

OCOEE CITY COMMISSION

Ocoee Commission Chambers
1 N. Bluford Avenue
Ocoee, Florida

April 15, 2025

MINUTES

6:15 PM

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

• CALL TO ORDER 6:15 PM

Mayor Johnson called the regular session to order at 6:15 PM in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. The invocation was led by **Ages Hart**, *Ocoee Resident*, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by **Commissioner Firstner**. **Deputy City Clerk Parks** called the roll and declared a quorum present.

Present: Mayor Johnson, Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner Wilsen, Commissioner Firstner

Absent: Commissioner Oliver

Also Present: City Manager Shadrix, City Attorney Geller, and Deputy Clerk Parks

• PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS 6:17 PM

2025 Arbor Day Proclamation

Read and proclaimed by **Mayor Johnson**; accepted by **Parks Operations Manager Abdo**.

2025 Drop Savers Water Conservation Poster Contest Winners

Utilities Director Bolling gave a brief overview of the contest and recognized the first, second, and third-place winners in each division, who were then presented with gifts and took photos with the Mayor and City Commissioners. Participants included students from Thornbrooke Elementary School.

• STAFF REPORTS AND AGENDA REVIEW 6:27 PM

City Manager Shadrix announced that the City has reached a tentative agreement with Down to Earth for the Interim Operator of the Forest Lake Golf Course and is awaiting the signed document. He requested that the Commission allow Item #3 to remain on the Consent Agenda and amend the Staff Recommendation to authorize the City Attorney and City Manager to execute the agreement in its final form.

Motion: Move to approve Consent Agenda Item #3, with the amended Staff Recommendation that the City Attorney and City Manager be authorized to execute the agreement in its final form; Moved by Commissioner Firstner, seconded by Commissioner Wilsen; Motion carried 4-0, with Commissioner Oliver absent.

City Manager Shadrix requested to pull Item #10 from the agenda at the Developer's request. He also announced that a tentative agreement has been reached with Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) concerning the School Resource Officer contract, which will be presented to

Regular City Commission

April 15, 2025

the Commission for consideration and approval at a future City Commission meeting. He further expressed gratitude to everyone involved in the negotiation process.

• PUBLIC COMMENTS 6:31 PM

The following persons addressed the City Commission:

- **Kellie Beck**, *Human Relations Diversity Board Chair*, extended an invitation to City leaders, staff, and residents to attend the Board's upcoming meeting on May 1, 2025, at 6:15 PM. There will be a guest speaker from UCF who will facilitate a workshop to discuss enhancing accessibility to build community.
- **Tolulope "Sara" Edwards**, *United States Small Business Administration*, advised that the disaster loan program deadline has been extended until April 27, 2025. Anyone who suffered structural, property, or economic loss or damage due to the recent hurricanes can apply, including homeowners, renters, non-profits, and businesses. She provided loan details and website information.
- **George Morning**, *CEO, Small Business Advocates of Central Florida*, discussed small businesses in the City of Ocoee, and opportunities afforded to small businesses by his organization.
- **Jim Moyer**, *Orange Soil & Water Conservation District 2 Supervisor*, announced that the Orange County Board of County Commissioners is accepting applications for a vacant District Supervisor seat, and encouraged citizens to get involved. He also explained that Intergovernmental Affairs Bill CS/HB 973, currently in the Florida House, would disband 35 of 47 Soil & Water Conservation Districts in the State, if passed. He then announced that the American Legion is sending an Ocoee High School student to Florida State University in Tallahassee for the 90th Anniversary of the American Legion Boy's State leadership program. He further expressed gratitude to everyone who helped make this happen.
- **Nate Robertson**, *Ocoee Resident*, thanked the City of Ocoee for their efforts to take over and revitalize Ocoee Little League. He also brought attention to the low voter turnout in the recent municipal election and encouraged residents to be engaged in the local community and the City as a whole.

• CONSENT AGENDA 6:45 PM

Consent Agenda Motion

Motion: Move to pull Agenda Item #10 and adopt Consent Agenda Items #1-2 and #4-9; Moved by Commissioner Wilsen, seconded by Commissioner Firstner; Motion carried 4-0.

1. Approval of Minutes from the Regular City Commission Meeting held April 1, 2025. **(City Clerk Sibbitt)**
2. Notification of Initial Two-Year Term Ending for Two (2) District Members, One (1) At-Large Member, and One (1) Vacancy on the Human Relations Diversity Board. **(Deputy City Clerk Parks)**
3. Approval of a Management Agreement with SSS Down To Earth OPCO LLC, for Interim Operator of Forest Lake Golf Course. **(Assistant City Manager Rumer)**
4. Approval of a Two-Year Warranty Surety Bond and Maintenance, Materials, and Workmanship Agreement for SFG Ocoee Owner, LP for the 409 Business Park, 409 Ocoee Apopka Rd. **(Development Engineer Keaton)**
5. Approval to Terminate Contract #23-010 with Kimley-Horn & Associates to Update the

Regular City Commission

April 15, 2025

City's Land Development Code. **(Development Services Director Ginger)**

6. Approval to Trade in Older Firearms for Credit Towards the Purchase of New Rifles. **(Police Chief Ogburn)**
7. Approval of Award of RFP 25-003 Pest Control and Fertilization Services for Athletic Fields. **(Procurement Manager Tolbert)**
8. Approval to Surplus and Replace Stand-by Generators for Ocoee Fire Stations. **(Assistant Public Works Director Gajadhar)**
9. Approval of Purchase of FY 2024-2025 Budgeted Vehicle. **(Assistant Public Works Director Gajadhar)**
10. Approval of the Agreement between the City of Ocoee and Fullers Crossing 429, LLC. **(Utilities Director Bolling)**

• **FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE** - None

• **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE – PUBLIC HEARING 6:46 PM**

11. Second Reading of Ordinance for FY 2025 Budget Amendment. **(Chief Accountant Meruena)**

Chief Accountant Meruena explained the specific proposed budget amendments.

City Attorney Geller read the title of the ordinance.

The public hearing was opened. As no one wished to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Kennedy asked for clarification on the impact of this proposed budget amendment, and **Chief Accountant Meruena** gave a brief explanation of the purpose of the amendment. **City Manager Shadrix** clarified that this budget amendment will not increase taxes - the tax rate will remain the same.

Mayor Johnson inquired about the status of medical insurance, and **City Manager Shadrix** responded that he is still in the process of conducting a thorough review.

Motion: Move to Adopt Ordinance 2025-05 FY 2025 Budget Amendment; Moved by Commissioner Firstner, seconded by Commissioner Kennedy; Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Oliver absent.

• **PUBLIC HEARING 6:52 PM**

12. First Reading Transmittal and Public Hearing of an Ordinance for Envision 2045 Ocoee Comprehensive Plan - Large Scale Plan Amendment to Replace Ocoee's Comprehensive Plan in its Entirety. **(Zoning Manager Whitfield)**

City Manager Shadrix provided a brief overview of the Envision 2045 Ocoee Comprehensive Plan and explained how its update will positively impact the City.

Zoning Manager Whitfield presented an overview of Envision 2045, the updated Ocoee Comprehensive Plan, which is organized into the following chapters: *Chapter 1*: Introduction, *Chapter 2*: Vibrant, Attractive & Inclusive Community, *Chapter 3*: Efficient, Reliable & Well-Maintained Infrastructure, *Chapter 4*: Safe & Convenient Mobility, *Chapter 5*: Environment-

Regular City Commission

April 15, 2025

Friendly, Resilient & Sustainable Community, and *Chapter 6: Responsible, Accessible & Open Governance*. **Zoning Manager Whitfield** briefly explained each chapter's purpose, goals, policies, and objectives.

Commissioner Wilsen expressed her appreciation and thanked City staff for the job well done. She specifically highlighted the anticipated bike and pedestrian plan, noting the improvements it offers compared to the current plan.

Commissioner Firstner also gave kudos to City staff and thanked them for the job well done. He expressed his appreciation for the plan's clean layout and easy navigation.

Commissioner Kennedy expressed his admiration for the metrics incorporated throughout the plan and praised City staff for the excellent work they are doing.

Mayor Johnson commended City staff for their excellent work and suggested creating a City library or a similar facility where residents could review the plan in person. He also highlighted the importance of citizen and roadway safety. **City Manager Shadrix** noted that there have been discussions about holding a community open house before the plan's final adoption. **Commissioner Kennedy** added that the plan is currently available on the City's website in the Agenda Center.

City Attorney Geller praised City staff on a job well done and clarified that the current plan remained in effect until the new one is officially adopted. He then read the title of the ordinance.

The public hearing was opened.

The following persons addressed the City Commission:

- **Doug Gomber**, *Ocoee Resident*, inquired if copies of the plan would be available at City Hall for citizens to check out and return when they're finished reviewing. **City Manager Shadrix** responded that staff could make approximately six (6) copies initially to gauge demand. He also emphasized that the lobby area of the Development Services Department was designed as a resource space for citizens and encouraged them to take advantage of it.
- **Jim Moyer**, *Ocoee Resident*, asked why the year 2045 was selected and **Zoning Manager Whitfield** provided an explanation.
- **Chris Chambers**, *Ocoee Resident*, inquired about the historical sites section of the plan, specifically regarding the Hallowed Ground site, which is located within his subdivision. **Zoning Manager Whitfield** stated that objective six (6) of the plan was added to preserve and protect historic structures and sites, in which the Hallowed Ground is among the list of historic sites listed.

The public hearing was closed.

Motion: Move to approve an Ordinance for Envision 2045 Ocoee Comprehensive Plan - Large Scale Plan Amendment to Replace Ocoee's Comprehensive Plan in its Entirety and authorize transmittal of the Envision 2045 Comprehensive Plan to the reviewing agencies; Moved by Commissioner Wilsen, seconded by Commissioner Kennedy; motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Oliver absent.

Regular City Commission

April 15, 2025

- **REGULAR AGENDA** - None

Mayor Johnson announced the upcoming City events for the months of April and May 2025.

- **COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS 7:32 PM**

Commissioner Firstner – No further comments. 7:32 PM

Commissioner Wilsen – Commented on the following: 7:33 PM

- 1) Announced the grand opening of Wawa.
- 2) Wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Mayor Johnson – Commented on the following: 7:33 PM

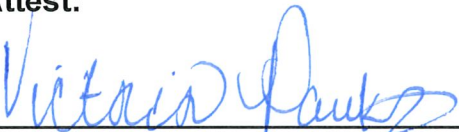
- 1) Announced that Oakland Avenue is open

Commissioner Kennedy – No further comments. 7:33 PM

- **ADJOURNMENT 7:34 PM**

APPROVED:

Attest:



Victoria Parks, Acting City Clerk

City of Ocoee



Rusty Johnson, Mayor