

September 3, 2024
5:30 PM

The City Council of the City of Inverness met on the above date in Regular Session at 212 W. Main Street with the following members present:

President Hepfer
Vice President Davis
Councilwoman Bega
Councilwoman Lizanich
Councilman McBride
Mayor Plaisted

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

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND MILLAGE LEVY

Resolution 2024-11 and 2024-12 Tentative Millage and Budget Adoption Public Hearing* with the following Notice was served to all Council, Mayor, Media, publicly posted, and TRIM Notices were mailed to each City of Inverness property owner by the Property Appraiser's Office.

City Council Full Budget Workshop – Public Notice DATE: March 1, 2024

PLEASE BE ADVISED **BUDGET RELATED WORKSHOPS FOR FY 2024/25** ARE CALLED FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, AT 212 W. MAIN STREET, INVERNESS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

April	2, 2024	5:30pm	Overview Workshop of Projects & Goals
May	7, 2024	5:30pm	Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Workshop
July	16, 2024	5:30pm	City-Wide Budget Workshop
Sept.	3, 2024	5:30pm	Tentative Budget Adoption - 1 st Public Hearing
Sept.	17, 2024	5:30pm	Final Budget Adoption - Final Public Hearing

/s/ Jacquie Hepfer
President of City Council

Council President Hepfer call the public hearing to order and commenced by stating the purpose of this hearing was to tentatively adopt a property tax rate (or millage) and budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year for the City of Inverness. A proposed property tax rate was advertised on the TRIM notices of 7.7600 mills. The City of Inverness budget has been finalized using the rate 7.6600 mills. The Tentative millage rate is greater than the rolled back rate of 7.2564 mills by 5.56%.

Council President asked for Council input with Councilman Davis acknowledging the .10 reduction of the initial proposed millage. Councilman McBride requested City Manager Williams explain millage.

Council President asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the Council as to any item within the Budget or millage levy. No one spoke for or against.

Council President advised that the proposed budget was developed using the rate of 7.6600 mills. The next motion must be to adopt the tentative millage rate. Any budget amendments may be made after adoption of the tentative millage rate. Called for a motion to read the Tentative Mill Levy Resolution by title only. **Councilwoman Bega motioned to read the Resolution by title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF INVERNESS FOR FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 1, 2024 AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman McBride motioned to adopt the Tentative Mill Levy Resolution adopting a tentative millage rate of 7.6600 mills for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Seconded by Councilman Davis. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilman Davis, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Council President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried.

President Hepfer asked if there was a motion to read the Tentative Budget Resolution by title only. **Councilman Davis motioned to read the Tentative Budget Resolution by title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA ADOPTING A TENTATIVE BUDGET COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; PROVIDING FOR PROPOSED EXPENDITURES; PROVIDING TAXABLE VALUES; PROVIDING FOR OPERATIVE FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR EXPENDITURES DURING FISCAL YEAR AND SUBSEQUENT HOLD OVER FUNDS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman Davis motioned to tentatively adopt the Tentative Budget Resolution adopting the tentative budget for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year as proposed by roll call vote. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilman Davis, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Council President Hepfer, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

President Hepfer announced the final adoption hearing for September 17, 2024.

The Public Hearing was closed.

The Invocation was given by Mayor Plaisted and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the City Council.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Councilman McBride motioned to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.

PRE-SCHEDULED APPEARANCES

4)a) Cooter Kudo Presentation – Sister City Inverness Scotland Youth Sculpture Project with Mayor Plaisted presenting a Cooter Kudo to **Paul Saviskas, and the student ambassadors of culture and arts** and teacher Dave Brown, from a local high school, for their design and creation of the Sister Cities – Lakes to Lochs sculpture which will be presented by Mr. Saviskas to the Inverness Scotland officials in October.

4)b) Cooter Kudo Presentation – Cornerstone Baptist Church with Mayor Plaisted presenting a Cooter Kudo to Pastor Darrell Reneau for exceptional volunteer dedication and contributions to our community, participation in City events, and the positive impact made.

4)c) Cooter Kudo Presentation – Twistid Art Initiative with Mayor Plaisted presenting a Cooter Kudo to Elisha Belden for launching a new Summer Youth Theatre Program, supporting local troupes with workshops and classes, and the commitment to the arts has enhanced our community. Also, for the partnership in Cootertober and the month of events.

4)d) City Bond Rating with City Manager Williams and introduced Jeff Larson, the City's Financial Advisor. Mr. Larson spoke of the bond rating, Standard & Poor's, etc. Spoke of the bond issue in 2017 for the multi-million dollars projects planned at that time. Stated the City as overachieving with our demographic standards. The rating has bettered from A+ to AA-. He noted financial institutions use the rating as a guide for credit risk. The City's rating demonstrates it as less of a credit risk and no requirement of bond insurance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS / WORKSHOP

5)a) Ordinance 2024-832 Utility Fees and Charges – Final Adoption* with City Manager Williams stating at the June 18 Council meeting, an updated rate study for the City's water and wastewater utility was presented regarding user fees and charges necessary to operate and maintain the system for the next five years. August 6 was the first reading of the ordinance modifying the aforementioned rates with revised costs of meter installations based on current prices for meters and supplies, and deposits and fees to be when establishing services and when certain fees are to be applied. Council President Hepfer opened the Public Hearing. **Councilman McBride motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2024-832 by Title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Bega. The motion carried.**

ORDINANCE 2024- 832

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 22-91 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED CAPACITY CHARGES TO INCLUDE A NEW FEE SCHEDULE; AMENDING SECTION 22-92 OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED DEPOSITS; RETURN OF DEPOSITS; AND SERVICES WITHOUT DEPOSIT FOR CERTAIN CUSTOMERS TO ADD CLARIFICATION OF THE PROCESS FOR DETERMINING, COLLECTING, AND REFUNDING DEPOSITS; AMENDING SECTION 22-93 OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED PAYMENT OF FEES AND BILLS REQUIRED TO ADD CLARIFICATION ON PENALTIES AND FEES ASSOCIATED WITH PAYMENT OF BILLS; AMENDING SECTION 22-98 OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED BASIC RATE SCHEDULE FOR POTABLE WATER, SEWER AND RECLAIMED WATER SERVICE TO INCLUDE A NEW RATE SCHEDULE;

PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND INTERPRETING THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CODE AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

No one spoke for or against the Ordinance. The Public Hearing was closed.

Councilman McBride motioned to adopt Ordinance 2024-832 by roll-call vote on a final reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilman Davis, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried.

5)b) Ordinance 2024-833/834/835 1155 S. Prospect Terrace Annexation– Final Reading* with City Manager Williams stating the owner of a 10.81 acre commercial tract at 2901 W. Hwy 44 recently acquired a 0.51 acre tract at 1155 S. Prospect Terrace and the 0.90 acre tract at 1157 S. Prospect Terrace. The property owner, Signet Investment Holding LLLP, submitted an application to annex the two tracts into the City and change the zoning designation from General C - County) to Commercial (C - City). Council President opened the public hearing. Community Development Director Shoemaker provided an overview of both annexations. Councilman Davis noted this is the property of the local Ford dealership. The Public Hearing was opened. **Councilman Davis motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2024-833 by Title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.**

ORDINANCE 2024- 833

AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING TO THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1155 S. PROSPECT TERRACE, SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 19 EAST, RANGE 19 SOUTH, CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 171, FLORIDA STATUTES PROVIDING FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SAID ANNEXATION, DESCRIBING THE AREA TO BE ANNEXED; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Karen Esty spoke of the property being landlocked and she has no opposition. No one spoke against the Ordinance.

Councilman Davis motioned to adopt Ordinance 2024-833 by roll-call vote on a final reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilman Davis, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried.

Councilman McBride motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2024-834 by Title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2024- 834

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AS REQUIRED IN SECTIONS 163.3161 THROUGH AND INCLUDING SECTION 163.3248, FLORIDA STATUTES; DETAILING THE LAND USE CHANGE INVOLVED

AND AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP FOR THE PROPERTY SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBED HEREIN; RECLASSIFYING 0.51 ACRES OF ANNEXED PROPERTY FROM CITRUS COUNTY GENERAL COMMERCIAL (“GNC”) TO CITY OF INVERNESS COMMERCIAL (“C”); PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

No one spoke for or against. **Councilman McBride** motioned to adopt Ordinance 2024-834 by roll-call vote on a final reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Councilman Davis, yes; and President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried.

Councilwoman Lizanich motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2024-835 by Title only. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2024- 835

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA; AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP FOR 0.51 ACRES FROM CITRUS COUNTY GENERAL COMMERCIAL (“GNC”) TO CITY OF INVERNESS COMMERCIAL (“C”); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

No one spoke for or against the Ordinance. The Public Hearing was closed. **Councilwoman Lizanich** motioned to adopt Ordinance 2024-835 by roll-call vote on a final reading. Seconded by Councilman McBride. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Councilman Davis, yes; and President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried.

5)c) Ordinance 2024-836/837/838 1157 S. Prospect Terrace Annexation– Final Reading* with City Manager Williams stating the owner of a 10.81 acre commercial tract at 2901 W. Hwy 44 recently acquired a 0.51 acre tract at 1155 S. Prospect Terrace and the 0.90 acre tract at 1157 S. Prospect Terrace. The property owner, Signet Investment Holding LLLP, submitted an application to annex the two tracts into the City and change the zoning designation from General C - County) to Commercial (C - City). Council President opened the Public Hearing. **Councilman McBride** motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2024-836 by Title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2024- 836

AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING TO THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1157 S. PROSPECT TERRACE, SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 19 EAST, RANGE 19 SOUTH, CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 171, FLORIDA STATUTES PROVIDING FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SAID ANNEXATION,

DESCRIBING THE AREA TO BE ANNEXED; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

No one spoke for or against the Ordinance. Councilwoman Bega motioned to adopt Ordinance 2024-836 by roll-call vote on a final reading. Seconded by Councilman Davis. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Councilman Davis, yes; and President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried.

Councilman McBride motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2024-837 by Title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2024- 837

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AS REQUIRED IN SECTIONS 163.3161 THROUGH AND INCLUDING SECTION 163.3248, FLORIDA STATUTES; DETAILING THE LAND USE CHANGE INVOLVED AND AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP FOR THE PROPERTY SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBED HEREIN; RECLASSIFYING 0.90 ACRES OF ANNEXED PROPERTY FROM CITRUS COUNTY GENERAL COMMERCIAL (“GNC”) TO CITY OF INVERNESS COMMERCIAL (“C”); PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

No one spoke for or against the Ordinance. Councilwoman Bega motioned to adopt Ordinance 2024-837 by roll-call vote on a final reading. Seconded by Councilman Davis. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Councilman Davis, yes; and President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried.

Councilman McBride motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2024-838 by Title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2024- 838

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA; AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP FOR 0.90 ACRES FROM CITRUS COUNTY GENERAL COMMERCIAL (“GNC”) TO CITY OF INVERNESS COMMERCIAL (“C”); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Debbie Wheatley spoke about the annexation process being educational and how the City must follow the guidelines. No one spoke for or against the Ordinance. The public hearing was closed. Councilwoman Bega motioned to adopt Ordinance 2024-838 by roll-call vote on

a final reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Councilman Davis, yes; and President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

David Mohr with Storm Distillery asked Council to reconsider the ordinance regarding the Entertainment District. Compared the ABV, alcohol by volume, for beer, wine, and alcohol.

Keith Shewbart with Twysted Vyne Wine and Beer Bistro stated in favor of the amendment to the Entertainment District. He is proud to be part of downtown Inverness. Asked Council to reconsider as they can withdraw the change in the future if necessary.

Anna Loughridge with No to 4.org spoke of using this time to educate the community regarding Amendment 4 and provided details.

Herb Pfeiffer spoke of the Entertainment District and how he cannot partake currently as he does not drink beer or wine.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Bill Listing*
 - Recommendation – Approval
- b) Council Minutes – 08/20/2024*
 - Recommendation – Approval

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

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

9)a) Charter Referendum Update with City Clerk Jackson stating by the majority of the City of Inverness voters, the City's Charter has been revised to eliminate Section 4.6 – City Canvassing Board, of Article IV - Elections. By the voters' approval of this change, the City election ballots will continue to be canvassed by the Citrus County Canvassing Board, which has been that way since approx. 2006. This is another decision that continues to maintain a workable, sustainable budget by maintaining expenditures with regard to City Elections.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

10)a) Cootertoiber Update with City Manager Williams stating last year, the City introduced a month-long set of events known as Cootertoiber. This relied on a public private partnership with Twistid Arts Initiative, that maintained the Cooter brand and recognized the popularity of elements of premium musical acts and cultural arts. With over 30 events across the City, Cootertoiber gave everyone in the family something to be a part of. This year's Cootertoiber is set to have well over 30 events once again. Asst. Parks & Rec Director Bechtel spoke to the various events and introduced Elisha Belden with Twistid Arts Initiative to present additional details to this year's Cootertoiber event. She also stated that Cootertoiber went viral on the internet. Councilwoman Lizanich questioned if there would be pumpkins again at the carnival with Ms. Belden confirming. Mayor Plaisted spoke of the recent Jeep rally and suggested an event called Jeepers Creepers next year. ***No Action Required – (Verbal)***

10)b) Ordinance 2024-839 Entertainment District with City Manager Williams stating several Council members, as well as a number of affected businesses, requested this item is being brought back for Council's consideration. This ordinance was considered at the previous meeting of Council resulting in a 2-2 vote, effectively not providing a clear decision by Council. The City has been hosting events in the Downtown Business District for over a decade. The approach relied on the closures of streets and the time from time provision of open container alcohol sales, thus competing with the local businesses. The state allows for the establishment of certain geographically defined Entertainment Districts by way of local ordinance adoption to allow for temporary expansion of premises for the purpose of beer and wine sales by businesses within the defined area under certain guidelines and controls. Legislative House Bill 1107 passed the House, Senate, and approved by the Governor on May 6, 2022. City Council adopted Ordinance 2021-771 which amended parts of Chapters 4 and 18 of the Code of Ordinances. The Ordinance specifies that only the sales of beer and wine would be allowed into the Entertainment District Area, a person may only possess one drink at a time, and the container must be no greater than 16-ounces and be City- approved. Local business owners have indicated a desire to add the sale of alcohol to the currently approved beer and wine sales. Including liquor and distilled beverages is a potential opportunity to incorporate existing businesses into downtown events, increase walkability between businesses during an event, increase activity within the Downtown Business District to promote more events, and encourage downtown establishments to work together and increase revenue from downtown events. Councilwoman Bega spoke of years ago when the Entertainment District was introduced. She is for the change. Mayor Plaisted spoke of alcohol by volume (ABV) being not much difference between beer, wine, and alcohol. Questions the 2 nay votes from last meeting. Councilman Davis spoke of the ABV, how people now come to events with coolers and no way to police that. Noted these are family events. Alcohol in a controlled environment would be okay, but this is his personal conviction. Councilman McBride spoke of the relevance, and he opposes the change. Wants City to take a conservative approach. Councilwoman Lizanich agreed with Councilwoman Bega. This also helps support local businesses and improve visitors' experiences. President Hepfer understands and see everyone's points. Currently this is not fair to businesses and asked Mr. Mohr to compare beer (India Pale Ale) with 10-11% ABV to Rum and Coke with 6.1%. **Councilwoman Bega motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2024-839 by Title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.**

ORDINANCE 2024-839

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 18-34, "OUTSIDE CONSUMPTION IN THE DOWNTOWN ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT (1) DEFINITIONS"; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, CONFLICTS, AND SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilwoman Bega motioned to approve Ordinance 2024-839 by roll-call vote on a first reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilwoman Lizanich, yes; Councilman McBride, no; Councilman Davis, no; and President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried.

10)c) Sunrise Group – Lobbying Services Renewal* with City Manager Williams stating the agreement with the Sunrise Group is set to expire September 30 and must be renewed to continue with lobbying services for the next year and legislative sessions therein. Inverness has a number of projects and initiatives that should be lobbied to the state Legislature for cooperative funding. The renewal will maintain the same terms and conditions, with an increase to \$36,000 annually. **Councilwoman Bega motioned to renew the agreement with the Sunrise Group for Lobbying Services and authorize the City Manager to craft, execute, and transmit a renewal letter. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.**

10)d) Utility Operations and Maintenance Agreement – US Water Piggyback Amendment* with City Manager Williams spoke of the City’s Wastewater Plant, Potable Water Plant, and Lift Stations. The City utilized the efficiency of the piggyback process to use the controlling agreement in place with the City of Crystal River for favorable terms and conditions including acceptable pricing of similar services and functions. Crystal River recently amended the original controlling agreement for services provided by US Water Services Corporation and secured services from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2029, with a provision to extend the agreement for five additional years through September 30, 2034, pending satisfactory performance and mutual agreement of both parties. In addition to the adjustment of the agreement term, there was a price adjustment approved regarding increased labor costs and other inflationary effects. For Inverness this would reflect next year's cost increase of 4.3% in the contract value for a total of \$1,328,108.88. **Councilwoman Bega motioned to accept Amendment No. 3 to the US Water Services Corporation Utilities Operation, Maintenance and Management Agreement in the amount of \$1,328,108.88 per year. Seconded by Councilwoman Lizanich. The motion carried.**

10)e) Project/Program Updates (*Verbal*)

- 9/11 Ceremony/Exhibit with Parks & Rec Director Worley noting this will be on Nov. 11 with the ceremony at 8:30am at the Depot Pavilion and the exhibit at the Valerie Theatre from 9:30am – 6:00pm.
- Spoke of the bond rating, utility rates and reserve policies.
- Saturday Night downtown was the biggest yet with a great crowd. Spoke of partnerships.
- This is the second year for Cootertober and is very excited for all that is planned.

COUNCIL/MAYOR SUBJECTS

Mayor Plaisted stated it was great to be back after 3 ½ weeks in Ecuador. Commented that even with differences and dialogue between Council, it never affects friendships. Spoke of Election season and do not put political signs on property without permission.

Councilwoman Bega noted she was out of town for the last meeting. Thanked everyone who speaks at the meetings.

Councilman McBride underscored the Mayor’s comments. Spoke of various agenda items. This is a great place to be.

Councilman Davis stated he supports the businesses 100%. Appreciates the comments by the community members as they are the pulse of the City. He respects all Councils opinions.

Councilwoman Lizanich stated they might not always agree but they are respectful. Spoke of the youth engagement programs and that it gives the youth a sense of pride.

President Hepfer spoke of a person from the Villages that praised Small Town Saturday Night event. Thanked the staff and Law Enforcement for all they do. Quoted we are to love each other even though not always agree.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

Debbie Wheatley asked about the Holden Park Reclaimed Water project with City Manager Williams stated it is ongoing as there is so much involved with the City, County, etc. Spoke of a possible controlled burn in Whispering Pines Park.

Anna Loughridge spoke again regarding Amendment 4 and continued to educate the community.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

City Clerk

Council President