



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall – Council Chamber
405 Bagshaw Way, Edgewood, Florida
Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 6:30 AM

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Horn called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. He asked for a moment of silence and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

City Clerk Riffle confirmed a quorum, with Mayor Dowless and four Councilmembers present. Councilmember Steele was absent and requested to be excused.

Councilmember Lomas made a motion to excuse Councilmember Steele's absence; seconded by Councilmember Rader. The motion was approved by voice vote (4/0).

Elected Officials Present:

John Dowless, Mayor
Richard A. Horn, Council President
Chris Rader, Council President Pro-Tem
Susan Lomas, Councilmember
Casey McElroy, Councilmember

Staff present:

Sandra Riffle, City Clerk
Chief DeSchryver, Police Chief
Stacey Salemi, Code Enforcement Officer
Ellen Hardgrove, City Planner
Drew Smith, City Attorney

Absent:

Beth Steele, Councilmember

C. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Vision Zero Action Plan

Planner Roberta Fennessy, representing MetroPlan, gave a presentation on the Vision Zero Action Plan to recommend solutions for crashes and road hazards, such as lighting and road conditions, to identify high-injury networks. The two intersections at Orange, Holden and Gatlin Avenues are considered the most vulnerable areas in the City.

She said the Council's adoption of the study makes the City eligible for pedestrian and roadway safety grant funding. The deadline is by the end of 2024.

Councilmember Rader asked if the plan improvement talks about the Orange, Holden, Gatlin Avenue intersection. Planner Fennessy said there is background Excel information, and the executive summary itemizes the countermeasures.

Planner Fennessey noted that the study required regional coordination and involved a lot of information sharing between agencies. MetroPlan followed a rubric to identify the top 25 most dangerous areas in Orange County. The commissioners were very involved and asked MetroPlan to examine each district's four most dangerous areas.

Councilmember Lomas requested a copy of the District 3 report, and Planner Fennessey said she would send it to City Clerk Riffle for distribution.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

1. September 17, 2024 City Council Meeting Minutes
2. October 15, 2024 City Council Meeting Minutes

City Council reviewed the Consent Agenda, and Councilmember Rader noted that a correction to be made to the September 17, 2024 meeting minutes. He said that on page 69, it was Council President Horn who said to bring a better argument, not Councilmember Rader.

Councilmember Rader made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the corrections made to the September 17, 2024 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McElroy and was approved by voice vote (4/0).

E. ORDINANCES (FIRST READING)

1. Ordinance 2024-20: County to City Rezoning 1140 Holden Ave.

Attorney Smith read Ordinance 2024-20 in title only. This Ordinance addresses the county-to-city rezoning of 1140 Holden Avenue.

Planner Hardgrove said the resident at 1140 Holden Avenue requested that her address be removed from the original ordinance so that it can be rezoned as R-1A-CA so that there would be future ability to divide the width of the lot. Staff supports this request, and the Planning & Zoning Board has recommended approval.

Public Comment:

Ms. Sandra Deporter, an Edgewood resident, said she supports the ordinance.

Councilmember Lomas made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-20; seconded by Councilmember McElroy. The motion was approved by roll call vote (4/0).

Councilmember Rader	Favor
Councilmember Lomas	Favor
Councilmember McElroy	Favor
Council President Horn	Favor
Councilmember Steele	Absent

2. Ordinance 2024-21: Fee Waiver for Variance and Zoning Bulk Table Update

Attorney Smith read Ordinance 2024-21 in title only.

Planner Hardgrove said this Ordinance would allow a one-time fee waiver for a variance application if a variance were needed for relief from the impervious surface maximum in the new “City Annexed” zoning districts. This directive was prompted by property owners’ concerns about potential development limitations imposed by establishing a “CA” district on annexed properties.

She said the Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval and thought all fees, including application and pass-through fees, should be waived.

Attorney Smith confirmed to Council President Horn that sunseting at the end of 2030 was included in the Ordinance.

There was no public comment.

Councilmember Rader made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-21 with Planning and Zoning's recommended changes, seconded by Councilmember Lomas. The motion was approved by roll call vote (4/0).

Councilmember Rader	Favor
Councilmember Lomas	Favor
Councilmember McElroy	Favor
Council President Horn	Favor
Councilmember Steele	Absent

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS (ORDINANCES – SECOND READINGS & RELATED ACTION)**G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS****H. NEW BUSINESS****1. Resolution 2024-05 Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget Amendment**

Mayor Dowless told the Council there was nothing unusual about this budget amendment and that the new expenses were mainly pass-throughs. He also said the Council budgeted conservatively and would like to schedule a workshop.

There was no public comment.

Councilmember Lomas made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-05 budget amendment for fiscal year 2023-2024; seconded by Councilmember McElroy. The motion was approved by roll call vote (4/0).

Councilmember McElroy	Favor
Councilmember Rader	Favor
Councilmember Lomas	Favor
Council President Horn	Favor
Councilmember Steele	Absent

2. Mutual Aid Agreement

Chief DeSchryver explained to the Council that this is an addition to the SunRail agreement as part of the mutual aid agreement with the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

There was no discussion or public comment.

Council President Horn made a motion to approve the mutual aid agreement; seconded by Councilmember Lomas. The motion was approved by roll call vote (4/0).

Councilmember Lomas	Favor
Councilmember McElroy	Favor
Councilmember Rader	Favor
Council President Horn	Favor
Councilmember Steele	Absent

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

J. CITIZEN COMMENTS

K. BOARDS & COMMITTEES

L. STAFF REPORTS

City Attorney Smith

Attorney Smith said that he and Planner Hardgrove have communicated with FDOT regarding the width of sidewalks in the ECD.

Planner Hardgrove said the ECD standard sidewalk is eight feet wide, measured from the curb. The regulation also states that the sidewalk has to be set back from the property line if it is wider than 14 feet.

The new Bailey's Pharmacy building's sign is in the right-of-way (ROW). They were required to build an 8-foot wide sidewalk, but instead, they built a 5-foot sidewalk as the consultant said FDOT would not allow a sidewalk wider than 5 feet. FDOT is aware that the office building is near completion and has agreed to allow the 8-foot width, but the City would have to assume the responsibility for maintenance as it is not their standard FDOT design of 5-foot wide.

Planner Hardgrove added that FDOT would also accept a width of 6 feet, but that is not her recommendation. FDOT actually built an 8-foot-wide sidewalk at Mecato's but they said it slipped through. She said FDOT was very hard-line about the issue.

Councilmember Rader commented that repairs are not twice as high just because the sidewalk is wider.

Mayor Dowless said he wanted to know what the City would be obligated to do.

Attorney Smith said FDOT was considering concessions they may have to make in other places. FDOT also designed the wider sidewalks in Apopka as they did at Mecato's.

Planner Hardgrove said a 5-foot wide standard sidewalk is antiquated. Council President Horn said the FDOT standards may change. Planner Hardgrove said that a change in design standards could be written into an agreement.

Councilmember Rader said he thought that 8 feet would be the future standard.

Councilmember McElroy said the City should be exempted from maintenance of the Mecato's sidewalk area since FDOT did that on their own. Attorney Smith said they would consider that when working on an agreement. He pointed out that they were talking specifically about the sidewalk area in front of Bailey's Pharmacy, not all of the city.

Police Chief DeSchryver

1. Chief's Report October 2024

On October 25th, the Edgewood Police Department and City Hall hosted the annual Trunk or Treat event. It was very successful, and Stacey Salemi and Haymee Watkins did a great job decorating the park and the spooky trailer for children to enjoy.

Chief DeSchryver discussed the fitness course for the police force. He said fitness is important to preventing injuries and saving the City from workers' compensation claims. Officers would be incentivized to complete the course.

Mayor Dowless said that he would encourage the fitness policy, but if there is to be a policy, he wanted to get the consensus of the Council. There were no objections.

City Clerk Riffle

1. Clerk's Report October 2024

City Clerk Riffle reviewed her report and asked the Council for their consensus on colors for the new business flags. Councilmember Lomas thought that the green flags could blend into the background. City Clerk Riffle will have different colors for the Council to view.

M. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**Mayor Dowless**

Mayor Dowless reminded the Council that the Santa Fly-in was quickly approaching on December 6, 2024.

He told the Council that the Harbour Oaks Point Drive HOA wants the City to take over their private road. He is getting an assessment to see what bringing it up to code would cost.

He said the adoption would be instituted with a special assessment. The work would be done first.

There will be a community meeting at 5:30 pm on November 20, 2024 at City Hall regarding potential development on the Randall Knives property.

Council Member Lomas

Councilmember Lomas said the City did a great job with hurricane cleanup. She observed that Orange County has not started cleanup in the area.

Council Member McElroy - No report.

Council Member Rader

In response to Councilmember Rader, Mayor Dowless said staff is still getting information about the conditions of the federal grant. It is supposed to be safety and pedestrian oriented.

Council Member Steele Absent - no report.

Council President Horn - No report.

N. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Richard A. Horn, Council President

Sandra Riffle, City Clerk

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Council Member Steele Absent - no report.

Council President Horn - No report.

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