



CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA
JANUARY 4, 2022, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Watford called the regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Okeechobee to order on January 4, 2022, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, located at 55 Southeast 3rd Avenue, Room 200, Okeechobee, Florida. The invocation was offered by Mayor Watford, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Keefe.

II. ATTENDANCE

Roll was taken by City Clerk Lane Gamiotea to establish a quorum. Members present: Mayor Dowling R. Watford, Jr., Council Members Noel Chandler, Monica Clark, Bob Jarriel, and Bobby Keefe.

III. AGENDA AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. Mayor Watford asked whether there were any items to be added, deferred, or withdrawn. Consent item A was withdrawn.
- B. Motion by Council Member Clark, seconded by Council Member Jarriel to approve the agenda as amended.
Motion Carried Unanimously.
- C. There was one comment card submitted for public participation for issues not on the agenda. Mr. Jeff Sabin of Waste Management wished the residents and City Council a Happy New Year, he and his team are proud to continue to serve the City, the recent issues encompassing delayed collection have been conveyed and resolved.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Motion to approve minutes of the December 21, 2021, regular meeting was withdrawn.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Mitch Smeykal presented the Okeechobee County 2021 Local Mitigation Strategy which is required to be adopted for the City to be eligible to request reimbursements after disasters. A copy of the PowerPoint has been incorporated into the official minute file.
- B. Motion by Council Member Keefe, seconded by Council Member Clark to adopt proposed Resolution No. 2022-01, adopting the Final Revised Okeechobee County 2021 Local Mitigation Strategy [as presented in exhibit 1].

Attorney Fumero read the title of proposed Resolution No. 2022-01 as follows: **"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA; ADOPTING THE FINAL REVISED OKEECHOBEE COUNTY 2021 LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."**

Motion Carried Unanimously.

VI. CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE

Attorney Fumero gave an update on the finished draft of the piggyback agreement with Shandoah, will be presented at a future Council meeting. On January 20th, Finance Director Riedel will be bidding on the Primitive Baptist Church property.

VII. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Administrator Ritter gave an update on the Commerce Center permit project. American Recovery Funds projects are being identified. He stated that the Police Department has been receiving calls about semitrucks using residential streets and is currently working with Public Works Director Allen for signage to keep trucks off the back roads, and parking in residential areas. Issues continue with the Park Street alleyway. The older buildings with no gutters are causing flooding. One of the City's fire trucks has been sold on Gov Deals. Mr. Gregg Maynard has found a solution for the repairing of the gun in Veterans Park. The RFQ for Planner Services, is due on Thursday. The Selection Committee will go over the process. The River Run Phase I structures that encroach in the easement and RaceTrac property will be addressed once Public Works receives the surveys.

IX. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Jarriel shared that there is another Council Meeting being held in two weeks and on January 24th, is the Town Hall meeting and how important getting the message out to the people to attend. Council Member Keefe wished everyone a Happy New Year.

- X. **ADJOURN**, Mayor Watford adjourned the meeting at 6:38 P.M.

Submitted By:



Lane Gamiotea, CMC, City Clerk

Please take notice and be advised that when a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, s/he 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. City Clerk media are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk.