



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall – Council Chamber  
405 Bagshaw Way, Edgewood, Florida  
Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 6:30 PM

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### MINUTES

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#### 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, then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Horn noted that the business for 5195 Magnolia St/5151 S Orange Avenue was withdrawn by the applicant.

#### B. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

City Clerk Riffle confirmed that a quorum was present with Mayor Dowless and four Councilmembers in attendance. Councilmember Steele was excused from the meeting due to a prior absence request.

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

##### Elected Officials Present:

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

##### Absent:

Beth Steele, Councilmember

##### Staff Members Present:

Sandra Riffle, City Clerk  
Dean DeSchryver, Police Chief  
Scott Zane, Code Enforcement Officer/IT Manager  
Michael Fraticelli, Police Sergeant  
Adam Lafan, Police Officer/Accreditation Manager  
Chris Meade, Police Officer  
Matthew Barreto, Police Officer

#### C. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

#### D. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda, which includes routine items, was reviewed.

**June 17, 2025** City Clerk Riffle provided a correction to Councilmembers for the June 17, 2025 meeting minutes.

**July 10, 2025, Budget Workshop Minutes:** Mayor Dowless pointed out a typo, requesting that "20206" be changed to "2026." The City Clerk confirmed the change would be made.

*Councilmember Lomas made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with corrections; seconded by Councilmember Rader. The motion was approved (4/0) by voice vote.*

**E. ORDINANCES (FIRST READING)**

- **5195 Magnolia/5151 S Orange Project:** This item, including **Ordinance 2025-04** and **Special Exception 2025-01** (parking variance), was withdrawn by the applicant and will not be considered.

**F. PUBLIC HEARINGS (ORDINANCES – SECOND READINGS & RELATED ACTION)**

- **Ordinance 2025-05: Registration Fine Amount**

City Attorney Smith read Ordinance 2025-05 in title only.

There was no public comment or discussion.

*Councilmember Rader made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-05 as presented; seconded by Councilmember Lomas. The motion was approved by roll call vote (4/0).*

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Councilmember Lomas    | Approve |
| Councilmember McElroy  | Approve |
| Councilmember Rader    | Approve |
| Council President Horn | Approve |
| Councilmember Steele   | Absent  |

**G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

- **Set Tentative Millage Rate FY 2025/2026**

Mayor Dowless reported that the fees for Orange County Fire and Rescue were \$150,000 less than anticipated. The consensus of the Council was that the millage rate did not need to be raised.

**Councilmember Rader moved to set the City's millage rate at 5.25 mils, and directed the City Clerk to complete the DR420 and DR420MMP forms to provide to the Orange County Property Appraiser, on or before noon on August 4, 2025. Councilmember Lomas seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote (4/0).**

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Councilmember Rader    | Approve |
| Councilmember McElroy  | Approve |
| Councilmember Lomas    | Approve |
| Council President Horn | Approve |
| Councilmember Steele   | Absent  |

- **Budget Hearing Dates**

City Clerk Riffle informed the council that the proposed budget hearing dates conflicted with other taxing agencies' schedules. She requested authorization to adjust the dates by one day. The dates on the TRIM calendar were based on a letter she received from Orange County that included the public library hearing schedule, rather than the OCPS hearing dates.

***Councilmember Rader made a motion to authorize the City Clerk to adjust the hearings on the TRIM calendar by one day when she has confirmed the correct information, thereby avoiding conflicts with other taxing agencies. Seconded by Councilmember Lomas. The motion was approved by voice vote (4/0).***

- **RFP 2025-CH-02 Debris Monitoring**

City Clerk Riffle presented the recommendation from the RFP committee for Storm Debris Monitoring Services. Only one bid was received from **CMTS, LLC**, the city's current provider.

There was no discussion or public comment.

***Councilmember Lomas made a motion to award the Storm Debris Monitoring Services contract to CMTS, LLC.; seconded by Councilmember Rader. The motion was approved by roll call vote (4/0).***

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Councilmember McElroy  | Approve |
| Councilmember Rader    | Approve |
| Councilmember Lomas    | Approve |
| Council President Horn | Approve |
| Councilmember Steele   | Absent  |

- **RFP 2025-CH-01 Debris Removal**

City Clerk Riffle presented the results from the RFP committee concerning Storm Debris Removal Services. The committee recommended Southern Disaster Recovery (SDR) as the primary provider for storm debris removal, with Looks Great, LLC and TFR Services as backup companies.

She confirmed to Councilmember Rader that the City requested an alternate company for Hurricane Milton because the primary company was already engaged from previous storms Helene and Debby. The backup company, Crowder Gulf, was similarly being utilized for those storms and had a similar wait time.

City Attorney Smith responded to Council President Horn that it is typical to assign a primary and a backup company, but there is nothing to stop the City from contracting with two backup companies.

There was no public comment.



*Councilmember Rader made a motion to approve Southern Disaster Recovery (SDR) as a primary storm debris removal company with Looks Great Services as a secondary service, and TFR Services as a tertiary backup company. Councilmember McElroy seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote (4/0).*

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Councilmember Rader    | Approve |
| Councilmember McElroy  | Approve |
| Councilmember Lomas    | Approve |
| Council President Horn | Approve |
| Councilmember Steele   | Absent  |

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

**J. CITIZEN COMMENTS** - No comments

**K. BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

**L. STAFF REPORTS**

- **City Attorney Smith**

City Attorney Smith updated the Council on the topic of HOAs and business vehicles. He clarified that Florida Statutes permit work vehicles at residences if they are standard passenger vehicles, though HOAs are allowed to impose their own restrictions.

- **Police Chief DeSchryver - Chief's Report June 2025**

- The police department achieved **Excelsior status**, marking its 18th consecutive year of passing accreditation. He thanked Officer Lafan for his work as the accreditation manager.
- He requested a council volunteer to serve with Deputy Chief Garcia and one of the sergeants on a review committee for the Officer First Class Programs to revamp the development plan.
- He provided an update on staffing changes, noting the resignation of Code Enforcement Officer Stacey Salemi, who Officer Scott Zane has replaced. He also mentioned that another officer is leaving on August 11, but a conditional offer has been made to a new officer. Officer White is expected to return in August.
- All officers have completed training with the 287G program which will help the City receive grants.
- He received a new roof estimate of \$75,000 from Gold Key Roofing, which will require the department to go through the RFQ process.
- In response to Council President Horn, he stated that he has received complaints about transients, which is why they will be vigilant about the Coq Au Vin and The Waterfront properties.

- **City Clerk Riffle**

- She is working on bringing all four railroad crossings into compliance in response to the Quiet Zones audit that was performed in the City.

- She also reported that City Hall now has an intern, Brian Muniz from Valencia College, to enhance the City's GIS map.

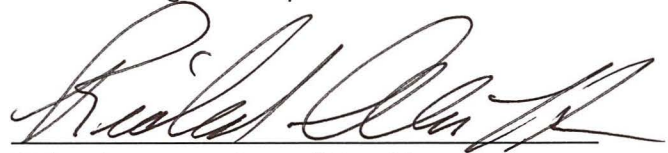
#### M. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

- **Mayor Dowless**

- Mayor Dowless said he has been in contact with AT&T regarding derelict utility boxes throughout the city. AT&T has said it will collect the boxes for which they have an address. He asked the City Council members to provide him with addresses for these old boxes so he could report them to AT&T.
- He announced that UCF Downtown will host the Tri-County League of Cities meeting on Thursday.
- He said that the Florida DOGE requested extensive details from the City with a very short deadline. He noted that the City Clerk, Riffle, will request an extension to ensure a full response can be provided.
- Council Member Lomas – no report
- Council Member McElroy – no report
- Council Member Rader – no report
- Council Member Steele – no report
- Council President Horn – no report

#### N. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Rader made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 pm.



Richard A. Horn, Council President

Attest:

  
Sandra Riffle, City Clerk