



**City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 21, 2021
6:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER – INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Horn called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and asked for a moment of silence followed by leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Deputy City Clerk Riffle announced there was a quorum with all Councilmembers and Mayor Dowless present.

Attendees

John Dowless, Mayor
Richard Alan Horn, Council President
Ben Pierce, Council President Pro-Tem
Lee Chotas, Council Member
Susan Lomas, Council Member
Chris Rader, Council Member

Staff

Sandra Riffle, Deputy City Clerk
John Freeburg, Police Chief
Shannon Patterson, Police Dept. Chief of Staff
Stacey Salemi, Code Compliance Officer
Chris Meade, Police Officer
City Attorney, Drew Smith
Ellen Hardgrove, AICP City Planner
Allen Lane, P.E. CPH City Engineer

PRESENTATIONS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

- November 16, 2021, City Council Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Rader made a motion to approve the November 15, 2021 meeting minutes as presented; second by Councilmember Chotas. The motion was approved (5/0).

ORDINANCES (First Reading)

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS (Ordinances – Second Readings & Related Action)

Ordinance 2021-02 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF EDGEWOOD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Smith read the second reading of Ordinance 2021-02 in title only.

Planner Hardgrove gave a briefing of the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. To be in compliance and avoid mediation with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), Edgewood must respond to the State's objections that resulted from their review of the City's transmittal.

Planner Hardgrove said there were two objections to Edgewood's transmittal:

- Lack of information in the five-year capital improvement schedule. The transmitted capital improvements schedule did not include any capital improvements; the City does not have any capital expenditures planned for the next five years. The City will replace the schedule with a revised Capital Improvement Schedule, including infrastructure from all entities that will conduct work in the City.
- Transportation Level of Service
DEO objected to eliminating the level of service standards for transportation facilities, even though Florida Statutes no longer require transportation concurrency. DEO recommended adding the level of service back in "for planning purposes," which staff has done.

Planner Hardgrove also discussed DEO's three comments. These included Inclusion of the Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (WSFWP), Updating the Future Land Use Data and Analysis, and the provision of two planning periods. Planner Hargrove stated that the WSFWP is included in the adoption package. The City's response related to the comprehensive plan data and analysis update and two planning periods is that it will be done once it is put in the budget.

In response to Councilmember Pierce, Planner Hardgrove said it would cost at least \$50,000 to redo the whole Comprehensive Plan. She said she does not believe that the policies have changed significantly. Edgewood's plans are not heavily driven by any changes in the population projections.

Planner Hardgrove also stated that DEO suggested the inclusion of the State's new requirement for a Property Rights Element, which is included in the adoption package at Attorney Smith's recommendation.

Councilmember Chotas voiced concerns about the City creating property rights. He stated he would vote against the Ordinance unless Policy 9.1 is amended, after where it says, "the City shall consider the following property rights in decision making" by adding a clause "to the extent such rights have been judicially acknowledged and constitutionally protected." He said this is to confirm that the City did not create these

property rights. Councilmember Chotas stated that he would support the Ordinance if this clause was added. He does not want the Ordinance to create new protected rights.

Planner Hardgrove said she recommends the following changes to the Ordinance:

line 274 – Policy 4.12.1 “as” after “such.”

line 300 - Policy 5.2.10 should be “participate” rather than “participating.”

line 377 – remove the parenthesis before and after “stormwater management, local roads, and police”

Council President Horn thanked Planner Hardgrove for her time and efforts.

Councilmember Rader said he met with the Orange County Utilities as a possibility for a joint project. For this, CPH would need to get a cost for upgrades to the corridor to incorporate sanitary sewer, lift stations, and any associated land acquisitions, which should be reimbursable through ARPA.

Planner Hardgrove responded that it could be put in the Capital Improvement Schedule with the cost “to be determined.”

Councilmember Rader suggested that the area include north of the State Road 527 split to make it financially feasible. Orange County would own the master lift station to which businesses can connect their sanitary.

There was no public comment.

Councilmember Rader made the motion to approve Ordinance 2021-02, as amended by staff with the addition of the Orange Avenue septic to sewer program to the capital improvement element, and the language proposed by Councilmember Chotas pertaining to Property Rights Policy 9.1; seconded by Councilmember Chotas. The motion was approved (5/0) by roll call vote.

Councilmember Pierce	Favor
Councilmember Chotas	Favor
Councilmember Rader	Favor
Councilmember Lomas	Favor
Council President Horn	Favor

Mayor Dowless acknowledged Planner Hardgrove and her husband Mark for their assistance and their time given to the City while preparing the response to the County’s Holden/Gatlin realignment study. They have been extremely helpful to the City.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

GENERAL INFORMATION (No action required)

None

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Council President Horn read the following City Council Announcement:

Please take notice that the City of Edgewood, Florida, will hold a General Municipal Election on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, for the purpose of electing a Mayor (currently held by John Dowless) and one at-large Council seat (currently held by Richard A. Horn). The persons elected to office will each serve a three-year term. The term of office shall commence at the next regularly scheduled council meeting following certification of the election.

Qualifying begins on Monday, January 10, 2022, at 9 a.m. and ends Friday, January 14, 2022, at Noon, at the Office of the City Clerk, 405 Bagshaw Way, Edgewood, Florida 32809. As required, two advertisements for the Notice of Election were placed in the Orlando Sentinel.

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

None

STAFF REPORTS

- **City Attorney Smith**

No report

- **Police Chief Freeburg:**

Monthly Report

In response to Mayor Dowless, Chief Freeburg acknowledged the uptick in accidents at the Orange and Holden Avenue intersection. He said this is typical at the end of November through December and he will conduct a study.

Mayor Freeburg said the holiday events were successful.

He announced that the assessor will be here for a few days for the mock accreditation. The actual accreditation will be in March.

- **City Clerk Meeks:**

No report (absent).

- **Deputy City Clerk Riffle:**

Deputy City Clerk Riffle asked for direction from Council about providing pre-paid postage to return a mail-in ballot, should the City have an election in March. Council's consensus was for the voter to provide the postage.

In response to Council President Horn, Mayor Dowless said ballots without postage will still be delivered to the Supervisor of Elections.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

- **Mayor Dowless**

Mayor Dowless said he was part of a conference call regarding the Orange-Holden-Gatlin realignment. Orange County added the park impact study to the realignment study. Ellen and Mark Hardgrove were part of the call and found errors in the County's reports. The goal is to make these changes before the anticipated public meeting in January 2022.

He said our only holdup on the alignment is getting Orange County to allow us to cut through the park. We only need four of the 72 acres of usable park for the cut-through. The County's property purchase in Edgewood more than makes up the land that would be used for the realignment. This is a situation where everyone can win.

Mayor Dowless complimented Edgewood Police Department, particularly Sergeant Ireland, Stacey Salemi, and Haymee Watkins for the beautiful lights and decorations on City property.

Chief Freeburg asked Council to keep in mind that the City needs more power on City Hall property. Mayor Dowless confirmed and added that the new lighting from Duke will have outlets at the top but more power will be needed.

Mayor Dowless said that Deputy City Clerk Riffle is managing most of the City Clerk business during the transition, and City Clerk Meeks is guiding her through the annexation and the audit processes. He is pleased with the process.

He said that he has discussed annexing four residential properties on Mary Jess Road and Hansel Avenue with Attorney Smith and Planner Hardgrove.

Mayor Dowless noted that Mayor Demings and Commissioner Uribe are neutral, but Friends of the Park have been vocally opposed to the Holden Avenue realignment through Cypress Grove Park.

- **Council President Horn**

Council President Horn said that he applied for and was appointed to the Orange County Environmental Protection Commission (EPC), an advisory Board overseeing environmental issues regarding the lakes and

water bodies in Orange County. He noted this is not a conflict of interest to his position on City Council; recommendations go to the Board of County Commissioners.

- **Councilmember Rader**

Councilmember Rader said the next recommended course of action for ARPA funds would be for CPH to quantify the project and make boundaries while ensuring the existing contract will qualify for reimbursement.

Mayor Dowless said he would like to organize an advisory committee to review the options Councilmember Rader volunteered and suggested getting another volunteer from Planning and Zoning. Councilmember Pierce added that there could be someone from Balmoral Group and the engineering company for direction.

- **Councilmember Chotas**

No report

- **Councilmember Pierce**

No report

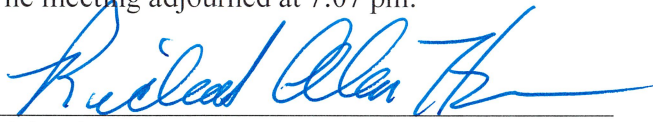
- **Councilmember Lomas**

No report

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Pierce made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second by Councilmember Lomas. The motion was approved (5/0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.



Richard A Horn
Council President

Attest:



Bea L. Meeks, MMC, CPM, CBTO
City Clerk

Approved in the January 18, 2022 Council Meeting.