

CITY OF EAGLE LAKE  
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2023  
7:00 P.M.  
COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
675 E EAGLE AVE  
EAGLE LAKE, FLORIDA 33839

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Coler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II. INVOCATION**

Commissioner Metosh gave the invocation.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

The Commission and audience said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**IV. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Billings, Metosh, Clark, Coler

ABSENT: Wilson

**MOTION** was made by Mayor Coler and seconded by Commissioner Billings to excuse Commissioner Wilson from the meeting tonight.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

**V. AUDIENCE**

There were no comments from the audience.

**VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS, REQUESTS**

**A. Staff Reports**

Code Enforcement Officer Nadeau updated the Commission regarding the Code Enforcement cases in the city.

City Wright advised she provided the Commission with a sample of the Full and Public Disclosure of Financial Interests Form 6 that will be required going forward.

**B. City Manager Report**

Manager Ernharth advised the Code Enforcement has been staggering hours and working weekends address issues within the city.

Manager Ernharth asked for a motion to support City Clerk Wright and allow her to apply to be the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Region III Director understanding that

additional travel will be required. He advised the Florida Association of City Clerks will provide an expense reimbursement up to \$2500/year for the Florida representative to the IIMC Region III Director position. He advised a letter will be written for Mayor Coler to sign.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and seconded by Commissioner Billings to support City Clerk Wright and allow her to apply to be the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Region III Director and to draft a letter of support for Mayor Coler to sign.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

Manager Ernharth stated he hired Kristin Barnes as the new Library Director. He stated he kept both part time positions in the budget.

Manager Ernharth stated the city is experiencing growing pains due to all the development. He stated we are getting inundated with building permits; he would like to hire a permit tech as Ms. Richardson is overwhelmed and getting behind.

Mr. Ernharth advised we would create two offices in part of the civic league room for the permit tech and code enforcement.

**MOTION** was made by Mayor Coler and seconded by Commissioner Billings to approve permit tech position and create office spaces in the civic league room.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

Mr. Ernharth stated the city purchased five flock cameras for the sheriff's office and they are working out well. He stated the cameras will be moved to show people coming into the city versus leaving the city. He stated the sheriff's office would like to three additional cameras purchased. Mr. Ernharth stated the cost for the cameras is minimal; he advised the real cost is \$2,000 per camera for maintenance. He advised these costs will be added to our existing contract with the sheriff's office.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Metosh to approve the purchase of three flock cameras.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

Mr. Ernharth advised the city will be required to provide a report to the Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) outlining our plan to meet the City's water supply demands beyond 2025; he advised this could be due by the end of the year. Mr. Ernharth also advised that the city assumed it would be able to continue to pump its current allocated quantities based on Polk Regional Water Cooperative (PRWC) representations; unfortunately, this is not accurate information. He advised Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) has reserved the right to reduce that quantity based on environmental considerations. Mr. Ernharth is requesting \$30,000 to allow our engineers to work with SWFWMD and PRWC and Water Supply Planning to address these issues and to determine how much water we will need.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and seconded by Commissioner Billings to approve expenditure of \$30,000 to allow our engineers to work with SWFWMD, PRWC and Water Planning to address the City's Water supply demands.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

## **VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- A. Consideration of the second reading of Ordinance No.: O-23-09, An Ordinance Amending the City of Eagle Lake, Florida 2030 Comprehensive Plan by Changing the Future Land Use Designation from Low Density Residential to Medium Density Residential Future Land Use for One (1) Parcel; Amending the City of Eagle Lake, Florida Zoning Map by Changing Zoning for the Same Certain Parcel from Single Family Residential (RS-1) to General Residential (RG); Repealing all Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and, Providing an Effective Date. (General Location: One parcel of land totaling approximately 3.45 acres in size and comprising one city block lying between Laurel Avenue, East and Brookins Avenue, East; and, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, South and 7<sup>th</sup> Street South; with a street address of 0 Laurel Avenue, E., Eagle Lake, Florida 33839)

Attorney Maxwell read Ordinance No.: O-23-09 by title only.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and seconded by Commissioner Billings to approve Ordinance No.: O-23-09.

Mayor Coler asked for audience discussion.

Michael Kienast 617 Oak St. was opposed to changing the zoning of this property. One of Mr. Kean concerns was the number of houses projected in this development.

Mr. Ernharth stated with the current zoning of this property they could build 15 houses; low density allows for 5 dwellings per acre. The developer is looking to add 2 or 3 additional houses. Mr. Ernharth also advised that per the original platting of Eagle Lake these lots are 20-foot lots.

Rusty Skipper 628 Laurel Ave was opposed to changing the zoning of this property.

Steve Bringger 316 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St. was opposed to changing the zoning of this property.

Bryon Worthington 521 S 7<sup>th</sup> St. was opposed to changing the zoning of this property.

Jesus Conales 6474 Horizon Point Dr. Lakeland advised he is looking to have 17 or 18 houses on this property. He stated he will be putting in high-end houses that will cost in the \$300,000 range. He stated the smallest home he is looking at building is over 1600 sq. ft.

Mayor Coler asked for Commission discussion; there was no additional discussion.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: Billings, Metosh, Clark,

NAYS: Coler

- B. Consideration of the first reading of Ordinance No.: O-23-11, An Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Eagle Lake, Florida, Amending Chapter 16, Article II, Section 16-27, Water Rates, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eagle Lake, Florida, Providing an Increase in Residential and Commercial Water Rates Inside and Outside the City; and Amending Chapter 16, Article III, Section 16-59, Sewer Rates, of the Code of Ordinances, Providing an Increase in Residential and Commercial Sewer Rates Inside and Outside the City; Providing a Conflict and Severability Clause and an Effective Date.**

Attorney Maxwell read Ordinance No.: O-23-11 by title only.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve Ordinance No.: O-23-11.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: Billings, Metosh, Clark, Coler

NAYS: None

- C. Consideration of the first reading of Ordinance No.: O-23-12, An Ordinance Amending the City of Eagle Lake, Florida Code of Ordinances by Amending Chapter 12, Solid Waste, Article III Collection and Disposal, Sec. 12-54 Service Fees – Regular Garbage and Trash Collection, To Update the Charges for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Authorized therein; Providing for Conflicts, Severability and an Effective Date.**

Attorney Maxwell read Ordinance No.: O-23-12 by title only.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve Ordinance No.: O-23-12.

Mayor Coler asked for audience discussion.

Ron Fleming 1218 3<sup>rd</sup> Court stated Eagle Lake has high water costs and asked what can be done so he doesn't have to pay for sewer when watering grass.

Tiffany Griffith, Utility Clerk, stated the cost of an irrigation meter is \$1400-1700, she advised that cost covers the meter, tap and labor.

It was also discussed that Eagle Lake has some of the lowest water rates in Polk County. The Commission discussed by having small rate increases yearly it helps avoid large increases at once.

Mr. Fleming started rental property isn't good for neighborhoods.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: Billings, Metosh, Clark, Coler

NAYS: None

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. 2023/2024 Budget**

Manager Ernharth stated we have a strong budget; he advised that he is expecting a 12% budget increase in the general fund. Mr. Ernharth advised that not all projections are in from the state.

Mr. Ernharth advised that in the budget he has included the cost of an additional deputy, additional monies included to do street paving in the next fiscal year, and the salary for a full-time Library Director. He advised he has spoken with Mike Brynjulfson regarding the permit tech position; he will add the permit tech to the budget and will offset part of the cost by increasing the permit fees in the revenue line.

Mr. Ernharth advised he is expecting a 10% increase in the water/sewer funds and 9% for garbage. Mr. Ernharth stated our payment to the Polk Regional Water Cooperative will be increasing to \$160,000 next year; he advised our current payment is \$33,000.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Consideration of the Amendment #4 to Cooperation Agreement between Polk County and the City of Eagle Lake - Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

**MOTION** was made by Mayor Coler and seconded by Commissioner Metosh to approve Amendment #4 to Cooperation Agreement between Polk County and the City of Eagle Lake - Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

### **B. Consideration of the City of Eagle Lake Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and seconded by Commissioner Billings to approve the City of Eagle Lake Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

- C. Consideration of Resolution No.: R-23-09, A Resolution of City of Eagle Lake Florida, Relating to the State Revolving Fund Loan Program; Making Findings Authorizing the Loan Application; Authorizing the Loan Agreement; Establishing Pledged Reserves; Designating Authorized Representatives; Providing Assurances; Providing for Conflicts, Severability, and Effective Date.

Attorney Maxwell read Resolution No.: R-23-09 by title only.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and second by Commissioner Billings to approve Resolution No.: R-23-09.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

- D. Consideration of Architectural and Engineering Design Services Agreement for City Hall Complex Demolition and Replacement

City Manager Ernharth stated he discussed this with Mike Brynjulfson, he advised the city will be able to recoup the money we spend on engineering and design by adding it to the \$22 million bond.

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and second by Commissioner Billings to approve Architectural and Engineering Design Services Agreement for City Hall Complex Demolition and Replacement in the amount of \$1,716,997.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: Billings, Metosh, Clark, Coler

NAYS: None

**X. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Regular City Commission Minutes -----06/05/2023
- B. Approval of the Financials May
- C. Approval of the Financials June
- D. Approval of Bad Debt List -----\$591.72
- E. Approval of Proposed Plat of Village at Windsor Reserve

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Billings and seconded by Commissioner Metosh to approve the Consent Agenda items: A. the Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of 06/05/2023, B. the Financials May, C. the Financials June, D. the Bad Debt List in the amount of \$591.72.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and seconded by Commissioner Billings to approve the Consent Agenda E. Plat of Village at Windsor Reserve.

Mayor Coler asked for audience and Commission discussion; there was none.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

**XI. AUDIENCE**

There were no comments from the audience.

**XII. CITY ATTORNEY**

Attorney Maxwell had no report.

**XIII. CITY COMMISSION**

Commissioner Metosh had no report.

Commissioner Clark stated he attended 2 other municipalities firework displays and they were not as nice as ours in Eagle Lake; he stated our presentation was great and he hopes we use the same vendor next year.

Commissioner Billings thanked the city for sending his family a peace lily for the passing of his mother.

Mayor Coler agreed with Commissioner Clark's comments about the fireworks.

Mayor Coler thanked the city for the peace lily and condolences he received for the passing of his mother.

Mayor Coler advised he will be attending the Florida League of Cities Conference with Manager Ernharth and Clerk Wright this week.

Mayor Coler advised he has been chosen to be the Ridge League of Cities Treasurer.

Mayor Coler advised he is a nominee for the Polk Emerging Leaders Award. He finds out on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** was made by Commissioner Metosh and seconded by Commissioner Billings to adjourn at 8:09 p.m.

The vote was as follows:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

  
MAYOR CORY COLER

ATTEST:

  
CITY CLERK DAWN WRIGHT

