



# CITY OF COCONUT CREEK CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

Government Center  
4800 W. Copans Road  
Coconut Creek, Florida

Date: July 11, 2024  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting No. 2024-0711R

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## 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  
Deputy City Manager Scott Stoudenmire  
City Attorney Terrill C. Pyburn  
City Clerk Joseph J. Kavanagh

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

## PRESENTATION(S)

1. **24-115** A SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR NEW POLICE OFFICER T'KEYAH TINDALL.

Interim Police Chief Fred Hofer introduced new Police Officer T'Keyah Tindall, providing a brief overview of her background. City Clerk Joseph Kavanagh administered the Oath of Office, followed by the badge pinning ceremony.

2. **24-114** A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JULY 2024 AS "PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH."

Vice Mayor Railey read the proclamation into the record and presented to Parks and Recreation Supervisor Colette Okomoto and staff.

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

## INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC

City Clerk Kavanagh recognized City Clerk Department Intern Bryce Pollock, who was in attendance.

Elizabeth Scardigno, 2042 Antigua Circle, Coconut Creek, highlighted an issue with cats going missing in South Coconut Creek over the past few weeks. She noted a cat had also been found deceased and was described as a natural death by a Coconut Creek Police Officer. She stated this was not an isolated incident and pointed to a pattern of animal cruelty representing a legal concern. She asked for an

investigation, public education, and law enforcement. Deputy City Manager Scott Stoudenmire asked that Ms. Scardigno connect with Sustainable Development Director Justin Proffitt, who oversees the Code Enforcement Department.

Gretchen Kronschnabel, 6114 NW 45 Terrace, Coconut Creek, commented that her neighborhood was interested in adding speed bumps or speed tables at NW 45 Avenue and NW 45 Terrace due to concerns with speeding. She noted traffic issues related to the middle school were being addressed, but there was also an issue with children vandalizing property while walking home. Deputy City Manager Stoudenmire stated that the Traffic Management team evaluates areas for the appropriateness of traffic calming upon request and encouraged Ms. Kronschnabel to speak with Mr. Proffitt regarding the committee.

Dustin Roach, 3866 Carambola Circle North, Coconut Creek, spoke regarding a restaurant near his home which appeared to have restructured from a quiet restaurant into a Miami-style night club. He advised the property line for the plaza was located 25 feet from where he and his wife sleep and there was bass playing until 2 a.m., even on Sundays. He stated he had been in contact with the owner and had his number to call in case of an issue, but it was happening every weekend. He noted safety concerns.

Alyssa Roach, 3866 Carambola Circle North, Coconut Creek, stated she had called the police 54 times. She stated she and her husband were unclear if the restaurant near their home had the paperwork to be a legal night club, but activity had gone from weekends only to during the week, as well. She noted there had also been patrons playing loud music from their vehicles and shouting, and she had taken decibel readings of nearly 80 decibels. She stated she was mostly concerned with safety concerns. Deputy City Manager Stoudenmire stated he had received an email on the issue, and staff would be reaching out to review the noise ordinance and protocols.

### **CONSENT AGENDA (Items 3, 4, 5 and 6)**

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

3.     **24-112**         A MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS CITY COMMISSION MEETING(S). (2024-0523R AND 2024-0613R)
  
4.     **RES**  
       **2024-091**         A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO DISPOSE OF SAID PROPERTY AS DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED LIST.
  
5.     **RES**  
       **2024-098**         A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) AGREEMENT WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY TO PROVIDE ONE (1) SRO AT COCONUT CREEK ELEMENTARY FOR SUMMER SCHOOL COMMENCING JUNE 24, 2024, AND ENDING JULY 18, 2024.
  
6.     **RES**  
       **2024-103**         A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO REQUEST THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) TO CONVEY SURPLUS PROPERTIES AND EASEMENTS TO THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK TO BE UTILIZED FOR THE PUBLIC PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DRAINAGE FACILITIES AND ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY WITHIN THE MAINSTREET PROJECT AREA, AS PROVIDED HEREIN AND LEGALLY DESCRIBE IN EXHIBIT "A."

**MOTION:** Rydell/Brodie – To approve Consent Agenda Items 3, 4, 5, and 6.

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

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **Community Relations**

7. **RES 2024-102** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH ASTRIATA, LLC FOR CITY WEBSITE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES PURSUANT TO IFB NO. 05-29-24-11.

Mayor Welch read the Resolution title into the record.

**MOTION:** Railey/Rydell – To approve Resolution No. 2024-102.

Community Relations Web and Graphics Specialist Martin Pillot advised that the City website was in need of upgrading so that it was easier to navigate and search and provide a more modern experience. He stated staff had explored several options, including staying with the current platform or migrating to a different content management system, and cost had led to the decision to seek a partner to design a site on the current platform. He reviewed the requirements utilized in seeking a vendor and discussed the specific needs of a government website, noting the selected vendor, Astriata, LLC, demonstrated the appropriate experience and skillset.

Commissioner Rydell commented on concerns shared on social media related to the cost and stated he thought the City was receiving a deal for a government website. He asked how many pages were included in the contract. Mr. Pillot advised it was over 600 pages, in addition to more than 300 forms. Discussion continued regarding the custom needs of a government site.

Commissioner Wasserman commented that the website was the main information hub for the City and perception was everything. He agreed the site was outdated and stated the effort had his support.

Commissioner Brodie highlighted the huge impact the website had and the complexities of what was considered due to the City, County, State, and Federal requirements. He asked the number of vendors that responded and the number of local applicants. Mr. Pillot explained more than 400 vendors received the City request, and of the eight (8) vendors who responded, one (1) was from Florida.

Aline Lin, CEO and Creative Director, Astriata, LLC, spoke briefly regarding purposeful design and the importance of offering a seamless website for public use and trust in the content provided. She shared a brief overview of the company's experience working with government organizations.

Vice Mayor Railey agreed the website was the connection between the City and residents, and noted it was important that it was user-friendly.

Mayor Welch stated she was impressed with the company's government experience and their 22 years in the business. She thanked staff for the time put into vetting the applicants.

There were no questions or comments from the public on the item.

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

## Police Department

8. **ORD 2024-028** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 2, “ADMINISTRATION,” ARTICLE V, “BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES,” BY ENACTING A NEW DIVISION 4, ENTITLED “SPEED DETECTION SYSTEMS IN SCHOOL ZONES,” AND BY ENACTING NEW SECTIONS 2-240, “PURPOSE AND INTENT,” 2-241, “DEFINITIONS,” 2-242, “AUTHORIZING USE OF SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT DETECTION SYSTEMS,” 2-243, “DETERMINATION OF SAFETY NEED,” AND 2-244, “IMPLEMENTATION OF SPEED LIMIT DETECTION SYSTEMS IN SCHOOL ZONES,” TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL ZONES SPEED LIMIT DETECTION SYSTEMS; PROVIDING FOR A LOCAL HEARING OFFICER TO HEAR APPEALS. (SECOND READING) (PUBLIC HEARING)

City Attorney Pyburn read the Ordinance title into the record.

**MOTION:** Railey/Wasserman – To adopt Ordinance No. 2024-028.

Police Legal Advisor Jeannette Camacho advised that since first reading of the ordinance on May 23, 2024, the City of Plantation had awarded the bid for school zone speed detection systems to RedSpeed and signed an agreement. She stated the City was in the process of putting its own agreement together as a participant of the procurement cooperative used for the solicitation.

Interim Police Chief Hofer shared a *PowerPoint* presentation reviewing key points of the speed detection system proposed for installation in the school zones, including a background on the State legislation that authorized the program, signage, public awareness campaign, and distribution of funds. He discussed independent studies conducted by the company and the City and noted staff recommended placement in the school zones of eight (8) schools with a heightened safety risk, including Lyons Creek Middle School, Monarch High School, Atlantic Technical College, Coconut Creek High School, Dave Thomas Education Center, Winston Park Elementary School, Tradewinds Elementary School, and Coconut Creek Elementary School.

Commissioner Wasserman asked for clarification on the data, noting police presence in certain areas, and asked why there were less officers at Coconut Creek High School. Interim Police Chief Hofer provided additional explanation on traffic enforcement operations. Traffic Enforcement Sergeant Donald Davis commented that the issue at Coconut Creek High School was with people driving the wrong way on the road, so an officer was stationed there every day enforcing pedestrian violations and wrong way violations, but there was not an officer doing speed enforcement. He pointed out the data provided was only addressing speed. Commissioner Wasserman expressed concern that speeders at some schools were not being identified, and pointed out the speed detection system would make that equitable because there would always be enforcement presence. Discussion ensued regarding the steps for implementation, starting with ordinance adoption and agreement execution.

Commissioner Brodie asked how many officers issued the 485 tickets referenced in the data. Interim Police Chief Hofer stated it was the full department, but the majority were written by the

traffic team. Discussion ensued regarding the fines for speeding citations written by officers and the fines for citations issued through the speed detection systems. Commissioner Brodie noted the ability to reallocate the City's resources to protect students. Discussion continued regarding the mix of residents and non-residents receiving citations, efforts to reduce the number of violations, and deployment time. Commissioner Brodie stated this system would eliminate a point of contact with motorists, increasing safety for Police Officers.

Vice Mayor Railey asked if the cameras were active 24 hours a day. Interim Police Chief Hofer explained they would be operating as license plate readers (LPR) 24 hours a day, but no citations would be issued except during the period before, during, and after school as per the parameters designated by the House Bill.

Mayor Welch commented this was another layer of safety for everyone involved and would free up valuable Police Department resources. She noted she was concerned about the programming of the school calendar into the system. Interim Police Chief Hofer advised the Police Service Aide responsible for the system would be monitoring that, and Sergeant Davis advised there were three (3) steps at which the calendar would be checked to ensure it was during school hours. Mayor Welch noted the multiple languages in communications from RedSpeed and the call center for people to ask questions when they receive a citation in the mail. Greg Parks, RedSpeed, discussed the call center hours and capabilities. Mayor Welch commented that the numbers show how much this was needed, as officers could not be everywhere. She asked about the education and awareness plan. Mr. Parks explained the robust education campaign, including a warning period, flyers sent home with students, and a public service announcement video.

Commissioner Rydell stated he believed there was a heightened safety risk in the school zones for school children that warrants action through policy. He noted his issue was with the process, and with piggybacking on the contract. Continuing, he noted that the Statute required a 30-day education period and citations for 10 miles per hour over the limit. He asked for a 60-day education period prior to roll out. Mr. Parks agreed, and noted education would commence immediately. He discussed the definition of public education and what would be included in the outreach. Commissioner Rydell asked that the Homeowners and Condominium Associations be informed, as well. Commissioner Rydell asked if this program would mean the Police Department was not writing tickets anymore. Sergeant Davis clarified that this program did not release the need for officers to write tickets in school zones. Discussion continued regarding the scope of enforcement. Commissioner Rydell asked about the contractual obligations with RedSpeed and City Attorney Pyburn advised the draft contract included the ability to terminate without penalty. Mr. Parks added that the onus was on RedSpeed to do a good job. Commissioner Rydell requested an update from the Police Department and RedSpeed six (6) months after the program goes live.

Commissioner Brodie asked that the documents also be translated into Portuguese.

Mayor Welch opened the public hearing.

Luke Kachevas, 3651 Carambola Circle North, Coconut Creek, stated that he reviewed the requirements to utilize school zone speed detection systems and commented that the proposed ordinance did not meet the requirements. He asserted traffic data must be considered for each location and commented that flawed data from the vendor was utilized. He asked the Commission to wait for other cities to test the system before making a change to the City's traffic systems.

Becky Tooley, 4411 Coconut Creek Boulevard, Coconut Creek, commented that the speeding during summer school had been horrible in South Creek. She commented on the need for additional speed limit signage and hoped the City would ask the School Board to address the need.

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

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

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Deputy City Manager Stoudenmire advised that, on an annual basis, the City submits a preliminary Millage Rate, Fire Assessment, and single-family Solid Waste rate to the Broward County Property Appraiser by early August for inclusion on the truth in millage rate (TRIM) notices mailed to property owners in mid-August. He sought consensus to set preliminary rates for Fiscal Year 2025, noting the rates ultimately approved in the budget may be lower than the rate included on the TRIM notice, but could not be higher. He advised the recommendation of staff was as follows:

- Preliminary Millage Rate: 6.9463, representing an increase on .5 mills over the current Millage Rate of 6.4463 to allow for flexibility in finalizing the budget.
- Fire Assessment of \$311.45, representing an annual increase of ten percent (10%) of \$38.31 for a single-family home, which included provisions for the collective bargaining agreement that would come before the Commission in August.
- Single-Family Solid Waste Assessment would remain the same at \$342.89.

Commissioner Brodie asserted that he did not want to raise the Millage Rate. He commented that he was supportive of being fiscally responsible in cutting things out of the budget.

Commissioner Wasserman asked about the increase per \$100,000 on a property. Finance Director Peta-Gay Lake stated this would represent an annual increase of \$50. She advised that the median taxable value was around \$275,000, which would represent an increase of about \$138 for the year.

Commissioner Rydell stated he also did not agree with raising taxes, but the City could not provide new services, build new Fire Stations, and do a number of major capital improvement projects without funds to do so. He commented that he did not support raising the Millage Rate, but he did support a TRIM notice that allowed for flexibility in budgeting.

Mayor Welch advised that in her meetings with the City Manager in regard to the upcoming budget, there were not enough services that could be trimmed to accommodate the obligations. She stated she believed the choice was clear that they either increase the Millage Rate or go out for a General Obligation Bond.

Commissioner Brodie stated he was in consensus for the TRIM notice rates with the understanding that staff go back and look at budget cutbacks. Deputy City Manager Stoudenmire stated staff was exploring all options and working feverishly to make sure they were providing the best budget possible. He received consensus on the proposed TRIM notice rates as stated.

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

City Attorney Pyburn shared that she had advertised for the Assistant City Attorney position and was in the process of interviewing. She stated she hoped to have a recommendation at the first Commission meeting in August.

**COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Rydell stated he had attended the Solid Waste Authority (SWA) meeting on June 28 in Plantation, which was the kick-off for the consultant going forward. He commented that the SWA Executive Board would look a lot different in 2025 due to several factors, and noted he had been working toward getting Coconut Creek on the Executive Board. He stated the group had an aggressive timeline and planned to have a Master Plan in six (6) months. Commissioner Rydell highlighted recreation programs in the City and stated they had been condensed to a point he did not believe was okay. He provided an example with the girls’ basketball season being shortened.

Commissioner Wasserman commented on the “Creek Eats” video series he and Commissioner Rydell had been creating and suggested a “Creek Eats” program in the community. Commissioner Rydell agreed it would be an opportunity to support local businesses.

Commissioner Brodie congratulated his daughter on her marriage the prior weekend. He shared his condolences for the family of Poet Laureate Laura McDermott Matheric.

Vice Mayor Railey stated she and Mayor Welch had started a program called “Creek Cares” to meet with the area school principals and non-profit leaders. She noted they had met the new principal at Coconut Creek Elementary School.

Mayor Welch recognized Parks and Recreation for the Juneteenth celebration, as well as other recent events. She noted she liked the idea of combining events to provide more robust opportunities. She commented on the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting, which included discussion of the widening of Florida’s Turnpike. She stated Transportation Project Manager Michael Righetti had shared the City’s comments and objects at the meeting and discussed details of the presentation briefly.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Joseph J. Kavanagh, MMC  
City Clerk

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Date