



CITY OF COCONUT CREEK CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

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

**Date: September 12, 2024
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Meeting No. 2024-0912R**

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 led by the members of the Winston Park Elementary Jammers, who led a musical performance prior to the meeting.

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. 24-139** A PRESENTATION OF THE LIFESAVING COMMENDATION AWARD FOR POLICE OFFICER EMMANUEL TORRES-CARRASQUILLO.

Police Captain Henry Cabrera recognized Police Officer Emmanuel Torres-Carrasquillo with the Lifesaving Commendation Award in honor of his response to a choking emergency at Atlantic Technical College. He noted this was Officer Torres-Carrasquillo's second lifesaving award in the last five (5) years. Commissioner Brodie shared brief comments on Officer Torres-Carrasquillo's contributions to the Coconut Creek Police Department.

- 2. 24-136** A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2024 AS "HUNGER ACTION MONTH."

Commissioner Wasserman read the proclamation into the record and presented it to Feeding South Florida Director of Development Devikka Ramkissoon.

- 3. 24-141** A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2024 AS "SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH."

Commissioner Rydell read the proclamation into the record and presented it to League of Women Voters member Melodi Willis.

4. **24-147** A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 19, 2024, AS “FIND THE GOOD DAY.”

Vice Mayor Railey read the proclamation into the record and presented it to the Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale Community Impact Team.

INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC

Susan Steinhauser, 5842 Eagle Cay Circle, Coconut Creek, congratulated Mayor Welch and Commissioner Rydell for being chosen to receive this year’s Broward Sierra Club Environmental Champion Award. She announced an initiative being championed by the Broward Sierra Junior Team and the local Climate Reality chapter, titled the Green Schools Campaign. She noted there was a Google form to express an interest or join the youth-led campaign and shared a QR code that directed to the form. She shared that a screening of “We’re All Plastic People Now” would be held on September 21 at 3 p.m. at the North Regional Library.

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9)

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

5. **24-128** A MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS CITY COMMISSION MEETING(S). (2024-0807WS AND 2024-0808R)
6. **RES**
 2024-122 A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH BROWARD COUNTY PROVIDING FOR FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION OF FISCAL YEARS 2020-2024 CARES ACT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CBDG-CV) AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CBDG) (CFDA #14.218 / FAIN # B-20-MW-12-0054, B-21-UC-12-0001, B-22-UC-12-0001) FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF THE RECREATION COMPLEX HVAC REPLACEMENT PROJECT.
7. **RES**
 2024-135 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAMPLE ROAD (STATE ROAD 834) ASSOCIATED WITH THE BROWARD COUNTY MOBILITY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM (MAP) SURTAX PROJECT.
8. **RES**
 2024-128 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE AGREEMENT WITH CRAIG B. KUSHNIR D.O., LLC, PROVIDING MEDICAL DIRECTOR SERVICES FOR COCONUT CREEK FIRE RESCUE.
9. **RES**
 2024-140 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION (AHCA) TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION (PEMT) PROGRAM FOR MEDICAID MANAGED CARE REIMBURSEMENT.

MOTION: Rydell/Wasserman – To approve Consent Agenda Items 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

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

REGULAR AGENDA

Fire Rescue Department

10. **ORD 2024-031** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 2, “ADMINISTRATION,” ARTICLE III, “DEPARTMENTS,” DIVISION 3, “FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT,” TO AMEND SECTION 2-82, “USE OF OFF-DUTY FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDICS OR FIRE INSPECTORS FOR UNOFFICIAL FUNCTIONS,” TO ADD JUNETEENTH AS A HOLIDAY AND PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE OF OFF-DUTY DETAIL FEES FOR FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDICS OR FIRE INSPECTORS. (FIRST READING)

City Attorney Pyburn read Ordinance the title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Railey – To approve Ordinance No. 2024-031 on first reading.

Fire Chief Jeffery Gary presented the item, noting the ordinance was necessary to align with the previously-approved fire collective bargaining agreement.

There were no questions or comments from the Commission on the item, and there were no questions or comments from the public on the item.

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

Utilities and Engineering

11. **RES 2024-139** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH FLORIDA UTILITIES, INC. TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE ACCESS STRUCTURE AND WET WELL REHABILITATION SERVICES PURSUANT TO IFB NO. 05-01-24-11.

Mayor Welch read the Resolution title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Railey – To approve Resolution No. 2024-139.

Utilities and Engineering Director Osama Elshami presented the item, noting the agreement with South Florida Utilities, Inc. would assist with ongoing maintenance of the City’s wet wells and associated infrastructure. He advised the vendor was present to answer any questions.

There were no questions or comments from the Commission on the item, and there were no questions or comments from the public on the item.

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

Sustainable Development

12. **ORD 2024-033** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 12, “GARBAGE AND REFUSE,” BY CREATING ARTICLE IV, “ZERO WASTE,” TO PROVIDE FOR THE REDUCTION OF SOLID WASTE BY LIMITED DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN PLASTIC PRODUCTS. (FIRST READING)

City Attorney Pyburn read the Ordinance title into the record.

MOTION: Rydell/Wasserman – To approve Ordinance No. 2024-033 on first reading.

Sustainable Development Director Justin Proffitt noted that Public Works Project Manager Mike Heimbach and Sustainability Manager Linda Whitman had been working on the Code amendment related to the reduction of single-use plastic in the community. Mr. Heimbach provided a brief summary of the proposed code amendments.

Commissioner Brodie commented that he felt telling businesses how to do business was a governmental overreach. He noted if this was a volunteer program and a partnership, he would be supportive of the initiative, but commented that a mandate would impact and restrain small businesses. He discussed park cleanups and the lack of plastic in the trash collected and commented that the program should be rethought.

Commissioner Wasserman asked for clarification on how the ordinance affected plastic straws. Mr. Heimbach advised that plastic straws would be prohibited, but alternatives such as paper and bamboo, as well as marine biodegradable bioplastic straws would be permitted. Commissioner Wasserman stated he understood and respected Commissioner Brodie's argument, and acknowledged this was a tough decision. He commented on the Commission's opportunity to help save the planet, highlighting balloons as an important component that impacts the environment.

Vice Mayor Railey noted some businesses had started doing these things voluntarily, and there were alternatives available to small businesses. She commented that she was seeing more plastic bottles and cans on roadways than ever before, and it was important to start somewhere.

Mayor Welch stated she realized the City had not gone as far as Gainesville did with their ordinance, and she was in support of the changes. She noted there were businesses that had been doing much of what was in the ordinance for a while, and those businesses should be recognized for leading by example. She commented that the City should be setting the tone for the community.

Commissioner Rydell advised that he had sat in on an interview with Mr. Heimbach, and it was telling to learn there were six (6) restaurants in Coconut Creek that have shifted to marine biodegradable plastic and were saving money.

Commissioner Brodie asserted there were only one (1) or two (2) companies providing the products, and companies would not be able to source them. He stated this was a reason he supported a voluntary program. He added that he supported getting rid of single-use plastics, but there must be a better way than impacting local businesses.

Mayor Welch opened the item to public comment.

Tammy Lettieri, 3302 Carambola Circle South, Coconut Creek, stated she was a retired small business owner and came from a long line of small business owners. She commented on regulations in her industry and stated without regulation there was chaos. She asserted if the Commission did not regulate single-use plastic, they would be hypocritical in tackling the ongoing landfill issue. She stated residents would not be healthy enough to support local businesses because of chemicals in plastics being emitted from the landfill. She added that recycling plastic was a myth and reiterated that regulation of plastics and public education were necessary.

There were no further questions or comments from the public.

Commissioner Wasserman stated that he felt fortunate to be in the position to lend a hand and help to lead the way. He highlighted the plastic island in the Pacific Ocean and stated he was proud to be a part of this small contribution.

Commissioner Brodie advised he was not against reducing plastics or recycling, but he receives phone calls from businesses asking what they will do, and a better plan was needed.

Vice Mayor Railey asked how many surveys had gone out to the community. City Manager Rose advised there were 70 surveys distributed and 14 responses received. Vice Mayor Railey stated she could not assume the reason other businesses did not answer, but if they were really up in arms, she believed the Commission would have heard from them.

Upon roll call, the Ordinance passed on first reading by a 4-1 vote, with Commissioner Brodie voting nay.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Rose shared that Brian Blizzard had accepted the position of Fire Chief, as Fire Chief Jeffrey Gary was retiring. She advised that the expectation was for the transition to take place in early November. She stated she had a productive meeting with representatives of the Broward County School District and had discussed consideration of a K-8 program or free VPK program for Coconut Creek Elementary, as well as the need to address traffic flow at Lyons Creek Middle School. She noted there would also be opportunities for community input at a meeting on September 18.

City Manager Rose advised that the Solid Waste and Recycling Processing Authority would also be holding a community input meeting on September 18. She stated staff had been working with several advocates in the community and would be prepared with staff presentations on the City's position and responding to expected questions. She provided a brief update on the previous discussion regarding the selection of the City's Poet Laureate and stated it had become clear that the program was created without the appropriate guidance or forethought, so staff would be analyzing the issue.

City Manager Rose stated that Broward County had announced that they expected to advertise on October 8 for the Land Use Plan Amendment and consideration of the A-6 zoning change for the Monarch Hill landfill, with a hearing scheduled for October 22.

She shared that staff was working on the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the new Fire Station and expected the solicitation to be open in early December.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Pyburn advised that responses had been filed in the *Henry Hague et al. versus Coolidge, Inc./Greystar Cocomar PCD and City of Coconut Creek* suit and a court ruling was pending. She stated she would update with developments as they were received.

COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Rydell asked staff to share the tentative schedule of upcoming Solid Waste community meetings on the City's social media.

Commissioner Wasserman advised he wanted to know more about the meeting with the Broward County School District representatives related to Coconut Creek Elementary School.

Commissioner Brodie shared that he was excited about Constitution Day on September 17 and noted that Broward County Schools had expanded the recognition to the full week. He stated he would take part in distributing pocket Constitutions to the eighth graders in Coconut Creek and speaking with students at Lyons Creek Middle School to highlight the First Amendment.

Vice Mayor Railey shared that she was invited to speak at an upcoming meeting on September 15 at the City of Hollywood Commission Chambers, regarding the burden of insurance and reserves for Homeowners Associations (HOA) and Condominium Associations (COA), in which Congressman Jared Moskowitz, Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, and Senate Budget Committee Chairperson Sheldon Whitehouse would be in attendance.

Mayor Welch wished an early happy birthday to City Manager Rose.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Joseph J. Kavanagh, MMC
City Clerk

Date