

**City of South Daytona  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 6:00pm**

City Council Chambers, 1672 S. Ridgewood Avenue, South Daytona, Florida  
and FaceBook Live ([www.facebook.com/CityOfSouthDaytona](http://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 6:00 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

**Not Present:** None

**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 recapped South Daytona’s BBQ and Bluegrass Festival which occurred on November 19, 2022. He said thousands of people were in attendance and the parking area was periodically full throughout the day. He discussed the need for additional parking next year.

Mr. Gillis recapped the North Pole Drive-Thru where hundreds of cars participated and appreciated the holiday decorations in Reed Canal Park with the opportunity to see Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Congratulations to our Employees of the Year who were honored on December 1, 2022 by the South Daytona Citizens Alert Council, Mr. Gillis said. Suzanne Rhinesmith-Sorrell from the Parks Department was General Employee of the Year. She assists many departments and is instrumental in organizing our City Events. He discussed Officer Casey Gaffney as Police Officer of the Year noting he is one of two Drug Recognition Officers in Volusia County and was able to secure a grant for overtime for that role (which is included on the Consent Agenda). He concluded with discussing Driver Engineer/Paramedic Steven Evancho, Firefighter of the Year who has been involved in several lifesaving calls this past year.

City Manager Gillis said City offices will be closed Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th for the Christmas holiday as well as Monday, January 2nd for the New Year’s Day holiday. He also said the Christmas Garbage Collection Schedule will be the Normal Schedule this year with pick-up on Monday, December 26, 2022.

He provided an update on the yard waste and debris piles throughout the city. Mr. Gillis along with Code Compliance Manager McEnany traveled the city and noted each pile that was remaining. He said the goal is to have the majority cleaned by the end of the week with everything cleaned before the Christmas holiday.

Mr. Gillis also recapped the Christmas Box Club where members of the South Daytona City Council, city staff

and city volunteers along with other volunteers from various organizations throughout Volusia County spent Saturday, December 10th packing over 900 non-perishable food boxes for East Volusia County families. Immediately after packing the boxes, members of the City Council and City Staff hand delivered 50 of the Christmas boxes to South Daytona residents, he explained. Families were grateful for the generosity and thoughtfulness.

**Item 6: City Attorney Report:**

City Attorney Wade Vose provided an update on items addressed since the previous council meeting. He discussed reviewing items for this and future agendas including an Ordinance regarding abatement of nuisances with costs placed on the utility bill. He said he has been reviewing agreements and keeping up on the risk protection orders by tracking those deadlines and discussing with staff the next steps needed. A new partner has joined the Vose Law Firm, he shared, Paul Waters who has experience with State Government and was a previous Deputy Director with DBPR. City Attorney Vose also reported he reviewed the agenda in its entirety.

**B. Citizens to be Heard:**

Mayor Hall read into the record a letter from the Volusia Growth Management Commission (VGMC) regarding Christy Gillis who was reappointed as the Secretary of the VGMC as well as chair of the Budget Committee. The letter is on file with the Deputy City Clerk.

Emma Clark (Port Orange South Daytona Chamber of Commerce Representative) discussed Debbie Connors, President of the Port Orange South Daytona Chamber of Commerce upcoming retirement and party on Wednesday, December 21, 2023, from 5pm to 8pm. The new Chamber Director will be Diane Charles, she announced.

**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: November 8, 2022, City Council Meeting

**Item 9:** Consideration of a \$2,500 Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Call-Out Overtime Reimbursement Agreement with the University of North Florida.

**Item 10:** Consideration of approving a Settlement Agreement with Yelvington Big Tree, LLC.

**Item 11:** Consideration of approving the FY 2022/2023 Animal Sheltering Services contract for the Halifax Humane Society.

**Item 12:** Consideration of approving the FY 2022/2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Subrecipient Agreement for the amount of \$75,706 for James Street Park Splash Pad Renovations.

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented by Councilwoman Lisa O’Neal. Second by Vice-Mayor Eric Sander. Motion carried unanimously.

**D. Regular Agenda:**

**Item 13: Resolution 2022-31.** A Resolution of the City of South Daytona, Florida, amending Resolution No. 2022-25, setting forth appropriation for current expenses and capital outlay for the following funds: General Fund, Redevelopment Trust Fund, Transportation Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Utility Service Fund, and Permits and Inspections Fund, as required by the City of South Daytona, Florida, during and for the Fiscal

Year beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023; Adopting the Operating and Capital Budgets for the City of South Daytona; providing for severability, conflicts, and an effective date. **First and Only Reading.**

*City Attorney Vose read the Title of Resolution Number 2022-31.*

City Manager Gillis explained that due to the ongoing supply chain shortages, many of the capital items that were ordered last fiscal year have yet to be delivered. Since payment will be due when these items are delivered, the revenues and expenditures for these items need to be carried over from last year and recognized in the current year budget (FY 22-23). The highlights include the following:

James Street Park Playground – The delivery of the playground was delayed by the manufacturer; however, the installation is nearing completion in the next few weeks. Payment will be due when the work is completed; therefore, the revenue and expense from last year’s budget will have to be carried over to the current year.

New police patrol vehicles, utility trucks, code compliance and parks vehicles – These vehicles were ordered last fiscal year but have yet to be delivered due to a vehicle supply shortage. The vehicles have started to trickle in with most scheduled to be here in the next few months; therefore, the revenues and expenses from last year’s budget will have to be carried over to the current year.

Reed Canal Park Stormwater Pump – the proposed stormwater pump to be installed at Reed Canal Park was ordered last year but has yet to be delivered due to supply shortages. The pump is expected to be delivered in January 2023; therefore, the revenue and expense from last year’s budget will have to be carried over to the current year.

Lift Station #18 (Bryan Cave) - This lift station was purchased last fiscal year but has been placed on backorder. The lift station is expected to be delivered in the next few months; therefore, the revenue and expense from last year’s budget will have to be carried over to the current year.

SunTrail Design – The design for the SunTrail project was scheduled to be completed this month; however, a delay in securing survey services by the design engineer has caused the design of the project to be delayed. We have received an extension from the FDOT for the project to be completed in October 2023; therefore, the revenue and expense from last year’s budget will have to be carried over to the current year.

He concluded stating staff recommends the City Council adopt the resolution amending the budget as presented to ensure the revenues and expenditures from last year are effectively recognized in the current year’s budget (FY 22-23).

Mayor Hall questioned the Patrol Cars ordered in 2023.

Chief Cheatham discussed ordering the budgeted Police Cars as well as expected delivery dates.

Councilman Young discussed the Gateway Entry Signs. City Manager Gillis discussed the DOT (Department of Transportation) permitting process and projected bidding process.

Mayor Hall asked if the Council could review the final design. City Manager Gillis said he will bring to Council in January.

Motion to approve by Councilman Doug Quartier. Second by Councilwoman Lisa O’Neal. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item 14:** Consideration of approving a Task Order with Marquis Latimer + Halback for the development of a Reed Canal Park Master Plan and Schematic Drawing in the amount of \$59,930 as budgeted in the current fiscal year.

City Manager Gillis said during the budget process for FY 2022/2023 the City allocated funds for the development of a Reed Canal Park Redesign. City Manager Gillis described the redesign which will include parking improvements, pond bridge improvements, playground rejuvenation, as well as redesign of the frisbee golf area. Marquis, Latimer + Halback is one of our continuing services contracts, he explained, who will be starting the design after the first of the year. He said input will be sought from the community and Council this spring/summer.

He concluded with a staff recommendation to approve the Task Order with Marquis Latimer + Halback for the development of a Reed Canal Park Master Plan and Schematic Drawing in the amount of \$59,930 as budgeted in the current fiscal year.

Councilman Young discussed a typo in the proposal regarding the location listed. He asked if there is a Master or Strategic Plan of the City Parks. City Manager Gillis said he will research and share the Parks Master Plan.

Vice-Mayor Sander said this would be a wonderful renovation and the design should uncover the unused potential of the park. He explained Reed Canal is a world class park as the most complete skeleton of the Giant Ground Sloth was found in Reed Canal Park. He suggested a life-sized sculpture of the Giant Ground Sloth be added to the design noting he was on the second dig of the Reed Canal Park Pond which was a cool experience.

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

**Item 15:** Consideration of approving a market wage adjustment of \$1.89 per hour for Lieutenant Paramedic, Firefighter Paramedic, and Firefighter EMT to begin at mid-year (April 1, 2023).

City Manager Gillis reminded the Council of the market wage adjustments for the Police Department during the FY 22/23 budget review. He explained the wages for firefighters in Volusia County have increased significantly since the budget was prepared for the current fiscal year. South Daytona's starting firefighter pay is now the lowest in Volusia County which is not where we want to be. Our firefighters are dedicated to providing the highest quality lifesaving services to our citizens.

In order to attract new firefighters and retain our current workforce, staff is proposing to increase the hourly wage by \$1.89 per hour for each Lieutenant Paramedic, Firefighter Paramedic, and Firefighter EMT beginning on April 1, 2023. He explained the methodology to the increase \$1.89 per hour. He said this adjustment will place the City as third in the County for a Firefighter position, seventh for a Firefighter Driver/Engineer position, and fourth for a Firefighter Lieutenant position.

The estimated cost of the market wage adjustment would be \$46,494 including benefits. The increased cost to the fire department budget will be offset by savings from other General Fund budgeted positions that have been vacant in the beginning of Fiscal Year 2022-2023. As a result, the proposed adjustment is not expected to have a negative fiscal impact to our current budget.

Mayor Hall shared the comments he discussed with the City Manager in that he did not like the \$1.89 adjustment as he would prefer the amount be rounded the \$2.00. He discussed the "me too" clause in the Police Department Union Contract. He requested round numbers be used in next year's union negotiations and budgets.

Councilman Young asked if the Police and Fire Union Contracts are open on same year which City Manager Gillis answered yes, and they operate on a 3-year period which begins October 1. Councilman Young clarified the \$1.89 would be for a 6-month period. He also asked how many Fire Departments are in Volusia County which City Manager Gillis answered 12 to 14. They discussed the starting pay for those positions will now be closer to the middle instead of last when comparing to other Volusia County Fire Departments.

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

**Item 16:** Consideration of awarding the Magnolia Park Decking Replacement project (Bid 22-B-011) to Docks and Dwellings Construction Inc in the amount of \$265,946 as budgeted in the current fiscal year and funded by a 2022 Volusia County ECHO (Environmental, Cultural, Historical, or Outdoor Recreation) Grant.

City Manager Gillis explained the City was awarded an ECHO Grant to completely renovate Magnolia Park. Staff feels Magnolia Park is underutilized and feel there is potential for rejuvenation. He recalled the ECHO committee's visit to the Park with Mayor Hall and Parks Director Zengotita and their delight in seeing a family fishing off the Magnolia Park Pond Dock. He explained the City will act as general contractor and hire subcontractors. Although only one bid was received, staff has reviewed and has confirmed that pricing is fair and reasonable, he said.

He concluded with a staff recommendation awarding the Magnolia Park Decking Replacement project (Bid 22-B-011) to Docks and Dwellings Construction Inc in the amount of \$265,946 as budgeted in the current fiscal year and funded by a 2022 Volusia County ECHO Grant if awarded, construction is set to begin in early 2023.

City Manager Gillis also said the Magnolia Park Playground bid will be brought to Council at the January 2023 Meeting. He said the playground will be a fishing theme and noted the park will be closed during construction.

Vice-Mayor Sander suggested a QR code be posted and linked to a website to identify the fish which would provide an educational element to the activity of fishing. He also discussed signage ideas.

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

#### **E. Council Comments:**

Councilman Brandon Young wished everyone a happy holiday and looks forward to an exciting year. He said he looks forward to more sledgehammers and shovels, since our CRA corridor expectations are coming to fruition. He said he will be out of town during Debbie Connor's retirement party at the Chamber of Commerce but wishes her the best.

Councilman Doug Quartier echoed the sentiments of Councilman Young. He thanked the employees and volunteers for their work in 2022 noting he had fun with all of the events, and he thinks citizens enjoyed them as well. He said staff is working hard to get the parks back into shape after the Hurricanes, especially Park of Honor. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilwoman O'Neal echoed the comments of Councilman Young and Councilman Quartier. She congratulated the Employees of the Year. She thanked staff and wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

Vice-Mayor Sander announced a project to help keep pollution out of our city drains. He explained the problem with pollutants going into City storm drains as all drains lead to a body of water whether it be the Halifax River or a retention pond or lake. He said the City participates in the NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Program which controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into water systems (storm drains). He said do not put anything down the drain besides water. Tree trimmings, beer cans, cat litter, car oil and any other pollutants should not go down the storm drains. To help remind people of this, there is a marking program where the drains can be labeled with buttons. He announced his plans to begin an organized effort to place these labels on the drains. He said the city has had a happenstance program in the past and this effort will help in our audits which occur every

two years. He said the first pilot project will be this Saturday (December 17, 2022) from 9 am to 11am. He welcomed citizens to join, and they can call or email him if they would like to participate. He said he has participation waivers, and the participants can get volunteer hours. He concluded with a Happy New Year and Merry Christmas, stating this is the time to keep in mind the real meaning of Christmas, God's Gift of his only son to us.

Mayor Hall asked if there is a cost associated to the city for the program and Vice-Mayor Sander answered we have 250 buttons in stock. City Manager Gillis explained the buttons were purchased 2 years ago as each year Public Works marks drains for the program.

Mayor Bill Hall discussed the Mayor's Roundtable event which occurred on Monday, December 12, 2022. He said each mayor discussed the overwhelming rain event at the end of September. He discussed the Nova Canal study which was completed 10 years ago. He said the outfalls in Daytona Beach from the study still need to be installed.

Mayor Hall congratulated Mainland High Football Team in their upcoming game for the State Championship, which is set for Friday, December 16, 2022 at 1:00pm. He said the game would be at Florida Atlantic University with a Pep Rally at Jackie Robinson Stadium this evening.

Mayor Hall concluded with a Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas. He said to reach out if you need anything, and we will be there to assist.

**F. Adjournment:** Mayor William C. Hall adjourned the City of South Daytona Regular Meeting of the City Council 6:51 pm.

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*Deputy City Clerk, Becky Witte*

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*Mayor William C. Hall*