

**City of South Daytona
City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 14, 2023
immediately following the 6:00pm CRAG Meeting**

City Council Chambers, 1672 S. Ridgewood Avenue, South Daytona, Florida
and Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/CityOfSouthDaytona)

A. OPENING. Call to Order: Mayor William C. Hall called the City of South Daytona Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Roll Call:

Present:

Mayor William C. Hall
Vice-Mayor Eric Sander
Councilwoman Lisa O'Neal
Councilman Doug Quartier
Councilman Brandon Young
City Manager James L. Gillis, Jr.
City Attorney Wade Vose

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor William C. Hall followed by the **Invocation** led by Councilman Brandon Young.

Item 5: City Manager Report:

City Manager Gillis provided a recap of recent events. He said the 18th Annual Blaine O'Neal Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at Cypress Head Golf Course. Donations totaled approximately \$10,000 and all proceeds from the tournament benefit the South Daytona Community Trust. Mr. Gillis provided a recap of the Drive-thru Boo, which was held on Friday, October 27, 2023, at 6pm at Reed Canal Park as well as how city staff and Council members assisted South Daytona Christian Church, First Baptist Church of South Daytona and other local churches and organizations with the annual Light the Night on Tuesday, October 31, 2023. Mr. Gillis said the Drive Thru Movie featuring the Mario Bros Movie was well attended on Friday, November 3 at Reed Canal Park. He said there were at least 100 families in attendance.

City Manager Gillis said the Annual BBQ and Bluegrass Festival is set for Saturday, November 18, 2023, from 10am to 6pm at Reed Canal Park. BBQ teams will be competing in a Florida BBQ Association sanctioned competition, he explained. There will be artisan vendors for browsing and activities for the whole family, as well as concessions from the Citizens Alert Hot Dog Wagon, Mr. Gillis said.

Mr. Gillis said the North Pole Drive Thru is set for Friday, December 1, 2023, at Reed Canal Park from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is a spinoff of our Drive Thru Boo Event. Candy, cookies, and hot chocolate will be provided, there may even be an opportunity to see Santa and Mrs. Claus.

He encouraged residents and businesses to get ready for our 2023 Holiday Lighting Awards which will be held in December. Awards will be given to the best holiday decorated homes and businesses

in South Daytona. Homes and businesses are nominated by calling the Parks and Recreation office at (386) 322-3070. All nominations must be submitted by December 11th.

Item 6: City Attorney Report:

City Attorney Wade Vose discussed the upcoming Florida 2024 Legislative Session which begins in January. He asked if the Council would like to receive updates during his monthly report to keep them informed of the proposals and the potential impacts. City Attorney Vose also wished the Council a Happy Thanksgiving.

B. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Mayor Hall presented a Proclamation to the Port Orange South Daytona Chamber of Commerce for Small Business Saturday, which is set for Saturday, November 25, 2023. Barbara Ann Heegan, Executive Director of the Port Orange South Daytona Chamber accepted the Proclamation and discussed the upcoming Small Business Saturday event. She introduced Kelly Moore who was also in attendance as a representative from the Port Orange South Daytona Chamber. She discussed the Chamber's Leadership program which recently concluded, and the graduation of the leadership class occurs tomorrow. Ms. Heegan thanked the city for their partnership with the class and the support of small business Saturday.

Frank Amendolia, 791 Aspen Drive, said the 29th Anniversary of Tropical Storm Gordon is approaching. He said last month was the first anniversary of Hurricane Ian. Mr. Amendolia expressed his disappointment in the Nova Canal Task Force. He discussed flooding as his home was flooded during the Hurricane Event in 2022. He discussed Code Enforcement and his recent Code violation and Special Master Hearing elaborating on violations on Silver Pond and Magnolia Avenue.

Frank, Suzanne, and Lindsay Roberts, business location of 2700 S. Ridgewood Avenue, discussed their façade improvement grant request. City Manager Gillis said he will reach out to Robert's family.

Kelly Moore, 2306 Brian Ave, thanked the City for their partnership with the Port Orange South Daytona Chamber of Commerce. She discussed the recent ribbon cutting for Allied Veterinary Specialist, which was held on Thursday, November 9th.

C. CONSENT AGENDA (Items 8-12):

Mayor Hall introduced the Consent Agenda and said the matters included under the consent agenda are self-explanatory and not expected to require discussion for approval. Items will be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired by any member of the City Council, that item must be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

Item 8: Approval of minutes: October 10, 2023, City Council Meeting

Item 9: Consideration of approving a Façade Improvement Grant in the amount of \$5,000 to the La Paloma Plaza located at 2759 South Ridgewood Avenue as was presented in tonight's C.R.A.G. meeting.

Item 10: Consideration of approving an expenditure of \$115,972.56 for AT&T undergrounding costs on US 1 from McDonald Street to Ridge Blvd as budgeted in Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) Fund Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Item 11: Consideration of approving an Animal Sheltering Services agreement with Edgewater Animal Shelter from December 1, 2023, to November 30, 2024.

Item 12: Council notification of emergency purchase of \$30,472.60 to All State Civil Construction on October 17, 2023, for sewer main repair at 720 Marathon Way.

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented by Councilman Doug Quartier. Second by Councilman Brandon Young. Motion carried unanimously.

D. REGULAR AGENDA:

Item 13: Ordinance 2023-18. An Ordinance of the City of South Daytona, Florida, amending the City of South Daytona Code of Ordinances, amending Chapter 20, Water and Sewer Services, Article V, Water and Sewer Billing, Section 20-70, to include local business tax receipts and annual fire inspection fees, cost and fees for animal retrieval, intake and impounds, and cost and fees under Chapter 767, Florida Statutes, on the City Utility Bill; and providing for conflicts, severability, applicability, codification, and an effective date. First Reading was held on October 10, 2023. **Second and Final Reading. Public Hearing.**

City Attorney Vose read the title of Ordinance No. 2023-18.

City Manager Gillis said this Code modification will be both a time saver for staff and a convenience factor for the business or resident as a way to avoid required late charges. He noted at the last meeting Councilman Young suggested the title of the Utility bill be renamed to the Utility and Public Services Bill which staff thought was a great suggestion.

He explained the Local Business Tax Receipt Renewal Process and annual Fire Inspections for Commercial Businesses. He said each July, staff reviews all business tax receipts to assess whether the business still exists. For those businesses that appear to have shut down, we send them a Business Tax Receipt revocation notice and provide them with an opportunity to demonstrate they are still operating. If we don't get a response, the Business Tax Receipt is officially revoked. For those that still exist, staff will send notices for renewal. Mr. Gillis said 90% of businesses respond and renew. Staff contacts the remaining 10% numerous times, equating to many staff hours. He noted there are still 3 outstanding invoices from July. As State Law and the City Code establishes late fees be assessed for Business Tax Receipts beginning October 1, some businesses have inquired about the ability to just have it placed on their water bill, so they don't have to make a separate payment or be assessed the fine if they forget. As Fire Inspections are required annually for Commercial Business, this fee would also be included. City Manager Gillis commented that animal control costs will also be added.

Mr. Gillis said this modification provides the opportunity to make payments on the amount owed if they can't pay all at once through our utility bill repayment plan already established by existing ordinances.

He concluded with a staff recommendation to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance No. 2023-18 to allow for local business tax receipt and annual fire inspection fees, cost and fees for animal retrieval, intake and impounds, as well as cost and fees under Chapter 767, Florida Statutes be applied to the City's Utility Bills, as applicable.

Mayor Hall opened the public hearing. No comments received. Mayor Hall closed the public hearing.

Motion to approve by Councilman Doug Quartier. Second by Councilman Brandon Young. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 14: Ordinance 2023-19. An Ordinance of the City of South Daytona, Florida, amending the City of South Daytona Code of Ordinances, amending Chapter 8, Health and Sanitation, Article II, Weeds and Offensive Conditions on Property, Section 8-21, to allow the City Manager or his/her designee to provide notice to abate; and providing for conflicts, severability, applicability, codification, and an effective date. **First Reading. Public Hearing.**

City Attorney Vose read the title of Ordinance No. 2023-19.

City Manager Gillis said this Code modification is designed for efficiency. He explained the typical process for an abatement for high grass begins which begins with a courtesy notice to the resident. The resident is given five days which includes a weekend to mow. The vast majority of property owners resolve the issue immediately upon receiving the courtesy notice. For those few who do not resolve the issue, a notice of abatement is given. If the grass still has not been mowed, then the City will proceed to hire a contractor to cut it. The charge for the abatement is then placed on the Utility and Public Services Bill.

Under the City's proactive measures of Code Compliance, at the time nuisance abatement is required, property owners have received notification and education. When the nuisance has escalated to the City Manager, it is important for swift action to protect the health, safety and welfare of our residents while striving to achieve beautification. In order to keep the process expedited, staff recommends providing the City Manager with the opportunity to designate a member of staff to provide notice that there are nuisances on a property which must be abated, he said.

Mayor Hall opened the public hearing. No comments received. Mayor Hall closed the public hearing.

Councilman Young requested clarification that abatements can be for all properties including commercial and residential which City Manager Gillis confirmed.

Councilman Quartier asked if Code Compliance staff makes contact with the resident or business owner in person which City Manager Gillis confirmed and elaborated that staff speaks with the property owner and conveys the expectations. The typical process spans at least two weekends to allow for the property to be maintained.

Mayor Hall confirmed with the City Manager that abatements are not occurring on weekends. City Manager Gillis added that the contractors also wear a vest to identify themselves as South Daytona contractors.

Motion to approve by Vice-Mayor Eric Sander. Second by Councilwoman Lisa O'Neal. Motion carried unanimously.

E. COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Young commented on the many city events as this is the best time of year to enjoy them. He looks forward to the Legislative updates from Attorney Vose, he said, as he knows the Senators and Representatives will be under a lot of pressure, especially with insurance. He concluded by wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Councilman Quartier echoed the comments of Councilman Young and invited everyone to enjoy the BBQ and Bluegrass Festival on November 18.

Councilwoman Lisa O’Neal wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Vice-Mayor Eric Sander thanked staff for the birthday card as his birthday was November 13. He said he is looking forward to BBQ fest with judges training on Thursday and the event on Saturday. He mentioned he is thankful this year that there we have experienced a mild hurricane season which allows us to heal from the storms last year. He concluded by wishing a happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Hall mentioned a letter from the Volusia Growth Management Commission (VGMC) notifying the City that our representative, Christy Gillis, has been voted as the Vice-Chair of the Volusia Growth Management Commission. Mrs. Gillis has over 7 years’ experience on the Commission and was most recently the Secretary. He acknowledged her wiliness to serve the City.

Mayor Hall discussed an email from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) which notified him the City received a certificate of achievement of excellence in financial reporting for the report of the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. He gave kudos to the Finance Department. Applause received from the audience.

Mayor Hall said it was a privilege to attend the ribbon cutting of the Allied Veterinary Office. He explained how they have 7 different stations, exam tables, and even a quarantine room. The Office will employee approximately 50 people, he said. On Thursday, November 9th, the Port Orange South Daytona Chamber of Commerce hosted the ribbon cutting, he said.

Mayor Hall concluded with a recap of the Volusia County Elected Official Roundtable Meeting, which was held on Monday, November 13 at the Volusia County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). He discussed the capabilities of the Emergency Operations Center and the presentation from Emergency Management Director Jim Judge. A discussion of the Live Local Act and additional issues facing communities was also provided and discussed.

F. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor William C. Hall adjourned the City of South Daytona Regular Meeting of the City Council 6:40 pm.

Deputy City Clerk, Becky Witte

Mayor William C. Hall