



CITY OF COCONUT CREEK CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

**Government Center
4800 W. Copans Road
Coconut Creek, Florida**

**Date: May 9, 2024
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Meeting No. 2024-0509R**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sandra L. Welch called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PRESENT UPON ROLL CALL:

Mayor Sandra L. Welch
Vice Mayor Jacqueline Railey
Commissioner Joshua Rydell
Commissioner John A. Brodie
Commissioner Jeffrey R. Wasserman
City Manager Sheila N. Rose
City Attorney Terrill C. Pyburn
City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

Mayor Welch asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Attorney Pyburn noted that the meeting was being conducted live with a quorum physically present and explained the procedures for the meeting.

PRESENTATION(S)

- 1. 24-077** A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY 2024 AS "JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH."

Commissioner Wasserman read the proclamation into the record. Lisa Spivack Katz, Chief Government Affairs Officer of the Combat Antisemitism Movement, provided a video message, thanking the Commission for the proclamation.

- 2. 24-084** A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY 18-24, 2024, AS "NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK."

Vice Mayor Railey read the proclamation into the record and presented it to United States Coast Guard Flotilla 35 Commander Bob Uleski. Mayor Welch highlighted a recent water safety event sponsored by the Police and Fire Departments, highlighting the importance of wearing safety vests.

- 3. 24-096** A PRESENTATION BY WASTE MANAGEMENT INC. OF FLORIDA REGARDING THE PROPOSED MONARCH HILL LANDFILL EXPANSION.

Mayor Welch advised that the Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) for the proposed Monarch Hill Landfill expansion had been deferred to late summer, and the Solid Waste Authority Executive Committee would be meeting on May 10 to discuss the topic. She suggested it may be more appropriate to

postpone the item. There was consensus among the Commission to postpone the item until late summer.

INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC

Susan Steinhauser, 5842 Eagle Cay Circle, Coconut Creek, spoke about International Water Safety Day on May 15, 2024. She commented on how easily a child could slip underwater in a pool or bathtub and noted that Florida was the leader in drowning in the United States for children ages one (1) to four (4). She encouraged residents to say something when they see an unsafe situation and asserted drownings happen with adults present when everyone thinks someone else is watching the children.

Harold Kahn, 3101 Portofino Point, Apartment A2, Coconut Creek, shared his experience with the 2024 Class of the Citizen's Academy. He urged every Coconut Creek resident to take part and noted how impressed he was with the pride and passion of every department. He stated he had received many promotional items throughout the program and asked that the City be more judicious in its spending on giveaways.

Jennifer Ramsey, 4151 NW 9 Court, Coconut Creek, spoke in opposition to chickens being allowed in South Coconut Creek, stating she wanted her daughter to grow up in the same wonderful neighborhood she remembered as a kid. She commented that the ordinance should not be changed, as most Coconut Creek residents did not want chickens and commented that the current ordinance should be enforced.

Joseph Catania, 291 NW 43 Avenue, Coconut Creek, read a letter he had sent to the Commission on March 23 in opposition to a change to the ordinance regulating chickens. He asserted very few residents raised this issue and most did not want chickens in the City. He commented on the condition of roads in South Coconut Creek and the impact of the Margate water project on the timeline for repair. He asked that the City consider advancing the funds to address dilapidated roads.

City Attorney Pyburn advised that the animal ordinance, which encompassed more than just chickens, would be before the City Commission at the May 23 meeting. Assistant City Attorney Eve Lewis clarified the draft language included in the animal ordinance. She read the section related to chickens, noting the revised draft categorized chickens as agricultural animals, prohibited agricultural animals not part of a bona fide agricultural operation under Florida's Right to Farm Act, with a limited exception for no more than four (4) chickens on a sufficiently large-sized parcel, the definition of which required a minimum of one (1) acre.

Sandra Henry, 810 NW 42 Avenue, Coconut Creek, shared an email she had written to Commissioner Wasserman regarding the proposed animal ordinance. She commented that ignoring the Code should not be without consequences, and Code Enforcement should act promptly. She commented that many facts had been provided as to why chickens should not be allowed on less than one (1) acre of land.

Tammy Lettieri, 3302 Carambola Circle South, Coconut Creek, shared that she was passionate about opposing expansion of the landfill. She stated she appreciated the City's Pass Up Plastics pledge, but thought the City could be doing more, highlighting the Zero Waste initiative. She commented that it was a myth that plastic could be recycled, discussed ingestion of micro-plastics, and highlighted unnecessary plastic food packaging. She encouraged the Commission to contact Miramar Mayor Wayne Messam and Pembroke Pines Commissioner Jay Schwartz regarding their active campaigns against construction of an incinerator. She noted the City of Gainesville had a Zero Waste program.

Patricia Snyder, 4140 NW 9 Court, Coconut Creek, commented she was in favor of the language read by Assistant City Attorney Eve Lewis. She commented that the City had let her down in responding to

the chickens in her neighbor's yard since 2020. She read from the Code and stated it needed to be clarified that a minimum one (1) acre parcel was required to have chickens, and those who violated the Code should not be allowed to continue.

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 4, 5, and 6)

Mayor Welch read each of the titles of the Consent Agenda Items into the record.

- 4. **24-076** A MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS CITY COMMISSION MEETING(S). (2024-0411R)

- 5. **RES**
 2024-029 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH STAGE PRO AUDIO CORPORATION DBA STAGE DIGITAL ADVISORS TO DESIGN, PURCHASE, INSTALL, REPAIR, AND MAINTAIN AUDIO VISUAL SOUND EQUIPMENT AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER PURSUANT TO RFP NO. 10-11-23-11.

- 6. **RES**
 2024-063 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE ASSIGNMENT OF MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT TO MFREVF IV – CYPRESS, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG NW 51 TERRACE.

MOTION: Rydell/Wasserman – To approve Consent Agenda Items 4, 5, and 6.

Upon roll call, the Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

REGULAR AGENDA

Utilities and Engineering

- 7. **RES**
 2024-077 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH MACEDA CONTRACTORS, LLC TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES TO BUILD AN ADDITION TO THE SABAL PINES PARK MAINTENANCE BUILDING PURSUANT TO IFB NO. 02-13-24-11.

Mayor Welch read the Resolution title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Wasserman – To approve Resolution No. 2024-077.

Utilities and Engineering Director Osama Elshami presented the item, explaining the area was used as the main staging area for equipment and materials, as it was central to the City. He stated the area had been adapted over the years, and reviewed images of the site. He advised the goal was to have a larger area to protect materials from theft and weather and simplify inventory.

Commissioner Brodie asked whether the expansion would impact the ability to move equipment in the parking area without safety concerns. Mr. Elshami advised the space was wide enough to accommodate.

Commissioner Rydell stated he understood the need, but believed the expenditure could be

deferred in favor of priorities identified during the budget workshop in March.

Mayor Welch commented on the investment in the equipment stored on the site and stated when the use of the space was originally approved, it was with the understanding that the materials and equipment would not be out in the weather. Mr. Elshami stated new materials, such as pumps, could not be purchased at this time because they did not want them sitting outside and noted that sometimes this delayed jobs. He advised that the funding source was the Enterprise Fund with a small portion from the Street and Stormwater funds.

Commissioner Rydell asked if the Enterprise Fund could be used to upgrade parks, noting the water infrastructure at Lakeside Park as an example. Mr. Elshami stated the fund could not generally be used for parks but could be used for the water infrastructure.

Commissioner Wasserman inquired as to whether there was air conditioning in the storage containers, and Mr. Elshami advised there was not. Commissioner Wasserman commented on storage issues at his workplace and shared that they had ordered storage units with air conditioning for approximately \$7,000-\$10,000. He noted he agreed with Commissioner Rydell regarding the priorities identified during the budget workshop and funding for projects and public safety. Mr. Elshami pointed out the difference in size between what was proposed and a normal storage container.

City Manager Rose added that exterior storage in these types of containers did not comply with Code. She advised that part of the project was also cleaning up storage in a residential community. She noted it had been a budgeted expense and commented that if there was a desire to discuss this item during the budget process, the Commission may consider tabling it to provide staff an opportunity to explore how critical the need was and whether the project could be slimmed down.

MOTION: Brodie/Wasserman – To table Resolution No. 2024-077.

Upon roll call, the Resolution was tabled by a 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Railey asked that further discussion of this matter include details on the value of equipment on the site. Commissioner Rydell suggested that unless the item was of public safety importance, it be added to the priority list, because the City was trying to fund a Fire Station, as well as other public safety issues.

8. **ORD 2024-022** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 10, “FLOOD PREVENTION AND PROTECTION,” ARTICLE II, “APPLICABILITY,” SECTION 10-9, “BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING FLOOD HAZARD AREAS,” TO UPDATE THE DATE OF THE FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY AND FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP; AND BY AMENDING ARTICLE IV, “DEFINITIONS,” SECTION 10-63, “DEFINITIONS,” TO UPDATE THE MEANING OF MARKET VALUE. (FIRST READING)

City Attorney Pyburn read the Ordinance title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Wasserman – To approve Ordinance No. 2024-022 on first reading.

Mr. Elshami presented the item, explaining that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) required the adoption of new flood maps to remain in the Community Rating System, a program which provided residents with discounts on flood insurance. He noted the ordinance

also included changes to a definition, as required by the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

Mayor Welch opened the item to public comment, and there were no questions or comments from the public.

Upon roll call, the Ordinance passed on first reading by a 5-0 vote.

City Attorney

9. **ORD 2024-019** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK BY AMENDING ARTICLE III, "CITY COMMISSION," SECTIONS 301, "COMPOSITION; ELIGIBILITY; ELECTIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICE," 302, "THE MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR," 303, "GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES; COMPENSATION," 304, "PROHIBITIONS," AND 305, "VACANCIES; FORFEITURE OF OFFICE; FILLING OF VACANCIES;" AND BY AMENDING ARTICLE V, "ESTABLISHMENT OF REQUIRED BOARDS AND COMMITTEES," SECTION 501, "ORGANIZATION OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES;" AND BY AMENDING ARTICLE VII, "REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS," SECTIONS 709, "RECEIPT OF RETURN-CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION," AND 710, "FILING FEES FOR CANDIDATES;" AND LAST BY AMENDING ARTICLE IX, "GENERAL PROVISIONS," SECTIONS 907, "CHARTER REVIEW; CHARTER REVIEW BOARD," AND 908, "AUTHORITY OF COMMISSION TO DIVIDE CITY INTO VOTING DISTRICTS; (RE-DISTRICTING BOARD)," TO REORGANIZE THE COMPOSITION OF THE CITY COMMISSION FROM FIVE (5) DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS TO ONE (1) ELECTED MAYOR AND FOUR (4) DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS AND THE COMPLETE REVISION OF THE CHARTER TO ACCOMPLISH SAME. (SECOND READING)(PUBLIC HEARING)

City Attorney Pyburn read the Ordinance title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Wasserman – To adopt Ordinance No. 2024-019.

City Attorney Pyburn reviewed changes to the ballot language of the proposed Charter Amendment between first and second reading made to provide more clarity on the cancelation of the 2027 Municipal Election. Commissioner Rydell and Commissioner Wasserman commented on the importance of transparency to the residents.

Commissioner Wasserman spoke about the importance of giving Coconut Creek voters their own day, separate from all other politics, rather than being at the bottom of a ballot. He stated the City Commission was closer to the residents than any other form of government and noted the importance of being more cognizant of voter education.

Mayor Welch opened the public hearing.

Jamie Redmond, 4320 NW 12 Street, Coconut Creek, stated she appreciated the clarification of the ballot language, but she did not agree with some of the effects of the initiative. She noted canceling an election would result in two (2) Commissioners serving a six (6) year term, which was not what the public voted for. She commented on term limits and stated her understanding was that this ordinance would restart those limits in 2029, resulting in being able to serve 24 years, which she did not support. She stated there was also no consideration of moving elections to November, and turnout was low in March.

Patricia Duaybes, 4106 Oxbow Drive, Coconut Creek, shared that she had been canvassing in her neighborhood recently, and this was a hot topic. She stated there were four (4) questions that continually come up, including the length of the elected Mayor's term, whether the term limits that passed on the ballot in 2020 would apply or reset for the newly-elected Mayor, if the 2027 Election would be canceled, and whether the additional two (2) years of the Commission term would count toward term limits.

Nancy Fry, 5341 Flamingo Place, Coconut Creek, thanked staff for the amendment to clarify the cancelation of the 2027 Election. She highlighted that this measure was going on a November ballot and spending tax dollars to do so when the March ballot was fine for everything else. She referenced comments made at the first reading, noting the citizen-led Charter Amendment. She commented that voting should not be made more difficult for certain groups of people and that November elections were less partisan and have less financial interests. She commented there was not enough time for public comment on the item.

Becky Tooley, 4411 Coconut Creek Boulevard, Coconut Creek, stated this was an interesting discussion in the dog park, and most people were not in support of an elected Mayor. She noted others were in support of an elected Mayor but did not like only having four (4) districts. She stated she felt there would not be full representation of all areas on the Commission. She commented that term limits should stay the way they were. She added that people get out and vote in the March municipal elections if they care; but in November, the City Commission was at the end of the ballot and there was voter fatigue. She agreed voters need to be educated, but the election should remain in March.

There were no more questions or comments from the public, and Mayor Welch closed the public hearing.

Assistant City Attorney Lewis responded briefly to questions brought up during public comment. She explained the term of the elected Mayor would be four (4) years, and term limits would reset with the reorganization, as drafted. She noted the question regarding whether the additional two (2) years of two (2) Commission terms was nuanced, but as the Charter currently read, the shortened two (2) year term and the lengthened six (6) year term would each count as one (1) term. She provided additional details regarding the background on the current Charter provisions and the proposed version. City Attorney Pyburn added that, as drafted, the term limits would not reset until the reorganization in 2029. She clarified that current term limits for seats A and D began with the 2023 Election and for seats B, C, and E they began in 2021.

Commissioner Rydell stated, since his election in 2015, he believed that there should be an elected Mayor and term limits. He advised that the Commission had discussed ballot language to move the election to November, as well as language to make the position of Mayor elected, and reached consensus to move forward with the elected Mayor portion. He asked City Attorney Pyburn if there was time to add an additional ballot measure regarding November elections. City Attorney Pyburn advised the deadline for the Supervisor of Elections Office was June 10, and the next two (2) meetings of the Commission were scheduled for May 23 and June 13, so it would be too late. Commissioner Rydell commented that he appreciated the engagement, but the debate was whether to place a referendum on the ballot. He stated if the residents vote down the referendum, things would remain as-is. He highlighted benefits of a consistent voice as Mayor and stated he thought it was in the best interest of the residents. He stated that a transition to an elected Mayor would require either lengthened terms or shortened terms and suggested that he and Mayor Welch agree to shorten their terms and have every seat up for election in 2027. He argued the essence of democracy was that this item be placed on the ballot.

Commissioner Brodie stated he liked the suggestion that Commissioner Rydell had made.

Vice Mayor Railey commented that Coconut Creek was unique and did not need to follow other cities with November elections and an elected Mayor. She stated they should be leaders, not followers, and what was in place has worked and has been the best the City can be. She asserted large communities in the City with high voter turnout could dictate who the Mayor would be, and for that reason alone, she was in favor of status quo.

Mayor Welch stated she voted no on this issue previously for the reasons Vice Mayor Railey shared and others. She advised that she did not think an elected Mayor was necessary in the City, and noted that in her canvassing, no resident had ever asked her why the City did not have an elected Mayor, but they did express a preference to vote in November.

Commissioner Rydell asked Mayor Welch if she was okay with shortening her term rather than extending terms. Mayor Welch stated the question was based on providing an elected Mayor, and she was not in favor of that.

Commissioner Wasserman stated candidates had already filed for the March 2025 Election, and noted he found it troublesome to make changes at this point.

Commissioner Rydell clarified that a seat was not vested for a candidate to run until it was qualified. City Attorney Pyburn confirmed.

Commissioner Rydell made a motion to amend the language of the ordinance to not cancel the March 2027 Election, but to hold the election with all candidates on the ballot. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mayor Welch called for a vote on the ordinance, as presented.

Upon roll call, the Ordinance passed by a 3-2 vote, with Vice Mayor Railey and Mayor Welch voting nay.

Sustainable Development

City Attorney Pyburn explained the City's quasi-judicial procedures that would be applied to Agenda Item 10 as follows (verbatim):

Florida courts have determined that there are certain types of matters, including Item 10 on tonight's agenda, that are to be treated differently than other items considered by the Commission. In these quasi-judicial applications, the Commission is applying existing rules and policies to a factual situation and is therefore acting like a Judge and Jury do in a trial held in the courtroom. In such cases, the courts have decided that due process and fundamental fairness require that more formal procedures be followed.

The City Commission's decision must be based on the evidence and information that is presented at the public hearing including the agenda materials, Planning and Zoning Board recommendation, testimony presented at the public hearing, and the deliberations of the City Commission. The quasi-judicial procedures require that the Commission consider the evidence presented to it and base their decision on the applicable law and primarily on credible evidence presented whether by staff, the applicant, or members of the public.

In a quasi-judicial proceeding, the City Commission is not allowed to take into consideration public

sentiment or the popularity of a particular development proposal or application. The City Commission may only consider competent substantial evidence. This means testimony or other evidence that a reasonable mind would accept as credible and adequate to support a conclusion. Florida courts have made it clear that mere generalized statements of opposition are to be disregarded, but fact-based testimony can be considered competent and substantial evidence. This can include eyewitness observation testimony about relevant facts and documentary evidence, including photographs, aerials, and maps. Citizens who want to participate in a quasi-judicial hearing can testify as to factual matters and any element of the case that would not require specialized training or specific academic degrees. Their testimony will be considered provided their testimony is backed up by established facts, studies, or evidence that is not conjecture or just based on a feeling. The quasi-judicial hearing process is not a popularity contest. The strict rules of evidence do not apply during the public hearing, but any comments must be relevant to the agenda item.

Everyone who seeks to speak on an item will be given an opportunity to speak. If you intend to provide testimony as to any of the applications to be considered tonight, you will be sworn in before your testimony is taken. Please know if you speak, you may be subject to cross examination; the City Commission may comment or ask questions of persons addressing the Commission at any time. If you refuse to either be cross-examined or to be sworn, your testimony will be considered in that context and given its due weight. The general public will not be permitted to cross examine witnesses but may request that the Commission direct questions on their behalf to the applicant or staff.

City Clerk Kavanagh confirmed the public notice requirements for Item 10 had been met and swore in the witnesses.

- 10. RES 2024-069** A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SITE PLAN REQUEST OF DAVID AULD OF JOHNS FAMILY PARTNERSHIP, LLLP TO PERMIT A MAXIMUM OF 104 SINGLE FAMILY TOWNHOMES AND VILLAS FOR THE PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A," ATTACHED HERETO AND GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS BLOCK 1 OF THE MAINSTREET AT COCONUT CREEK DEVELOPMENT. (QUASI-JUDICIAL)(PUBLIC HEARING)(TABLED FROM APRIL 25, 2024, COMMISSION MEETING)

Mayor Welch read the Resolution title into the record.

Commissioner Rydell moved Item 10 for discussion, seconded by Commissioner Brodie.

City Attorney Pyburn asked for any disclosures or ex-parte communications, and the following disclosures were made:

- Mayor Welch disclosed a phone call with Attorney Scott Backman earlier in the day.
- Commissioner Rydell stated he made a site visit to a 13th Floor property in Delray Beach.

Assistant City Manager and Sustainable Development Director Scott Stoudenmire presented the item, noting the resolution was continued from the April 25 meeting, primarily due to concerns related to unit sizes. He highlighted other discussion items from that meeting, including decorative fencing along Lyons Road and the addition of security for the mail kiosk, which could be addressed through a condition of approval if that were the desire of the Commission.

Commissioner Rydell advised that following his site visit, he would no longer be seeking a condition of approval related to the mail kiosk.

Scott Backman, Dunay, Miskel, and Backman, LLP, representing Johns Family Partners, LLLP, presented on behalf of the applicant. He shared artist renderings of the interiors of the proposed units to scale and a chart comparing square footage between the project and others in Coconut Creek. He stated bedrooms throughout the proposed project were standard size or above. Mr. Backman addressed Mayor Welch's comments regarding the need for a fence, sharing a cross section drawing with measurements to reflect the distance from the townhomes to the street. He highlighted the eastern boundary fence and advised there would be pedestrian openings at the three (3) trellises. He explained that after several conversations regarding the mail kiosk security issue, the applicant was proposing strategically-placed cameras for security to avoid potential unintended consequences of an enclosed structure.

Commissioner Rydell stated he had been critical of the applicant at the April 25 meeting and thanked the applicant for inviting him to Delray Beach to visit a similar project under construction. He urged his colleagues on the dais to schedule site visits to see what the developer, 13th Floor, was constructing. Discussion continued regarding the comparable project. Commissioner Rydell advised that seeing the Delray Beach development and hearing the commitments to do even better in Coconut Creek gave him comfort regarding MainStreet.

Commissioner Wasserman reiterated his previous requests for a fence or barrier. He stated it was important to match the aesthetic of the neighborhood and provide security. He suggested an amendment. City Attorney Pyburn suggested language that would state the Lyons Road frontage for Block 1 should include a contiguous decorative metal picket fence or other comparable material acceptable to staff and consistent with the MainStreet PMDD. Mr. Backman highlighted the intention for pedestrian access at the trellises throughout the MainStreet development. Discussion continued regarding the vision for pedestrian access and safety concerns.

AMENDMENT: Wasserman/Rydell – To amend the resolution to state the Lyons Road frontage for Block 1 shall include a decorative metal picket fence or other comparable material acceptable to staff and consistent with the MainStreet PMDD, continuous except for the connections to the trellises.

Upon roll call, the Amendment passed by a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Welch expressed appreciation for the extra cameras in and around the mail kiosk and for clarification of the distance between Lyons Road and the villas.

Mayor Welch opened the public hearing. There were no questions or comments from the public, and Mayor Welch closed the public hearing.

MOTION: Rydell/Brodie – To approve Resolution No. 2024-069, as amended.

Upon roll call, the Resolution, as amended, passed by a 5-0 vote.

City Commission

11. **24-095** A DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CITY COMMISSION SUMMER MEETING SCHEDULE.

Commissioner Rydell moved Item 11 for discussion, seconded by Commissioner Brodie.

City Manager Rose advised that traditionally during the summer months, the Commission cancels two (2) meetings. She stated staff recommended canceling the July 25 and August 22

meetings. She noted there would be several budget special meetings over the course of the summer.

Commissioner Rydell suggested consecutive meetings to provide a summer break. He noted he did not want to cancel anything that would impact City business.

City Manager Rose advised that a July break had been considered, but the City's health insurance contract was set to be reviewed at the first meeting in July. She noted the desire for a summer break could be considered when scheduling next year. Discussion continued regarding the need for a meeting to discuss the landfill expansion.

Commissioner Wasserman suggested June 27 and July 25. Mayor Welch sought and received consensus to cancel the June 27 and July 25, 2024, Commission meetings.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Rose stated the Commission was aware of Police Chief Albert "Butch" Arenal's pending retirement. She shared that it was with mixed emotions, and she wished him well. She advised that she planned to appoint Fred Hofer as Interim Police Chief while a full-time replacement was determined.

City Manager Rose announced that she also received the retirement notice of Deputy Fire Chief Brian Blizzard, one of the founding members of the Fire Department. She stated he had committed to continuing to work with the City through the completion of the collective bargaining agreement with Local 3080. She highlighted the work of Deputy Chief Blizzard on the Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating and wished him well.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Pyburn shared that Assistant City Attorney Eve Lewis would also be leaving the City to pursue a new opportunity. She highlighted the two (2) law school interns that would be joining the City part-time beginning May 20, noting Assistant City Attorney Lewis had applied for a grant to help fund the positions and had assisted with the hiring process.

COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Welch, Vice Mayor Railey, and the Commissioners each recognized employees leaving the City, including Police Chief Arenal, Deputy Fire Chief Blizzard, Assistant City Attorney Lewis, and Media Production Specialist John Hartzell and thanked each for their contributions to the City.

Commissioner Rydell asked that staff reach out to resident Tammy Lettieri, regarding the plastics initiative to discuss preemptions. He shared a business card with staff from a new Coconut Creek business owned by a resident called Clean Eat. Commissioner Rydell sought and received consensus to authorize City Attorney Pyburn to seek outside counsel, as needed, through the process of hiring a replacement for Assistant City Attorney Lewis.

Commissioner Wasserman shared that 99-year-old Coconut Creek resident and Holocaust survivor Saul Dreier would be sharing his story at the Jewish American Heritage and Holocaust Remembrance event on May 16. He briefly discussed the way hearing from the voters had been impactful for him and thanked the residents who showed him the need for clarifying the ballot language of the proposed Charter Amendment. He wished his wife a happy first Mother's Day.

Commissioner Brodie congratulated his son on his college graduation.

Vice Mayor Railey spoke about the Police Benevolent Association luncheon to honor the men and women in blue, and noted she was looking forward to a drive-through birthday party on Saturday for a 104-year-old resident named Olga.

Mayor Welch wished all a happy Mother's Day.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Joseph J. Kavanagh, MMC
City Clerk

Date