

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Regular City Commission Meeting
Monday, February 12, 2024

The City Commission met in formal session Monday, February 12, 2024, at 5:00 P.M. in the Alcazar Room at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nancy Sikes-Kline, and the following were present:

1. Roll Call: Nancy Sikes-Kline, Mayor/City Commissioner
Roxanne Horvath, Vice Mayor/City Commissioner
Barbara Blonder, City Commissioner
Cynthia Garris, City Commissioner
Jim Springfield, City Commissioner

Also Present: David Birchim, City Manager
Isabelle Lopez, City Attorney
Darlene Galambos, City Clerk
Meredith Breidenstein, Assistant City Manager
Reuben Franklin, Assistant City Manager
Jessica Beach, Deputy Director, Public Works
Amy Skinner, Director, Planning and Building
Melissa Wissel, Director, Communications
Jennifer Michaux, Police Chief
Michele Fudo, Recording Secretary

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Sikes-Kline requested a moment of silence, and Commissioner Horvath led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

2.A. Modification and Approval of Regular Agenda

MOTION

Commissioner Springfield MOVED to approve the Regular Agenda. The motion was SECONDED by Mayor Sikes-Kline and APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

3. Special Presentations, Recognitions and Proclamations

3.A. Presentation to the family of 2001 de Aviles Award Recipient, Dr. Otis Mason, of

the American Flag flown on Saturday, January 27, 2024, in his honor. (M. Wissel, Director Communications)

3.B. Proclamation 2024-04: Declaring February 2024 as Black History Month in the City of St. Augustine. (N. Sikes-Kline, Mayor)

3.C. Certificate of Appreciation (2024-06CA) to the 2d Marine Division Band for its musical excellence and to Jackie C. and Danny Garcia for their efforts in making the community concert event possible. (C. Garris, Commissioner)

3.D. Proclamation 2024-03: Proclaims February 16 - 19, 2024 as Great Backyard Bird Count Week. (N. Sikes-Kline, Mayor)

3.E. Certificate of Recognition to James Hill for helping to secure the Robert B. Hayling Freedom Park as a site on the

Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail. (N. Sikes- Kline, Mayor)

4. General Public Comments (3 minutes per individual)

The Commission heard from the following members of the public:

- Vicki Payne
- William Payne
- Nancy Murphy
- Arthur Colbert
- Madeline Wise
- Gail Whistler
- Scott York
- Chris Fullmore
- BJ Kalaidi

5. Consent Agenda

David Birchim, City Manager, read the Consent Agenda.

CA.1. Preview of upcoming Commission meetings.

CA.2. THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES ARE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR SECOND READING ON FEBRUARY 26, 2024: NONE.

CA.3. Reminder of Upcoming Meetings:
• February 26, 2024, 5:00pm, Regular City Commission Meeting
• March 11, 2024, 5:00pm, Regular City Commission Meeting
• March 25, 2024, 5:00pm, Regular City Commission Meeting

CA.4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR COMMISSION MEETINGS:
• January 8, 2024, Regular City Commission meeting
• January 22, 2024, Regular City Commission Meeting

CA.5. RELEASES OF LIEN FOR UNIT CONNECTION FEE MORTGAGE(S): NONE.

CA.6. Release of Code Enforcement Lien - 12 Newcomb Street

CA.7. PROPOSED PROCLAMATIONS, CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION/RECOGNITION. (COMMISSION APPROVAL REQUIRED). (TO BE READ AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING).

- Proclamation 2024-07: Proclaiming March 4-10, 2024, as Flood Awareness Week in the City of St. Augustine.

CA.8. NOTIFICATION OF PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION ISSUED:

- Certificate of Recognition to Mr. Edward M. McGuire congratulating him on his One Hundredth birthday. (N. Sikes-Kline, Mayor)

CA.9. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and the Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association modifying Article 14-Wages. (D. Hayes, Director Human Resources)

CA.10. Invoice for Cavendish Partners, P.A. in the amount of \$580 for legal services in the Marlowe case. (I. Lopez, City Attorney)

End Consent Agenda

5.A. Additions, deletions or modifications to Consent Agenda

(None)

5.B. Approval of Consent Agenda

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was SECONDED by Mayor Sikes-Kline and APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

6. Appeals

(None)

7. General Public Presentations, Items of Great Public Importance, and Other Items Requiring Public Hearings

7.A. General Public Presentations

(None)

7.B. Items of Great Public Importance

(None)

7.C. Other Items Requiring Public Hearing

(None)

8. Ordinances and Resolutions – Public Hearing Required.

8.A. Ordinances – Second Reading

(None)

8.B. Ordinances – First Reading (only if required by law)

(None)

8.C. Resolutions – Public Hearing (only if required by law)

(None)

9. Ordinances and Resolutions - No Public Hearing Required

9.A. Ordinances – First Reading

9.A.1. Ordinance 2024-01: Introduction of the annexation of parcels of land to include the St. Joseph Academy Catholic High School at 155 State Road 207. (A. Skinner, Director Planning and Building)

Amy Skinner, Planning and Building Director reviewed the Ordinances as they were all related.

David Birchim, City Manager explained the City had been providing a City Police

officer for security similar to other schools within the City's jurisdiction. He said they wanted to formalize this by annexing the property. He said the property was nontaxable. He advised they had approached St. Johns County about providing security and they were unable at this time.

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to pass Ordinance 2024-01 on first reading and moved to second reading. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Springfield.

Isabelle Lopez, City Attorney, read the Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA ANNEXING APPROXIMATELY 39.8 ACRES OF PROPERTY NOW LOCATED IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, LYING WEST OF THE CITY LIMITS OF ST. AUGUSTINE, NORTH OF STATE ROAD 207, AND SOUTH OF COLUMBUS STREET AS DESCRIBED HEREIN; REDEFINING THE BOUNDARY LINES OF THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE TO INCLUDE SAID PROPERTY; AMENDING SECTION 1.04 OF THE CHARTER LAWS OF THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR FILING OF A COPY HEREOF WITH THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, WITH THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA AND WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CITY CODE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERANCE OF INVALID PROVISIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

VOTE ON MOTION:

AYES: Horvath, Springfield, Garris,
Blonder, Sikes-Kline

NAYES: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

9.A.2. Ordinance 2024-02: Amends the future land use designation of 39.8 acres (St. Joseph Academy Catholic High School parcel) of annexed property from St. Johns County Residential-D to City Institutional. (A. Skinner, Director Planning and Building)

Amy Skinner, Planning and Building Director reviewed the Ordinance.

MOTION

Commissioner Springfield MOVED to pass Ordinance 2024-02 on first reading and moved to second reading. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Horvath.

Isabelle Lopez, City Attorney, read the Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP (FLUM) DESIGNATION OF APPROXIMATELY 39.8 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED NORTH OF STATE ROAD 207 AND SOUTH OF COLUMBUS STREET AS PORTIONS OF THE HUERTAS GRANT IN THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREINAFTER, FROM ITS CURRENT DESIGNATION OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY RESIDENTIAL-D TO A CITY DESIGNATION OF INSTITUTIONAL; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERANCE OF INVALID PROVISIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

VOTE ON MOTION:

AYES: Springfield, Horvath, Garris,
Blonder, Sikes-Kline

NAYES: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

9.A.3. Ordinance 2024-03: Amends the zoning designation of the 39.8-acre annexed property (St. Joseph Academy Catholic High School) from St. Johns County Residential single family-three (RS-3) and open rural (OR) to City Open Land (OL). (A. Skinner, Director Planning and Building)

Amy Skinner, Planning and Building Director reviewed the Ordinance.

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to pass Ordinance 2024-03 on first reading and moved to second reading. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Springfield.

Isabelle Lopez, City Attorney, read the Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA REZONING APPROXIMATELY 39.8 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED NORTH OF STATE ROAD 207 AND SOUTH OF COLUMBUS STREET AS A PORTION OF THE HUERTAS GRANT IN THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREINAFTER, FROM ITS CURRENT CLASSIFICATION(S) OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY-THREE (RS-3) AND ST. JOHNS COUNTY OPEN RURAL (OR) TO THE CITY CLASSIFICATION OF OPEN LAND (OL); PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERANCE OF INVALID PROVISIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

VOTE ON MOTION:

AYES: Horvath, Springfield, Garris, Blonder, Sikes-Kline

NAYES: NONE

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

9.B. Resolutions

9.B.1. Resolution 2024-08: Opposes Senate Bill 280 and House Bill 1537 regarding preemption of local governments from certain regulations specific to short-term rentals. (I. Lopez, City Attorney)

Isabelle Lopez, City Attorney reviewed the Resolution.

Commissioner Blonder commented this would affect all fees the City could collect including excess trash which was a cost to the taxpayers.

Mr. Birchim said they would not be allowed to charge different fees for short-term rentals than what was charged for residential properties.

Mayor Sikes-Kline said this was a Bill they continued to fight against in Tallahassee and felt having a Resolution was beneficial.

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to pass Resolution 2024-08. The motion was SECONDED by Mayor Sikes-Kline and was APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

9.B.2. Resolution 2024-09: Supports House Bill 1621 authorizing Code Enforcement boards and special magistrates to impose enhanced fines for the unlawful demolition of certain historical structures and landmarks. (I. Lopez, City Attorney)

Isabelle Lopez, City Attorney reviewed the Resolution.

Commissioner Horvath asked if Live Oak trees could fall under this Resolution.

Ms. Lopez advised this was specifically for structures.

Ms. Horvath suggested following up on the fees for removing significant trees.

Mayor Sikes-Kline commented there was a state law that had preempted the City in regards to tree cutting. She said that could be discussed at the end of the meeting if time permitted.

MOTION

Mayor Sikes-Kline MOVED to pass Resolution 2024-09. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Horvath and APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

10. Staff Reports and Presentations

10.A. Conservation Program presentation including updates to the decision matrix and financing options. (R. Franklin, Assistant City Manager)

Reuben Franklin, Assistant City Manager reviewed the topic. He said based on the feedback from the last meeting, the goals and mission statement had been updated. He said there were several items added to the matrix as recommended, and a total of seventy-five points could be received. He reviewed the two example properties with the Commission, which were Florida Avenue and Fish Island Inholding.

Commissioner Springfield questioned why both properties scored zero to water access as they were both on the water. He asked how the cost of the Fish Island property would be less than Florida Avenue as Fish Island had trails and parking. He asked for more of an explanation.

Mr. Franklin replied Florida Avenue could potentially have a trail and the Fish Island

Inholding property would be maintained with the rest of Fish Island. He said even though they were on water they were not accessible for public use. He continued that a committee would be assembled and publicly advertised and would be presented to the Commission. He said if approved it could start in March. He said a high-level management plan for each property would be provided for the Commission to understand how the property could be utilized.

Mayor Sikes-Kline said water access should be clarified to be public water access. She felt this was a valid concern and should be clarified.

Commissioner Blonder noted the process and said the criteria was widely used, and the objectivity was provided by experts on the committee. She encouraged the Commission to move forward with the item.

At the request of Commissioner Garriss, Mr. Franklin explained the main differences where the inholding was adjacent to the rest of Fish Island and it had cultural resources, whereas Florida Avenue was stand alone and less acres than Fish Island in totality.

Meredith Breidenstein, Assistance City Manager reviewed the budgeting process. She noted the Commission had set aside monies from reserves in this year's budget and more was added as part of the regular operating budget. She said she provided two different options, or they could do a combination of the two; meaning they could continue to set aside an amount and let it increase than use it as matching funds when asking for grant funds. She said another option could be to finance the purchases using a bank loan or bond. She said that would prevent the reserve balance from taking a large financial hit.

Commissioner Blonder questioned the bond, and whether it would need to be put on a ballot. She asked if this decision

would have to take place during the regular budget time or could it be mid-year.

Ms. Breidenstein noted the second option was to purchase properties overtime using a bond or bank loan that could be used for up to fifteen or twenty years. She explained it depended on the type of borrowing if a referendum was needed as each had their own requirements. She said a decision could be made mid-year if there were several properties the City wanted to acquire and then decide depending on the bond market or what made more sense.

Commissioner Springfield asked could an individual personally finance property they wanted to sell to City and have the City pay the individual each month.

Ms. Breidenstein replied that would have to be discussed with legal as that had not been done in the past. She said they could look into it.

Mayor Sikes-Kline asked for clarification on the committee.

Mr. Franklin replied it would be a committee of City Staff. He said the intent was to begin by March and have the first rankings completed by June to coincide with the budget process. He said there would be a list of properties available for purchase during the budget cycle.

Mr. Birchim advised they did not want a program where monies would be pulled from reserves but a more predictable funding mechanism.

Mayor Sikes-Kline felt it should align with the budget cycle.

Mr. Birchim said the Commission had pulled \$1 million out of reserves last year plus \$50,000 for this program which was available.

Mr. Franklin advised the Commission of the next steps.

MOTION

Commissioner Blonder **MOVED** to **APPROVE** the Conservation Program as presented. The motion was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Horvath.

VOTE ON MOTION:

AYES: Blonder, Horvath, Garris, Springfield, Sikes-Kline

NAYES: NONE

Commissioner Blonder requested a Resolution to be added to the next meeting to enable them to use the \$1 million from reserve and start acquiring properties during the current fiscal year.

Mr. Birchim said a Resolution would be necessary if they wanted to purchase the Fish Island Inholding property.

Commissioner Blonder said that was her request.

At the request of Commissioner Springfield, Mr. Birchim said they could provide quarterly evaluations and provide them to the Commission regularly.

10.B. Presentation regarding trash receptacles located downtown highlighting the software used to monitor each location. (T. Grant, Director Public Works)

Jessica Beach, Deputy Director, Public Works provided a brief overview of the trash receptacles located in the downtown core in response to the nightlife activity.

Commissioner Blonder commended the efforts and noted the trash receptacles were not accessible to animals which helped avoid other issues. She said she appreciated the live tracking features.

Commissioner Garris questioned if crews worked on holidays.

Mr. Birchim replied in the affirmative.

10.C. Discussion regarding a memorial to honor all City first responders who have lost their lives in the performance of their duties with St. Augustine Policeman/Fire Fighter, Robert Chambers, included. (B. Fox, Short Term Rental - Code Enforcement Manager)

Barry Fox, Code Enforcement Manager introduced the topic to the Commission.

Commissioner Garris provided a brief overview about Police Officer Robert Chambers. She said they wanted to honor him not only as a Police Officer but also as a Firefighter.

Mr. Fox stated the information provided was from Captain Frank Sprig whose efforts were to ensure that officers killed in the line of duty were honored. He said the articles shown that pertained to Mr. Chambers were found in the Savannah, Georgia and Palatka, Florida newspapers. He explained how the Police force in St. Augustine was created and how it operated and noted many of the officers also worked as firemen. He reviewed the documentation obtained about Mr. Chambers and said it was limited. He requested to continue researching and present a memorial plaque when ready. He stated this was a joint effort by Chief Michaux, the St. Augustine Police Department, Chief Aviles SAFD, and many others who had assisted him. He said with approval, he would submit Policemen Chambers name to the National Law Enforcement Memorial and start the process to honor him.

MOTION

Commissioner Garris **MOVED** to **APPROVE** the furthering of research in order to honor Mr. Chambers. The motion was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Horvath and **APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.**

10. D. Review of the St. Augustine and Aviles 100th Anniversary Celebration during 2024. (M. Wissel, Director Communications)

Melissa Wissel reviewed the St. Augustine and Aviles 100th Anniversary celebration and discussed the events that would take place throughout the year which were as follows:

- Nao Trinidad Ship replica was available for tours
- Menendez Day at City Hall
- Covera Pipe Band (Asturias) would provide free performances
- El Bollo Festival in Avilés, City to send small delegation
- St. Augustine History Festival, 100 years of Avilés and St. Augustine
- Feast of St. James and Camino in America
- Celebration in Avilés, City to send small delegation, other community leaders would attend
- Celebration in St. Augustine
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- Art Exhibition, St. Augustine Art Association

Ms. Wissel requested the approval from the Commission regarding the branding logo which was created by a consultant at the Nauta Institute. She said they had created the branding logo with the color scheme and wanted to use the brand throughout the celebration. She said she preferred the logo where the 'A' stood for both Augustine and Avilés. She pointed out the crest was a combination of both locations.

Commissioner Horvath felt the graphic was a smart clean design.

Mayor Sikes-Kline said the interpretive panel was part of the gift exchange and advised Dr. Susan Parker was working on the text for the panel. She thanked Ms. Wissel for all her hard work.

MOTION

Mayor Sikes-Kline MOVED to APPROVE the design of the branding logo. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Horvath and APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

Commissioner Horvath asked if artist from St. Augustine would be sharing their artwork in Avilés as part of the exchange. She said from her experience there were several locations where the art could be displayed.

Ms. Wissel said she would follow up regarding the art exchange.

10.E. Petition for Voluntary Annexation and Pre-Annexation Agreement for 523 West King Street (PIN 1123300000). (A. Skinner, Director Planning and Building)

Amy Skinner, Director Planning and Building noted the next three items were related to potential annexations on West King Street. She said the properties included 523 West King Street approximately .25 acres owned by the Homeless Coalition; 525-527 West King Street approximately .5 acres owned by the Housing Partnership; and 545 West King Street approximately .1 acres owned by the Ancient City Lodge. She said these properties were asking to be annexed into the City limits. She said if the Commission approved the request, they would present to the Planning and Zoning Board for the land use recommendations.

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to APPROVE the Petition for Voluntary Annexation and Pre-Annexation Agreement for 523 West King Street (PIN 1123300000). The motion was SECONDED by Mayor Sikes-Kline.

VOTE ON MOTION:

AYES: Horvath, Sikes-Kline, Garris,
Springfield, Blonder
Nays: NONE

10.F. Petition for Voluntary Annexation and Pre-Annexation Agreement for 525-527 West King Street (PIN 1123200000 and PIN 1123400000). (A. Skinner, Director Planning and Building)

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to APPROVE the Petition for Voluntary Annexation and Pre-Annexation Agreement for 525-527 West King Street (PIN 1123200000 and PIN 1123400000). The motion was SECONDED by Mayor Sikes-Kline.

VOTE ON MOTION:

AYES: Horvath, Sikes-Kline, Garris,
Springfield, Blonder
Nays: NONE

10.G. Petition for Voluntary Annexation and Pre-Annexation Agreement for 545 West King Street (PIN 1123600000). (A. Skinner, Director Planning and Building)

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to APPROVE the Petition for Voluntary Annexation and Pre-Annexation Agreement for 545 West King Street (PIN 1123600000). The motion was SECONDED by Mayor Sikes-Kline.

VOTE ON MOTION:

AYES: Horvath, Sikes-Kline, Garris,
Springfield, Blonder
Nays: NONE

11. ITEMS BY CITY ATTORNEY

11.A. 2024 Legislative session update. For Information Only. (I. Lopez, City Attorney)

No presentation made, provided by the City Attorney's Office for information purposes.

Mayor Sikes-Kline commended Ms. Lopez and her office for working diligently on monitoring the Bills.

Commissioner Blonder highlighted a few of the preemptions that effected St. Augustine. She questioned how House Bill 47, and the companion Bill in the Senate would affect the budget in the upcoming year if passed. She asked if utility fees for City residents and property owners would have to be increased.

Meredith Breidenstein, Assistant City Manager said there was an 18% utility charge for residents outside the City. She said if that were to decrease to 0%, the utility fund would decrease by approximately \$1.4 million. She felt there could be a phase down, which could have less of a significant impact on rate payers; however, if decreased to zero there would be budgetary impacts. She said if outside fees had to be reduced to the same as inside, she felt there could be an increase to maintain the same level of service.

At the request of Commissioner Blonder, Ms. Skinner addressed House Bill 91 and the companion Bill, which would reduce the amount of time staff would have to review projects. She said legislative action over the years had added pressure to how much time was allowed. She said based on this bill, the department would have to provide in writing, the timeline for applications and respond to a submission within five days to acknowledge receipt of the project and within thirty days for comments. She said it had procedural limitations and timeframes. She said if the timeframes were unable to be met, fees would have to be refunded by certain percent depending on the days.

Commissioner Blonder said House Bill 527 and the companion bill were troublesome. She said this was an issue with loss of

habitat due to construction and water quality due to the decrease of wetland function. She said the preemption was something the City had worked hard to protect which were the Conservation Overlay Zones. She said they would revert to the States delineation of wetlands which could be more impactful.

Ms. Skinner explained this could affect any additional buffer more than what was delineated by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) or Water Management District and could result in imminent domain by the City. She said the City's Conservation Overlay Zone referenced twenty-five-foot buffer which was the most restrictive jurisdictional line and if it was established by the DEP or Water Management, there was potential for the City to have to pay additional fees to keep the protections the City already had.

12. ITEMS BY CITY CLERK

Notification of two upcoming term expirations on the Historic Architectural Review Board, Notification of one upcoming expiration on the Corridor Review Committee, Request for one appointment to the Civil Service Board. (D. Galambos, City Clerk)

Ms. Galambos notified the City Commission of two term expirations on the Historical Architectural Review Board. She said these members had served two full terms and were not eligible for reappointment and advertisement would be done accordingly. She said there was a term expiration on the Corridor Review Committee; however, this member was eligible to reapply.

Ms. Galambos requested an appointment to the Civil Service Board as Mr. Les Stern had resigned. She said there was one application from Greg Nickles a retired police officer.

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to Appoint Greg Nickles to the Civil Service Board. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Blonder.

13. ITEMS BY CITY MANAGER

Mr. Birchim reminded everyone there would be a celebration for Pedro Menedez's birthday on Thursday at 11:00am and cupcakes would be provided.

14. Items by Mayor and Commissioners

Commissioner Garris felt the signage in Lincolnville should be correctly represented. She said when the community requested the help of the City, they should receive it when possible. She asked the City Manager to investigate the flooding in the Maderia community as mentioned by several citizens. She said public speaking was difficult but the City should make sure the citizens felt heard and try to accommodate some of their requests.

Commissioner Horvath requested a briefing from the City manager on Maderia. She understood it was a gated community but if there was no access for the public it was a private park for that development. She said it seemed to be a complex issue.

Mr. Birchim advised he could provide a brief overview of the topic at the next meeting.

Mayor Sikes-Kline asked for the tree removal to be addressed when presented.

Commissioner Springfield recognized the recent passing of former principle of R. B Hunt, Nease High School and Pedro Menendez, Bill Mignon. He said Mr. Mignon had served the county and state for six decades.

Commissioner Blonder an update regarding the noise ordinance.

Mayor Sikes-Kline asked Ms. Lopez for clarification about the tree cutting preemption.

Ms. Lopez said many years prior, a bill was passed allowing tree cutting on residential properties if the tree posed a threat to the structure or safety, and a permit was not needed; however, proof by an arborist was required.

Mr. Birchim noted there was a request to update the tree ordinance to include a species of pine tree and that it was in process.

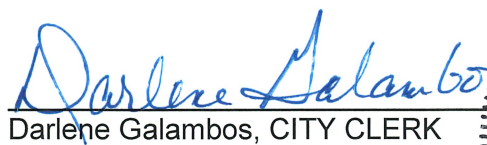
Mayor Sikes-Kline stated the Florida League of Cities called and asked if anyone was willing to serve on the regional board. She said there were two openings and if anyone was interested, they could inform the City Manager.

15. Adjournment

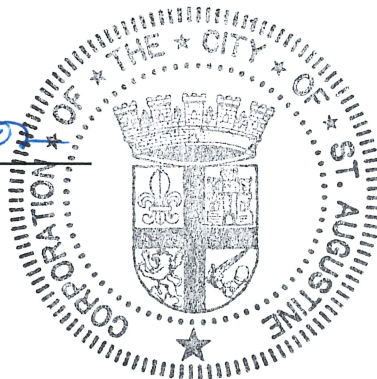
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 P.M.¹



Nancy Sikes-Kline, MAYOR



Darlene Galambos, CITY CLERK



¹ Transcribed by Elyse Wiemann