



# CITY OF OKEECHOBEE

55 SE THIRD AVENUE  
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974

**MAY 16, 2023**

**6:00 PM**

## REGULAR MEETING OFFICIAL AGENDA

**Mayor**  
Dowling R. Watford, Jr.  
**Vice Mayor**  
Monica Clark  
**Council Members**  
Noel Chandler  
Bob Jarriel  
David McAuley

<b>Mission Statement:</b>	The mission of the City of Okeechobee is to provide accommodating services that enhance the quality of life for our citizens and businesses in a fiscally sound manner.
<b>Vision Statement:</b>	The City of Okeechobee will maintain a vibrant and prosperous community built on our heritage, history, unique character, and small-town atmosphere.

### I. CALL TO ORDER

### II. ATTENDANCE

### III. AGENDA AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. Requests for the addition, deferral, or withdrawal of agenda items.
- B. Motion to adopt agenda.
- C. Public participation for any issues not on the agenda requires an Agenda Item Form or Comment Card. Citizen comments are limited to 3 minutes per speaker unless otherwise approved by the Mayor.

### IV. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- A. Proclaim the week of May 21-27, 2023 as "National Public Works Week".
- B. Proclaim the month of May, 2023 as "Building Safety Month".
- C. Present a 5-Year Service Award to Jessica Francis and K-9 Luna.

### V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Warrant Register – April, 2023.
- B. Ratify the appointment of John Creasman to the General Employees' Pension Fund Board of Trustees as the Fifth Member, term being May 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025, replacing Dawn Martin.

### VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Motion to read by title only, set June 20, 2023, as the final public hearing date, and approve the first reading of proposed Ordinance No. 1273 for Rezoning Petition No. 22-001-R, submitted by Rene Griffith, Registered Agent, on behalf of the property owner, Be A Man, Buy Land, LLC., to rezone 0.36 +/- unplatted acres from Holding to Industrial. The property is a triangular-shaped vacant, unaddressed parcel, located contiguous to the West-side of the East City Limits Boundary Line, North of the railroad tracks, and South of NE 12th Avenue. The proposed use is outdoor storage (**Exhibit 1**).
- B. Motion to read by title only, set June 20, 2023, as the final public hearing date, and approve the first reading of proposed Ordinance No. 1274, amending Chapter 18, Code Enforcement Procedure, to include a Fine Reduction Request Process (**Exhibit 2**).
- C. Tax Abatement presentation by Stephen Conteaguero.
- D. Motion to approve City Hall closure for the fumigation of City Hall and the Public Safety Building from 1:00pm Friday, September 1 through 7:00 am Tuesday, September 5, 2023.
- E. Conduct annual evaluation of City Administrator Gary Ritter.

### VII. CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE

### VIII. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

### IX. COUNCIL COMMENTS

### X. ADJOURN MEETING

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED** that if any person desires to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this proceeding, such an interested person will need a record of the proceeding, and for such purpose may need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. City Clerk recordings are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office in person or call 863-763-9814, Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1 no later than four business days prior to proceeding.

**BE ADVISED** that should you intend to show any document, picture, video, or item to the Council in support of or opposition to any item on the agenda; a copy of the document, picture, video, or item must be provided to the City Clerk for the City's records.