



# City of Edgewater

104 N. Riverside Drive  
Edgewater, FL 32132

## Meeting Minutes City Council

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Monday, April 7, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

*Mayor Depew called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.*

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Diezel DePew, Councilwoman Charlotte Gillis, Councilman Mike Thomas, Councilwoman Debbie Dolbow, and Councilman Eric Rainbird

**Also Present:** 3 - Interim City Manager Jeffrey Thurman, City Attorney Aaron Wolfe, and City Clerk Bonnie Zlotnik

### 2. APPROVAL OR CHANGES/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

*Mayor Depew informed Council of the changes to the agenda.*

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dolbow, second by Councilwoman Gillis, to move item 10b to 8e and add a Water Conservation Month to Proclamations. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Mayor DePew, Councilwoman Gillis, Councilman Thomas, Councilwoman Dolbow and Councilman Rainbird

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### a. Regular Meeting - October 2, 2023

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dolbow, second by Councilwoman Gillis, to approve Regular meeting Minutes of October 2, 2023; February 5, 2024; April 1, 2024; and May 6, 2024. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Mayor DePew, Councilwoman Gillis, Councilman Thomas, Councilwoman Dolbow and Councilman Rainbird

#### b. Regular Meeting - February 5, 2024

#### c. Regular Meeting - April 1, 2024

#### d. Regular Meeting - May 6, 2024

### 4. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/PLAQUES/CERTIFICATES/DONATIONS

Proclamation - Water Conservation Month

*Mayor Depew read the proclamation into the record and presented it to Sean Maroney, Interim Public Works Director.*

- a. Presentation by James Moore Certified Public Accountants and Consultants on the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2024

*James Halleran, CPA with James Moore, gave a presentation of the Annual Audit for 2024 containing an overview of their independent auditors' report; this years changes; general and other governmental funds - fund balances; proprietary funds; where the City is today regarding unassigned/unrestricted funds; important note disclosures for: leases, long-term debt, other post employment benefits, and tax abatements; and pension plan schedules.*

*Mayor Depew asked about the lease for the new City Hall property and asked that it be sent out to each of the Council members and requested an update for the Fire Department substation they had approved in the budget the previous year.*

## 5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

*Wendy Wagner, 1703 Royal Palm Drive and Lisa Jasmine, 1523 Royal Palm Drive, expressed concerns over 1603 Royal Palm Drive; citing multiple drug busts and police issues.*

*Mayor Depew acknowledged that it was a tough situation and assured that the City was doing all they could to rectify the issues.*

*Art Slack, 3031 Umbrella Tree Drive, discussed the flooding concerns and the money residents pay towards 'water control'. He requested to know where the money went.*

*Jim Lovgren, 182 Jones Fish Camp Road, discussed construction problems they are facing in Riverfront Estates. He asked that someone inspect the slabs of the houses being built.*

*Frank Snyder, 180 Jones Fish Camp Road, agreed with the previous commenter regarding Riverfront Estates; had concerns about the quality and safety of an observation deck that was built; and a traffic issue with the new subdivision.*

*Kim Long, 3312 Mango Tree Drive, spoke about the original deed for the City Hall property; the changes made to it in 2015 that allows the City to sell the property if so desired and requested that City Attorney Wolfe re-implement the original restrictions.*

*Cora Steincamp, 339 River Front Way, expressed concerns over the apartments being built on Jones Fishcamp Road; an eagles nest that was cut down and excess traffic.*

*Marilyn Bennett, 194 Jones Fish Camp Road, had concerns over the traffic that will be brought to Jones Fish Camp Road by the new developments and issues with trash along the side of the road.*

*Chuck Martin, 205 Cherrywood Lane, inquired if the lake on Mango Tree was used for reclaim water and if the newly formed Edgewater Chamber of Commerce was legal. Mayor Depew informed him that he will be addressing the concerns under his report.*

*Dave Dixon, legal advisor for the Edgewater Chamber of Commerce, said that the chamber has been complying with the State law.*

*Cheryl Davis, 356 River Front Way, stated that they had already spoken to Councilmembers about traffic concerns months ago and expressed concerns over gopher tortoises in the area.*

*Dr. Kurt Schierlinger, 201 S Ridgewood Avenue, expressed concern over construction near his property causing flooding issues.*

*Jim Lynch, owner of Godfathers Custom Cycles and Goodfella's Beer & Wine, thanked Council and Staff for the support of their upcoming event and invited everyone to partake.*

## **6. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

*Councilwoman Gillis attended a FLC Advocacy Committee meeting; a League of Cities dinner; a TPO Executive Committee meeting; the Central Florida Safety Strategic Plan Steering Committee meeting; the Burns Sci Tech volleyball fundraiser; the annual Edgewater Police Department awards ceremony, she thanked Sara Geiger and the office staff for the event. She had met with local legislators in Tallahassee and several residents regarding issues. She congratulated Office of the Year, Tristan Ingram and stated that the Animal Shelter was in need of detergent and bleach.*

*Councilwoman Dolbow reported that Gifts of Love on Park Avenue is in need of cereal if anyone would like to donate; they're there every Thursday from 8am-2pm.*

*Councilman Thomas answered several complaints and had contacted Councilman Rainbird and the Mayor to address them when he could not. He attended Thursday nights workshop with Ryan Solstice, Development Services Director; met with Interim City Manager Thurman about some drainage issues; Mr. Thurman informed Council that they should have the final Stormwater Master Plan December 19th. He met with the auditors and encouraged people to start preparing for hurricanes now.*

*Councilman Rainbird thanked the residents for trusting and electing him; he thanked Renee Sortman for also running. He thanked multiple members of staff for making him feel welcome and thanked Fire Chief Lariscy for the Fire Departments assistance with a family emergency.*

*Mayor Depew congratulated Councilman Rainbird; he stated that Tom Alcorn, a member of Team Volusia Economic Development for the Chamber of Commerce had passed away and asked for consensus to have a day dedicated to him in remembrance, Council agreed. City Clerk Zlotnik asked what day he'd like to dedicate; Mayor Depew wasn't sure.*

*Mayor Depew announced that the City was set to receive funding from the State for the canal armoring project in Florida Shores, a first in Edgewater history. He thanked the City lobbyist, Georgia for her effort in the process.*

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dolbow, second by Councilwoman Gillis, to approve the Consent Agenda as listed. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Mayor DePew, Councilwoman Gillis, Councilman Thomas, Councilwoman Dolbow and Councilman Rainbird

- a. Mead and Hunt Project Representative/Inspection Services related to FEMA funded Kennedy Park Project.
- b. Purchase a 4 x 4 Crew Cab Pickup Truck for Stormwater Division
- c. Public utility easement granted to the City of Edgewater as part of SUN Trail project.

**8. PUBLIC HEARINGS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

- a. 2nd Reading - Ordinance No. 2025-O-01: Amending and restating the Police Officers Pension Plan

*City Attorney Wolfe read the Ordinance into the record.*

*There was no staff report as this was a second reading.*

*Mayor Depew opened and closed the public hearing.*

**A motion was made by Councilman Thomas, second by Councilwoman Gillis, to approve 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-O-01, amending and restating the Police Officers Pension Plan. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Mayor DePew, Councilwoman Gillis, Councilman Thomas, Councilwoman Dolbow and Councilman Rainbird

- b. 2nd Reading - Ordinance No. 2025-O-02: Request for annexation into the City of Edgewater for +0.40 acres located at 131 Poinciana Road (Parcel ID number 8413-04-00-3960).

*City Attorney Wolfe read the Ordinance into the record.*

*There was no staff report as this was a second hearing.*

*Mayor Depew opened the public hearing.*

*Kim Long, 3312 Mango Tree Drive, discussed the trees on the property; expressed displeasure with trees in the City being cut down and asked for Ordinances to protect trees going forward.*

*Mayor Depew asked what could be built on the property. Ryan Solstice, Development Services Director, said a single family home as it has a residential future land use designation. They want to*

*be annexed into the City to utilize the water service.*

*At Councilman Thomas' request, Mr. Solstice explained the code regarding trees.*

*Mayor Depew asked what the County standard is for trees; Mr. Solstice said it is similar but a bit laxer regarding the clear cutting.*

*Mayor Depew referenced the mutual aid agreement in place to service the County for emergency response; Mr. Solstice said the City already provides utilities in this area as well.*

*Councilwoman Dolbow said it would be a benefit for taxes; Councilwoman Gillis noted that this was just annexing them into the City. In the future, they would have to come before Council in regards to the trees.*

*Further discussion ensued regarding the codes; the differences between commercial and residential codes moving forward; and the details regarding the code on trees.*

*Mayor Depew closed the public hearing.*

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dolbow, second by Councilwoman Gillis, to approve the 2nd reading of Ordinance No. 2025-O-02. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Mayor DePew, Councilwoman Gillis, Councilman Thomas, Councilwoman Dolbow and Councilman Rainbird

- c.** 2nd Reading - Ordinance No. 2025-O-03: Request for a Small-Scale Comprehensive Plan Amendment Future Land Use Element from Volusia County Urban Medium Intensity to City of Edgewater Medium Density Residential for +0.40 acres located at 131 Poinciana Road (Parcel ID number 8413-04-00-3960).

*City Attorney Wolfe read the Ordinance into the record.*

*There was no staff report as it was a second hearing but Mr. Solstice did note the difference between Volusia County's urban medium intensity future land use and the City's.*

*Mayor Depew opened and closed the public hearing.*

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dolbow, second by Councilwoman Gillis, to approve the 2nd reading of Ordinance No. 2025-O-03. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Mayor DePew, Councilwoman Gillis, Councilman Thomas, Councilwoman Dolbow and Councilman Rainbird

- d.** 2nd Reading - Ordinance No. 2025-O-04: Request for a change to the Zoning map from Volusia County R-4W to City of Edgewater R-3 Residential for +0.40 acres located at 131 Poinciana Road (Parcel ID number 8413-04-00-3960).

*City Attorney Wolfe read the Ordinance into the record.*

*Ryan Solstice, Development Services Director, provided a staff report and recommendation.*

*Mayor Depew opened and closed the public hearing.*

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dolbow, second by Councilwoman Gillis, to approve the 2nd reading of Ordinance No. 2025-O-04. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Mayor DePew, Councilwoman Gillis, Councilman Thomas, Councilwoman Dolbow and Councilman Rainbird

- e. Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterways Assistance Program - Additional Services Related to Design & Engineering for Police Boathouse

*There was brief discussion over the order of the motions.*

*Mayor Depew opened the public hearing.*

*Councilwoman Dolbow asked if there were plans to add a restaurant at the location; she had heard there were issues related to parking.*

*Jason O'Keefe, Parks & Recreation Director, clarified that initially a restaurant was considered (the rest of the explanation was inaudible due to microphone issues)*

*Shailesh Patel, Dredging and Marine Consultant for FIND, explained that while a restaurant had been mentioned; they decided to leave it as green space for future consideration. FIND had deemed the Police dock facility important so they put in an application to get the 50% matching fund for the design.*

*He made note that once the designing and permitting are done, Mr. O'Keefe has asked that they come back to continue getting matching funds from FIND for the future of all the projects that apply to FINDS mission of having access to waterways.*

*Councilwoman Dolbow clarified that this meant they could get matching 50% grants for both phases.*

*Mayor Depew closed the public hearing.*

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dolbow, second by Councilwoman Gillis, to request to approve the application for Assistance 2025 Under the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterways Program, and authorize the Mayor to sign the FIND Resolution.. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Mayor DePew, Councilwoman Gillis, Councilman Thomas, Councilwoman Dolbow and Councilman Rainbird

**9. BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

*None at this time.*

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

- b. Request to approve the application for Assistance 2025 Under the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterways Program, and authorization for the Mayor to sign the FIND Resolution.

*Interim City Manager Thurman provided a staff report and recommendation.*

*Mayor Depew opened the public hearing.*

*Mayor Depew thanked Joe, Grant Writer Sandy Camp and their FIND Representative Buddy Davenport for their efforts towards this. Councilwoman Gillis expressed her appreciation as well.*

*Mayor Depew closed the public hearing.*

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Dolbow, second by Councilwoman Gillis, to approve Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterways Assistance Program - Additional Services Related to Design & Engineering for Police Boathouse. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:**

**Yes: 5 -** Mayor DePew, Councilwoman Gillis, Councilman Thomas, Councilwoman Dolbow and Councilman Rainbird

**11. OFFICER REPORTS**

- a. City Clerk

*City Clerk Zlotnik discussed the various boards Councilmembers sit on and asked if anyone would like to sit on the School Concurrency Advisory Committee.*

*Councilwoman Gillis and Mayor Depew requested to stay on their respective boards.*

*Council gave consensus for Councilman Rainbird to serve on the School Concurrency Advisory Committee.*

- b. City Attorney

*City Attorney Wolfe had nothing at this time.*

- c. City Manager

*Interim City Manager Thurman attended the Edgewater Police Annual Awards banquet; he had been appointed to serve on the National American Public Works Association Subcommittee for operations and maintenance.*

*Mr. Thurman announced that Development Services had a soft opening and there will be an official ribbon cutting for Council in the next couple weeks and read a letter from a resident praising Ryan Solstice, Development Services Director and Economic Development Coordinator and his staff.*

*Mayor Depew asked for an update on the Council Chambers audio system; Mr. Thurman said they planned to address the issues soon.*

*Councilman Thomas complimented the Mayor for his efforts to get funding for the City.*

*Councilwoman Dolbow asked Mr. Patel from FIND about the plans for dredging; he clarified that they have dredging as part of a consideration. Once they have the bathymetric survey, they'll have a sense of exactly how many cubic yards. It also depends on the angle of the boat ramps. He further explained the process they had gone through to obtain the matching funds thus far.*

*Further discussion ensued over the total estimated cost and the cost on a previously approved Resolution.*

## **12. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

*Chuck Martin, 205 Cherrywood Lane, thanked Mayor Depew for his efforts to get grants and Councilwoman Gillis for certifying the election; asked where grant money is spent; and discussed the Edgewater Chamber of Commerce.*

*Mr. Martin asked if Mango Tree lake was being used to store reclaim water; Sean Maroney, Interim Public Works Director, said they were not as it was not designed for that purpose.*

*Donna McDavid, 1201 Bond Street, had questions regarding a survey that had gone out to residents.*

*Dan Worl, Utilities Division Manager, explained that it was a community development block grant that had come up on short notice; it involved communities involved with Hurricane Milton and they are hoping to receive approximately \$1.5 million to be put towards water and wastewater infrastructure. The City will have to put up \$50,000 towards the grant. The information on the survey goes to the grant writer.*

*City Clerk Zlotnik advised that the survey was a city record and she would be legally obligated to provide the information if requested.*

## **13. ADJOURN**

*There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Depew adjourned the meeting at 8pm.*

*Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:*

*Monique Toupin, Assistant to the City Clerk*