

City of Live Oak
City Council Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2025

1

The Live Oak City Council met Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall, located at 101 SE White Ave., Live Oak, Florida 32064 for a regular monthly meeting. The following officials were present: Council President Matt Campbell, Councilmember Tommie Jefferson, Councilmember Vanessa Robinson, Councilmember Gladys Owens, Councilmember David Alford, Mayor Frank Davis, City Clerk John Gill, City Manager Larry Sessions, and City Attorney Todd Kennon.

Council President Campbell called the meeting to order.

Mayor Davis led the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council President Campbell proceeded to the first agenda item, approval of the agenda with any additions, deletions or changes. Councilmember Robinson requested that item 5C be deleted from the agenda. Council President Campbell requested the addition of Director of Parks & Recreation, Jason Furry to speak following Mayor Davis item. Councilmember Jefferson made a motion to approve the agenda with the deletion and addition to the agenda, which Councilmember Alford seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Council President Campbell proceeded to the approval of the January 14th, regular monthly city council meeting minutes. Councilmember Jefferson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, which Councilmember Robinson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council President Campbell then opened the floor to public comments for those who wished to speak now or wait until the agenda item is presented.

Requel Copler spoke regarding water mitigation.
David Chandler spoke regarding water mitigation.
Kenny Beasley regarding trash and pot holes.
Robert Flinn spoke regarding lighting downtown.
Nathan Smith spoke regarding updates at the Housing Authority.
Shanise Brown spoke regarding trash.
Darrell Bridgett spoke regarding Public Works.
Lynda Williams spoke regarding issues in the city.

With no other comments, the floor was closed to public comments.

Council President Campbell proceeded to Mayor Davis with matters regarding the city. Mayor Davis stated that the City of Live Oak received special recognition, a plaque from the Military Order of the Purple Heart and there will be a ceremony held at the Veterans Park on March 05, 2025 at 11:30 am for the installation of the plaque.

Mayor Davis advised that the Lift Up Live Oak group will be meeting to discuss the plans regarding trash clean up in and around the City of Live Oak. Also, Mayor Davis mentioned that regarding the shooting in the city a week earlier, there will be a recognition ceremony held for the Live Oak Police Department. City Manager Sessions advised that while the investigation is still ongoing there is no longer a threat to the community.

Council President Campbell then recognized Jason Furry, Director of Parks & Recreation. Mr. Furry gave an update on the John Hale building project and stated that the \$800,000 was received and ready to move forward with decisions on what type of updates are to be made towards the building. Mr. Furry also gave the requirements for the grant and that there is no matching fund required from the city.

Council President Campbell proceeded to Councilmember Robinson's agenda item, discussion with possible council action, CDBG Grant application with presentation by Cornerstone. Before the presentation, Councilmember Robinson took time to recognize Black History Month and then turned the

City of Live Oak
City Council Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2025

2

floor over to MR. Jeffrey Winter with Cornerstone. Mr. Winters explained the type of CDBG and the requirements for the application process along with the benefits should the city receive the grant. Mr. Winters advised that the application cycle will be available from March 05, 2025 until May 03, 2025. Councilmember Owens made a motion to have this item workshopped for February 18, 2025 at 4:00pm, which Councilmember Robinson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council President Campbell proceeded to Councilmember Robinson discussion item regarding water retention on 5th Street. City Manager Sessions explained the plans and changes that could rehab the road to include a water retention site. Mr. Sessions stated that he has already spoke with some of the owners regarding the new changes. City Attorney Kennon explained that the Public Works Director would need to get with the land owners.

Council President Campbell moved to Mr. Sessions discussion with possible Council action authorizing to join the County in assisting the Suwannee County Historical Commission with payment (50%) of their insurance deductible related to hurricane damages. The City's portion is in the amount of \$14,500. Mr. Furry spoke and gave the details of the payment from Suwannee County. Councilmember Jefferson made a motion to authorize the city to pay the \$14,500, which Councilmember Alford seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council President Campbell moved to discussion with possible council action, award bid for ITB-05-2024, installation of recreational trail lighting fixtures. Mr. Kennon stated that staff 's recommendation is to go with Felknor Electric in the amount of \$2,500. Councilmember Alford made a motion to award the bid to Felknor Electric in the amount of \$2,500, which Councilmember Robinson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council President Campbell moved to discussion with possible council, Resolution 2025-03, a resolution accepting a bid from Felknor Electric related to the installation of up to thirty-four light poles and fixtures on Heritage Trail within the City of Live Oak, Florida providing for the award and execution of a contract. Mr. Kennon read the title into the record. Councilmember Alford made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-03, which Councilmember Robinson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council President Campbell moved to discussion with possible council, Resolution 2025-04, a resolution declaring certain personal property owned by the city to be either surplus to its needs and sold at a publicly noticed sale or determined to be obsolete, non-serviceable, or beyond economic repair and appropriately discarded, providing for the authorization to remove such surplus property when sold or disposed of from the fixed assets of the city. Mr. Kennon read the title into the record. Councilmember Owens made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-04, which Councilmember Alford seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council President Campbell moved to discussion and possible council action for the appointment of Seat #5 of the Planning and Zoning Board for the remaining portion of a 3-year term starting August of 2024 and ending August of 2027 based on applications received. All applicants, Kennth Beasley, Patricia Bennett, and Adam Collins were given 3 minutes to state their qualifications. At the conclusion of interviews, Councilmember Robinson made a motion to appoint Patty Bennett, which Councilmember Owens seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Councilmember Alford voting no, Councilmember Owens voting yes, Councilmember Robinson voting yes, Councilmember Jefferson voting no, and Council President Campbell voting no. The motion failed 2 to 3.

Councilmember Jefferson made a motion to appoint Kenny Beasley. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Councilmember Alford made a motion to appoint Adam Collins, which Councilmember Jefferson seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Councilmember Alford voting yes, Councilmember Owens vote

City of Live Oak
City Council Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2025

3

Yes, Councilmember Robinson voting no, Councilmember Jefferson voting yes, and Council President Campbell voting yes. After further discussion Council President Campbell then took another vote with Councilmember Owens and Councilmember Robinson voting no. The motion carried 3 to 2 with Councilmember Alford, Jefferson and Campbell voting yes. Mr. Adam Collins is appointed to seat 5 of the Planning and Zoning Board.

Council President Campbell moved to discussion and possible council action, final reading of Ordinance 1528, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Live Oak, Florida adjusting utility rates as provided in Chapter 34, Article I and II, solid waste collection and disposal of the code of ordinance. Mr. Kennon read the title into the record. Council President Campbell opened the floor to public comment. Shanise Brown, Marian Gross, Janice Ackins, and Darrell Bridgett, Lynda Williams, Terri Brown, Phylis, Nathan Smith, Murdine Williams, and Maurice Perkins all spoke. Council President Campbell closed the floor to public comments. Councilmember Alford made a motion to approve the final reading of Ordinance 1528, which Councilmember Jefferson seconded. The motion carried 4 to 1 with Councilmember Robinson against.

Council President Campbell moved to discussion with possible council, Resolution 2025-06, a resolution authorizing the execution of grant agreement D0308 with the Florida Department of Commerce, providing for the acceptance of a grant award of up to \$559,365.00 in reimbursable cost associated with the rehabilitation of lift station 23. Mr. Kennon read the title into the record. Councilmember Owens made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-06, which Councilmember Jefferson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Councilmember Matt Campbell
City Council President

Attest:
Mr. John Gill
City Clerk