

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING TOWN OF LADY LAKE, FLORIDA

January 3, 2024

The regular meeting of the Lady Lake Town Commission was held in the Commission Chambers at Lady Lake Town Hall, 409 Fennell Blvd., Lady Lake, Florida, with Mayor Freeman presiding. The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

Moment of silence

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Freeman

ROLL CALL

Commissioner (Ward)	Present
Regan (Four)	YES
Roberts (One)	YES
Gourlie (Two)	YES
Sage (Five)	YES
Freeman (Three)	YES

STAFF PRESENT

Bill Lawrence, Town Manager; Thad Carroll, Growth Management Director; C.T. Eagle, Public Works Director; Pam Winegardner, Finance Director; Carol Osborne, Deputy Town Clerk; Nancy Wilson, Town Clerk

Town Attorney Derek Schroth was also in attendance.

A. CONSENT

- 1. December 18, 2023 — Town Commission Workshop Minutes**
- 2. December 18, 2023 — Special Conceptual Meeting Minutes**
- 3. December 18, 2023 — Town Commission Meeting Minutes**
- 4. Budget Adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (Pam Winegardner).**

Commissioner Gourlie made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; Commissioner Regan seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business to present.

C. TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

5. Ordinance 2023-21 – First Reading - An Ordinance of the Town of Lady Lake, Florida; Amending Chapter 10.5, Section 32, Paragraph (1) of the Code of Ordinances Relating to Membership in Pensions and Retirement; Providing for the Option for the Police Chief to Participate or Not Participate in the Plan.

Town Manager Lawrence stated that the ordinance proposes to amend the code such that the police chief is not required to participate in the Police Officer's Retirement Trust Fund which requires eight years of service to become vested. The police chief could opt to become a member of the general employee ICMA retirement program.

Commissioner Gourlie made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-21 on second and final reading as presented; Commissioner Sage seconded.

Commissioner (Ward)	Vote
Regan (Four)	YES
Roberts (One)	YES
Gourlie (Two)	YES
Sage (Five)	YES
Freeman (Three)	YES

Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager, Bill Lawrence stated that this week's managers' reports will highlight each department's accomplishments in 2023. He recognized Elisha Pappacoda who, in 2023, implemented the town's Facebook page and posted videos relating to the various town events.

Mr. Lawrence advised that on Monday, January 25th beginning at 9:00 a.m., The Villages Charter School students will be at Town Hall for the annual Mock Commission Meeting where the students will take part in a meeting of their own. He stated that the feedback

from the students last year was that they would like to see a commission meeting in progress to become familiar with the process. Students will be assigned to various elected and appointed positions and will then conduct their mock meeting. Mr. Lawrence encouraged the commissioners to attend and participate.

Mr. Lawrence advised that beginning in March, the Special Magistrate hearings will be held on the 4th Thursday of the month. He stated that this will allow several days before the hearing to encourage the offenders to come into compliance without requiring the code enforcement officers to work overtime on weekends prior to the meeting.

Mr. Lawrence stated that it has become increasingly difficult to get clergy to attend our commission meetings to deliver the invocation. He asked the commission if they would like to continue to have a moment of silence or if there is a commissioner or commissioners who would like to deliver the invocation at the meetings.

Mayor Freeman asked the commission if any are interested in delivering the invocation. None of the commissioners responded, and Mayor Freeman stated that there is no interest.

Mr. Lawrence stated that we will continue having a moment of silence.

MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mayor Freeman reminded the commissioners that when an email is sent to all the commission members and a reply is requested, they should ensure that the "reply" button, not the "reply all" button is chosen. This will avoid violations of the sunshine law.

Mayor Freeman stated that when he is out and he sees something that needs attention such as a damaged tree, he would call the Public Works Director directly. He acknowledged that the proper procedure is to contact the town manager and reminded the commission to do the same.

He stated that he is going to Tallahassee on January 29th to attend the annual Legislative Action Days which is hosted by the Florida League of Cities (FLC). The mayor asked his fellow commissioners for input about what they would like him to do while he is in Tallahassee. He stated that he will likely meet with Congressman Truenow and Senator Baxley. He plans on discussing Home Rule, among other topics, with them. Any input regarding Lady Lake where the state is involved is welcome.

Prior to public comments, Mayor Freeman reminded the audience that commission rules allow for three minutes per comment and per individual.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

s/Carol Osborne, Deputy Town Clerk

s/Ed Freeman, Mayor