

# CITY OF WESTLAKE



## MINUTES

### **City Council Special Meeting**

Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM

The Lodge at Westlake Adventure Park  
5490 Kingfisher Blvd.  
Westlake, Florida 33470

### **CITY COUNCIL:**

JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor  
Greg Langowski, Vice Mayor  
Gary Werner, Council Member – Seat 1  
Vacant, Council Member – Seat 2  
Charlotte Leonard, Council Member – Seat 3

### **CITY STAFF:**

Ken Cassel, City Manager  
Zoie P. Burgess, CMC, City Clerk  
Donald J. Doody, Esq., City Attorney  
Osniel Leon, AICP, Planning and Zoning  
Suzanne Dombrowski, P.E., ENV SP, Engineering

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Westlake was held on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM., at The Lodge at Westlake Adventure Park, 5490 Kingfisher Blvd. Members of the public also attended the meeting through electronic means and accessed as follows:

1. Webex meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone at the following link:  
<https://cityofwestlake.my.webex.com/>

Meeting ID: 2869 924 5607

Password: hello

2. Participants also dialed in using the following number:

United States Toll: +1-650-479-3208

Meeting ID: 2869 924 5607

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor O'Connor called the City of Westlake special meeting of Tuesday, February 25, 2025, to order at 6:00 PM.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present and constituting a quorum:

Councilman Gary Werner  
Councilwoman Charlotte Leonard  
Vice Mayor Greg Langowski  
Mayor JohnPaul O'Connor

Also present:

Kenneth Cassel, City Manager  
Donald J. Doody, Esq., City Attorney  
Zoie Burgess, City Clerk  
Jennifer Hankins, Deputy City Clerk

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor O'Connor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ADDITIONS, DELETIONS OR MODIFICATIONS, AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor O'Connor called for any additions, deletions, or modifications to the agenda.

Mayor O'Connor called for a motion.

Motion by Councilman Werner to approve the agenda, seconded by Vice Mayor Langowski.

**UPON ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Werner	YES
Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Vice Mayor Langowski	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (4-0).

**SPECIAL AGENDA**

A. Discussion of Procedure

Mayor O'Connor opened for discussion to select the appointment of vacated Council seat #2.

Council discussion.

Legal discussion and further direction and clarification of procedure.

Council consensus to allow each applicant to present for two minutes before identifying the top two applicants in a written selection.

B. Council Group (Seat) #2 Vacancy & Applicants

**Submitted By:** City Clerk's Office

Ayala, Rudwin, Esq.  
Gleason, Erik  
Isaacson, Chad  
Sarandis, Theodore  
Sulla, Ray A  
Winewski, Frank

Each applicant presented for two minutes or less.

City Council provided their top two written selections to the City Clerk.

Ms. Burgess identified the top selection as the applicant, Erik Gleason. City Clerk Burgess noted a tie vote with applicants Rudwin Ayala and Frank Winewski.

Mayor O'Connor called for a Motion.

Motion by Councilman Werner to appoint Erick Gleason as City Council Member to fill the unexpired term of Julian Martinez, City Council Seat 2, seconded by Vice Mayor Langowski.

**UPON ROLL CALL:**

Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Vice Mayor Langowski	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilman Werner	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (4-0).

C. Council Group (Seat) #2 Appointment

**Submitted By:** City Clerk's Office

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-04**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, APPOINTING \_\_\_\_\_ AS A CITY COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE CITY OF WESTLAKE TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF JULIAN MARTINEZ; PROVIDING THAT THE INDIVIDUAL APPOINTED TO THE COUNCIL SHALL SERVE UNTIL THE CITY COUNCIL MEMBER ELECTED AT THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY ELECTION, DETERMINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE MARCH 2026, IS SWORN INTO OFFICE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mr. Doody read Resolution 2025-04, by title only, into record.

Mayor O'Connor entertained a motion to adopt Resolution.

Motion by Councilmen Werner to approve Resolution 2025-04, seconded by Vice Mayor Langowski.

**UPON ROLL CALL:**

Councilwoman Leonard	YES
Vice Mayor Langowski	YES
Mayor O'Connor	YES
Councilman Werner	YES

With all in favor, motion carried without dissent (4-0).

D. Oath of Office

Ms. Burgess swore in and presented the Oath of Office to Erik Gleason.

E. Resignation of Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A.

**Submitted By:** Administration

Mayor O'Connor introduced the item and called for further explanation from the City Manager.

Mr. Cassel identified the receipt of the City Attorney's resignation. He continued, explaining that there may be alternatives to retaining the firm, given the anticipated greater demands of the City.

Mr. Doody further explained the future needs of the City have become more demanding and will require additional attention, that while he may not be the face, the firm is capable to continue providing services to the City.

Council Discussion and consensus to retain current legal services.

Further council discussion regarding contracts, and review of service contracts and conducting a review of charter positions.

Council consensus to conduct a review of the contracted services during the budget cycle in August.

Mr. Doody withdrew his resignation of Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*This section of the agenda allows for comments from the public to speak. Each speaker will be given a total of three (3) minutes to comment. A public comment card should be completed and returned to the City Clerk. When you are called to*

*Speak, please go to the podium, and prior to addressing Council, state your name and address for the record. All public comments will be noted and may receive a response if necessary. Any follow-up will be handled by staff later.*

Mayor O'Connor inquired with the City Clerk if there were any public comments. There being none, Mayor O'Connor called for audience comment.

Public Comment - Mr. Chad Isaacson – 15398 Goldfinch Circle – Mr. Isaacson thanked council for consideration of his application and congratulated selected councilmember. He continued, thanking council for their consideration of reviewing contracts and would like to encourage council to consider key performance indicators and looking at request for productions for these companies.

Public Comment - Ms. Alicia Torres - 5847 Whippoorwill Circle – Ms. Torres identified complaints that are being received regarding the building department.

Mr. Cassel addressed the concerns pertaining to the building department and noted that they are currently under evaluation.

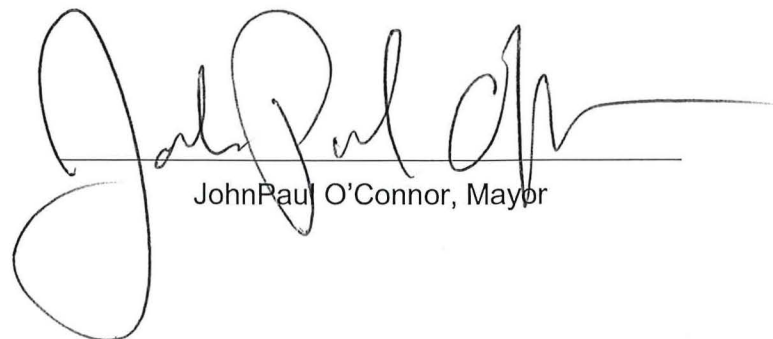
### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor O'Connor adjourned the meeting at 6:52 PM.

**NOTICE:** If a person, firm or corporation decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, you will need a record of the proceedings, and you may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. (The above notice is required by State Law. Anyone desiring a verbatim transcript shall have the responsibility, at his own cost, to arrange for the transcript). The City of Westlake does not prepare or provide such verbatim record.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons who need an accommodation in order to attend or participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk at (561) 530-5880 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting in order to request such assistance.

  
Zoie P. Burgess, City Clerk

  
John Paul O'Connor, Mayor