



## CITY OF COCONUT CREEK CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES

Government Center  
4800 W. Copans Road  
Coconut Creek, Florida

Date: June 10, 2021  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Meeting No. 2021-0610WS

---

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tooley called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

### PRESENT UPON ROLL CALL:

Mayor Rebecca A. Tooley  
Vice Mayor Joshua Rydell  
Commissioner Lou Sarbone  
Commissioner Sandra L. Welch  
Commissioner Jacqueline Railey  
City Manager Karen M. Brooks  
City Attorney Terrill C. Pyburn  
Deputy City Clerk Marianne Bowers

Mayor Tooley explained that Governor Ron DeSantis' Executive Order 20-52, as continuously extended, and Section 252.38, Florida Statutes, authorized all local governments to waive procedures and formalities otherwise required by both state and local law as necessary to allow local governments to continue to perform public work and take whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community. She noted that the meeting was being conducted live with a quorum physically present consistent with the Governor's Order and State law. City Attorney Pyburn explained the procedures for public participation and comment for the meeting.

### DISCUSSION – POST-LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Assistant to the City Manager Bernadette Hughes opened the discussion, providing a brief summary of the 2021 Legislative Session. She noted Hailey Berman, District Aide for State Representative Christine Hunschofsky, was present. Ms. Hughes explained that staff and the City's lobbyists had been working on the priorities outlined within the 2021 State Legislative Agenda, approved on December 3, 2020, by the Commission. She spoke about staff's approach to the session, community engagement on important legislative issues, and methods which had been effective, including asking residents to share their stories, letters of opposition, and submitting alternative language and amendments to proposed bills. She reported that the City had not received funding for the water project, but staff had identified several alternative funding sources, including grants and appropriations that they would be submitting over the next year. She outlined steps for next year's session and introduced Lauren Jackson and Candice Ericks from Ericks Consultants, Inc.

Ms. Ericks thanked the Commission and staff for their support and communication throughout the session. She commented on COVID-19 restrictions throughout the session and shared details on meetings regarding the City's appropriation request. She commented that she was still seeking feedback on the denial.

Ms. Jackson asserted that Coconut Creek's Congressional delegation was great, and Representative Hunschofsky had been able to pass some significant bills, including the bill to name the Kristin Jacobs Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area. In response to a question from Mayor Tooley, Ms. Jackson stated most of the bills from the session had not yet been sent to Governor Ron DeSantis.

## Minutes

June 10, 2021 – Commission Workshop

Page 2

Ms. Jackson continued reviewing legislation that Representative Hunschofsky had been able to pass, including a bicycle and pedestrian safety package and the addition of language setting up a mental health commission by recommendation of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Commission. She noted that the session was a difficult climate for local governments and stated that she thought it made a difference not having members of those governments able to visit the Capitol or take up issues or time in committee. She explained efforts to narrow the scope of preemption bills that had the votes to pass and strategies to amend bills where possible.

Ms. Jackson discussed the COVID-19 liability bill and the emergency management package, noting there had been a focus on limiting government powers and protecting civil liberties. Discussion ensued regarding limits on emergency orders and exclusions for weather.

Ms. Jackson reviewed additional legislation introduced, including:

- \$101.5 billion budget
  - Bonuses for first responders, teachers, and childcare workers
  - Childcare services for essential workers
- Local control for vacation rentals
- Florida Retirement System reform (not taken up by the House)
- Combatting public disorder
- Landmark sea level rise and resiliency package
  - Resiliency grants for planning and risk assessment
- Tobacco 21 (reduced version passed)
  - Preemptions to local regulation
- School safety package
- Investments in early learning and literacy
- Workforce package
- PIP reform (change to auto insurance)

Discussion ensued regarding the PIP reform bill and whether the Governor would sign the bill, as well as which groups were in support of the change.

Ms. Jackson continued discussing legislative highlights, including:

- Flood insurance / property insurance reform
- Tax cut package
  - Three (3) tax holidays
  - Affordable housing
- Online sales tax (passed after several years)

Commissioner Welch asked if there was any potential for legislation on plastic bags and other single-use plastics to be brought forward. Discussion ensued regarding study of the issue.

Commissioner Welch expressed appreciation to Representative Hunschofsky for sitting in on the gaming discussion and having an impact on both Coconut Creek and the Seminole Tribe. Ms. Jackson stated Senator Tina Polsky was also active behind the scenes on the issue.

Vice Mayor Rydell discussed the importance of lobbyists to support the City's interests. Discussion ensued regarding the gaming compact, potential issues with changes to it in the future, the expansion of gaming in the state, and long-range planning.

Ms. Ericks spoke to next steps, noting that they were trying to get Broward Days back up and work had

begun on preparing for the next session. She shared details of working on appropriations as well as looking at grants through different agencies to meet the City’s needs. She explained that a pre-session workshop would be scheduled for August or September.

Mayor Tooley discussed ways for the Commissioners to stay abreast of the session, including Florida Channel, email newsletters, and a text messaging service.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

---

---

Dated