

**City of South Daytona
City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 9, 2024,
immediately following the 6:00 pm
Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting (CRAG)**

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 6:08 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 said the 16th Annual Kailynne Quartier Memorial Ride is scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2024, starting at 10:00 am from City Hall and ending at the Piggotte Center for a nice lunch. All vehicles are welcome to participate in this event for the police-escorted ride.

Mr. Gillis announced that the second and Final Budget Hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

He concluded by announcing that the Fire Department will host a Drive-In Movie Night, presenting “Inside Out 2,” on Friday, October 11th, at Central Park starting at 7:00 p.m. The Citizens Alert Hot Dog Wagon will sell concessions.

Item 6: City Attorney Report:

City Attorney Wade Vose provided a report to the City Council. He discussed working on litigation matters and advising staff on subpoenas received regarding a private litigation matter of a past Code Enforcement Case. He said he has also been working with the Police Department on another forfeiture matter.

B. PRESENTATIONS:

Item 7: Proclamation: Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Mayor Hall read the Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation and presented it to Connie Fields in honor of her grandson Benjamin Fields, a local childhood cancer hero. Mayor Hall thanked

Mrs. Fields for the beautiful gold ribbons in front of City Hall and the Piggotte Community Center and for her continued dedication to this cause.

Mrs. Fields thanked the City for their support. She commented on the beautiful improvements to the Piggotte Community Center.

C. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: None

D. CONSENT AGENDA (*Items 9-12*):

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 9: Approval of minutes: August 13, 2024, City Council Meeting and August 13, 2024, Budget Workshop.

Item 10: Consideration of approving a Demolition Grant Request in an amount not to exceed \$6,391.50 for the removal of all structures, concrete, and debris at 1980 South Ridgewood Avenue as presented in tonight's CRAG meeting.

Item 11: Resolution No. 2024-23. A Resolution of the City of South Daytona, Florida, appointing members to the newly titled Planning Advisory Board (PAB); providing for terms; and providing an effective date. First and only reading.

Item 12: Consideration of approving the FY 2024-2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Subrecipient Agreement in the amount of \$93,016 for Street Rehabilitation of Sea Isle Circle, Coral Circle and Reef Road.

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented by Vice-Mayor Eric Sander. Second by Councilman Doug Quartier. Motion carried unanimously.

E. REGULAR AGENDA:

Item 13: Resolution No. 2024-24. A Resolution of the City of South Daytona, Volusia County, Florida, adopting the tentative millage rate for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2025; specifying the date, time and place of the second and final public hearing to adopt a final millage rate; and providing for severability and an effective date. **First and only reading. Public Hearing.**

City Attorney Vose read the title of Resolution No. 2024-24.

City Manager Gillis began by announcing this year's budget is a 10.18% decrease from the previous year, as we are now successfully debt-free. He said staff is proposing to maintain the prior year's millage rate of 7.7500 mills to provide funding for current year operations, adjust wages to reflect the current job market, and continue the City's commitment to capital replacement of the aging infrastructure as construction costs have significantly increased and supply chains continue to be an issue. The proposed rate of 7.7500 mills represents an 8.14% tax increase over the rollback rate of 7.1190 mills. In 2018 the millage rate was 7.8.

City Manager Gillis said personal raises for general employees are budgeted at 3% with a minimum of \$1.00 per the request of Councilwoman O'Neal. He said sworn police officer and fire fighter increases in accordance with the council approved contract with the International Union of Police Associations (IUPA) and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), respectively. The pay plan for general employees has been increased 3.56% in accordance with the consumer price index. This is predicated on our starting salary being set at \$16.00 per hour to stay above the state-wide minimum wage level to ensure a qualified, dedicated work force. He noted a change in the police department, eliminating the Captains position and created a Deputy Chief of Police position. Mr. Gillis recognized Steve Pignataro.

He said the average homestead parcel will see an increase of \$28.08 per year or \$2.34 cents per month. We are not utilizing any unassigned reserves which are designated for emergencies.

Mr. Gillis said now that the City is out of debt, staff wants to continue our commitment of "Investing in Us" which involves the replacement of our aging infrastructure, streets and public places including parks. As such, the proposed budget is heavy on street resurfacing and park improvements.

Mr. Gillis discussed the operating highlights including the roof at City Hall to be replaced (\$300,000), as well as the design and construction of a new evidence room for the Police Department (\$178,000). He discussed improvements to Reed Canal Park including interior wood bridge rehabilitation over the lake (\$30,000), parking lot paving plus sealcoat Nova parking lots (\$85,000), sodding the utility field (\$20,000), renovating and branding the Disc Golf Course (\$25,000), and replacing the picnic tables and trash cans in pavilions (\$30,000). He said at James Street Park we will be replacing the splashpad playground (\$85,000) and the scoreboard on the center field (\$30,000).

He discussed capital highlights including an automated sandbag filling machine (\$50,000), a Response Vehicle for the Fire Department (\$62,000), adding the yearly contribution towards the replacement of a fire truck (\$50,000), a new, smaller street sweeper (\$300,000) which Public Works Director Thornton wants to make an everyday fixture in our streets. He also said we are planning for a new bucket truck (\$180,000) as the current one is over 15 years old and in need of a replacement.

Mr. Gillis provided a detail of the "investment" projects within the budget. He explained the city will receive grant money for the design of the north side sidewalk on Reed Canal Road, a Traffic Camera Network, and the Sauls Street bridge replacement. He said .4000 mills will be used for street resurfacing which will generate an additional \$275,407 which enabled the budget to be set at a total of \$500,000 for the next fiscal year. Now that the City is out of debt, staff is recommending that we continue to commit .4000 mills to street resurfacing, he explained. This will allow us to get caught up on our resurfacing program that we were forced to neglect over the last two decades due to our previous level of debt. Cambridge Circle, Bristol Lane, Windle Lane, Hamlin Drive (east), Ponderosa Drive (east), Lambright Road (by the school), as well as Aspen Drive and Boulder Drive (the "U") will be resurfaced he said. Sea Isle Circle, Coral Circle and Reef Road will be resurfaced utilizing a CDBG Grant.

He explained that we will also be replacing Lift Station #5 and continuing our sewer lining project, which will cost \$750,000. The City of Daytona Beach set aside \$256,000 for additional sewer

capacity. Lift Station 12 on Hickorywood Drive and Lift Station 17 on Magnolia Avenue will be replaced.

We have applied for over 31 million dollars in grants, and as they are awarded, we must have the matching funds on hand, so we have set aside contingency funds for those projects, he explained.

With the increase in supply costs, we are excited to hold at 7.75 mills. We have over 4 million dollars in infrastructure improvements, and we are now debt-free.

He concluded with a staff recommendation of approval, holding the millage rate at 7.75 for the 7th year in a row. The final budget hearing will be Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 6:00pm.

Mayor Hall opened the Public Hearing. No comments. Mayor Hall closed the Public Hearing.

Councilman Brandon Young asked when we last had a functioning street sweeper, to which Mr. Gillis answered that his goal was to run the street sweeper all the time. Unfortunately, it has reached its useful life. Councilman Young also asked about franchise fees, to which Mr. Gillis responded that they were from Waste Pro and FPL.

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

Item 14: Resolution No. 2024-25. A Resolution of the City of South Daytona, Volusia County, Florida, adopting the tentative budget for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025; specifying the date, time and place of the second and final public hearing to adopt a final budget; and providing for severability and an effective date. **First and only reading. Public Hearing.**

City Attorney Vose read the title of Resolution 2024-25.

City Manager Gillis said this budget focuses on infrastructure improvements and paying attention to parks, resurfacing projects, and stormwater improvements that we and all residents can be proud of. He recalled the capital projects completed in the last several years.

He concluded with a staff recommendation to approve Resolution 2024-25.

Mayor Hall opened the Public Hearing. No comments. Mayor Hall closed the Public Hearing.

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

Item 15: Ordinance No. 2024-06. An Ordinance of the City of South Daytona, Florida, amending the City of South Daytona Code of Ordinances Chapter 21 "Consolidated Fee Schedule" to modify certain fees as shown in Attachment A which is attached hereto and incorporated into this Ordinance; and providing administrative actions, codification, conflicts, severability and an effective date. **First Reading. Public Hearing.**

City Attorney Vose read the title of Ordinance 2024-06.

City Manager Gillis said for many years, our city's fees were scattered throughout our code and policy books making them difficult for our residents and commercial partners to locate them. In 2021, staff went through our entire library and compiled all fees into a Consolidated Fee Schedule

(Ordinance No. 2021-05) which was publicly discussed and approved. The intent was realized by the improvement of customer service and transparency of city operations.

He said the vast majority of the proposed fee changes center around the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the past year. It is important that our fees keep pace with the CPI as the price of consumer goods, such as concrete and asphalt, fluctuates. It is important to note that the staff is not recommending that all fees be increased.

Mr. Gillis explained that Building Permits increased by 2%, but the other increases are the CPI increases in Utility fees, Stormwater fees, and Garbage rates. He said since the agencies we do business with (e.g., Daytona Beach, Waste Pro) increase their prices, we have to increase as well.

He discussed the rate study in progress for the utility fees, which will set our actions for the next five years. He said fines will also increase by \$5.00 per year.

He concluded with a staff recommendation of Ordinance No. 2024-06, with implementation beginning October 1, 2024.

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

Motion to approve by Vice-Mayor Eric Sander. Second by Councilman Doug Quartier. Motion carried unanimously.

F. COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Vice-Mayor Sander thanked the audience for attending. He congratulated Steve Pignataro on his promotion to Deputy Chief. He noted his excitement at seeing Central Park being utilized for Movie Night and Christmas events. He concluded by thanking the Planning Advisory Board members for their service.

Councilwoman O'Neal echoed Vice Mayor Sander's sentiments and thanked staff for their hard work, especially on the budget.

Councilman Young thanked staff for the budget, workshop, and one on one sessions. He said he is looking forward to Scooters Coffee being located on the corner of Big Tree Road and US 1. He noted that he had the opportunity to visit a Scooters Coffee location, and he found their slogan of saying "Scoot Around" after you ordered through the drive thru was a nice touch.

Councilman Quartier echoed the sentiments of the Vice-Mayor and other Councilmembers. He thanked the staff and the long-awaited improvements and upgrades throughout the City. Baseball starts next Monday, he said. He offered the opportunity to volunteer at the concession stand. He said the 16th annual Kailynne Quartier, Memorial Ride is Saturday. He said to join us for the ride or just lunch afterward. Registration is from 8:00 am to 10:00 am.

Mayor Hall thanked Finance Director Oliva and City Manager Gillis for the budget and one-on-one meetings that helped develop a strong budget. He said he believes the entire Council would like to see a reduction in the millage, but not until we catch up on the necessary infrastructure improvements.

Mayor Hall agreed with Connie Fields that the Piggotte Center, with the new paint and new TVs, adds value to our gem. He said he is looking forward to the upcoming events at Central Park.

Mayor Hall reported on the Volusia County Roundtable Meeting this morning, a good, progressive meeting on mental health and substance abuse issues in Volusia County. The suicides and abuse in Volusia County are higher than the state average, which needs to be reduced.


Mayor Hall congratulated Steve Pignataro for his new role. He said baseball season starts September 16 and complimented Councilman Quartier and the City Council on the concession stand and said the fields also look great.

Mayor Hall said he is looking forward to trying the coffee at the new Scooter's Coffee location in South Daytona.

Mayor Hall concluded the meeting by saying that the Kailynne Ride and childhood cancer are near and dear to our hearts, as Doug and Connie were neighbors for over 15 years. He asked that on Saturday, we take a moment to think about the purpose of the ride. He noted that Wednesday is September 11th, recalling watching the towers come down, and hoping it never happens again. He asked that we keep those folks in our thoughts and prayers.

G. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor William C. Hall adjourned the City of South Daytona Regular Meeting of the City Council at 6:50 pm.


Deputy City Clerk, Becky Witte


Mayor William C. Hall