

HILLIARD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Hilliard Town Hall / Council Chambers
15859 West County Road 108
Post Office Box 249
Hilliard, FL 32046

TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

John P. Beasley, Mayor
Kenny Sims, Council President
Lee Pickett, Council Pro Tem
Joe Michaels, Councilman
Jared Wollitz, Councilman
Dallis Hunter, Councilman

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Lisa Purvis, Town Clerk
Richie Rowe, Public Works Director
Gabe Whittenburg, Parks & Rec Director

TOWN ATTORNEY

Christian Waugh

AGENDA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023, 6:00 PM

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

Anyone wishing to address the Town Council regarding any item on this agenda is requested to complete an agenda item sheet in advance and give it to the Town Clerk. The sheets are located next to the printed agendas in the back of the Council Chambers. Speakers are respectfully requested to limit their comments to three (3) minutes. A speaker's time may not be allocated to others.

PLEDGE OF CIVILITY

WE WILL BE RESPECTFUL OF ONE ANOTHER
EVEN WHEN WE DISAGREE.
WE WILL DIRECT ALL COMMENTS TO THE ISSUES.
WE WILL AVOID PERSONAL ATTACKS.
"Politeness costs so little." – ABRAHAM LINCOLN

CALL TO ORDER

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

MAYOR To call on members of the audience wishing to address the Council on matters not on the Agenda.

SPECIAL MEETING

ITEM-1 Town Council approval for the Town Attorney to be granted Authorization and Preparation of Response to Florida Elections Commission Complaint.
Lisa Purvis, MMC - Town Clerk

ADDED ITEMS

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

PUBLIC

MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

TOWN ATTORNEY

ADJOURNMENT

The Town may take action on any matter during this meeting, including items that are not set forth within this agenda.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Town Council meets the first and third Thursday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise scheduled. Meetings are held in the Town Hall Council Chambers located at 15859 West County Road 108. Video and audio recordings of the meetings are available in the Town Clerk's Office upon request.

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD MEETINGS

The Planning & Zoning Board meets the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise scheduled. Meetings are held in the Town Hall Council Chambers located at 15859 West County Road 108. Video and audio recordings of the meetings are available in the Town Clerk's Office upon request.

MINUTES & TRANSCRIPTS

Minutes of the Town Council meetings can be obtained from the Town Clerk's Office. The Meetings are usually recorded but are not transcribed verbatim for the minutes. Persons requiring a verbatim transcript may make arrangements with the Town Clerk to duplicate the recordings, if available, or arrange to have a court reporter present at the meeting. The cost of duplication and/or court reporter will be at the expense of the requesting party.

TOWN WEBSITE & YOUTUBE MEETING VIDEO

The Town's Website can be access at www.townofhilliard.com.
Live & recorded videos can be access at www.youtube.com search - Town of Hilliard, FL.

ADA NOTICE

In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the Town Clerk's Office at (904) 845-3555 at least seventy-two hours in advance to request such accommodations.

APPEALS

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, the following notification is given: If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting, he or she 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.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Pursuant to Section 286.0114, Florida Statutes, effective October 1, 2013, the public is invited to speak on any "proposition" before a board, commission, council, or appointed committee takes official action regardless of whether the issue is on the Agenda. Certain exemptions for emergencies, ministerial acts, etc. apply. This public participation does not affect the right of a person to be heard as otherwise provided by law.

EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Oral or written exchanges (sometimes referred to as lobbying or information gathering) between a Council Member and others, including staff, where there is a substantive discussion regarding

a quasi-judicial decision by the Town Council. The exchanges must be disclosed by the Town Council so the public may respond to such exchanges before a vote is taken.

2023 HOLIDAYS

TOWN HALL OFFICES CLOSED

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day | Monday, January 16, 2023 |
| 2. Memorial Day | Monday, May 29, 2023 |
| 3. Independence Day Monday | Tuesday, July 4, 2023 |
| 4. Labor Day | Monday, September 4, 2023 |
| 5. Veterans Day | Friday, November 10, 2023 |
| 6. Thanksgiving Day | Thursday, November 23, 2023 |
| 7. Friday after Thanksgiving Day | Friday, November 24, 2023 |
| 8. Christmas Eve | Monday, December 25, 2023 |
| 9. Christmas Day | Tuesday, December 26, 2023 |
| 10. New Year's Eve | Monday, January 1, 2024 |
| 11. New Year's Day | Tuesday, January 2, 2024 |



Florida Elections Commission

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6596
Telephone: (850) 922-4539 · Facsimile: (850) 921-0783
FEC@myfloridalegal.com · www.fec.state.fl.us



ITEM-1

September 7, 2023

CERTIFIED MAIL 9214 8969 0099 9790 1649 0237 78

Lisa Purvis
15859 West County Road 108
Hilliard, FL 32046

RE: Case No.: FEC 23-231; Respondent: Lisa Purvis

Dear Ms. Purvis:

On September 6, 2023, the Florida Elections Commission received the enclosed complaint alleging that you violated Florida’s election laws. Section 106.25(2), Florida Statutes, states:

The respondent shall have 14 day *after receipt* of the complaint to file an initial response, and the executive director may not determine the legal sufficiency of the complaint during that time period.

Should you choose to file a response to the complaint, please send it to my attention at the address listed above. You may also send your response to my attention at fec@myfloridalegal.com. You will be notified by letter whether the complaint is determined to be legally sufficient.

Please note that all documents related to this matter will be mailed to the above address unless you notify us of a new address.

Pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, complaints, investigations, investigative reports, and other documents relating to an alleged violation of Chapters 104 or 106, Florida Statutes, are confidential until the Commission finds probable cause or no probable cause, unless the Respondent files a written waiver of confidentiality with the Commission. The confidentiality provision does not apply to the Complainant or the Respondent.

Should you retain counsel, your attorney must file a notice of appearance with the Commission before any member of the Commission staff can discuss this case with him or her.

For additional information, please refer to the Commission’s website www.fec.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

Donna Ann Malphurs

Donna Ann Malphurs
Agency Clerk

Enclosure: Complaint w/ attachments

RECEIVED
SEP 11 2023
TOWN OF HILLIARD

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION
107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

REC'D: FL ELECTIONS COM
6 SEP '23 PM 4:01

COMPLAINT

The Commission's records and proceedings in a case are confidential until the Commission rules on probable cause. A copy of the complaint will be provided to the person against whom it is brought.

1. PERSON BRINGING COMPLAINT:

Name: MARY GODWIN Work Phone: (____) _____
Address: 3775 LORENA DR Home Phone: (904) 7267352
City: HILLIARD County: NASSAU State: FL Zip Code: 32046

2. PERSON AGAINST WHOM COMPLAINT IS BROUGHT:

If you intend to name more than one individual or entity, please file multiple complaints. A person can be an individual, political committee, political party, electioneering communication organization, club, corporation, partnership, company, association, or other type of organization.

Name of individual or entity: LISA PURVIS
Address: 15859 West County Road 108 Phone: (____) _____
City: HILLIARD County: NASSAU State: FL Zip Code: 32046

If individual is a candidate, list the office or position sought: _____

Have you filed this complaint with the State Attorney's Office? (check one) Yes No

Are you alleging a violation of Section 104.271(2), F.S.? (check one) Yes No

Are you alleging a violation of Section 104.2715, F.S.? (check one) Yes No

3. ALLEGED VIOLATION(S):

Please attach a **concise** narrative statement in which you list the provisions of the Florida Election Code that you believe the person named above may have violated. The Commission has jurisdiction only to investigate provisions of Chapter 104 and Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. Please include the following items as part of your attached statement:

- The facts and actions that you believe support the violations you allege;
- The names/telephone numbers of persons whom you believe may be witnesses to the facts;
- A copy or picture of any political advertisement(s) you mention in your statement;
- A copy of each document you mention in your statement;
- An explanation of why you believe information you reference from websites is relevant; and
- Any other evidence supporting your allegations.

SEE REVERSE SIDE OF DOCUMENT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any person who files a complaint while knowing that the allegations are false or without merit commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in Sections 775.082 and 775.083, Florida Statutes.

08/22/2023

REC'D: FL ELECTIONS COM
6 SEP '23 PM4:01

Mary Godwin]

3775 Lorena Dr

Hilliard, FL 32046

Fourlifejesus@gmail.com

904-726-7352

Florida Elections Commission

107 West Gaines St., Suite 224

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

Subject: Formal Complaint Against Lisa Purvis, Town Clerk of Hilliard, Florida

Dear Members of the Florida Elections Commission,

I am writing to file a formal complaint against Lisa Purvis, the Town Clerk of Hilliard, Florida, regarding an incident that took place between May and June 2022. The details of the incident involve Ms. Purvis' alleged actions that may have violated fair and democratic election practices in the town.

During this period, I, Mary Godwin, contacted the Hilliard Town Hall at (904) 845-3555 to inquire about the leadership of the town and to gain information about the upcoming mayoral election. As an engaged citizen, I sought clarity about who oversaw the town and when the next election was scheduled for the position.

During this conversation, Ms. Purvis provided me with information that raised concerns about the transparency and fairness of the election process. Specifically, she mentioned that the town had a mayor and that 2022 was a reelection year for this position, even though the incumbent Mayor had decided not to run for reelection. When I inquired about the process to become a mayoral candidate, Ms. Purvis disclosed that the town had already selected a candidate and that this individual had been a member of the Town Council for over 20 years.

My concern was further amplified when Ms. Purvis indicated that the town did not require or desire additional candidates to run for the mayoral position, as they had already decided on a single candidate. This response raises serious questions about the integrity of the election process, as it appears that prospective candidates were not being given a fair opportunity to participate in the democratic selection of the town's leadership. No other candidates appeared on the ballot 2022. John P. Beasley ran uncontested.

Such actions, if true, undermine the principles of democracy and fair representation that are crucial to our electoral system. It is imperative that all eligible candidates have an equal chance to run for office and that voters can choose from a diverse pool of candidates during an election. This is our right.

08/22/2023

REC'D: FL ELECTIONS COM
6 SEP '23 PM 4:01

I kindly request that the Florida Elections Commission conduct a thorough investigation into this matter. If the allegations are found to be substantiated, appropriate measures should be taken to rectify the situation, reverse all ordinances, tax increases and laws implemented due to election interference and ensure that future elections in Hilliard, Florida, are conducted in accordance with the principles of fairness, transparency, and equal opportunity. It is my desire that the town clerk be relieved of her duties, an interim mayor be placed during this process, and a new-fair election be run this year with no interference from members of the council or town clerk for all seats voted on during the 2022 elections.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that the Florida Elections Commission will take appropriate steps to address this complaint and uphold the democratic values that our nation holds dear.

Sincerely,

Mary Godwin

FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION
107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

REC'D: FL ELECTIONS COM
6 SEP '23 PM 4:01

4. OATH:

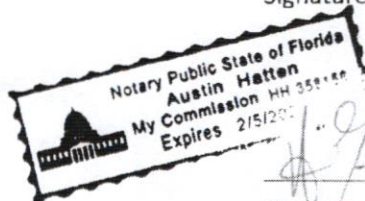
STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF NASSAU

I swear or affirm that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

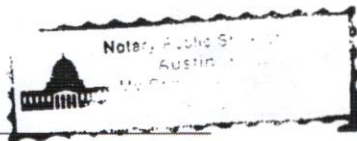
Mary Cochran
Original Signature of Person Bringing Complaint

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22 day of
August, 2023

[Signature]
Signature of Officer Authorized to Administer Oaths or Notary Public



[Signature]



(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

Personally Known _____ Or Produced Identification IR

Type of Identification Produced Drivers License

5. **IMPROPERLY COMPLETED COMPLAINT FORMS MAY BE RETURNED:**

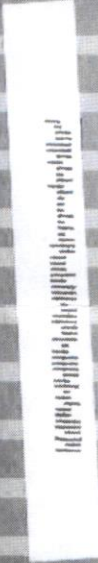
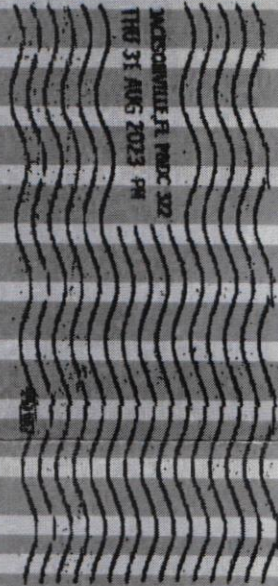
- You **MUST submit this** completed complaint form in order to file a complaint.
- You **MUST** complete **ALL FOUR** of the above sections of this form. **DO NOT** leave any blanks.
- You **MUST** submit the **ORIGINAL** complaint form. Copied/faxed/emailed forms are returned.
- Each complaint can only be filed against **ONE PERSON** or **ENTITY**. If you wish to file against multiple parties, you **MUST** submit a complaint form **for each party** you wish to file against.
- **DO NOT** submit multiple complaint forms with one set of attachments applying to multiple complaints. You **MUST** attach **copies** of attachments to **each complaint** to which they apply.
- **MAKE SURE** the alleged violation(s) of **Chapters 104 or 106** occurred within the last **2 years**.
- **MAKE SURE** your complaint is **sworn** and there is **no defect** to the **notarization** in Section 4.

Godwin
3775 Lorena Dr.
Hilliard, FL 32046



Florida Elections Commission
107 West Gaines St. Suite 224
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1060

Elections



REC'D: FL ELECTIONS COM
5 SEP '23 PM 4:02



FLORIDA ELECTIONS CO
107 West Gaines Street
Collins Building, Suite 224
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-65

CERTIFIED MAIL™



9214 8969 0099 9790 1649 0237 78

Lisa Purvis
15859 West County Road 108
Hilliard, FL 32046

Hasler

09/07/2023

US POSTAGE

\$004.98⁰

FIRST-CLASS

ITEM-1



ZIP 32301
011E11684687

3204636712 R006



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ITEM-1

PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE TO THE RIGHT
OF THE RETURN ADDRESS, FOLD AT DOTTED LINE