

December 2, 2025  
5:30 PM

The City Council of the City of Inverness met on the above date in Regular Session at 207 Courthouse Square – Valerie Theatre, with the following members present:

President Davis  
Vice President Lizanich – *Absent*  
Councilwoman Bega  
Councilwoman Hepfer  
Councilman Craig  
Mayor Plaisted

Also present were City Manager Williams, City Attorney Hartley, Staff Members, and City Clerk Jackson.

The Invocation was given by Councilwoman Hepfer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the City Council.

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

Councilwoman Bega motioned to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

#### **PRE-SCHEDULED APPEARANCES**

**5)a) Valerie Player’s Donation – Addition to Joe Brannen Donation** with Sue Whitney, President of the Valerie Players presenting a check to Mayor Plaisted for \$2,000 to be added to the designated fund. Linda & Janet Bega, the Bega Family, also presented check to Mayor Plaisted for \$2,000 to be added to the designated fund.

**5)b) Festival of the Arts Committee and Volunteer Appreciation** with Mayor Plaisted, assisted by Parks & Rec Program Coordinator Kristi Brown, presenting Certificates of Appreciation to volunteers for their support and dedication to the success of the Festival of the Arts event. Those present were Tom Craig, Susie Helton, Ben Olson, Jacquie Hepfer, and Sandy Levin. Additional volunteers were unable to attend the Council meeting.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS / WORKSHOP**

None

#### **OPEN PUBLIC MEETING**

Sandy Levin spoke of the Olde Fashioned Christmas & Tree Lighting event this past weekend being such a success. Quoted the number of views on social media at approx. 64,000 and growing with nothing but positive comments. Confirmed the tree will be in place until January 6, 2026. Announced that the downtown businesses are sponsoring “Elvis” (Billy Lindsey) coming on December 12 to entertain by the tree.

Karen Esty commended the phenomenal tree lighting event and how the families and the children had such fun. Stated she recently attended a stakeholder meeting regarding the County’s Comp Plan Amendment and that the City was recognized several times for all they do in promoting Inverness and Citrus County.

## CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

None

## CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Bill Listing\*
  - Recommendation – Approval
- b) Council Minutes\* – 11/18/2025
  - Recommendation - Approval

**Councilwoman Bega motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.**

## CITY CLERK'S REPORT

None

## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

**10)a) 104 E. Dampier Street Office Lease\*** with City Manager Williams stating the City enjoys mutually beneficial lease relationships with a number of local, state, and federal entities for the use of City owned properties. Pending the results of the upcoming December 9 special election for the District 11 Florida Senate seat, candidate Ralph Massullo has engaged with the City to locate his potential future office within the City of Inverness at 104 East Dampier Street from a term commencing December 15, 2025 through October 30, 2028. **Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to approve the lease agreement for the use of the 104 East Dampier Street Office Building and authorize the City Manager to execute the document. Seconded by Councilwoman Bega. The motion carried.**

**10)b) Interlocal Agreement for Fire Automatic and Mutual Aid\*** with City Manager Williams stating Section 163.01, Florida Statutes, known as the "Florida Inter Local Cooperation Act of 1969," authorizes local governments to make the most efficient use of their power to cooperate with other localities on a basis of mutual advantage in order to have available the equipment and personnel for backup purposes, direct active firefighting, rescue, emergency medical services, special operations, and emergency/disaster relief aid and assistance. In March 2019, the City of Inverness Fire Department and Citrus County Fire Rescue entered into an interlocal agreement to provide automatic and mutual aid for the benefit of both agencies during emergencies and disasters. Citrus County Fire Chief Stevens spoke of collaboration with the City Fire Department and the interest in developing an updated agreement that would better serve both parties. Councilwoman Hepfer spoke of this being a benefit for all and President Davis stated this is a win-win for Citrus County as a whole. **Councilwoman Bega motioned to approve the Interlocal Agreement as presented and authorize the Council President to execute the document. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.**

### **10)c) Project/Program Updates (*Verbal*)**

- Light Up Liberty and Holiday Events with Parks & Rec Director Worley announcing the Movie in the Park on December 5 in Liberty Park, Light Up Liberty event on December 6 from 4:00pm – 8:00pm where there will be several

areas of interest for everyone such as Mr. & Mrs. Claus, music, food, etc. There will be judging of the 30+ decorated lampposts and the return of the boat parade. There will be a Market at the Depot that morning with most vendors staying for the Light Up event in the evening. Announced the Christmas Parade is December 13 on Hwy 44. Noted several performances at the Valerie Theatre.

- North Apopka Medians – Texas Palm Decline with City Manager noting that a virus was discovered in many palm trees, which had to be removed and will be replaced with sod.
- WPP Workshop 12/17/2025 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers to learn a lot about the park and sustainability.
- Other included suggesting an extra day for the Christmas observation for employees, to include Friday with Council's support. Spoke of the generosity of our community. Noted the benefits the City enjoys from various partnerships. Displayed a card received from the downtown businesses thanking the City for all it does to keep the downtown active.

### **COUNCIL/MAYOR SUBJECTS**

Councilwoman Bega stated she is glad to be here and praised all that is accomplished.

Councilwoman Hepfer noted the wonderful atmosphere of the town and it is great.

Mayor Plaisted spoke of the City's relationships with various entities. This past weekend event was extraordinary with visitors and new residents commenting how impressive it was.

Councilman Craig commented what an overwhelming card that was received from the downtown businesses. What a testament to the partnerships.

Council President Davis spoke of the well-oiled team the City has. Announced he will unfortunately be out of town for this coming weekend event. Thanked everyone who attended the meeting this evening.

### **CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA**

None

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Council President