



**CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA
PLANNING BOARD WORKSHOP
MARCH 16, 2023
SUMMARY OF BOARD DISCUSSION**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairperson McCoy called the Workshop of the Planning Board for the City of Okeechobee to order on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 6:02 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, located at 55 Southeast Third Avenue, Room 200, Okeechobee, Florida, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ATTENDANCE

Roll was taken by Board Secretary Patty Burnette. Vice Chairperson Doug McCoy, Board Members Phil Baughman, Carl Berlin, Jr., Karyne Brass, Rick Chartier, Mac Jonassaint and Alternate Board Member Jim Shaw were present. Chairperson Dawn Hoover was absent without consent and Alternate Board Member Jon Folbrecht was absent with consent.

III. ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

- A.** Mr. Ben Smith of Morris-Depew Associates, Inc. was present via Zoom as the City's Planner and briefly reviewed the Planning Staff Report regarding the use and regulations for Mobile Food Dispensing Vehicles (MFDVs). This is a term meant to encompass several types of mobile food vendors including food trucks, mobile kitchens, canteen trucks, ice cream trucks and food carts. In 2019, the City Council and the Planning Board conducted a Joint Workshop on the issue of mobile food vendors and determined the City's current Land Development Regulations (LDRs) effectively prohibited MFDVs within the City Limits and did not pursue any changes. In 2020, Governor DeSantis signed into law Senate Bill 474/House Bill 1171, which enacted Florida Statute 509.102. This law preempts local governments from entirely prohibiting MFDVs within their jurisdiction and prohibits local governments from requiring a separate license, registration, permit, or fee, other than what is required through the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation. It is necessary to amend the City's LDRs in order to comply with State law. He reviewed the various regulatory options for the Board to consider, as well as Ordinances from several other governmental organizations.

Discussion among the Board Members included usage of the City's rights-of-way, hours of operation, parking on unimproved surfaces, which zoning districts to allow this use, required parking, restroom facilities, and whether a special event permit should be required.

Consensus from the Board Members was to have Planner Smith prepare a draft ordinance to include definitions for the different classifications of MVDs; identify specific zoning districts such as Heavy Commercial and Industrial, where this use would be permitted on private property and establish operational requirements in those districts; allow for certain classes of MFDVs to operate in public rights-of-way with operational standards; allow for special exception approval and temporary use approval to allow MFDVs in other zoning districts; create supplemental use standards for MFDVs when operating according to special exception approval; and create guidelines for allowance of MFDVs when allowed through a temporary use.

IV. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

- Invited everyone to attend the Town Hall Meeting on March 21, 2023, 6:00 P.M., that will include a Police Department pinning ceremony and the State of the City Address.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairperson McCoy adjourned the workshop meeting at 7:32 P.M.

Submitted by:

Patty M. Burnette

Patty M. Burnette, Secretary

Please take notice and be advised that when a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Planning Board with respect to any matter considered at this proceeding, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. General Services' media are for the sole purpose of backup for official records.