



MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – JUDICIAL CENTER
202 KELLEY STREET
7:00 P.M.

<https://fb.watch/aFtR-RqQX4/>

MAYOR/CITY COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT

Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr	Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby
Councilmember Yamekia Robinson	Councilmember Wilhelmena W. Scott
Councilmember William Askins	Councilmember Richard Cook
Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary	

STAFF

William Hall	LaToya Miller	Tonya Huell
Jonathan Laster	Fire Chief Randy Driggers	
Chief Joseph Cooper	Cynthia Mallette	

OTHERS

No press **Christian News-Ty**

A list of attendees will accompany the minutes

The City Council Regular City Council Meeting agenda acknowledgment was made publicly on the City's Facebook and website on Friday, January 7, 2022, with the revised copy being placed on Monday, January 10, 2022. The agenda was emailed on Friday, January 7, 2022, with the revised copy being placed on Monday, January 10, 2022, to members of the media and posted on the bulletin board at the Lake City Municipal Complex, as well as on the city's Facebook page and official website.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Anderson Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and explained the protocol for the meeting with social-distancing measures encouraged.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was led by Councilmember Yamekia Robinson (recited the Lord's Prayer), and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby.

POLLING OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS – A QUORUM WAS PRESENT

City Clerk Pro-Tem Tonya Huell polled City Councilmembers and found there to be a quorum present.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA - APPROVED AS REVISED

A motion to approve the Tuesday, January 11, 2022 with the correction made on page 2 and 3 removing 2021 to 2022, as revised: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APPROVED AS PRESENTED

A motion to approve the Tuesday, December 7, 2021 City Council Worksession Summary, Minutes from the Tuesday, December 14, 2021 Public Hearing and Tuesday, December 14, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting, as presented: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

PRESENTATIONS

Light House Ministries – Cecelia Meggs (a representative of Light House Ministries) provided information in hopes of bringing awareness to all of the citizens located in the lower Pee Dee areas about the services they provide to families. They work to help families stay in their homes; by assisting them to pay their rent and utility bills. They have been in business for 25 years, and she has been there for 15 years. They work to keep families in need, in their homes. Especially, those families that have been affected by COVID. For this reason, applicants can call in to do their application on the phone. They have received funding from grants to help families through their crises by providing them assistance. They have assisted 29 families in the Lake City area and look to assist more than that in the coming months. She wanted to be more initiative-taking and get the word out, thus is the reason for her coming to the Council Meeting. She provided some brochures and informed everyone they are a United Way affiliate agency. Councilmember Robinson asked how do they advertise the services they provide? Ms. Meggs responded that they have ran ads in the paper (which are costly), word of mouth and some local representatives are aware of their services. ECHOS work with homelessness after the fact, those families who have been put out of their homes. Lighthouse Ministries work to prevent families from being put out of their homes. Their objective is to work on trying to prevent homelessness from ever taking place. Councilmember Robinson asked if they would put some brochures in the local doctor offices, The Lake City Greater Resource Center, and other businesses within the City; so, more citizens will be aware of the services they provide. Ms. Meggs responded that would be no problem and Interim Administrator Hall asked her to please bring some of this information to the

City Administration building. She thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to present this information, and they thanked her from coming out to present this information to the public.

**GMK Associates, Inc – Lake City Culture Art and Educational Event Center/
Lake City Parks and Recreation Center** – Before Mr. Brown began, Interim Administrator Hall explained that each one of them was given copies of the renderings and other documents that would be discussed at the conclusion of the presentation. Bryan Brown, a GMK representative introduced himself and began presenting the details for the newly renovated Lake City Recreational/Events facility. Mr. Brown began with a brief overview of the proposed renderings for the facility. The former Florence-Darlington building is approximately 20,000 square feet and is located on Cole Road. GMK Associates, Inc. were awarded the bid to renovate this location into an event/recreational facility. Of the 20,000 square feet total, 11,000 square feet will be used to house Recreational offices and events facility. He displayed three diagrams and pictures of the current condition and the projected end results. The process was explained in detail to Mayor and Council and the drawings was included in their packets. There will be three main entrances to this facility and plenty of parking spaces. This will be a multi-purpose facility, which will have locker rooms, bathrooms, concession area, and office spaces. There will be a cultural arts side and an event side with a full gym. Each area will be petitioned off, as to not interfere with other events taken place at the same time, this was shown on the display. Mr. Brown stated that he was asked if there be some storage space available? He responded that there will be an area for storage in the rear of the building. It will have a catering kitchen; warmers will be made available for catering purposes. This is the projected scope of work for this facility. Interim Administrator Hall added that there is an additional feature; the bleachers can be moved back approximately 4 to 5 rows, and this will allow for additional open space/room. The capacity for this area will hold approximately 500 to 600 people. Councilmember Robinson asked about an approximate date when they can begin with this project? Bryan responded that they are working through the schematics and the hope is to begin with this project in July 2022. The bidding process can start at this time. Interim Administrator Hall asked the Recreation Director Cynthia Mallette to stand and state her hopes of what she expects this facility will be used for; in her opinion, she hopes this will allow the citizens to come together, play and work together. In addition to having events, hopefully this will be able to have concerts as well. Interim Administrator Hall reiterated that the goal is to meet the need in the area of recreation and provide a place for the citizens to host events. The construction costs especially for steel has increased tremendously. Councilmember Cook asked if this factor would continue to hold up the construction phase of the renovations? Mr. Brown responded that the cost should not be a factor; they just wanted to make sure the City would not be taken advantage because of the current condition/price of steel. Councilmember Robinson asked about the parking spaces, and Mr. Brown displayed the second drawing explaining the parking area in detail (currently there are 260 slots). Councilmember Robinson inquired about space for buses, and Mr. Brown stated that the number of parking spaces should be able to accommodate buses. Mr. Brown briefly explained that he visits other finished projects just to see how well the facility is working for the location. Councilmember Robinson asked about lighting and if there is a stage? Mr. Brown responded that for security purposes; they did include sufficient lighting. Interim Administrator Hall stated that he has challenged Haidee Stith to look for other grant opportunities to help beautify this area and ensure there is sufficient lighting in this area. Councilmember Cook asked what type of flooring will there be in the facility? Mr. Brown responded that there are several

factors they have to factor in for this, such as women wearing heels etc. There is a stage that will be stored in another area that can be taken out to use for events. Councilmember Cook asked if the project will be held until steel prices go down? Mr. Brown responded no; they are working on other components of the project now; so, the project is moving forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Notes on Comment Period: Comments are limited to two minutes per person and no personal or verbal attacks will be entertained:

Edward McKnight (resides at 413 Patti Avenue) – he came to express concern about the number of shootings in the City of Lake City especially in the past two years. He feels like it is the Ok Coral. There were three shootings last week and he is concerned for the elderly citizens. He has not seen a police officer ride through their neighborhoods in the past two to three years. He understands that this may be gang related. Councilmember Cook asked has anyone been arrested for that? and Mr. McKnight responded he is not aware of any arrest. His neighbors are afraid to leave their homes. Mayor Anderson Jr, as the meeting chair, instructed everyone that this is not the time for responding to the comments. There is a two-minute limit and others are here to be heard as well.

Kevin Quillet (resides at 877 North Matthews Road) – he also came to address the issue of the number of shootings and no police presence in his neighborhood. He has two teenage grandsons and realize that this could be gang-related but everyone has to come together to tackle this problem. This could trickle onto the school campuses. The City needs to get a handle on this matter, he encouraged parents, grandparents and concerned citizens. He feels that the new recreational/event facility is a wonderful thing; but the only thing he heard about were indoor events. Will there be anything for outdoor/external? He did not see anything for the outdoor like baseball and soccer. It is his opinion that all the Masonic, the Greeks (fraternities and sororities), and other civic organizations need to come together to brainstorm about activities for our youth to participate in.

Constance Hanna (resides at 300 Spruce Street) – she came to voice her concerns about the number of random shootings taking place in the City. She is from here and continues to reside here. On Monday, December 27, 2021, three bullets entered here home, and she called the police. The Victim Advocate called her and ensured her that they were there and would assist them. The police came out and did their job, but what else can be done? Something has to be done. What else are they supposed to do? She stated it was very scary.

Joel Anderson (resides at 411 Lilly Avenue) – he came to voice his concerns about the random and current shootings. He stated that it occurs 4 to 5 times a week. He suffers with PTSD and other medical issues; and these shootings have triggered his illness. He addressed the security issues like installation of proper lighting. This problem is spreading all over town. If you stand by and do nothing, the problem will continue to spread. He understands that there are limited resources, but sometimes you have to re-direct your resources to combat a problem area.

Mattie Thomas (resides at 100 Lattimore Street) – she came to voice her concerns about the lighting throughout the City. In her opinion, once you leave from downtown, she feels that the lighting on Moore Street is too dark and this could invite criminals. She also stated that the roads are not drivable. She encouraged Councilmembers to drive throughout the City and check the City out. It is too dark.

ORDINANCES**Ordinance 2021.574 – Second and Final Reading**

An Ordinance for the City of Lake City, South Carolina, for the approval of annexing property located at 208 West Cole Road, TM# 00169-31-258 consisting of 9.42 acres owned by Signs Limited of Lake City; and other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2021.574 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval of annexing property located at 208 West Cole Road, TM# 00169-31-258 consisting of 9.42 acres owned by Signs Limited of Lake City; and other matters related thereto: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Richard Cook; Discussion: None; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

Ordinance 2022.001 -- First Reading

An Ordinance for the City of Lake City, South Carolina, for the approval to purchase property located at 106 East Main Street, TM#80028-03-028 consisting of 1,200 square feet, in the amount of ~~\$65,000 (Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars)~~ a revision of the amount was changed to \$60,000 (Sixty Thousand Dollars); and other matters related thereto – Approved as presented with the change in the amount.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2022.001 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval to purchase property located at 106 East Main Street, TM#80028-03-028 consisting of 1,200 square feet, in the amount of ~~\$65,000 (Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars)~~ a revision of the amount was changed to \$60,000 (Sixty Thousand Dollars); and other matters related thereto: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Discussion: Interim Administrator William Hall informed Mayor and Council of the shortage of office spaces due to the onboarding of the Youth Intervention Program and those have been hired to assist with the implementation. He feels that this would allow the City to have a presence in the downtown area. Councilmember Cook asked which building is this? Administrator Hall responded that it is location next to the Greater Creative Alliance office; the second door on the left once you cross the track going towards East Main Street. Councilmember Crosby asked who owns it now and about the parking spaces? Administrator Hall responded Mrs. Mary Kelley and there is parking in the front and rear of this location. Councilmember Scott asked will Recreation Department be in there also; Administrator Hall respond to this yes and it will be ADA compliant; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember

Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2022.001 Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina for approval to withdraw funds from the Local Government Investment Pool; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Resolution 2022.001 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval to withdraw funds from the Local Government Investment Pool; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Discussion: Administrator William Hall informed Mayor and Council that this account is holding savings for the City and asking to withdraw funds in the amount of \$400,000 (Four Hundred Thousand Dollars). Councilmember Yamekia Robinson posed the question pertaining to how much is in this account right now? Administrator Hall responded that \$1.5 Million Dollars; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

Resolution 2022.002 - Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina for approval of Administrative Hour Change – Start date, Monday, February 07th 2022; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Resolution 2022.002 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for approval of Administrative Hour Change – Start date, Monday, February 07th 2022; hours of operations would be from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Discussion: Administrator Hall explained that if this is approved by Council; this would take the 40-hours work day to a 37.5 work hours schedule. An employee would not be eligible for over-time unless they met the 40-hours threshold. Councilmember Crosby asked would this still include a one-hour lunch for the employee? Administrator Hall response to this is yes; only the departments like Fire, field personnel, and Police would be reflecting differently because of the 12 to 24 hours work schedule. Councilmember Richard Cook posed the question, “Why”? Administrator Hall response was due to the safety concerns, some employees asked him about proposing this change; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena

Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

Resolution 2022.003 – Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval to appoint Barbara Bryant and Teresa Pressley to the Planning Commission; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2022.003 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval to appoint Barbara Bryant and Teresa Pressley to the Planning Commission; and other matters related thereto: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Discussion: None; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

Resolution 2022.004 – Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval to appoint Harry Askins to the Architectural Review Board; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2022.004 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for approval to appoint Harry Askins to the Architectural Review Board; and other matters related thereto: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Discussion: None; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

Resolution 2022.005 – Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval to appoint Jennifer Brown, Terrie Gaskins-Bryant, Margaret B. Robinson, and Mattie L. Thomas to the Housing Authority Board; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2022.005 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for approval to appoint Jennifer Brown, Terrie Gaskins-Bryant, Margaret B. Robinson, and Mattie L. Thomas to the Housing Authority Board: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Discussion: None; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson,

Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

Resolution 2022.006 – Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval to establish a cemetery on the property located at tax map# 00198-31-017, Northwest corner of East Main Street and Cemetery Road; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2022.006 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval to establish a cemetery on the property located at tax map# 00198-31-017, Northwest corner of East Main Street and Cemetery Road: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Discussion: A representative from Mount Claire Church provided some details as to the intent if the item is approved. Councilmember Cook asked how big this area is? The representative responded approximately forty acres. Mayor Anderson Jr asked if they thought of any future development and to this, the representative responded yes. Fire Chief Randy Driggers stated that this property is zoned as Agricultural and has some setbacks requirements. Mayor Anderson Jr asked about the setback requirements, and Fire Chief Driggers responded with the requirements according to the City of Lake City Code. Administrator Hall stated that if the road were to change from a two lane to a four lane this could pose a problem. Fire Chief Driggers response to this at that time it would be a SC DOT issue. The representative stated that they are working with the City, and they are aware of some issues; but they wanted to start the process. Mayor Anderson Jr reiterated about the setback of thirty-five feet, and Fire Chief Driggers responded yes; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR WILLIAM HALL: MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – FISCAL YR 2022 PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. The following is a summary of the City's financial results for the major operating funds as of December 31, 2021. Fiscal year activity has been included as of January 6, 2022.

GENERAL FUND:

REVENUE - Budgeted: \$7,566,989; YTD Actual Collected = \$3,313,979, representing 44% of the current budget compared to the prior year actual collected = \$2,856,548.

EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$7,566,989; YTD Actual Spent = \$4,200,895, representing 56% of the budget compared to the prior year actual = \$3,936,286.

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES: YTD = (\$886,916); PRIOR YR ACTUAL = \$(1,079,738).

WATER FUND:

REVENUE – Budgeted: \$1,584,743; YTD Actual Collected: \$821,689 representing 52% of the budget compared to the prior year actual: \$745,268.

EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$1,584,743; YTD Actual Spent: \$695,843 representing 44% of the budget compared to the prior year actual: \$662,518.

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES: YTD = \$125,846; PRIOR YR ACTUAL = \$82,750.

SEWER FUND:

REVENUE – Budgeted: \$2,910,554; YTD Actual Collected: \$1,551,357 representing 53% of the budget compared to the prior year = \$1,490,902.

EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$2,910,554; YTD Actual Spent: \$1,407,168 compared to the prior year actual = \$1,216,632 representing 48%.

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$0; YTD Actual Collected: \$144,189 compared to the prior year actual = \$274,270.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2022 (page 71) – Approved Items 1 - 10 as presented.

A motion to approve the January 2022 Bill List items 1 – 10: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Seconded: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Discussion: Councilmember Robinson asked what was the difference between item#2 and #3? Administrator Hall responded that one is the regular monthly bill, in the amount of \$10,000 and the other expense is for renewal for software contracts across the board; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

ADDITIONAL UPDATES:

- Interim Administrator Hall recognized City Officers that was included in the President’s Protection Detail. The officers: Chief Joseph Cooper, Sgt Major and

Officer Diaz were assigned to protect President Joe Biden during his visit at the historic Black College State in Orangeburg, South Carolina.

- The City of Lake City will begin processing its own sludge in the coming months, and we should start seeing a savings.
- London Pointe (14 houses) is progressing very well, so much so, the City has been informed that only one permit is needed from DHEC before they will begin construction.
- A Resolution will be presented to Mayor and Council requesting to the May 10, 2022, meeting date to the next business day due to the holiday schedule. It was the consensus of Council to bring back a Resolution to change the date from May 10 to the next business day of May 11, 2022.
- The seal at the Water Tower at the new hospital has been changed with a new picture. The seal is a new emblem to show more of the City of Lake City recognition.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS – PRESENTED BY LAKE CITY POLICE CHIEF JOSEPH COOPER.

Lake City Police Chief Joseph Cooper presented to Mayor and Council December 2021 statistical data; to which, he responded to the community concerns. Chief Cooper responded to some of the concerns of the citizens and explained the process. He stated how sad it is the effect it has on the elderly and encouraged parents to really take an active a part in teaching their children of the repercussions of their action. It is their job to enforce the law. There is a Zero Tolerance in the City especially towards those committing crimes. They arrest assailants but what happens after that is out of their control. He asks that the community work with the police department. He stated it is going to shock some of the citizens, but he is going to do his job. The shooting has to stop, and they are going to do their job. Councilmember Robinson responded that we have to work together, and we do have a small force.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None held

ACTION AS NEEDED WITH RESPECT TO MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION – None held

CITY COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS

Councilmember William Askins – No report.

Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott - she thanked everyone for coming out and expressing their concerns. She elaborated a little of the plans her church family is going to put in place. She stated that everything sounded like a great plan; especially improving the living conditions in Lake City. She encouraged everyone to stop the violence. She has a sister on McGregor Circle and how often they hear guns going off. We have to work with the police department to make a difference. Mental health is a

problem, and we need to hear the call for help. She appreciated the young lady coming out to let everyone know about their program to keep families in their homes. We want to see Lake City grow!

Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary – she thanked everyone for coming out and bringing their concerns. If you do not let them know what is going on, it cannot be addressed. She agreed with Ms. Thomas about the lighting and that they will be looking into this matter. She encouraged everyone to be safe and be aware of COVID; she is speaking from experience. She is recovering from COVID, that is why she was not in attendance at the December 2021 meeting.

Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby – she thanked everyone for coming out and ditto all the previous sentiments.

Councilmember Yamekia Robinson – she congratulated all the new board members. She thanked everyone especially to Ms. Thomas for coming out with their concerns. She recognized the 1-year anniversary of the swearing in for Councilmember Askins and herself. Announcement: The MLK Day event, which was held on Monday, January 17, 2022, via Zoom. The keynote speaker was Pastor Paula Morris. This information was shared on social media. A vaccination clinic was held on Saturday, January 22, 2022, between 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Wesley Chapel Church. The committee is working on having more testing sites; we got to take care of home. Information on Highway to Hope Mobile Clinic; detailing some of the symptoms of mental health will be available at the mobile clinic. Bernard McIntosh sent this information to her attention.

Councilmember Richard Cook – he thanked Police Chief Cooper and officers for what they do. There will always be complaints. He stated, yes, we need more police officers. This is not a new problem for the City. The Legislation assigns the Judges, and they are the ones who release the criminals back into society. How to hold the parents responsible? We need to make sure we hold the right people responsible. He thanked everyone for coming out and he wished everyone a Happy New Year.

MAYOR'S REPORT – he thanked everyone for coming out. He spoke of the importance of families and monitoring our young people. We have to hold our children accountable. The Youth Intervention Program, we need volunteers. We have to focus on our future, and he recognized the Fire and Police Departments. They respond to calls no matter what. The time is now to make a difference and make it better. He thanked the City employees, Councilmembers (they may not always agree but they err on what the City needs).

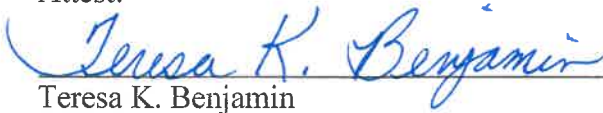
ADJOURNMENT - Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Having heard all matters presented and having no citizens input, a Motion to Adjourn:
Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Motion
Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Yamekia
Robinson, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Mayor Pro Tem
Nicole Singletary, Councilmember Richard Cook, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye):
Motion Carried: Unanimously.



Lovith Anderson Jr
Mayor

Attest:



Teresa K. Benjamin
City Clerk