



**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
RESEARCH DIVISION**

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**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING MINUTES  
City Council Chamber, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, City Hall**

**August 13, 2019  
4:00 p.m.**

**Location:** City Council Chamber, City Hall – St. James Building; 117 West Duval Street

**In attendance:** Council Members Scott Wilson (President), Danny Becton, Aaron Bowman, Michael Boylan, Matt Carlucci, LeAnna Cumber, Randy DeFoor, Rory Diamond, Al Ferraro, Terrance Freeman, Reginald Gaffney, Tommy Hazouri, Joyce Morgan, Sam Newby, Ju'Coby Pittman, Brenda Priestly Jackson, Ron Salem, Randy White

**Also:** Peggy Sidman, Paige Johnston, Shannon Eller, Susan Grandin – Office of General Counsel; Kyle Billy and Kim Taylor – Council Auditor's Office; Cheryl Brown - Council Secretary/Director; Carol Owens, Jessica Matthews, Crystal Shemwell – Legislative Services Division; Steve Cassada – Council Staff Services; Jeff Clements – Council Research Division; Brian Hughes, Stephanie Burch, Jordan Elsbury, Leeann Krieg, Rachel Lockhart – Mayor's Office; Joey Greive – Finance and Administration Department; Kirk Wendland – Office of Economic Development; Steve Woodard – Emergency Preparedness Division; Folks Huxford – Planning and Development Department

**Meeting Convened:** 4:00 p.m.

President Wilson called the meeting to order and asked for the committee reports.

Finance Committee: Council Member Bowman reviewed the actions of the committee from its meeting.

TEU Committee: Council Member Freeman reviewed the actions of the committee from its meeting.

NCSPHS Committee: Council Member White reviewed the actions of the committee from its meeting.

Rules Committee: Council Member Morgan reviewed the actions of the committee from its meeting

LUZ Committee: Council Member Becton reviewed the actions of the committee from its meeting.

President Wilson announced that General Counsel Jason Gabriel will be present at the meeting to discuss his recently issued binding legal opinion on the City Council's powers and prerogatives with regard to the School Board's request to schedule a referendum for voters on a local option sales tax for school capital purposes. A resolution will be on an Addendum to the Agenda to forward that legal opinion to the Florida Attorney General for her review and opinion.

A floor amendment will be offered to 2019-504 (the FY19-20 budget) to remove the Kids Hope Alliance grant program from the budget, which will be introduced as a separate bill (2019-511) because of a council member's potential conflict of interest with regard to their employer applying for those grants.

Council Member Ferraro requested emergency consideration of a surplus vehicle disposition voluntary moratorium (resolution 2019-568) while a new policy is being developed. He is working with the administration on the development of that policy. Council Member Hazouri felt that the moratorium should not be enacted as an emergency tonight because other surplus vehicle disposition bills are currently pending. Deputy General Counsel Peggy Sidman noted that one such ordinance is up for final vote tonight, another is pending on the Council agenda and a third is in the drafting process but has not been introduced yet. Council Member Bowman said he would offer an amendment, if the emergency is moved, to exempt vehicle surplus bills already in process from the moratorium.

Ms. Sidman noted that 2019-571, -572 and -573 (appointment resolutions) will have floor amendments to correct the term ending dates and will be acted upon as first reading emergencies. She also noted that while 2019-578 contains emergency adoption language in the bill title, that is an error. It will be given first reading and referred to committee.

Council Member Morgan told the council members that the most efficient manner for a council member to become a co-sponsor of legislation is to send an email to the Legislative Services Division or to do it orally at the Council agenda meeting – that will save time doing it at individual committee meetings.

Chief Administrative Officer Brian Hughes gave an update on the status of internet café enforcement. Those establishments with valid Certificates of Use can operate until February 1, 2020. The first 2 weeks of enforcement visits to the 23 locations without COUs found a number the businesses closed, several had COU applications submitted, and several appealed their status to the Building Codes Adjustment Board. Twelve of the establishments have been closed and the City is continuing to follow up to be sure they stay closed. The administration is prepared to aggressively inspect and enforce against those still in operation whenever Council directs. Council Member Gaffney offered to have a noticed meeting with Council Member Ferraro about moving up the shutdown date for all the establishments, given the on-going violence at those businesses that claimed another life within the last few days.

Inspector General Lisa Green gave her office's 6 month activity report for October 2018 through March 2019. The office has seen an increase of 46% in intake matters year over year; 511 intakes have been commenced since the beginning of the office, and over 400 have been closed. The office has published 6 reports and 1 management review so far this fiscal year with 30 recommendations that were accepted by the reviewees. One report found substantial overpayments to a vendor on a contract and helped recoup those overpayments. The IG recommends more diligent contract oversight. Outreach activities have increased substantially this year both within City government and with outside entities (i.e. CPACs). The website has been reformatted to be easy and intuitive to use. The office has 9 full time staff to cover the City and all its independent agencies. Ms. Green is now a certified inspector general as of this year. She will be working to get the IG's office accredited by the national accrediting body by summer of 2020. Council Member Diamond praised the work of the IG's office. Council Member Hazouri asked for a copy of the accreditation standards.

Steve Woodard, Director of Emergency Preparedness, gave an update on the role of the City Council in a hurricane or other substantial disaster. The primary role is to be a conduit between city government and the general public, as both a vehicle to get the City's message out to the general public and a means of reporting conditions in the field back to Emergency Preparedness and first responders. If the Mayor declares an emergency, a Council meeting is called and the Mayor describes the emergency conditions; the Council could suspend the declaration by vote. Mr. Woodard strongly recommended that council members not come to the scene of disasters, but to let the professionals do their job. Several updates will be held daily for council members via conference call. Council members can help by reporting emergency conditions after the fact with photos and videos to document damages. Emergency Preparedness will be happy to come to town hall meetings and bring emergency guides, which were also sent to every address in the county. Council Member Carlucci expressed concern about the location of the Buckman Sewage Treatment Plant in a flood zone and asked if there is a plan to respond to the sludge treatment tanks being breached or overtopped in a bad storm surge. Mr. Woodard said he will talk to JEA about their planning for that possibility. Council Member Hazouri asked for a FEMA hurricane reimbursement update. Mr. Woodard reported that 95 project worksheets (some containing multiple projects) have been developed and 85 have their paperwork completed to request reimbursement. The state must review and approve all documentation before sending it on to FEMA. Mr. Hazouri asked for details on the projects, their location, how much we're seeking for reimbursement, and how quickly that process is going.

Council Member Salem asked to be added as a co-sponsor on 2019-465

**Meeting adjourned:** 4:40 p.m.

Minutes: Jeff Clements, Council Research Division  
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8.13.19 Posted 5:30 p.m.

Tape: City Council agenda meeting 8.13.19 – LSD