tye Chighizola, Director of Parks & Recreation Kathy Crile, Director of Facilities Maintenance Chris Dobbs, Division Head - Sanitation Dwayne Drake, Procurement Manager Corrin Fitsemons, Director of Revitalization Strategies Melanie Gaboardi, Internal Auditor Alice Garner, Chief of Police Greg Graham, Budget Manager Tammi Haslam, Marketing & Communication Manager Katie Hunnicutt, Manager Compliance Monitor Rusella Johnson, Director of Procurement Tiffany Kimball, Director of Fleet Management John King, Multimedia & Communication Coordinator Lee Kramer, City Engineer/Director Water Resources Sean Lanier, Civil Engineer III Payal Pandya, Director Public Works Darren Park, Director of Telecommunications Mel Poole, Director Electric Utility Mike Poucher, Strategic Business Administrator Jeannine Robbins, Director of Human Resources & Risk Management Jared Sorenson, Civil Engineer III Oscar Tovar, Community Engagement Coordinator Ramona Williams, Service Delivery & Compliance Alina Schaad, Civil Engineer Noel Cooper, IT Representative and other interested parties.

#### c. New Employees

**Terry Dudley - Public Works**

## 2. Public Notice

**Public Notice for the February 5th, 2019 City Council Regular Meeting was posted on December 20, 2018**

## 3. Proclamations & Awards

### a. Engineers Week Proclamation - Nick Mora and the Florida Engineering Society

Mayor Guinn presented a proclamation to Nick Mora and the Florida Engineering Society proclaiming February 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 as Engineers Week in the City of Ocala.

### b. Resolution for David Laffey – presented to Cheryl Laffey

Council President Rich and Council Member Malever presented a Resolution for David Laffey to Cheryl Laffey.

### c. Service Award - Donald Snow - 20 Years

City Manager Zobler and Mayor Guinn presented a service award to Donald Snow in appreciation of his 20 years of service to the City of Ocala.

### d. FSAWWA Distribution Award – Sean Lanier and Water & Sewer staff

Bill Young presented the FSAWWA Distribution Award to Sean Lanier and Water & Sewer staff.

## 4. Presentations

## 5. Public Comments - None

## 6. Public Hearings

### a. **Adopted Resolution 2019-17** to allow Ocala Main Street to apply for a one-day permit with the state to provide beer and wine as part the 2019 Live Oak International Parade of Nation and Breeds on Thursday, March 7, 2019 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm in downtown Ocala (Quasi Judicial)

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

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

**RESULT:** ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Matthew Wardell, Council Member  
**SECONDER:** Brent R. Malever, Council Member  
**AYES:** Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

- b. Adopted Resolution 2019-18** to allow Ocala Main Street to apply for a one-day permit with the state to provide beer and wine for a special event (Walk of Fame sponsored by the Silver Springs International Film Festival) on Sunday, March 3, 2019 along South Magnolia Avenue between Broadway and Fort King Street (Quasi Judicial)

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

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

**RESULT:** ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Jay A. Musleh, Pro Tem  
**SECONDER:** Justin Grabelle, Council Member  
**AYES:** Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

## 7. Second and Final Reading of Ordinances

(All are Public Hearings)

The City Clerk filed proof of publication for Ordinances 2019-22 – 2019-24 (Legal Ad A000947678 - 2/8/19 and Annexation Ordinance 2019-21 (Legal Ad OSB062331 - 2/8/19 & 2/15/19). The City Clerk read the ordinance titles into the record.

- a. Adopted Ordinance 2019-21** for annexation of approximately 0.24 acres of property located at 1820 SW 3rd Ave (Case No. ANX18-0007)

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

**Introduced by Council Member, Jay A. Musleh February 5, 2019**

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

**RESULT:** ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Jay A. Musleh, Pro Tem  
**SECONDER:** Matthew Wardell, Council Member  
**AYES:** Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

- b. Adopted Ordinance 2019-22** for a land use change from Commercial (Marion County) to Low Intensity for approximately 0.24 acres of property located at 1820 SW 3rd Ave (Case LUC18-0007)

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

**Introduced by Council Member, Justin Grabelle February 5, 2019**

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

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Justin Grabelle, Council Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jay A. Musleh, Pro Tem
<b>AYES:</b>	Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

- c. **Adopted Ordinance 2019-23** for a zoning change from B-4, Regional Business (Marion County) to B-4, General Business, for approximately 0.24 acres of property located at 1820 SW 3rd Ave (Case ZON18-0023) (Quasi-Judicial)

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

**Introduced by Council Member, Matthew Wardell February 5, 2019**

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

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Matthew Wardell, Council Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Justin Grabelle, Council Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

- d. **Adopted Ordinance 2019-24** to allow changes concerning a vacant parcel in the historic district surrounded by properties outside the historic district and changes to signage requirements in the Ocala Historic District concerning certain properties (COD18-0017)

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

**Introduced by Council Member, Brent Malever February 5, 2019**

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

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Brent R. Malever, Council Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Justin Grabelle, Council Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

## 8. General Business

- a. **Adopted Budget Resolution 2019-131** amending the Fiscal Year 2018 - 2019 Budget to accept and appropriate funding for the City of Ocala's Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Program in the amount of \$216,526

Presentation by Tammi Haslam

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

**RESULT:**       **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**  
**MOVER:**       Jay A. Musleh, Pro Tem  
**SECONDER:**   Brent R. Malever, Council Member  
**AYES:**        Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

- b. Approved** federally-funded subaward and grant agreement related to Hurricane Irma and authorize delegation of signatory authority to the City Manager to execute the agreement and future amendments

Presentation by Tammi Haslam

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

**RESULT:**       **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**  
**MOVER:**       Brent R. Malever, Council Member  
**SECONDER:**   Matthew Wardell, Council Member  
**AYES:**        Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

- c. Approved** a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the Moxon Generational Trust, the Henry Moxon Living Trust and the Ocala Lumber Company for multiple properties located in the North Magnolia Redevelopment Subarea in the amount of \$285,000

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

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

**RESULT:**       **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**  
**MOVER:**       Jay A. Musleh, Pro Tem  
**SECONDER:**   Brent R. Malever, Council Member  
**AYES:**        Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

- d. Approved** one-year contract renewal with InfoSend, Inc. for municipal bill printing and mailing services with an approximate annual expenditure of \$260,000

Presentation by Peter Brill

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

**RESULT:**       **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**  
**MOVER:**       Justin Grabelle, Council Member  
**SECONDER:**   Matthew Wardell, Council Member  
**AYES:**        Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

## 9. 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.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jay A. Musleh, Pro Tem
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Brent R. Malever, Council Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

- a. **Adopted Budget Resolution 2019-132** to repay an interfund loan back to the Electric Fund from the Ocala International Airport Fund for the airport terminal construction, and amending the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget to appropriate the funding in the amount of \$71,399

Presentation by Tammi Haslam

- b. **Adopted Budget Resolution 2019-133** to appropriate funds for improvements to SW 38th Avenue in accordance with the Broadmoor Oaks Concurrency Development Agreement in the amount of \$78,654

Presentation by Tammi Haslam

- c. **Adopted Budget Resolution 2019-134** to appropriate funds from the West Ocala Sub-Area of the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) for the purchase of property in the amount of \$69,500

Presentation by Tammi Haslam

- d. **Approved** appointment of Adam Lombardo and reappointment of Carolyn Adams and Ruth Reed to new four-year terms ending March 1, 2023 on the Brownfields Advisory Committee

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

- e. **Approved** reappointment of Jaye Baillie to a new four-year term ending March 1, 2023 on the Downtown Ocala Redevelopment Advisory Committee

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

- f. **Approved** reappointment of John Gamache to a new four-year term ending March 1, 2023 on the East Ocala Redevelopment Advisory Committee

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

- g. **Approved** reappointment of Pamela Calero to fill a new three-year term ending March 1, 2022 for the Municipal Arts Commission

Presentation by Angel Jacobs

- h. **Approved** reappointment of Steve Forrest and Michael Kroitor to new three-year terms ending March 1, 2022 to the Municipal Code Enforcement Board

Presentation by Angel Jacobs

- i. **Approved** reappointment of Ken Kebrdle and Martha Zinn to new four-year terms ending March 1, 2023 on the North Magnolia CRA (Community Redevelopment Area) Advisory Committee

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

- j. Approved** reappointment of Walter Ron Kaylor, Thomas J. McCullough III and Claudia Tatom to new three-year terms ending March 1, 2022 to the Ocala Historic Preservation Advisory Board

Presentation by Angel Jacobs

- k. Approved** reappointment of Dr. Marcia Roberson-Fields and Reginald Landers, Jr., to the Ocala Housing Authority Board for new four-year terms ending March 3, 2023

Presentation by Angel Jacobs

- l. Approved** reappointment of Andrea Ferro and Nathan Gibboney to the Planning and Zoning Commission for new three-year terms ending March 1, 2022

Presentation by Angel Jacobs

- m. Approved** reappointment of Simon Ponder to the Recreation Commission for a new three-year term expiring on March 1, 2022

Presentation by Angel Jacobs

- n. Approved** reappointment of Michael Pape to the Ocala Tree Commission for a new four-year term ending March 1, 2023

Presentation by Angel Jacobs

- o. Approved** appointment of Adam Lombardo, Tyler Jones and reappointment of Ruth Reed to new four-year terms ending March 1, 2023 on the West Ocala Redevelopment Advisory Committee

Presentation by Tye Chighizola

- p. Approved** Labor Attorney invoices for the month of December 2018 in the amount of \$4,251.95

Presentation by Jared Sorensen

- q. Approved** City Attorney invoices for January 2019 in the amount of \$95,444.04

Presentation by Patrick G. Gilligan

- r. Approved** Work Session City Council Minutes for Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Presentation by Angel Jacobs

- s. Approved** Regular Meeting City Council Minutes for Tuesday, February 05, 2019

Presentation by Angel Jacobs

## **10. Consent Agenda Items Held for Discussion**

Should any items be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion, they will be discussed

at this time.

## **11. Introduction and First Reading of Ordinances**

(Second and Final Reading - None)

## **12. Internal Auditor's Report - None**

## **13. City Manager's Report**

### **a. City's 150th anniversary logo revisions**

Strategic & Legislative Affairs Administrator Jeannine Robbins presented the three updated logo options to Council. Page 1 there were no revisions. Page 2 there was a request to update colors and font size.

Council President Rich questioned where the logo would appear. Ms. Robbins replied on banners, stationary, the mobile stage and other areas. There will be options in the style guide depending on the background colors. Majority of Council choose the Page 1 design.

**Sean Lanier and Bill Kauffman traveled to Tallahassee to present the City of Ocala's Water & Sewer projects and received a unanimous vote for three projects totaling \$1,708,000**

**City Council Work Session Scheduled for Thursday March 28, 2019 at 12:00 concerning Homeless Prevention and Indigent Assistance.**

**Marion County is celebrating their 175th Anniversary at the Fort King National Historic Park on Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. In addition to Council Member Malever, they are requesting another representative from Council.**

**Approved City Attorney to draft a letter to start process to take over the Communication Center Services for the City of Ocala effective September 30, 2019**

City Manager Zobler provided facts around how the Communications Center came about. He also discussed concerns around quality, accuracy and timeliness of calls taken for both the Ocala Fire Department and Ocala Police Department (OPD). These deficiencies may be attributable to inadequate staffing, need for training, software/hardware issues and internal management of the Center's incoming call processes and data records. The County has requested 90 days to cure these issues. Mr. Zobler provided staff's recommendation if Council would like to allow for a cure period.

City Manager Zobler requested direction from Council on how they would like to proceed.

Council President Rich asked why the City would get out of the agreement. City Manager Zobler discussed the communication issues around dispatched services, along with the accuracy of that information.



Council Member Grabelle commented on how serious this situation is and how it impacts residents. He spoke about an incident where 911 calls were not answered.

Council President Rich does not want to extend the agreement. She expressed the need to get out of the agreement and allow Fire and OPD handle the calls. This needs to be fixed now.

Council Member Grabelle pointed out there is a shortage of staffing, and he is not sure from a budgetary perspective how that is impacted. City Manager Zobler stated the County is asking for a 90-day period to resolve these issues.

Council Member Rich questioned if this can be fixed 90 days. Chief James Banta with Marion County Fire Rescue explained it needs to be looked at where the actual issues are. He is confident they will identify the challenges and set out a corrective action plan to address any challenges. Marion County Public Safety Communications does not have enough call takers. He explained the current phone tree process. The 911 call Council Member Grabelle mentioned rolled over to OPD. He is confident issues will be identified and there will be a plan in place within 90 days to address any concerns.

Council President Rich asked if there is a plan to hire more call takers. Chief Banta responded 4 new employees were just hired, and there are still about 10 vacancies. They are also working with the Sheriff's Office to help streamline processes. The current abandonment rate is about 7%, and if not answered that means OPD needs to answer it. The goal is 2%. There are benchmarks to help determine how many people need to be hired.

Council President Rich questioned why 9 people cannot be trained at one time. Chief Banta explained the challenge is hiring the number of people needed. Craig Damien Division Chief Marion County Fire Rescue added the training process for Emergency Telecommunicators takes about four months to get someone trained. He spoke about the details of the training and certifications required.

Council Member Wardell asked what caused a lack of staff right now. Mr. Damien explained it's two-fold; staffing is an issue everywhere and they have had a couple retirements and medical reasons with current staff. Chief Banta added they can hire people off the street, they just need to get the information out there.

Mayor Guinn mentioned there is a Committee that meets to review any issues with the Communications Center. Chief Banta stated there is an Operations Committee and an Administrative Committee. This is another possible failure. These meetings have not occurred in approximately a year.

Mayor Guinn pointed out these problems have been ongoing. He expressed his concern over how serious these issues are. This is not only the City of Ocala that is in danger, this is a health safety and welfare issue for so many more.

Council President Rich stated she is on the Committee, and they have met within the last year.

Fire Chief Shane Alexander stated Chief Banta appropriately outlined the issues. As part of the contract, there was a 5-year CIP Improvement Plan, that led to hardware and software issues. He explained calls were being transferred to a gatekeeper, and due to being short staffed there were 2 to 3-minute delays. This may have been addressed already.

Council Member Musleh is in favor of a cure period. The City of Ocala is a partner with the County.

Council President Rich asked Chief Graham for his view on this. Police Chief Greg Graham stated OPD's biggest issue is lack of staff and calls rolling over to OPD. This starts a whirlwind effect, and OPD is answering more medical calls than law calls. In January, OPD answered over 314 of the County's 911 calls, the County answered 144 of OPD 911 calls. OPD should be about one third of the size of the County's.

Mayor Guinn requested Chief Graham's opinion on hiring concerns the City would face and the importance of having a sworn office at the Communications Center. Chief Graham explained it takes about six months to get staff hired and trained. It's important to have the right staff, attitude and culture in place. Operational members should oversee everything because they have that hands on, real life experience.

Mayor Guinn feels this is a health, safety and welfare issue. He recommends immediate change.

Chief Alexander explained Chief Banta does acknowledge there is a problem, which is a step in the right direction compared to previous leadership.

Council Member Wardell asked Chief Banta if he is confident financial resources will be made available to meet these needs. Chief Banta replied he will make recommendations and it's up to the governing body. He is confident he can get the staff needed. He hesitates for Council to make a decision at this point without identifying what the problems are.

Chief Graham stated that the 911 call Council Member Grabelle mentioned did not come in to OPD.

Council Member Grabelle asked City Manager Zobler his opinion and if it has gotten worse over time. City Manager Zobler heard from staff this has been going on for some time.

Council President Rich asked how long this has been an issue. Chief Graham stated the staffing issue has been going on since the existence of the Communications Center.

Council Member Grabelle wants to make sure the City takes ownership of the City's problems.

Mayor Guinn spoke about an issue he had with a suspicious person outside of his house, and the call went to the County and it was determined not to be an emergency. This has been going on for seven years and it needs to change.

Council Member Malever had a similar problem with a 911 call. It's obvious this was not done properly from the start. The County is not getting the backing and support. The City is willing to pay for it, to help the citizens of Ocala. He would support a shorter cure period than 90 days.

Council President Rich suggested a motion to take action on this.

Assistant City Attorney Robert Batsel Jr. discussed the many parts that need to be considered with the Interlocal Agreement.

Council Member Wardell made a motion requesting the City Attorney draft a letter to take back the Communication Center control in the City by September 30, 2019.

Council Member Wardell feels there is no gray area and does not feel a cure period is appropriate in this case.

Council President Rich pointed out everything happened before Chief Banta's time. Chief Banta understands the City's decision and he feels confident the County could handle the job.

Council Member Malever asked if the City takes over, would they still monitor the County. Chief Graham explained nothing changes with the two Communication Centers. The Fire Dispatch position moves from the County to the City. The City will still backup the County, and the County will still backup the City.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [4 TO 1]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Matthew Wardell, Council Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Justin Grabelle, Council Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich
<b>NAYS:</b>	Musleh

## 14. Mayor's/Police Department Report

### Police Chief Greg Graham - Opioid Update

There have been 23 overdoses, 4 deaths and 3 saved with Narcan. To date, 55 people have participated in the Amnesty Program.

Council President Rich asked if there will be a State Committee. Chief Graham responded in the affirmative. He explained the city needs money for treatment plans.

Council Member Rich questioned if there are homeless participating in the Amnesty Program. Chief Graham responded in the affirmative.

**Mayor Guinn reported on a panhandling case the City won**

Council President Rich does not feel Ocala Police Department should arrest homeless that are just sleeping.

Mayor Guinn explained in one case, an individual was three blocks from Salvation Army and they would have let him in.

Mayor Guinn requested Chief Graham to provide an update on the Street Sweeper project. Chief Graham stated there were 174 arrests and provided the number of arrests by criteria.

Council President Rich questioned how many arrested for murder. Chief Graham stated there have been a few.

Council President Rich feels if homeless are in the bushes and you can't see them, that should not be considered public lodging.

**Fire Chief Shane Alexander - Opioid Update**

There has been 1 death and 6 saved with Narcan. The Fire Department received 200 doses of Narcan from a grant through the Department of Health.

**15. City Attorney's Report**

- a. **Approved** Engagement Letter with Attorney Martin Friedman and the firm of Dean, Mead, Egerton, Bloodworth, Capouano & Bozarth, P.A. for legal services concerning the City's creation of an Extraterritorial Water and Wastewater Service Area pursuant to Chapter 180, Florida Statutes

Presentation by Assistant City Attorney Robert Batsel Jr.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jay A. Musleh, Pro Tem
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Brent R. Malever, Council Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Musleh, Grabelle, Malever, Wardell, Rich

## 16. Informational Items

- a. Calendaring Items
- b. Comments by Mayor

**Mayor Guinn mention Wildwood is taking portables from schools and refurbishing them for the homeless**

To date, there have been about 37 completed.

Council President Rich asked where they are being placed. Mayor Guinn was unsure.

### Comments by Council Members

**Council Member Malever stated Seattle is making small houses to sleep one or two people, which is another option for homeless.**

**Council President Rich spoke about the fantastic employees that work in the City of Ocala. Employees are dedicated and make the City a great place to live.**

- c. Informational

1. Power Cost Adjustment Report - January 2019
2. Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Annual Report
3. Executed Contracts Under \$50,000.00

## 17. Adjournment

**Adjourned at 5:45 p.m.**

### Minutes

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Mary S. Rich

Council President

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Angel B. Jacobs

City Clerk