

1 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council of the City of Orange City, Florida, held  
2 on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, 201 N. Holly Avenue, Orange City.

3  
4 **CALL TO ORDER**

5  
6 The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Blair and roll call was taken.  
7

8 **ROLL CALL**

9  
10 **PRESENT:** Mayor Gary A. Blair; Vice Mayor Bill O'Connor; Council Members: O. William (Bill)  
11 Crippen, Jim Mahoney, Kelli Marks, Martin Harper, Jeff Allebach; City Attorney William Reischmann;  
12 City Manager Dale Arrington; City Clerk Gloria Thomas.

13  
14 **ABSENT:** None at this time  
15

16 **INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

17  
18 The Invocation was given by Reverend Phyllis Bartle-St. Jude's Episcopal Church followed by the Pledge  
19 of Allegiance.  
20

21 **1. ABSENCES:**

22  
23 None at this time  
24

25 **2. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:**

26  
27 **A. Proclamation West Volusia NAACP Day**  
28

29 Mayor Blair read a proclamation into the record recognizing June 29, 2019 as West Volusia NAACP day in  
30 Orange City and urged all citizens to recognize this organization. Michael Williams, President of the West  
31 Volusia NAACP branch, came forward to accept the Proclamation.  
32

33 **B. Presentation FY 2019/20 Citizen Budget Input Session/Workshop**  
34

35 Christine Davis, Finance Director, provided a Citizen Budget Input Session. She referred to a PowerPoint  
36 presentation (a copy of which is attached and becomes a permanent part of these minutes) that discussed the  
37 budget process. Ms. Davis advised that the purpose of this presentation is to solicit public input regarding  
38 budget priorities for the coming fiscal year in compliance with the requirements of the City Charter.  
39

40 Ms. Davis explained the nature of city government budgeting. She defined the budget as a plan of revenue  
41 estimates and forecasts which take into consideration the level of services provided to the citizenry. Ms.  
42 Davis noted that every city is different, from the services provided to the tax base. She stated that Orange  
43 City's residential tax base portion is approximately 20%, while Deltona's and DeBary's residential tax base  
44 portion is 80%.  
45

1 Ms. Davis stated that the budget is formed based on estimations and forecasts. From there, service levels  
2 are developed resulting in a balance between revenues and services. She noted that the fiscal year would  
3 run from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.

4  
5 Ms. Davis reported that the population estimate in 2009 was 10,200 and the City has increased to under  
6 12,000 in 2018. She noted that the dip in population between 2017 and 2018 was due to the closing of a  
7 mobile home park.

8  
9 Ms. Davis reported that January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year the tax roll is established. On or before June 1<sup>st</sup> the City  
10 holds a budget input session and the property appraiser will issue a preliminary tax roll by July 1<sup>st</sup>. The City  
11 will use the preliminary tax roll to develop the budget which will be published by August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.  
12 A budget workshop will be held in August and two public hearings in September prior to budget adoption.

13  
14 Ms. Davis noted that the property tax is currently at 8.034 mils. She noted the multitude of exemptions  
15 available. The roll back rate is the millage rate that would produce the same amount of revenue as the  
16 previous year and is often referred to as the revenue neutral rate. She noted the primary sources of revenue  
17 and expenditures and operating expenses.

18  
19 Ms. Davis opened the floor to the public for discussion.

20  
21 Bob Storke, 1122 E. Wisconsin Ave., came forward and suggested funding in the budget for a national Step  
22 it Up Program and a Central Florida Resilience Action Program.

23  
24 Anthony Pupello, 702 Montclair Terr., stated that continued improvement to the City's roads and funding  
25 for sidewalks is a need.

26  
27 Ms. Davis provided a preliminary FY 2019/20 Budget Review. She noted the accomplishments and the  
28 budget goal. She stated that the objectives were to maintain all existing personnel, remain a full service city  
29 and fund recurring capital. She discussed the FY 2019/20 building block revenues and expenditures.

30  
31 Ms. Davis reported that revenues over expenses, before funding capital, equals \$1,178,445. Ms. Davis  
32 continued to discuss preliminary projections for expenditures and revenues for FY 2019/20. She reported  
33 that the preliminary numbers show that the City has accomplished the stated goal of funding recurring  
34 capital between \$250,000 and \$500,000 at this time.

35  
36 Next, Ms. Davis listed the items not included in the budget but which staff would like to be able to fund as  
37 providing a cost of living adjustment (COLA), new positions and Council discretionary items. She stated  
38 that the preliminary projections show roughly a \$13.3 million balanced budget. She stated that in regard to  
39 capital expenses, the initial request is at \$1,277,000. Ms. Davis concluded her presentation and opened the  
40 floor for questions.

41  
42 Ms. Arrington added that Ms. Davis presented a "pre-preliminary" budget. She explained that tax roll  
43 information has not yet been received from the property appraiser.

1 Council Member Mahoney asked if the underlined millage rate was included in the “pre-preliminary”. Ms.  
 2 Davis responded it would not be a millage rate but a 5.5% increase over last years. Ms. Arrington clarified  
 3 that a millage rate has not been projected at this time, only a projection of growth.

4  
 5 Council Member Allebach encouraged the members of the community to give their opinions on the budget.  
 6 He stated that improvements for roads and sidewalks were imperative for citizen’s walkability safety.

7  
 8 **3. CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

9  
 10 Shari Simmons, West Volusia Regional Chamber of Commerce, announced a new board member, Rob  
 11 Denninger, President and CEO of Advent Health in Orange City. She thanked those that attended the Valor  
 12 Awards ceremony. She announced that Ms. Mendez and Ms. Arrington attended an USDOT meeting that  
 13 discussed available grants. Ms. Simmons thanked council members for their assistance with her car after  
 14 the last City Council meeting.

15  
 16 **4. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 17  
 18 A. Sponsorship Request - Fee Waiver for “Family Fun Event”  
 19 B. Parks and Recreation Division Part-Time Position  
 20 C. Sparkman Ridge Final Plat for Compass Landing Subdivision -Resolution No. 944-19  
 21 D. Ratification of Emergency Purchase Order Log  
 22 E. Approve Minutes, May 14, 2019 Regular Meeting

23  
 24 Council Member Crippen asked that Agenda Item 4A be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

25  
 26 **Council Member Mahoney moved to approve Consent Agenda Items B-E,**  
 27 **seconded by Vice Mayor O’Connor, the motion passed by unanimous voice vote**  
 28 **of the City Council.**

29  
 30 Council Member Crippen advised that he requested this item be pulled to discuss it. He asked if any other  
 31 organizations were involved with the “Family Fun Event.”

32  
 33 Cindy Tocci, representative for The Journey, responded that University High School was the other  
 34 organization involved.

35  
 36 Council Member Marks asked if this was a closed event or open to the public. Ms. Tocci responded that the  
 37 event was open to the public.

38  
 39 Ashley Gay, Parks and Recreation Director, reiterated that this was an in-kind request for the full use of  
 40 Valentine Park. Ms. Gay stated that the Journey is asking all fees are waived for renting the pavilion and  
 41 the banner permit.

42  
 43 **Council Member Crippen moved to approve Consent Agenda Item A, seconded**  
 44 **by Council Member Allebach, the motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the**  
 45 **City Council.**

1 **5. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:**

2  
3 None at this time

4  
5 **6. PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES-SECOND READING:**

- 6  
7 A. **Ordinance 616** An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Orange City, Florida,  
8 amending sections of Chapter 17.3 – Utilities of the Code of Ordinance of the City  
9 of Orange City, Florida; repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict  
10 herewith; and providing for an effective date.

11  
12 Mr. Reischmann read the title of Ordinance No. 616 into the record. Mr. Reischmann noted that this item  
13 was a legislative matter.

14  
15 Migdalia Hernandez, Public Works Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation (a copy of which is  
16 attached and becomes a permanent part of these minutes.) Ms. Hernandez noted that this amendment  
17 explains the backflow and cross connection control program, which is a State requirement, to protect the  
18 public potable water supply from potential contamination from pollutants.

19  
20 Ms. Hernandez stated no changes have been made since first reading and that staff recommended Council  
21 approve Ordinance No. 616 at second and final reading.

22  
23 Mayor Blair opened the public hearing by asking if anyone wanted to speak for or against the proposed  
24 ordinance, no one appeared. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

25  
26 **Council Member Mahoney moved to approve Ordinance No. 616, seconded by**  
27 **Council Member Crippen and motion passed by 7/0 roll call vote of the City**  
28 **Council.**

29  
30 **7. RESOLUTIONS:**

31  
32 None at this time.

33  
34 **8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION:**

- 35  
36 A. Conservation efforts to provide supportive habitats for the Monarch Butterfly

37  
38 Ms. Gay came forward and introduced Cahli Masiarczyk, Construction Project Coordinator. Ms. Gay  
39 provided a PowerPoint presentation (a copy of which is attached and becomes a permanent part of these  
40 minutes). Ms. Gay discussed the steps necessary for a municipality to become a Monarch City.

41  
42 Ms. Gay provided a description of a Monarch butterfly, their migration patterns, habitats, as well as the  
43 milkweed and nectar plants, which they rely on for food.

44

1 Ms. Gay explained what it means for a city to have the title of a “Monarch City,” the benefits to the Monarch  
2 Butterfly, estimated annual fees and the requirements for the habitat.

3  
4 Council Member Crippen advised that he and the DeLand Garden Club are willing to help maintain the  
5 Monarch habitat. He noted that he was in favor of this item.

6  
7 Council Member O’Connor, asked if the area around Mill Lake was a consideration. Ms. Gay responded  
8 that ideally Dickinson Park would be a prime candidate.

9  
10 Council Member Harper suggested postponing funding of this item until July, closer to when the budget  
11 discussions begin.

12  
13 Council Member Marks noted the Village Improvement Association (VIA) had considered a Monarch  
14 habitat in Dickinson Park and would be willing to volunteer. She stated that Dickinson Park would be a  
15 better location.

16  
17 Council Member Allebach felt the cost was irrelevant at this time. He stated that he supports this item.

18  
19 Mayor Blair asked if milkweed plants are annual or perennial. Ms. Gay responded perennial.

20  
21 **Council Member Allebach moved to allow the City Manager to proceed with the**  
22 **application to join the Monarch City program and prepare a budget amendment**  
23 **for \$1,150.00 for Council’s consideration at the next scheduled Council meeting,**  
24 **seconded by Council Member Harper, the motion passed by a 7/0 roll call vote of**  
25 **the City Council.**

26  
27 B. Charter Amendment/Council District Voting

28  
29 Becky Mendez, Development Services Director, delivered a PowerPoint presentation (a copy of which is  
30 attached and becomes a permanent part of these minutes.) Ms. Mendez recalled that on January 22, 2019,  
31 the City Council directed staff to provide information on a potential charter amendment regarding districts  
32 and voting.

33  
34 Ms. Mendez advised that any change in voting regulations must comply with the Voting Rights Act. A  
35 change on a local level would require a Charter amendment and the following regulations to protect both  
36 racial and language minority voting rights. She stated that voting by district allows sufficiently large groups  
37 of racial or language minorities to elect their preferred representative.

38  
39 Ms. Mendez recommended Council discuss and choose one of the three options;

- 40 1. Adopt an Ordinance initiating a charter amendment to be submitted to the voters at an election to
- 41 change from district-level voting to citywide voting for each district
- 42 2. Establish a charter review committee that would make recommendations to the City Council about
- 43 what to put in front of the voters.
- 44 3. Take no action at this time, as the population projections are based on 2010 Census data.

45 Council Member Marks stated that she feels the decision should be left to the citizens.

1 Mr. Reischmann clarified that under options one and two a Charter amendment would go through a  
2 referendum to the voters.

3  
4 Ms. Arrington gave a detailed description of the process.

5  
6 Council Member Harper stated it is a benefit for each Council member to be assigned to a district. He  
7 recommended Council choose option three.

8  
9 Council Member Allebach agreed with Council Member Harper.

10  
11 Council Member Crippen stated that he enjoys serving the entire City however, he also feels that individual  
12 districts are necessary.

13  
14 Vice Mayor O'Connor stated that his district includes a lot of apartment complexes. He noted that he is  
15 neutral pertaining this matter.

16  
17 Council Member Mahoney stated that the adoption of districts was done primarily in response to a desire to  
18 spread leadership among the entire City. To limit leadership concentration out of a concern that a single  
19 area could control the Council results in a narrow, less than citywide focus. Council Member Mahoney  
20 stated he is not proposing that the City get rid of districts.

21  
22 Council Member Mahoney stated that he believes in the concept of diverse leadership. He said that he was  
23 motivated by his concern the Council is focusing on just their districts and not the City as a whole. He stated  
24 that for him it is the citizenry having a voice and all Council members being accountable to the City.

25  
26 Council Member Harper commented that the Council does a great job at representing the people, each  
27 district and by having at-large representatives.

28  
29 A lengthy conversation ensued between Council pertaining the districts voting matter.

30  
31 Mayor Blair stated that he agrees with Council Member Mahoney. He noted that he has never been a  
32 proponent of districts. He stated that he is in favor of bringing forward an ordinance and putting the vote to  
33 the voters.

34  
35 David Seaman, 956 E. Lansdowne, came forward and stated that Council should keep the voting process  
36 the same.

37  
38 Anthony Pupello, 702 Montclair Terr., came forward and suggested Council give the citizens the  
39 opportunity to voice their opinions on how they would like to be represented.

40  
41 Shawn Pupello, 702 Montclair Terr., came forward and recommended that council allow the citizens to  
42 voice their opinions. She stated that opening up to citywide voting will possibly give others the opportunity  
43 to run for office.

44

1           **Council Member Harper moved to authorize staff to bring forward an Ordinance**  
2           **initiating a Charter amendment to be submitted to the voters at an election to**  
3           **change from district-level voting to citywide voting for each district, seconded by**  
4           **Council Member Mahoney.**

5  
6 Council Member O'Connor inquired about the process of changing from five districts to four.

7  
8 Mr. Reischmann clarified the district voting process in order to provide a better understanding of why staff  
9 presented Council with the three options.

10  
11 A discussion ensued between Council clarifying the district voting process.

12  
13           **Motion passed by a 7/0 roll call vote.**

14  
15 **9. REPORTS:**

16  
17           A. City Manager

18  
19 Ms. Arrington reported that she will be attending the Florida City/County Manager Association meeting for  
20 the remainder of the week. She announced the Florida League of Cities Conference in mid-August. A  
21 designee voting delegate needs to be decided on. She recommended delegating the Mayor. The Council  
22 agreed to appoint the Mayor. She requested Council view the Friday Communications to get familiar with  
23 several meetings scheduled in the summer.

24  
25           B. City Clerk

26  
27 No report at this time.

28  
29           C. City Attorney

30  
31 No report at this time.

32  
33 **10. NEW BUSINESS:**

34  
35 None at this time.

36  
37 **11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** See Consent Agenda

38  
39 **12. COUNCIL & MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

40  
41 Council Member Mahoney stated, "thank you, Council."

42  
43 Vice Mayor O'Connor reported that he attended the Valor Awards. He announced the employees that were  
44 recognized; Lt. Shields, saved an attempted suicide in Alaska, Fire Fighter, Ryan Cassis, Firefighter of the

1 year, Detective Ken Jones and Sherif El-Shami received the bronze medal award, Hector Almeda for police  
2 officer of the year. He stated a job well done for the fire and police officers.

3  
4 Vice Mayor O'Connor reported that he attended the grand opening at Checkers, The Palace Recording  
5 Studios, Volusia League of Cities, and the Youth Advisory Council meeting.

6  
7 Council Member Crippen reported that he attended the ribbon cutting at Checkers and the grand opening  
8 for the Gallery charter school in Lake Helen. He thanked Council for deciding to make the City a Monarch  
9 City.

10  
11 Council Member Allebach apologized for missing a few events. He stated that there are great things  
12 happening in Orange City. He reported that a street safe plan is due in June to the TPO. He reported that  
13 funds have been added into the general fund of the TPO.

14  
15 Council Member Harper stated that the right way is to have the people decide what they would like  
16 concerning the district voting process.

17  
18 Council Member Marks reported that she attended the University High School awards. The VIA presented  
19 Fire Cadet Captain Megan Perkins with an award. Council Member Marks attended the Valor Awards and  
20 the Volusia League of Cities dinner. She invited everyone to attend the VIA Gala 5:00 p.m. on July 13 at the  
21 Sorosis Club.

22  
23 Mayor Blair reported that he attended the Volusia League of Cities Distinguish Service Awards, the First  
24 Responders Valor awards, the Palace ribbon cutting. He was moved by the Youth Advisory Council  
25 meeting. He looks forward to what they have to present.

26  
27 Mayor Blair advised that he will entertain a motion to adjourn.

28  
29 **Council Member Crippen moved to adjourn the City Council meeting, seconded**  
30 **by Council Member Allebach, the meeting was adjourned by a unanimous voice**  
31 **vote of the City Council.**

32  
33 **13. ADJOURN:**

34  
35 There being no further business, Mayor Blair adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

36  
37 **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

38  
39 \_\_\_\_\_  
40 Melani Beringer  
41 CMC, Deputy City Clerk

**APPROVED ON:**

06-11-2019  
Date