



AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - REGULAR SESSION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Midtown Plaza, 401 McLaughlin Ave., Bonifay, FL 32425

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Invocation

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. APPROVE AGENDA

III. APPROVE MINUTES

IV. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / TRANSFERS / FINANCIAL SHEETS TO REVIEW

[A.](#) January 5th, 2025 Regular Session Minutes

V. VISITORS – PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

NON- AGENDA AUDIENCE

Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission.” Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the Board. . THIS IS NOT A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION. It is NOT a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations and derogatory remarks to/or about City personnel. Those who wish to speak are reminded to observe proper decorum, and to avoid the use of profane or vulgar language. If you would like to address the City Council please come to the podium, state your name and address for the record

VI. PLANNING & ENGINEERING

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

[A.](#) Ordinance 2025-02 First Reading - Election Date

IX. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

A. Council Updates

B. Department Updates

Chief Travis F. Cook- Bonifay Fire-Rescue

C. Employee Spotlight

X. ADJOURN

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact City Hall at (850) 547-4238, at least five days prior to the proceedings.



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING - REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, JANUARY 06, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Midtown Plaza, 401 McLaughlin Ave., Bonifay, FL 32425

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Larry Cook called the meeting to order.

PRESENT

Mayor Larry Cook
Council Member James Sellers
Council Member Rick Crews
Council Member Eddie Dixon

ABSENT

Council Member Shelley Carroll

Also present

City Clerk Rickey Callahan, City Attorney Jon Holloway, Executive Assistant Sierra Smith, Public Works Director Aaron Taylor, Chief Plant Operator Matt Perry, and Chief of Police Johnny Whitaker

A. Invocation

Reverend Ryan Martin gave invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Reverend Ryan Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion made to approve agenda by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. December 16th, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve the minutes of December 16, 2024 by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IV. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / TRANSFERS / FINANCIAL SHEETS TO REVIEW

Motion made to approve Accounts Payable, Transfers, and Financial Sheets by Council Member Sellers, Seconded by Council Member Crews.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

V. VISITORS – PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

NON- AGENDA AUDIENCE

Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission.” Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the Board. . THIS IS NOT A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION. It is NOT a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations and derogatory remarks to/or about City personnel. Those who wish to speak are reminded to observe proper decorum, and to avoid the use of profane or vulgar language. If you would like to address the City Council please come to the podium, state your name and address for the record

Richard Willsey questioned why the flag at the fire station was not at half mast, he also questioned if the Bonifay Fire Department was pocketing money from their fundraiser account, and also questioned the Happy Hollow water leak and if

Rev. Ryan Martin discussed Holmes County Ministerial Association and the Cedar Tree Thrift Store. He stated that they will help meet the needs in our community, and asked that if anyone knew of needs to let them know.

VI. PLANNING & ENGINEERING

John Udochi requested to award bid on the old middle school renovation for Probes Unlimited expansion to James Fletcher Construction.

Motion made to approve award the bid to James Fletcher Construction by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ordinance No. 439 First Reading Comprehensive Plan

Kay Dennis - Staff Report on City of Bonifay Comprehensive Plan

Set Second Reading - Public Hearing, and adoption of Ordinance No. 439

Kay Dennis told the Council Members that the State had concerns regarding back ground information and land use categories, and she made those changes.

City Clerk Rickey Callahan read the heading of Ordinance 439.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 358, WHICH ADOPTED THE CITY OF BONIFAY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, AND ORDINANCE 401 WHICH AMENDED THE CITY OF BONIFAY FUTURE LAND USE MAP TO PROVIDE THE CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF A CERTAIN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF BONIFAY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO REVISE AND UPDATE THE EXISTING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND FUTURE LAND USE MAP IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 163, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND FOR REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion made to approve first reading of Ordinance 439 by roll call vote by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Motion made to set the second reading, public hearing, and adoption of Ordinance 439 for February 3, 2025 by roll call vote by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

B. Ordinance 2025-01 Property Preservation & Maintenance

City Clerk Callahan read the heading of Ordinance 2025-01.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA, SETTING FORTH PROPERTY PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENERS' ERRORS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion made to approve first reading, set second reading, public hearing and adoption for February 3, 2025 by roll call vote by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

IX. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

A. Council Updates

None.

B. Department Updates

Public Works Director Aaron Taylor advised a fire hydrant on St. John's Rd. had been damaged by a hit & run and asked for everyone to provide information if they know anything.

C. Employee Spotlight

Director of Public Works stated that Allen Davis was doing animal control, and has a truck with air conditioned boxes for the animals.

Mayor Cook commended Allen Davis for taking on the duties of animal control.

X. ADJOURN

Motion made for meeting to adjourn by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Mayor Cook declared the meeting adjourned at 9:28 am.

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact City Hall at (850) 547-4238, at least five days prior to the proceedings.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO AMENDMENT OF CITY CHARTER REGARDING ELECTION DATE; PROVIDING THE ELECTION DAY FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND MAYOR TO BE HELD ON THE FIRST TUESDAY FOLLOWING THE FIRST MONDAY OF NOVEMBER IN EACH EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR; PROVIDING FOR THE ORDERLY TRANSITION OF OFFICE RESULTING FROM ELECTION DATE CHANGE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Florida law provides that a city may change the date of its elections without referendum, regardless of charter provisions to the contrary; and

WHEREAS, low voter turn-out is historically associated with off-cycle elections which do not coincide with a statewide general election; and

WHEREAS, the City incurs extra costs for its off-cycle elections; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to align its municipal election with the statewide general election held the first Tuesday following the first Monday of November in each even-numbered year; and

WHEREAS, in order to align the City's municipal election with the statewide general election, the terms of current officeholders must be extended to provide for the orderly transition of office resulting from the election date change.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. AUTHORITY. The authority for enactment of this Ordinance is Section 100.3605, Florida Statutes, Section 101.75, Florida Statutes, Section 166.021, Florida Statutes, and Article VIII, Section 2(b), Florida Constitution.

SECTION II AMENDMENT OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY CHARTER, ARTICLE V. Article V, Section 5.01 and is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following provision:

s5.01 - Election Date. The city election shall be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday of November in each even-numbered year.

SECTION III ORDERLY TRANSITION OF OFFICE RESULTING FROM ELECTION DATE CHANGE. To provide for the orderly transition of office resulting from the election date change set forth above, and as authorized by Section 100.3605, Florida Statutes, the terms of office of each council member and mayor of the City of Bonifay shall be extended to the first Tuesday following the first Monday of November of 2026. It is the intention of this ordinance that a subsequent charter revision be proposed to the electors of the City of Bonifay whereby the terms

of councilmembers and mayor will be revised to four (4) year staggered terms, but existing terms of office of two (2) years as provided in the City charter are not modified by this ordinance.

SECTION IV CANDIDATE QUALIFYING DATES. The qualifying dates for election of city council and mayor shall be those proscribed by general law for state elective offices.

SECTION V. INCORPORATION INTO CODE OF ORDINANCES. This ordinance shall be incorporated into the City of Bonifay’s Code of Ordinances and any section or paragraph number or letter and any heading may be changed or modified as necessary to effectuate the foregoing.

SECTION VI. SEVERABILITY. Each separate provision of this ordinance is deemed independent of all other provisions herein if any portion or provision of this ordinance is declared invalid, all other provisions thereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

SECTION VII. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON SECOND READING BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA, ON THE _____ DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025.

CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

By its Mayor, Larry Cook

By Rickey Callahan, City Clerk