

**MINUTES**  
**OCOEE CITY COMMISSION**  
**FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

**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 **Mayor Johnson**, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by **Commissioner Wilsen**. **City Clerk Sibbitt** called the roll and declared a quorum present.

**Present:** Mayor Johnson, Commissioner Brinson, Commissioner Wilsen, Commissioner Firstner, Commissioner Oliver

**Also Present:** Assistant City Manager Shadrix, City Attorney Cookson, City Clerk Sibbitt

• **PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS 6:16 PM**

**Recognition of Principal Strenth from Prairie Lake Elementary for being named Principal of the Year for OCPS - Orange County School Board Member Melissa Byrd** provided a brief bio of Principal Strenth before recognizing him before the City Commission. **Mayor Johnson** announced he would like to present a proclamation to Principal Strenth, and apologized for not having one prepared for tonight.

• **STAFF REPORTS AND AGENDA REVIEW – None**

• **PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

• **CONSENT AGENDA 6:24 PM**

**Consent Agenda Motion**

**Motion: Move to adopt the Consent Agenda Items #1-3.**

**Moved by Commissioner Oliver, seconded by Commissioner Firstner; Motion carried 5-0.**

1. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular City Commission Meeting held February 7, 2023. **(City Clerk Sibbitt)**
2. Appointment of Members to the 2023 Canvassing Board. **(City Clerk Sibbitt)**
3. Approval of Change Order No. 2 for Contract ITB #21-008 Downtown Master Stormwater Pond & Park. **(Public Works Director Krug)**

• **FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 6:25 PM**

4. First Reading of Ordinance Amending the City of Ocoee Municipal Police Officers' and Firefighters' Retirement Trust Fund. **(Pension Board Attorney Herrera)**

**City Attorney Cookson** read the title of the ordinance and announced this will be presented as a second reading and public hearing at the next scheduled City Commission meeting on March 7, 2023, at 6:15 PM or soon thereafter.

• **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE – PUBLIC HEARING – None**

• **PUBLIC HEARING – None**

• **REGULAR AGENDA 6:26 PM**

**5. Approval of Contract to Purchase 182 N. Lakeshore Drive. (Development Services Director Rumer)**

**Development Services Director Rumer** explained the City's intent on purchasing the residential property located at 182 N. Lakeshore Drive.

**Commissioner Oliver** inquired if the public could speak on this item. **City Attorney Cookson** addressed his question. **Commissioner Brinson** inquired about the adjacent lots and if the City would be interested in purchasing them. **Commissioner Oliver** further inquired what the future plans are for the property and when the music studio across the street would be fully owned by the City. **Development Services Director Rumer** and **Assistant City Manager Shadrix** addressed their questions. **Mayor Johnson** provided some suggestions for use of the property such as a boat ramp or additional parking.

**Motion: Move to approve the Contract to Purchase 182 N. Lakeshore Drive; Moved by Commissioner Wilsen, seconded by Commissioner Firstner; Motion carried 5-0.**

**6. Discussion on Appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission. (City Attorney Cookson)**

**City Attorney Cookson** explained the current vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission and the appointment process of the Planning and Zoning Commission; and further, asked for the City Commission to provide up to two names each to nominate to fill the current vacancy. The City Clerk has requested that if they have a consideration for the vacancy, the names be provided to her by March 3<sup>rd</sup> so this item can be placed on the March 7<sup>th</sup> City Commission Agenda.

**Commissioner Brinson** shared his disagreement on proceeding with this Board appointment since they continued the appointments to the HRDB board until after the Election. **City Attorney Cookson** explained the difference between the two Boards, and the Code requirement for appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

**Planning and Zoning Commission Chair Lomneck** shared that they have an alternate member who could be considered for the current vacancy. **City Attorney Cookson** addressed the scenario proposed and how it would affect the term limits. Brief discussion ensued on the purpose of the alternate member position.

**Motion: Move to proceed with the appointment of a replacement member for the vacant seat to the Planning and Zoning Commission at the March 7<sup>th</sup> City Commission Meeting; and further, request each Elected Official to provide up to two names to the City Clerk by March 3<sup>rd</sup>; Moved by Commissioner Wilsen, seconded by Commissioner Firstner;**

Brief discussion ensued on board appointments to the HRDB.

**After the discussion, motion carried 5-0.**

• **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS / PUBLIC – None**

• **COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS 6:50 PM**

**Commissioner Oliver** – Commented on the following:

- 1) Inquired about the status of the Clarke Road Widening Project and questioned when residents would see dirt moving. He voiced an urgent need to start due to traffic concerns. **Assistant City Manager Shadrix** addressed his questions and provided an update.
- 2) Provided statistics on the number of speeding citations issued along Clarcona Ocoee Road.
- 3) Spoke about recent concerns he has encountered due to the current election cycle, and noted that several of his campaign signs have been damaged. He encouraged residents to behave accordingly and asked all residents to vote.
- 4) Shared a Biblical quote.

**Commissioner Firstner** - Commented on the following:

- 1) Thanked the Woman's Club of Ocoee for hosting the political forum.
- 2) Thanked all involved in the opening of the Wellness Park.
- 3) Announced the Ocoee Music Festival dates.

**Commissioner Wilsen** – Commented on the following:

- 1) Announced the Shred-It Event date, time, and location.
- 2) Shared that she recently spoke to Congressman Daniel Webster's administration regarding Ocoee's ongoing zip code issue and noted that they offered to assist. **Consensus of the City Commission was to allow City staff to contact Congressman Daniel Webster's office for assistance.**

**Commissioner Brinson** - *None*

**Mayor Johnson** – Commented on the following:

- 1) Reiterated traffic concerns on Clarke Road, provided a brief timeline of the road since the commencement of Arden Park, and stressed the need for a turn signal at Clarcona Ocoee Road.
- 2) Reassured Commissioner Oliver that he was not alone, and shared that all candidates are having issues with signs being damaged or removed.
- 3) Addressed two erroneous statements made during the political forum.
- 4) Noted the success of the Chili Cook-off event, and encouraged it to return next year.
- 5) Shared the Election date and requested confirmation on voting locations. **City Clerk Sibbitt** provided the polling location for each district.

• **ADJOURNMENT 7:07 PM**

**APPROVED:**

**Attest:**

**City of Ocoee**

  
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**Melanie Sibbitt, City Clerk**

  
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**Rusty Johnson, Mayor**