

City of Opa-locka

*Commission Chambers
215 Perviz Avenue
Opa-locka, FL 33054*



REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING Agenda

**Wednesday, February 24, 2021
7:00 PM**

City Commission

**Mayor Matthew A. Pigatt
Vice Mayor Veronica J. Williams
Commissioner Alvin Burke
Commissioner Chris Davis
Commissioner John H. Taylor Jr.**

Appointed Officials

**City Manager John E. Pate
City Attorney Burnadette Norris-Weeks
City Clerk Joanna Flores, CMC**

SPEAKING BEFORE THE CITY COMMISSION

NOTE: All persons speaking shall come forward and give your full name and address, and the name and address of the organization you are representing.

There is a three (3) minute time limit for speaker/citizens forum and participation at all city commission meetings and public hearings. Your cooperation is appreciated in observing the three (3) minute time limit policy. If your matter requires more than three (3) minutes, please arrange a meeting or an appointment with the City Clerk prior to the commission meeting. *City of Opa-locka Code of Ordinances Section 2-57*

DECORUM POLICY

Any person making impertinent or slanderous remarks or who become boisterous while addressing the commission, shall be declared to be out of order by the presiding officer, and shall be barred from further audience before the Commission by the presiding officer, unless permission to continue or again address the commission be granted by the majority vote of the commission members. *City of Opa-locka Code of Ordinances Section 2-58*

NOTICE TO ALL LOBBYISTS

Any person appearing in a paid or remunerated representative capacity before the city staff, boards, committees and the City Commission is required to register with the City Clerk before engaging in lobbying activities. *City of Opa-locka Code of Ordinances Section 2-18*

FLORIDA STATUTES, CHAPTER 285.0105:

“If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board, Agency or Commission with respect to the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, that person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.”



CITY OF OPA-LOCKA PROCEDURES FOR VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION AT COMMISSION MEETINGS

Virtual Participation at Commission Meetings

Due to COVID-19 and pursuant to Governor Ron DeSantis Executive Order Number 20-69, the City of Opa-locka has been holding its meetings virtually using the Zoom teleconferencing platform. As of November 2020, the City of Opa-locka will meet in-person with social distancing while still allowing virtual participation via Zoom.

City Commission Meeting location for in-person meetings

In-person meetings will be held in the Auditorium at Sherbondy Village, 215 Perviz Avenue, Opa-locka, Florida, with offsite participants joining by Zoom.

How to watch the meeting

Members of the public are encouraged to watch the public meeting and public hearings at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOpaLocka>

How to participate

For meetings held in-person with virtual participation, members of the public wishing to address the body on any agenda item may do so in person or virtually. **Space for in-person attendance is very limited due to COVID-19 social distancing. Members of the public wishing to address the Commission are strongly encouraged to participate virtually.**

To participate virtually, please register by emailing publiccomments@opalockafl.gov at least 2 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time to request the meeting link.

Providing comments in advance

Those wishing to provide comments on any agenda item are encouraged to do so in advance by submitting their comment via email to publiccomments@opalockafl.gov

Comments on any agenda item must be submitted 2 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time. Comments received after the deadline will be kept for the record, but will not be read during the meeting. If you have comments for more than one agenda item, please state which item you are commenting on.

Reasonable accommodation requests during COVID-19 pandemic

Persons with disabilities who need to request reasonable accommodation(s) to effectively participate in this meeting may contact the Office of the City Clerk. As the City of Opa-locka is currently operating under a Declaration of Emergency relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and is practicing CDC recommended social distancing protocols, staff from the Office of the City Clerk may be working remotely.

Persons with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are asked to e-mail such requests to jflores@opalockafl.gov at least three (3) business days in advance of the need for reasonable accommodation. You may also call (305) 953-2800.

City of Opa-locka public participation and decorum rules

Speaking before the Commission

NOTE: All persons speaking shall come forward and give your full name and address, and the name and address of the organization you are representing.

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If the Chair or Commission declares a virtual participant to be out of order, he or she may be muted by the moderator.

All remarks shall be addressed to the Commission as a body and not to any member thereof.

No person, other than a member of the Commission and the person having the floor, may be permitted to enter into any discussion, either directly or through a member of the Commission, without permission of the Chair. No question may be asked except through the Chair.

Speakers should make their comments concise and to the point.

For questions and/or additional information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (305) 953-2800 or (786) 877-4038.

CITY OF OPA-LOCKA
“The Great City”

AGENDA
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
February 24, 2021
7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

2. ROLL CALL:

3. INVOCATION:

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

5. AWARDS/PROCLAMATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

STAR of Excellence - Employee of the Month
Officer Ruben Borrero, Opa-locka Police Department

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND PULL LIST (deferrals and deletions):

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – April 30, 2020

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – June 4, 2020

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – June 11, 2020

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – June 18, 2020

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – July 2, 2020

Four Major Challenges Workshop Minutes – December 9, 2020

Regular Commission Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2021

Regular Commission Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2021

9. DISTRICT ONE / DISTRICT TWO - COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT:

10. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

1. Nikisha Williams, Chief Operations Officer
Opa-locka Community Development Corporation (OLCDC)
re: community services provided by OLCDC

11. CITIZENS' FORUM:
(Opportunity for discussion of any concerns – please limit to 3 minutes)

12. ACTION ITEMS (items from consent agenda pull list):

13. ADMINISTRATION:

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A CRIME STOPPERS PROGRAM, “NO MORE TRASH”, TO DETER ILLEGAL DUMPING IN THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Sponsored by Vice Mayor Williams

14. NEW ITEMS:

15. PLANNING & ZONING:

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

B. APPEALS:

16. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. FIRST READING ORDINANCE(S)/PUBLIC HEARING(S):

B. SECOND READING ORDINANCE(S)/PUBLIC HEARING(S):

C. RESOLUTION(S):

17. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

18. OFFICIAL BOARD REPORTS:

19. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

20. MAYOR/COMMISSION REPORTS:

21. OFFICIAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Civil Service Board

1 Individual Appointment (Commissioner Taylor)

1 Individual Appointment (Vice Mayor Williams)

Historic Environmental Preservation Board

4 At-Large Appointments

Fair Housing and Nuisance Abatement Board

1 Individual appointment (Commissioner Taylor)

1 Individual appointment (Vice Mayor Williams)

1 Individual appointment (Mayor Pigatt)

Community Relations, Recreation and Activities Board

1 Individual appointment (Commissioner Taylor)

1 Individual appointment (Commissioner Davis)

1 Individual appointment (Vice Mayor Williams)

1 At-large appointment

Planning & Zoning Board

1 At-Large Appointment

22. ADJOURNMENT:

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE WORKSHOPS/OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES

A. Feeding South Florida Drive-Thru Food Distribution, Tuesday, February 23, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Sherbondy Park, 215 Perviz Avenue, Opa-locka, Florida.

B. City of Opa-locka Virtual Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting, Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. This meeting will be streamed live at <http://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOpalocka>. For public participation at this virtual meeting, please email crapubliccomments@opalockafl.gov.

For further information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk by telephone at (305) 953-2868 or email jflores@opalockafl.gov.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CITYOF OPA-LOCKA
“The Great City”

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP (COVID-19)
Thursday, April 30, 2020
5:30 P.M.

AGENDA

1. WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS:

Mayor Matthew Pigatt called the Virtual Workshop Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2020.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-69, issued by the office of the Governor Ron DeSantis on March 20, 2020, municipalities may conduct meetings of their governing boards without having a quorum of its members present physically or at any specific location, and utilizing communications media technology such as telephonic or video conferencing, as provided by Section 120.54(5) (b) 2, Florida Statutes.

An opportunity was given to the public to email the City Clerk prior to the Virtual Workshop with any questions/comments/concerns. This meeting is streamed live at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOpalocka>.

Since this is a virtual meeting as authorized by the Governor of the State of Florida, again, members of the public wishing to address the commission have been offered the opportunity to do so. Public comments will be included as part of the public record for this Virtual Workshop.

The members of the City Commission appearing remotely were: Mayor Matthew Pigatt, Vice Mayor Chris Davis, Commissioner Sherelean Bass, Commissioner Alvin Burke, and Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley. Also appearing remotely were: City Attorney Burnadette Norris-Weeks, City Manager John E. Pate, and City Clerk Joanna Flores.

2. INVOCATION:

The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Joseph Kelley.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Clerk Flores stated the protocols for public participation in virtual meetings. There were no public comments.

5. DISCUSSION ITEM:

- **City's response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**

Mayor Pigatt stated that there is currently a very serious rate of infection in the City of Opa-locka. He called upon staff to provide an update regarding the City's response and also for the Commission to brainstorm and think through ideas, and make sure everyone is on the same page when it comes to responding to the crisis.

Manager Pate stated that as of today, the City of Opa-locka has approximately 198 COVID-19 positive cases, self-reported or reported through hospital facilities where individuals were admitted, based on address and zip codes provided by the patients. He emphasized that more likely than not, the actual positive cases are higher than 198, and we will not know until the City starts their own testing and self-testing program. He stated that as of Wednesday, Miami-Dade County opened green spaces and parks per the County Mayor. The cities are allowed to be more restrictive as far as the reopening of green spaces and parks, and other municipal government entities. The City of Opa-locka has made the determination to keep the green spaces closed because of the COVID-19 positive rate, as well as stay-at-home and curfew related issues which the City is dealing with collectively. He stated that while in contact with the County and State Department of Public Health, they were discussing coordinating testing at senior facilities and the village, and updates on this matter are being awaited. Private entities have also been contacted in regards to the cost of independent testing, for the City to consider sponsoring such testing, and the responses have been 6-12 people per hour at a rate of \$100 - \$120 pp, which would cost the City \$18,000 per day if the City would take on financing testing themselves. The manager requested the input of the Commissioners in regards to the following subjects:

- a.) Looking at current emergency orders to see if the City of Opa-locka wants to be more restrictive than the current County and State order effective May 6, such order for reopening specifically excludes Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties, due to the high COVID-19 positivity rates. There are concerns about residents wearing masks on an everyday basis, sanitation issues in grocery stores and local businesses.
- b.) What demographic do we want to focus on?
 - Ages 65+ that are symptomatic, as recommend by the State Department of Public Health

Manager Pate stated that the City is strictly enforcing the curfew and the Police Department has been constantly engaging in educating residents about the stay-at-home orders and curfew. The City Manager made a reference to a recent event involving around 30-40 residents in a public confrontation, de-escalated by the Police without the need to incarcerate anyone, but presented an opportunity to educate the residents. He reinforced that we have to get the curfew under control. An order of 2,000 masks was placed to distribute among residents possibly, however the masks are coming in very slowly at about 100 per day due to a shortage of masks.

He further brought up the concern of the Natural Disaster Budget, which the City is currently using funds from while dealing with COVID-19, the majority of which is reimbursable, and as Hurricane Season approaches, the City should be cautious as far as using the funds, while waiting on pending reimbursements. He stated that Chief Dobson was there to speak about the curfew, other subjects and answer questions.

Chief James Dobson of the Opa-locka Police Department reported that with the City Manager's approval, he has assigned 4 new officers working the 10pm to 2am shift, which reported mostly compliance and only a few arrests for violation of the curfew from repeat offenders not willing to abide by the curfew. Last week, two bars had to be closed down because they were attempting to serve customers indoors. There has been traffic after the curfew, but only passing through the City. Overall, residents and businesses have been in compliance, and we have gone back to a zero tolerance with loitering.

Manager Pate requested that Public Works Department Director, Mr. Austin provide an update on flooding in the City, how gutters are being cleaned and how the City is maintaining the streets and its infrastructure during this time.

Public Works Director Mr. Airia Austin stated that essential folks are being kept on pump stations, dealing with water leaks as they are reported from Miami-Dade County, as they continue with the meter replacement program. He stated that the pothole patching program has been temporarily suspended due to time constraints. There are currently two items related to flooding which he would like to complete after he receives a full assessment from the contractors.

Manager Pate further requested that Mr. Austin update the City on the extended RFPs, with regards to the City's infrastructure plan. The City still needs to have progress in regards to its infrastructure.

Mr. Austin said that the RFPs will be closing in mid-May and that he will be receiving them electronically, and via Zoom. The applications are pouring in and he is hopeful qualified individuals will be selected to get these projects going.

Manager Pate opened the floor for any questions and stated that the City is looking at a phased re-opening of City Hall. The IT Director is looking into temperature scanners that can be mounted on the door to be able to do mass temperature screenings to people coming into the building. Due to budget constraints, the City is evaluating its personnel in order to maintain the proper social distancing within the building; as everyone knows there are employees working 4-hour shifts, in order to make sure we do not have a large number of individuals in the building at once. The City has been covering 40 hours of payroll per employee except for essential services since March, and that will be coming to a conclusion in mid-May because the City will not be able to sustain that. This was done on a temporary basis as others cities have done, in order to not affect employees further, but the City is looking at potential furloughs, potential reduction in workforce, and potential down-grading of status, from full-time to part-time status in order to make sure there is proper manpower in the building and staffing is reduced due to COVID-19. The main priority is to have staff working and avoid furloughing staff. Creative ideas to avoid such mishaps for the City's employees are being discussed, such as providing formal notice to the Union, providing

staff enough time to file their unemployment claims, and getting additional funds and revenue prior to implementing these changes. Also, he needs to make sure the City will have adequate staffing to operate. The Manager reminded everyone attending that this is the time to discuss any ideas to deal with these situations.

Mayor Pigatt thanked City Manager Pate and expressed appreciation for the updates from Chief Dobson and Mr. Austin. He said he would reserve his comments until after the commission has discussed the matters. He provided a quick review of the topics to make sure everyone was aware, as to how the City will respond to the opening up that is taking place at the federal, state and local level and what this means to the City of Opa-locka.

Commissioner Bass asked for clarification as to why the pothole program was suspended and further asked about the number of applications received for the consulting positions.

Mr. Austin explained that the pothole program was temporarily suspended because it would not be sustainable to try to collect asphalt, which takes an hour and a half from the time they start working, as the City is only working restricted hours. He said that he receives emails daily of candidates applying for the RFQ, but it has not been quantified and he will get back to Commissioner Bass with that information.

Commissioner Bass thanked Mr. Austin and said she was grateful that there were so many contractors interested in being part of the City of Opa-locka. She addressed Manager Pate regarding the reopening of the City, which must be done, and these decisions need to be made almost overnight.

Commissioner Kelley addressed the pothole issue and requested confirmation of what he understood for the reasoning of the suspension, in regards to the time constraint due to restricted working hours.

Mr. Austin confirmed the reason for the temporary suspension of the pothole program.

Commissioner Kelley addressed Manager Pate and reminded him of the importance of continuing the pothole program, in particular due to the Hurricane Season, and requested to have it done at least once a week while in this crisis. He stated that there is a lot of rain and further asked that the City Manager revisit those working hours. He said that making some progress with pothole patching is important.

City Manager Pate thanked Commissioner Kelley for the question and stated that the City is looking at the new normal and it is his intention to have regular working hours back in the next two weeks. He said he will take Commissioners Kelley's comment into consideration and asked Mr. Austin to develop a plan to do pothole patching at least once a week moving forward, until the City is back to working regular hours sometime this month.

Mayor Pigatt asked if Public Works employees are considered non-essential.

Manager Pate stated that certain Public Works positions are considered essential. Public Works Employees are working 4-hour days but some staff work more than 4 hours. Schedules are being adjusted. His biggest concern is the access to PPE and adjustments are being made as far as hours and staff. He stated that the concern of the PPE is being brought up by the Union as well, and that is everyone's priority.

Mayor Pigatt addressed the reduced working hours for Public Works employees while they are essential, and are being paid for full-time work while only doing part-time work.

Manager Pate requested that Mr. Austin address the Mayor's concern.

Mayor Pigatt further stated that his reason for bringing that up is that roads, streets and infrastructure projects are essential functions of a government and something that the city needs to respond to, and Public Works employees are the main force for doing that.

Manager Pate explained that projects, remodeling, and various activities are still taking place. The things that were suspended such as the pothole patching program, were due to time constraints and moving the workforce to do other necessary things that have arisen such as the food drive on Tuesdays, dealing with illegal dumping, as well as other facility related issues. The biggest issue at Public Works was PPE and a determination had to be made as a result. He stated that essential items are being handled, such as pump stations maintenance, water break reparation, and the City still has full services. The pothole program was suspended temporarily. The City is going through a phasing process making sure that employees have the proper PPE.

Mr. Austin explained that the purpose was to limit the exposure of the employees and taking employees to do the food drive with a 4-hour window to get things done.

Mayor Pigatt said he is still confused as to how PPE is affecting the working hours, and is asking for clarification and details on this issue. He said he does not want work undone.

Manager Pate understood the Mayor's concerns and requested Mr. Austin to elaborate on the PPE. While it is a general policy to have 4-hour work days, others are required to work more, and the majority are working more than 4 hours.

Mayor Pigatt asked for clarification from the City Manager in regards to this general policy of the City of Opa-locka to work 4 hours a day during an emergency, and whether this applies to non-essential employees only or essential employees as well.

Manager Pate advised that this policy is specifically due to COVID-19 and its guidelines, regarding PPE and social distancing. These were the front-line worker guidelines at hand which were given to the Police Department and others. This was a decision made based on the circumstances and the information given. The City is moving in a phase-in process through which full working hours will be re-established, while ensuring employees are safe. The lack of PPE available to the City is occurring at a national level. He understands the Mayor's concerns and reinforced to him that these issues are being addressed; the work days will be extended and public work activities will be re-prioritized.

Commissioner Kelley addressed Chief Dobson in regards to the curfew and other incidents that keep coming up that should be addressed effectively, however, they are not. He said there are repeat situations that need to be dealt with. He suggested that the guidelines be enforced on a consistent basis. He requested documentation in regards to the financial challenges that would impact the City, in order for the commissioners to weigh in on that decision. He also raised a concern regarding food distribution not done by the City, which could be causing a strain on the City's police staff and this cost needs to be addressed in his opinion, as it is making police response to be slower than normal, especially on certain days. He discussed the COVID-19 related expenses and reimbursements, and asked whether most of those expenses were reimbursable.

Manager Pate confirmed that most of the COVID-19 related expenses are reimbursable.

Vice Mayor Davis expressed his concerns relating to the masks and the City's current status as it relates to the issue of PPE. He reinforced testing being a priority and further spoke about housing assistance that should be considered by means of the CRA. He provided examples of other cities such as North Miami Beach and Hialeah.

Commissioner Burke expressed his concerns relating to the situation of the school crossing guards which are apparently getting one (1) pair of gloves and one (1) mask per week. He asked if that was true.

Manager Pate addressed Commissioners Kelley concerns as far as reimbursable funds. The 40 hours of staff time is not reimbursable, but overtime, any meals, supplies, PPE, signage and infrastructure related to COVID-19 are all reimbursable. Both Mr. Austin and the Budget Director will be attending training with FEMA related to COVID-19 guidelines, and more money will be available for City assistance. The City is currently waiting for the State of Florida distribution and what will be provided to the counties and smaller cities. The City is currently in the bidding process with the county.

He continued by addressing Vice Mayor Davis questions regarding masks. The City just placed a new mask order for 30,000 masks, which the Commission will be ratifying at the Special Commission Meeting. The City will distribute these masks to residents. The CRA budget can be used to support COVID-19 efforts, but it has to be amended, and the CRA board has to make those decisions. He stated that any special stimulus related programs require legislation. In regards to Commissioner Burke's concern, he requested Chief Dobson to provide a response.

Chief Dobson stated that the supervisor was provided with enough masks for each crossing guard. About 5-10 masks and gloves are provided per week per person and these are distributed on Mondays.

Mayor Pigatt briefly addressed the priorities in regards to COVID-19.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Kelley, seconded by Vice Mayor Davis to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Matthew A. Pigatt
Mayor

Attest:

Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk

CITYOF OPA-LOCKA
“The Great City”

CLERK’S ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
VIRTUAL WORKSHOP (COVID-19)
Thursday, June 04, 2020
5:30 P.M.

1. WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS:

Mayor Matthew Pigatt called the Virtual Workshop to order at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 04, 2020.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-69, issued by the office of the Governor Ron DeSantis on March 20, 2020, municipalities may conduct meetings of their governing boards without having a quorum of its members present physically or at any specific location, and utilizing communications media technology such as telephonic or video conferencing, as provided by Section 120.54(5) (b) 2, Florida Statutes.

An opportunity was given to the public to email the City Clerk prior to the Virtual Workshop with any questions/comments/concerns. This meeting is streamed live at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOpalocka>.

Since this is a virtual meeting as authorized by the Governor of the State of Florida, again, members of the public wishing to address the commission have been offered the opportunity to do so. Public comments will be included as part of the public record for this Virtual Workshop.

2. ROLL CALL

The members of the City Commission appearing remotely were: Mayor Matthew Pigatt, Vice Mayor Chris Davis, Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley, and Commissioner Alvin Burke. Also appearing remotely was: Assistant City Attorney Candice Cobb, City Manager John E. Pate, and City Clerk Joanna Flores. Commissioner Sherelean Bass arrived at 5:35 p.m.

3. INVOCATION:

The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

5. PUBLIC INPUT:

Clerk Flores stated the protocols for virtual participation at public meetings.

Clerk Flores read the following public comments into the record:

Natasha Ervin
670 Dunad Avenue
Opa-locka, Florida

Let me say I am extremely proud of my community during these times of protest.

I'm hoping that going forward we're at the table now planning for the "what ifs" and uncertainties of life. While we're at the table, I would like to make sure that we are planning to adequately train our officers and making sure that they have adequate equipment to deal with the uncertainties of life and its situations.

Do we have an Emergency procedure Policy in place? If NOT, we need one ASAP.

I'm also extremely concerned about Summer Camp in our City. As many of you know, I love Parks and Recreation and I love the kids in our community. It pains me to say this, however, I DO NOT AGREE WITH OUR CITY HAVING SUMMER CAMP. If the County hasn't decided to have summer camp for the obvious reasons, then how are we moving forward? Let's follow the County's lead. Let's be smart with this one.

All lives Matter!!!! Thank you!!

Trina Brinson
13875 NW 22th Ave
Opa-locka, Florida

Mayor, Commission and City Manager,

I have been a resident of the Great City of Opa-locka for 15 plus years, I was watching the workshop last week and I heard some things that really concerns me. Needless to say, we should not authorize any program to be held in any of our facilities during this pandemic. We are all aware that Opa-locka has over 300 coronavirus cases in our City. The safety of our citizens should come first. How could anybody expect children to stay in one place for a period of 8 hours? It would be impossible for staff to keep all the masks on the children. Why can't we just do virtual camp like most of Miami-Dade County Parks and Schools for the summer? Any state funded programs has guidelines and we must follow them. For example, in order for City staff to assist private sector, everyone has to be DCF certified. Why do we have to give free space to private sector and they charge the parent a fee. Last year the registration fee was \$100.00 per child. The Parks Department has suffered a great deal with this program coming into our park. Check the numbers from this favor costing our Parks Department thousands of dollars and padding the pocket of the private sector. We don't need the private sector to pay salaries or stop lay-off or furloughs. They need to find another location so they can stop tearing up our building. They get

free rent and pocket the monies for weekly fee. But just remember, in case of an emergency, the City of Opa-locka is fully responsible for everything that happens in its facility

Mayor Pigatt stated the Commission will be discussing the protests and how the police was being supported during the time.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a) City's Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

b) Parks and Recreation

Summer Camp 2020 Post COVID-19 Reopening Plan

Chief James Dobson, Opa-locka Police Department reported that in the last week the police issued 69 facemasks warnings, 115 social distancing warnings and 1 COVID positive curfew arrest. Both of the officers who were involved in the positive COVID case were tested and their test returned negative. The officers were also quarantined. He said officers will be getting more training once the training facilities are finished. He reported there had been no uprisings within the community. The police was providing nightly security from 5pm to 6am for the walk up COVID testing site.

Commissioner Kelley asked Chief Dobson if there were 2 warnings for wearing masks and 11 at one complex and 29 social distancing warning at another complex. He asked if that was social distancing.

Chief Dobson stated "Yes".

Vice Mayor Davis requested Chief Dobson to speak about the training the police officers were going to attend.

Chief Dobson explained that the training would involve de-escalation and human diversity.

City Manager Pate asked if there were any officers already trained with the subjects discussed or if no one has been trained yet.

Chief Dobson explained that all of the officers had been trained in human diversity, but some of the other trainings are still being worked on to be implemented on the entire police department.

City Manager Pate asked Chief Dobson if they had all of the necessary equipment in the case of uprisings.

Chief Dobson reported that the department had issued some of the PPE equipment for the officers. He stated some of it was contaminated so he reached out to several other departments and agencies to receive more and to vendors to purchase more.

City Manager Pate asked if the department did not have anti-riot equipment at the time.

Chief Dobson stated half the department has and the other half does not.

City Manager Pate asked Chief Dobson if there were any policies or procedures that addressed riots or protests.

Chief Dobson replied, no.

Mayor Pigatt requested clarification relating to the police department not having riot control policies that govern large crowds.

Chief Dobson explained he misunderstood the question and stated there was a policy. He stated the policy was being updated.

Mayor Pigatt asked if the update was inclusive of the requests the people were pushing forward or if it was a standard update.

Chief Dobson did not understand the question.

Mayor Pigatt explained that he was asking if the Chief was looking into use of force policy recommendations or de-escalation and not using excessive force as a part of the update.

Chief Dobson stated “Yes”

City Manager Pate requested a copy of the policy.

Chief Dobson agreed to provide the copy.

Jessica Modkins, Public Relations Consultant for the City of Opa-locka reported that the food drive that takes place on Tuesdays was advertised and the palm cards were printed in Spanish and Creole in addition to English. All postings on social media have been in English, Spanish and Creole. She continued reporting on the launch of City of Opa-locka Newsletter and the Souls Take Control event for which she made a flyer, issued a press release, and scheduled radio interviews.

Commissioner Bass thanked Ms. Modkins for her work and she was looking forward to the newsletter.

Commissioner Kelley thanked Ms. Modkins on the Souls Take Control project for the Churches to get involved.

Commissioner Burke informed Commissioner Kelley that he would be there on Sunday at the Souls Take Control event.

Commissioner Bass asked Ms. Modkins if the newsletter was going to be bi-lingual or tri-lingual.

Ms. Modkins stated the second one will be in three languages.

City Manager Pate asked IT Director Nelson Rodriguez if he could add to the database all City related emails for everyone to receive the newsletter.

Mr. Rodriguez replied yes and asked if it could be advertised for new residents to sign up.

City Manager Pate asked Ms. Modkins if a constant contact link was sufficient.

Ms. Modkins suggested Mr. Rodriguez add a Constant Contact link under contact for residents to be able to sign up. She also stated she will be advertising it on all social media platforms.

Mayor Pigatt requested Ms. Modkins to explain how the newsletter information was selected and how often it would be published.

Ms. Modkins stated it was all of the press releases, but she suggested offering the commissioners an opportunity to add any information they would like promoted. The newsletter is scheduled to be published once a month.

Mayor Pigatt asked that the four major challenges be included as a part of the newsletter.

Ms. Modkins offered adding a Mayor's greeting on the newsletter to add some of the bullet points he was mentioning.

Mayor Pigatt welcomed the suggestion.

City Manager Pate reported that the testing site was having issues with getting 100 tested individuals per day on a regular basis. The daily average was about 70 and the County is pushing the City to get at least 200 per day. The City was working on a plan to do mask distribution of which they have approximately 37,000 masks to distribute as a part of the Mask-Up Campaign. He said a contract was executed for a new phone system and Mr. Rodriguez was rolling it out. He said he had plans to open up City Hall within the next 30 days after installing a temperature

monitoring system. He introduced Ms. Jannie Russell of Teen Upward Bound to do a presentation in regards to Summer Camp 2020.

Jannie Russell, Executive Director of Teen Upward Bound briefly introduced the presentation for Summer Camp 2020. She said that joining her would be Alexis Russell, Program Director, who would be presenting the plan. The County issued an Executive Order Amendment that allows Summer Camps to open on June 8, 2020. She asserted that her organization follows the rules and regulations stipulated by the County and her organization provided the required certificate of insurance.

Alexis Russell provided an overview of the proposed Summer Camp program which would be operated following all State, County and CDC guidelines.

Commissioner Bass asked how many students will be in each group.

Ms. Russell replied, 9 students per group.

Commissioner Bass asked if the insurance was in conjunction with the City of Opa-locka.

Ms. Russell replied, no, the City of Opa-locka is an additional insured.

Commissioner Bass asked for a copy of the contract and asked when it was last updated. She stated she was referring to the contract between the City of Opa-locka and Teen Upward Bound.

Vice Mayor Davis inquired about the summer feeding program for youth at-large. He asked if there had been any information regarding implementing that program.

Ms. Russell explained that the guidelines were to limit meals to children that were enrolled in the program only. She explained that children's individual meal deliveries were being planned.

Commissioner Kelley asked that Ms. Russell provide an update on the things that have been ordered.

Ms. Russell said they already had the thermometers and the tables, but there was no update regarding the individual desks.

Commissioner Kelley requested clarification on the capacity of the camp and if it was about 75 kids.

Ms. Russell stated “yes”. She spoke about virtual engagement and staggering groups of children on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Mondays and Wednesdays.

Mayor Pigatt asked for the proposed start date.

Ms. Russell replied, on the 15th.

7. ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Kelley, seconded by Vice Mayor Davis to adjourn the Virtual Workshop at 6:31 p.m.

Matthew A. Pigatt
Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk

CITYOF OPA-LOCKA
“The Great City”

CLERK’S ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
VIRTUAL WORKSHOP (COVID-19)
Thursday, June 11, 2020
5:30 P.M.

1. WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS:

Mayor Matthew Pigatt called the Virtual Workshop Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 11, 2020.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-69, issued by the office of the Governor Ron DeSantis on March 20, 2020, municipalities may conduct meetings of their governing boards without having a quorum of its members present physically or at any specific location, and utilizing communications media technology such as telephonic or video conferencing, as provided by Section 120.54(5) (b) 2, Florida Statutes.

An opportunity was given to the public to email the City Clerk prior to the Virtual Workshop with any questions/comments/concerns. This meeting is streamed live at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOpalocka>.

Since this is a virtual meeting as authorized by the Governor of the State of Florida, again, members of the public wishing to address the commission have been offered the opportunity to do so. Public comments will be included as part of the public record for this Virtual Workshop.

2. ROLL CALL

The members of the City Commission appearing remotely were: Mayor Matthew Pigatt, Vice Mayor Chris Davis, Commissioner Sherelean Bass, Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley, and Commissioner Alvin Burke. Also appearing remotely was: Assistant City Attorney Candice Cobb, City Manager John Pate, and City Clerk Joanna Flores.

3. INVOCATION:

The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Sherelean Bass.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

5. PUBLIC INPUT:

Clerk Flores stated the protocols for virtual participation at public meetings.

There were no public comments.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a) City's Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

City Manager Pate reported the recent daily numbers for the COVID-19 tests which were increasing throughout the week. He said that the testing site had a new incident commander by the name of Randy Bronson.

He advised that the city was planning for Hurricane Season, planning to give out facemasks and in the process of setting up temperature check points.

Commissioner Kelley asked, how many of the individuals being tested were from the City of Opa-locka.

City Manager Pate said he did not have that information.

Commissioner Kelley asked the City Manager for his recommendation in terms of keeping the curfew and whether that was necessary.

City Manager Pate deferred the question to Chief Dobson.

Chief James Dobson, Opa-locka Police Department recommended keeping the curfew for now.

Commissioner Kelley asked if the city was appropriately educating residents about the curfew in effect.

City Manager Pate explained that the City was using social media to remind residents as well as robo calls. He said that other methods were being looked into. He requested the City's Public Relations Consultant to further explain.

Jessica Modkins, Public Relations Consultant for the City of Opa-locka explained that the City was using social media to educate the residents.

Commissioner Kelley said he wanted to make sure the residents were aware of the expectations.

Commissioner Burke asked about the positive number of Coronavirus cases for Opa-locka.

City Manager Pate said there were 389 cases as of June 10, 2020.

Mayor Pigatt asked for clarification in terms of the mask distribution to residents. He said he was under the impression that the masks were for city employees, emergency personnel, and for individuals who did not have a mask and were in violation. The Mayor asked for clarification on why the masks were going to be given to residents when he thought they were going to be retained for city employees, emergency employees or provided to those individuals who did not have one and were in violation mask mandate.

City Manager Pate said that was still the plan.

Mayor Pigatt asked about the reopening of City Hall and what measures were being put in place to ensure the level of infections were lowered.

City Manager Pate said that a temperature checking device was going to be installed. He would recommend keeping City Hall closed due to the positive cases coming from City Hall. He explained there was a cleaning crew disinfecting offices.

Mayor Pigatt stressed the importance of offering virtual services to residents sooner rather than later in City Hall.

Chief Dobson reported that there were 416 facemask warnings, 592 social distancing warnings, no curfew arrests, 2 restaurants involved in warnings or fines, and 2 large gatherings that were resolved.

Ms. Modkins said that the City increased its social media outreach. She reported the testing event that took place on Sunday went well with 7 churches attending. She reported an increase on social media of 8,000 people.

Commissioner Kelley asked if clubs were open.

Chief Dobson stated there were no clubs open, but restaurants with liquor license were allowed to operate.

Vice Mayor Davis requested an update in regards to the operation of fitness centers.

City Manager Pate stated the City had no order prohibiting gyms, but the County did have one. He said at the time, gyms were allowed to re-open.

- b) Ordinance relating to face masks or face coverings during pandemic related public health emergency that threatens life, health and safety of residents.

Mayor Pigatt asked for a report on the implementation of the facemask ordinance.

City Manager Pate requested a delay on the effective date of the mask ordinance to be able to allocate resources to maintain and store the fines associated with the mask ordinance. He explained that he envisioned issuing a local civil citation and he asked if new material was needed.

Chief Dobson said it was needed.

City Manager Pate asked Chief Dobson if citations data should be held, including storage of papers and if new software was required.

Chief Dobson stated the data should be stored in the City and new software was required.

City Manager Pate asked what would be the course of action for the City in the event that residents do not pay the fine.

Robert Anathan, Budget Administrator for the City asked if the issue was taking residents to collections or a special magistrate.

City Manager Pate replied, either option.

Mr. Anathan explained that collection agencies are not highly productive, but it may still work as it is the City requesting the funds.

City Manager Pate said that there was no mechanism in place in the form of a ticket book. He explained how he envisioned the process for the City to collect and organize the fines. It would take about 60 days to have such type of system ready. He asked the IT Director Mr. Rodriguez for his input on this matter.

Nelson Rodriguez, IT Director for the City of Opa-locka compared the system with the red light traffic fine system. He said there was a module that could be added to the system to collect civil citations, but that it would not be shared with the County.

Vice Mayor Davis expressed his concerns relating to the financial implications of the ordinance overall.

City Manager Pate said it was necessary to evaluate the use of the current staff to accommodate the need for collecting the citations.

Commissioner Kelley asked, what would be the financial impact and cost for implementation?

City Manager Pate speculated that it would take \$100,000 in man hours in the first year without receiving any revenue.

Commissioner Kelley asked what would be the cost for the Special Magistrate.

City Manager Pate asked City Attorney Norris-Weeks to provide a response.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks said she did not have the information at the time.

Commissioner Kelley asked if it would be a different special magistrate.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks explained that would be a possibility, but it may be more reasonable to assign the one already in the contract.

Commissioner Kelley asked if the City could utilize the same special magistrate and save money.

City Manager Pate replied, yes. He said the financial team provided an approximate of \$250,000.00 of salary expenses to be able to run the program.

Commissioner Kelley said that was a stretch. He stated that he was considering re-thinking supporting the mask ordinance.

Commissioner Burke explained the surrounding cities have prioritized educating their residents and the fine would be an added burden on the residents. He recommended putting all of the effort in educating the residents. He further spoke against the mask ordinance.

Mayor Pigatt explained that masks were necessary to mitigate the risk of the imminent danger of the coronavirus and he did not agree that a team of staff was needed to process the few fines the City might have per day. He recommended looking into other options to process the citations. He explained the reason why the City did not execute it as an emergency order, but instead was looking into the ordinance to prevent residents from being arrested. He said he was surprised with the fiscal impact of the ordinance presented during the meeting and is concerned about the apparent misinformation of the fiscal impact.

City Manager Pate explained this workshop was appropriate to discuss the fiscal impact of the ordinance. He explained that any initiative will start with loss in revenue. The police department and code enforcement were both obligated to enforce the ordinance equally to all residents. He explained other cities have repealed this type of ordinance due to resident outrage.

Mayor Pigatt said that the City needed to figure this out for the residents. He requested realistic numbers backed up by data and analysis through research in order to have a documented proposal. He deferred the item to give staff time to provide the information being requested.

Commissioner Burke advocated against the mask ordinance due to the burden on the residents and the fiscal impact to the City.

Mayor Pigatt explained he was requesting the information in writing and well documented before moving forward. He agreed that he would not support the ordinance if the preliminary information was the actual fiscal impact.

City Manager Pate explained the situation where most of his staff was quarantined making it difficult to coordinate, communicate and create a report. He asked for consideration based on the situation.

Vice Mayor Davis stated that he was not aware of the financial implication prior to sponsoring the item and that is why it was deferred. He explained that while he thought the law was necessary, he didn't see it being fiscally feasible.

Commissioner Kelley concurred with Vice Mayor Davis and further advocated for educating residents.

Mayor Pigatt said he was looking forward to seeing a detailed report and analysis to decide if it was feasible for the City.

c) City of Opa-locka FY 2020 Forecast / FY 2021 Proposed Budget

Mr. Anathan provided an overview of the City of Opa-locka FY 2020 Forecast.

Commissioner Kelley asked, with regards to FY 2020 Governmental Funds, what is forecasted to be returned to the General Fund.

Mr. Anathan forecasted a surplus of revenue over expenditure of over \$2.1 million dollars.

Commissioner Kelley asked if the City does not use the General Fund contingency, will the City have over \$3 million surplus.

Mr. Anathan replied, yes.

Commissioner Kelley asked about the \$400,000 figure Mr. Anathan referred to in his presentation.

Mr. Anathan explained that the City was billing for storm-water fees on the water bills being put out by the County.

Commissioner Kelley asked for clarification on the water & sewer charge in terms of water loss.

Mr. Anathan said there is some water loss for whatever reason and the city is investing in the relining of the system. He said he believed the rate might be going up. He explained some of the challenges with the water sewer system.

Commissioner Kelley asked, regarding the fund balance, what was the decrease accredited to in the people's transportation plan?

Mr. Anathan explained the movement of funds from other programs.

Vice Mayor Davis asked if there were suggestions limiting the millage rate.

City Manager Pate stated his goal was to lower the millage rate accordingly with the Five Year Plan.

Vice Mayor Davis stressed the importance of lowering the millage rate in the future by FY 22.

Mr. Anathan continued his presentation and provided an overview of the FY 2021 Preliminary Budget.

Commissioner Kelley asked if the 8 staff members in the Finance Department is full staff.

Mr. Anathan replied, yes.

Commissioner Kelley asked what other positions were required in the Finance Department.

Mr. Anathan said the department was looking for a senior accountant and accounts payable clerk.

Commissioner Kelley asked Mr. Anathan to elaborate on the number of officers on payroll and the number of officers budgeted for the year.

Mr. Anathan said that there were currently 43 officers on the payroll, which was 4 less than what was budgeted for.

He continued his presentation with the FY 21 Preliminary Budget. The requested positions not included: HR Administrator, Economic Planner / CRA Coordinator, Building Inspector, Parks Recreation Supervisor, 4 Officers, PW Administration Manager, Carpenter Helper, 2 Heavy Equipment Operators and 3 Maintenance Workers. He said he did not think there was a budget to support the requested positions. He continued with an overview of the FY 2021 Budget Preliminary Fund Summaries.

He further requested IT Director Nelson Rodriguez to discuss the Technology Initiative's Budget.

Mr. Rodriguez explained the proposed initiatives for FY 21 which included an automated Building Department, public self-service portal, online RFP/RFQ process, enterprise resource planning (ERP) system evaluation – integration of information, upgrade cloud computing facilities collaboration, virtual City Hall, smart city initiatives, 24/7 call center, facilitation of working remotely when needed and enhanced public information sharing.

Commissioner Bass commended the IT Department's initiatives.

Vice Mayor Davis asked if the City was looking into a City-wide internet expansion to facilitate virtual learning and activities.

Mr. Rodriguez explained that was a heavy task and it may not be plausible, but he could promise the City offering internet in public parks.

Vice Mayor Davis said that was a good option to begin with, however, he wanted to know if it would be possible in the long term.

Mr. Rodriguez stated it could be possible in a 5 year term.

Commissioner Kelley asked about the type of training required for these initiatives.

Mr. Rodriguez explained that due to the repetitiveness of the task and the skill required, it was attainable for the department given the current skill sets possessed by him and his staff. He explained that minimum training would be required, until a set of instructions was made.

Commissioner Kelley clarified and said he was referring mainly to the other departments.

Mr. Rodriguez stated himself and Mr. Lobo will be training the staff in each department for most initiatives except for the ERP, which will require training from the vendor itself.

Commissioner Kelley stressed the importance of staff knowing how to use the new programs effectively from the beginning.

Mr. Anathan concluded his presentation with preliminary budget options, discussing average savings in layoff of an employee working part time or full time and the average savings of an employee transitioning from full time to part time.

Commissioner Kelley asked how much money did the City need to avoid any type of layoff.

Mr. Anathan explained that at the time there was a surplus, however, that would depend on if the City wished to pursue a project such as the Historic City Hall. He further stressed the difficulty of the accurateness of the preliminary budget for FY 21, due to the change in circumstances in the economy caused by COVID-19.

Mayor Pigatt said that of concern to him was the option of layoffs. He requested a more thorough analysis of where the reductions would be, such as which department. He also spoke about the salary distribution and asked how much it would cost the City to get all employees to a living wage of \$30,000 a year. He said currently the table showed 17 employees were under \$30,000.

Mr. Anathan said it would roughly cost the City around \$120,000.00 to bring all 17 employees to a wage of at least \$30,000.00.

Mayor Pigatt asked, where would the extra income come from and if one of the options would be wage reduction.

Although he understood what the Mayor was requesting, City Manager Pate said he didn't think the city should reduce other employees' wages or lay off employees to accomplish it.

Mayor Pigatt explained that he was exploring options for the City to adjust to the new norm and offer employees a living wage at the very least, including changing roles and what other things will change. He requested a report with the possible changes needed to adapt to the new way of doing business. The Mayor requested to have the budget completed by August 1st.

Mr. Anathan replied, yes.

Mayor Pigatt asked if the budget was in alignment with the Five Year Plan.

Mr. Anathan explained that the next year will be uncertain and abnormal, therefore, he could not vouch that the budget would be nearly accurate. He said the expectation is to have a more aligned budget for FY 22.

Mayor Pigatt said he just wanted to make sure the funds are being used efficiently to put the City in a stronger financial position.

Commissioner Kelley said he too wanted to see employees earning a living wage, but he did not agree to interfere with the wages of other employees earning more.

7) ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Kelley, seconded by Vice Mayor Davis to adjourn the virtual workshop at 8:45 p.m.

Matthew A. Pigatt
Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk

CITYOF OPA-LOCKA

“The Great City”

CLERK’S ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP (COVID-19)

Thursday, June 18, 2020

5:30 P.M.

1. WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS:

Mayor Matthew Pigatt called the Virtual Workshop Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2020.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-69, issued by the office of the Governor Ron DeSantis on March 20, 2020, municipalities may conduct meetings of their governing boards without having a quorum of its members present physically or at any specific location, and utilizing communications media technology such as telephonic or video conferencing, as provided by Section 120.54(5) (b) 2, Florida Statutes.

An opportunity was given to the public to email the City Clerk prior to the Virtual Workshop with any questions/comments/concerns. This meeting is streamed live at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOpalocka>.

Since this is a virtual meeting as authorized by the Governor of the State of Florida, again, members of the public wishing to address the commission have been offered the opportunity to do so. Public comments will be included as part of the public record for this Virtual Workshop.

2. ROLL CALL

The members of the City Commission appearing remotely were: Mayor Matthew Pigatt, Vice Mayor Chris Davis, Commissioner Sherelean Bass, Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley, and Commissioner Alvin Burke. Also appearing remotely were: City Attorney Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Assistant City Attorney Candice Cobb, City Manager John E. Pate, and City Clerk Joanna Flores.

3. INVOCATION:

The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

5. PUBLIC INPUT:

Clerk Flores stated the protocols for public participation and read the following public comment into the record:

Natasha Ervin
670 Dunad Avenue
Opa-locka, Florida

Good evening, I was very disappointed in the fact that this Commission agreed to have these workshops every week. I could agree with once a month, but to have these workshops every week for hours on hours at a time is inconsiderate. Our employees have been at work all day long then to spend another 3 hours in a meeting is unacceptable. They too have families that they need to spend a little time with. A burned out employee doesn't help us.

I would like to see those employees receive the living wage increase. We have the resources to help make it happen, we just have to be willing to tap into those resources.

Lastly, this mask ordinance is a waste of money. It's a gamble that we cannot afford. I vote NO for the mask ordinance. For one, no one is going to pay these tickets. This ordinance is going to end up just like the "SAGGY PANTS" Ordinance. Ask the Police Department how many tickets were issued and how many were paid.

6. DISCUSSION ITEM:

a) City's Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

City Manager Pate reported on the increasing number of tests at the testing site. He advised that the temperature checking device was to be installed next week at City Hall. The payment center for Miami-Dade County reopened that week. He asked Chief Dobson to provide a report on the City's COVID-19 safety measure enforcement.

Chief James Dobson, Opa-locka Police Department reported an increase in vehicle and foot traffic in the City. Within the previous week, the department issued 166 face mask warnings and 136 social distancing warnings, however, there were no business closures and no arrests for curfew violations.

City Manager Pate asked Ms. Modkins to provide a report regarding public relations efforts in the City.

Jessica Modkins, Public Relations Consultant for the City of Opa-locka reported the efforts to reach out to the residents regarding COVID-19 guidelines, using social media, radio and TV. In

addition, the City reached out to residents regarding hurricane preparedness, in English, Spanish and Creole.

Commissioner Burke asked Ms. Modkins about an event scheduled for Saturday.

Ms. Modkins advised that a Virtual Town Hall Meeting is scheduled for Saturday at noon on the City of Opa-locka's Facebook live.

b) Ordinance relating to face masks or face coverings during pandemic related public health emergency that threatens life, health, and safety of residents

In terms of the face masks, Mayor Pigatt requested the results of a recent survey regarding the mask ordinance.

Ms. Modkins said the survey was done online via Facebook, with the question being asked "The City of Opa-locka is proposing an ordinance requiring residences to wear a facemask when outside of their home. Are you in favor?" in English, Spanish and Creole. The results were: 112 in favor, 41 against it, and 12 maybe.

Mayor Pigatt stated that the goal of that day was to finalize the proposed amendments for the mask ordinance and get more information from the City Manager on how it will be implemented. He requested to do the amendments first and the details later. The commission previously agreed that children 5 and up should wear the facemasks. The Mayor further spoke about the provision for terminating the ordinance and the penalties for violating the ordinance.

Commissioner Bass proposed dropping the third violation from \$200 to \$175.

Mayor Pigatt recommended a \$100 penalty for each violation.

Commissioner Bass agreed.

Vice Mayor Davis also agreed.

Mayor Pigatt then discussed when the ordinance will become effective. He said there were many studies that say facemasks can significantly reduce the infection rate of COVID-19. He suggested adding specific language that would trigger the ordinance based on when a "respiratory transmitted infection pandemic" had been declared.

City Attorney Norris-Week stated that can certainly be added.

Mayor Pigatt asked if the mask should be worn when the individuals are within 6 feet or at all times when outside.

Commissioner Burke stated that the survey did not specify that those who violated the ordinance would be fined.

Mayor Pigatt requested City Manager Pate to explain the fiscal impact.

City Manager Pate said the fiscal impact portion will be presented by Gerri Lazarre, Financial Consultant for the city.

Gerri Lazarre, Financial Consultant for the City of Opa-locka stated that a meeting was held to come up with the assumptions regarding the cost of the ordinance. She explained a few of the scenarios involving the County as well. If the City tried to administer the program, with one individual it would cost \$60,000 a year. It was anticipated that 1,000 citations would be issued per month and the overall cost would be in the range of \$173,000 to \$239,000.

Mayor Pigatt asked what portion of that cost would be reimbursable.

City Manager Pate explained it would only cover the cost for overtime during a pandemic.

Robert Anathan, Budget Administrator for the City of Opa-locka stated that none of it was reimbursable because the City will be creating revenue from the program.

Mayor Pigatt asked what would be the ongoing cost of the program.

Ms. Lazarre said there was no data to predict that amount. At the current collectible rate of 14% that may be profitable to the City at 1,000 citations a month, but that is still based on assumptions.

Commissioner Kelley voiced his concern about the high cost of implementing the program and the pressure on the police officers to fine residents to meet quotas or for the program to be profitable.

Commissioner Bass agreed with Commissioner Kelley. She stated she had no idea it would cost the City that much money to implement the penalty program.

Mayor Pigatt said it may be reimbursable by FEMA.

Vice Mayor Davis expressed his opposition in terms of the City having to meet a quota of 1,000 citations a month for facemasks.

Mayor Pigatt asked the City Manager to address the FEMA reimbursement and implementation of the mask ordinance.

City Manager Pate said that Monroe County previously implemented a mask ordinance with penalties ranging from \$500 to \$15,000. His concern was that the 1,000 a month number would certainly be much lower after some time and compared it to the saggy pants ordinance, which had zero citations in the past two months. He briefly provided other factors which may affect the implementation.

Mayor Pigatt suggested that the Commission continue the discussion regarding the mask ordinance at the commission meeting following the workshop. He asked that the City Manager get confirmation from the County as to whether they can implement the program so that the City can assess the cost accurately.

c) Staff analysis on the Rent and Utility Program

Gregory Gay, Director of Planning and Community Development for the City of Opa-locka advised that an analysis was conducted by his department in terms of rental assistance. He explained the application process, and that those seeking assistance must meet certain criteria and provide required documentation to qualify for the program.

Vice Mayor Davis suggested that the two are handled separately.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Kelley to adjourn the virtual workshop at 6:37 p.m.

Matthew A. Pigatt
Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk

CITYOF OPA-LOCKA
“The Great City”

CLERK’S ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
VIRTUAL WORKSHOP (COVID-19)
Thursday, July 2, 2020
5:30 P.M.

1. WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS:

Mayor Matthew Pigatt called the Virtual Workshop Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 2, 2020.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-69, issued by the office of the Governor Ron DeSantis on March 20, 2020, municipalities may conduct meetings of their governing boards without having a quorum of its members present physically or at any specific location, and utilizing communications media technology such as telephonic or video conferencing, as provided by Section 120.54(5) (b) 2, Florida Statutes.

An opportunity was given to the public to email the City Clerk prior to the Virtual Workshop with any questions/comments/concerns. This meeting is streamed live at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOpalocka>.

Since this is a virtual meeting as authorized by the Governor of the State of Florida, again, members of the public wishing to address the commission have been offered the opportunity to do so. Public comments will be included as part of the public record for this Virtual Workshop.

2. ROLL CALL

The members of the City Commission appearing remotely were: Mayor Matthew Pigatt, Vice Mayor Chris Davis, Commissioner Sherelean Bass, and Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley. Also appearing remotely was: City Attorney Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Assistant City Attorney Candice Cobb, City Manager John E. Pate, and City Clerk Joanna Flores. Commissioner Alvin Burke arrived at 6:00 p.m.

3. INVOCATION:

The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

5. PUBLIC INPUT:

Clerk Flores stated the protocols for public participation at virtual meetings.

There were no public comments.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a) City's Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

City Manager Pate reported that COVID-19 positive cases have risen in Miami-Dade County and Florida. The testing site's capability has doubled from 200 tests a day to a little over 400. The average wait time for walk ups was 4-6 hours and those with an appointment have a separate line. He stated that employees were working at City Hall at alternated shifts. A temperature checkpoint was installed at the entrance of City Hall. The County Mayor signed an Executive Order mandating face masks with steep fines. He recommended keeping parks facilities closed.

Vice Mayor Davis suggested the possibility of giving Opa-locka residents priority at the testing site.

Mayor Pigatt informed the Commission that City Manager had to step out. He said that the priority should be implemented to the 33054 zip code. He expressed his gratitude to the County Mayor for his support of the testing site.

Jessica Modkins, Public Relations Consultant for the City of Opa-locka reported that two of the videos posted received close to 900 views. She updated the commission on the advertisement efforts, such as weekly Opa-locka staff mask up photos, weekly Opa-locka we are working for you campaign, continuing COVID-19 awareness, hurricane preparedness and curfew reminders. She reported on the press releases for the Food Distributions, provided a recap on the Virtual Town Hall Meeting, partnership with the Opa-locka Community Development Corporation (OLCDC), issuance of two newsletters, and provided an update relating to the upcoming Mask-up Campaign.

Commissioner Bass requested an update on Parks and Recreation Summer Camp and on the testing site in terms of walk-ups and appointments.

City Manager Pate advised that there was not going to be Summer Camp and stated that the majority of individuals being tested are walk ups.

Commissioner Kelley asked if there had been any dramatic changes regarding COVID-19 and social distancing.

Chief James Dobson, Opa-locka Police Department reported that for the current week there was 455 face masks warnings and 226 social distancing warnings.

Commissioner Kelley asked about educating restaurant patrons or giving out warnings.

Chief Dobson stated that there were 185 businesses checks within the week and most restaurants were abiding by the guidelines according to the County.

Vice Mayor Davis suggested having residents take on the burden of enforcing guidelines as “watchdogs” of the businesses.

Mayor Pigatt asked for an update regarding the call center.

City Manager Pate stated it would be another 60-90 days before it is ready.

Commissioner Kelley requested to know where residents could call to report guideline violations.

City Manager Pate stated that other than calling the police department, there is no alternative.

Commissioner Kelley asked if the residents were calling the 2877 number which would go through the County or was there another number to call?

Chief Dobson confirmed residents were calling the 2877 telephone number.

Commissioner Kelley asked if those calls were recorded.

Chief Dobson replied, yes.

Mayor Pigatt said the mask ordinance was not going to be issued by the City, but that the County does have one in place. He explained that the penalties will be civil penalties instead of misdemeanors.

- b) Resolution requiring that all fines, fees and Code Enforcement liens are paid for properties brought before the City Commissioner from the city’s Planning Zoning and Appeals Board or the city’s department of Community Development

Commissioner Burke requested an update regarding an investigation in code enforcement.

City Manager Pate said he did a five year search on certain properties and emailed the information. He explained that there were 2 signatures on a document requesting a dismissal, and rulings issues by the Special Magistrate dismissed by the City's request. He briefly explained a few of the findings of his investigation. He explained he will be doing an analysis on voids and dismissals in the past five years in a random manner.

Commissioner Burke asked who voided the citations in question.

City Manager Pate reminded Commissioner Burke this was a public meeting and he would not like to disclose that information.

Commissioner Kelley said he reviewed some of the information and was troubled at the findings. He asked how long would it take for City Manager to have some results.

City Manager Pate replied, 2 weeks or less.

Vice Mayor Davis agreed with Commissioner Kelley and expressed his concerns relating to the fines.

City Manager Pate stated that his deepest concern was the level of checks and balance in regards to voiding or dismissing a ticket and its documentation. He noticed many of the tickets dismissed or voided were lacking the appropriate information.

Commissioner Bass asked if not having 3 signatures or the correct amount of signatures waves the fee.

City Manager Pate explained that the City takes the responsibility should a ticket be dismissed. He said he will consult with the City Attorney.

Commissioner Burke suggested holding individuals responsible for dismissing/voiding tickets illegally.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks made a disclosure stating that Commissioner Burke's comments were not directed to City Manager Pate but that he was stating his feelings.

Commissioner Burke thanked City Attorney Norris-Weeks for the disclosure.

Mayor Pigatt thanked Commissioner Burke for bringing up the issue and stressed the importance of transparency and acting responsibly. He thanked City Manager Pate for investigating the issue and addressing the process to ensure it does not happen again.

c) Commission Priorities

Mayor Pigatt discussed implementing quarterly Commission Priorities and consolidating priorities with very clear guidelines to direct the City Manager and hold him accountable. He shared the recent experience of the Commission receiving training by the Florida League of Cities. He requested the Commission provide their input as to how they should go about implementing the commission priorities (i.e. retreat, workshop, in writing, etc.).

City Manager Pate explained that typically the City Manager leads this part and each department would do a brief presentation outlining their responsibilities, challenges, priorities, and then the commissioners provide their feedback. After the initial meeting, a resolution can be created using the feedback to create a working document.

Vice Mayor Davis asked if staff was going to collaborate.

City Manager Pate stated that in a retreat, staff will share with the Commission their priorities and tasks and use that information to create the document.

Vice Mayor Davis shared his experienced on doing the retreats with staff.

City Manager Pate agreed that a retreat was the best way to approach it.

Commissioner Kelley stressed the importance of focusing on the budget and the Five Year Plan at this time. He stated there will be a time for a retreat.

Commissioner Burke asked if he could write down what he felt he was interested in and submit it to the City Manager.

Mayor Pigatt explained that was one of the ideas put on the floor as well as strategic planning sessions.

City Manager Pate said he recently sent an email to the Commission requesting their priorities. He reminded the commission about a Financial Emergency Board Meeting scheduled for July 14, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be focused on the Five Year Plan and the City's upcoming budget.

Mayor Pigatt stated he would like to go over the strategic plan as soon as possible.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Vice Mayor Davis to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Matthew A. Pigatt
Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk

CITY OF OPA-LOCKA

“The Great City”

CLERK’S ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES

Workshop

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

5:30 p.m.

1. WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS:

Mayor Matthew A. Pigatt called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at Sherbondy Village, 215 Perviz Avenue, Opa-locka, Florida.

2. ROLL CALL:

The following members of the City Commission were present: Commissioner Chris Davis, Commissioner John H. Taylor Jr., Vice Mayor Veronica Williams and Mayor Matthew A. Pigatt. Also in attendance were: Assistant City Manager George Ellis, City Attorney Burnadette Norris-Weeks and City Clerk Joanna Flores. Commissioner Alvin Burke arrived at 5:40 p.m. and City Manager John E. Pate was not in attendance.

3. INVOCATION:

The Invocation was delivered by Commissioner John H. Taylor Jr.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Clerk Flores stated the protocols for public participation at public meetings.

There were no public comments for this meeting.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Mayor Pigatt explained that over the last few months, in anticipation of the most recent election, he wanted to make sure that the city provides an orientation to the newly elected officials. He said he wants to make sure the newly elected officials are briefed on certain things like how to propose legislation, roles and responsibilities of appointed officials, and the best practices of being a leader. He went on to say that it is important to orient the elected officials and make sure they are one of the most informed and prepared Commissions. This is a young Commission, facing one of the greatest challenges in State of Florida, to turn the City around. They need to make sure they are aware of the challenges and plan for them. As a part of that, two years ago he requested that the City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk provide an orientation which consisted of a

presentation by every city department, the City Attorney's office and the City Clerk's office. There is legislation being presented to make this orientation a law in the City of Opa-locka.

a) STRATEGIC PLANNING

Assistant City Manager George Ellis informed the City Commission that he would come back to strategic planning at a later time.

b) FOUR MAJOR CHALLENGES

Roads & Streets / Flooding

Airia Austin, Director of the City of Opa-locka Public Works & Utilities and Capital Improvement Projects appeared before the Commission and explained the responsibilities of both the Public Works & Utilities Department and Capital Improvement Division. He provided an overview of the pending projects from 2020 which consisted of the Citywide sidewalk improvements, sidewalk beautification, landscaping, milling and resurfacing, NW 139th Street, NW 141st Street, pothole repairs initiative, Sanitary Sewer Pump Station 5 (lining of gravity lines), Sanitary Sewer Pump Stations 4, 7 and 8 (lining of gravity lines), Sherbondy Village HVAC systems replacement, Storm water Master Plan Phase I, SSES Phase III (rainy season flow testing) for pump stations 4, 7 and 6, Cairo Lane and NW 127th Street design assessment, Ingram Park relighting, Ingram Park restrooms reroofing, Fleet Management reroofing, and Historic City Hall condition assessment.

He further provided an overview of the FY 2021 projects which consisted of the sidewalk repair project, Pump Station No. 6 gravity system relining, new sidewalk installation, NW 30th Avenue swale improvement, Storm Water Masterplan Phase II, Cairo Lane & NW 127th Street construction phase, Glorieta Apartment detention pond improvement, sanitary sewer modeling, DERM consent agreement, Citywide beautification, Citywide bus benches/shelters, railroad crossing repairs at NW 22nd Avenue and Opa-locka Boulevard, NW 131st Street CDBG / City project, and Burlington Street Canal project.

Mayor Pigatt said he would hope that in the near future the slide presentation could be made available to the public on the city's website and shared via the city's social media sites, so that the public is able to see the progress of the city as it relates to road projects.

Mr. Austin addressed questions from the Commission relating to the railroad crossing repairs and Burlington Street Canal.

Vice Mayor Williams requested to be provided with the list of FY 2021 projects by order of top priority.

Mr. Austin advised that he would provide the list in a prioritized order because as of now, the list is not in any order.

As the city goes through strategic planning, Mayor Pigatt encouraged his colleagues to make a note of those items of interest, and over the next weeks they can flush out what their priorities are as a Commission. This is what he hoped to be accomplished to hold

themselves and the government accountable, and to getting this done in an excellent fashion.

FY 2021 Budget, Five Year Plan and Operational Audit

Robert Anathan, Budget Administrator for the City of Opa-locka came forward and provided an overview / update of the FY 2021 Budget, Five Year Plan and the status of the operational audit.

Mayor Pigatt thanked Mr. Anathan for his presentation of the budget and Five Year Plan. He said the city is under financial oversight and how they manage their budget and get out of the financial crisis is key and critical.

Finances

Gerri Lazarre, Financial Consultant for the City of Opa-locka came forward and reported on the finances relating to the city's debt, financials, opportunity and compliance.

Ms. Lazarre addressed questions from the Commission relating to the CARES Act.

Vice Mayor Williams requested a copy of Ms. Lazarre's presentation and suggested that this information is posted on the city's website for public access.

Mayor Pigatt said that Trimerge CPA, who Ms. Lazarre represents, has been the foundation of the city moving out of the financial crisis and getting the audits completed. He stated that earlier this year there was talk in the State about dissolving the city and the three levers used against the city were that they were behind in the audits, the city had not submitted its Five Year Recovery Plan and the outstanding operational audit. Ms. Lazarre has worked diligently to get those audits done, but the city is still behind one audit and by the time that one is completed, the city may be behind on another audit. The highest priority now is to get those audits completed and Ms. Lazarre is leading on that. He went on to say that Mr. Anathan was the foundation for making sure the city got the Five Year Recovery Plan submitted which is a huge accomplishment. The most important thing to consider outside of the audits is the renegotiation of the city's debts.

Ms. Lazarre stated that the audit process is a team effort by the entire city.

Mr. Ellis thanked all directors for their presentations under the leadership of Mr. Pate.

Mayor Pigatt thanked all those involved in this presentation, which is one of the few they will have over the next months to orient the Commission and create a strategic plan as they move forward as a City.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Davis to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Matthew A. Pigatt
Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk

CITY OF OPA-LOCKA
“The Great City”

CLERK’S ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
January 27, 2021
7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Pigatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at Sherbondy Village, 215 Perviz Avenue, Opa-locka, Florida.

2. ROLL CALL:

The following members of the City Commission were present: Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner John H. Taylor Jr., Vice Mayor Williams and Mayor Pigatt. Also in attendance were: City Manager John E. Pate, City Attorney Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Assistant City Attorney Candace Cobbs and City Clerk Joanna Flores.

3. INVOCATION:

The Invocation was delivered by Commissioner John H. Taylor Jr.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

5. AWARDS/PROCLAMATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Mayor Pigatt acknowledged Florida State House Representative Dr. James Bush III, Governor Ron DeSantis’ Office, and Holy Temple Missionary Baptist Church led by former Mayor Joseph L. Kelley for hosting a COVID-19 vaccination program in the City. Over 500 people were vaccinated thanks to the collaboration of the City’s Parks Director and their team as well City staff.

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND PULL LIST (deferrals and deletions):

Mayor Pigatt pulled agenda item 13-4 from the Consent Agenda to be discussed separately under Action Items.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the Consent Agenda (13-1, 13-2 and 13-3).

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Clerk Flores stated that a request was made to amend the agenda to include the following items:

14-1: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONSENT AGREEMENT WITH THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES, DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (DERM), SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FORM ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT “A” AND RESOLVE ALLEGED BUILDING DEPARTMENT VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

Mayor Pigatt asked the City Manager and/or City Attorney to state the emergency nature of this item.

City Manager Pate said that the emergency nature of the item is based on the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Opa-locka, as well as potential litigation against the City.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Davis to amend the agenda to include 14-1.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

14-2: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA GOVERNOR TO AMEND EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-315 TO INCLUDE TEACHERS IN THE PHASE 1 COVID-19 VACCINATION DISTRIBUTION PLAN PRIORITY LIST; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager and Co-Sponsored by Vice Mayor Williams*

Mayor Pigatt asked that the City Manager and/or City Attorney state the emergency nature of this item.

City Manager Pate said that the emergency nature of the item is based on the safety and welfare of the citizens of Opa-locka, as well as the teachers that work within the City of Opa-locka.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Vice Mayor Williams to amend the agenda to include 14-2.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the agenda.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop – May 21, 2020

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the minutes of the Virtual COVID-19 Workshop on May 21, 2020.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote

Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

Regular Commission Meeting – December 9, 2020

It was moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Burke to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting on December 9, 2020.

Clerk Flores stated that the minutes would be approved with corrections on page 18. The 3rd paragraph from the bottom read “Manager Pigatt” and should read “Mayor Pigatt”, so that will be corrected.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

9. DISTRICT ONE / DISTRICT TWO - COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT:

There were none.

10. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

There were none.

11. CITIZENS' FORUM:

Clerk Flores announced the protocols for public participation at City Commission Meetings.

The following public comment was submitted by email and read into the record by Clerk Flores:

Michelle Henney of 10640 Paris Street, Cooper City, FL 33026 – My comments are for the full benefit of the residents of the City of Opa-locka so that they are aware of what is actually occurring in their own City. What does Assistant Manager George Ellis do for the City of Opa-locka? What is his salary, and what has he accomplished since his hire date? There have been 13 resignations since the Finance Department of the City of Opa-locka has been under the management of Geraldine Lazarre of TriMerge. The City has paid Geraldine Lazarre in excess of \$1,100,000. The City is still 2 years behind in audits. What is the timeline for the 2019, 2020 and 2021 audit?

Clerk Flores announced that a citizen had pre-registered to provide their public comment by Zoom:

Dorothy Johnson of 13724 NW 22nd Place, Opa-locka, FL 33054 - Mrs. Johnson thanked the Commissioners for their previous workshop and stated she had provided some suggestions, but had not heard back from anyone. After receiving calls from several businesses advising her that a person believed to be an employee of the City named Marcella had contacted those businesses offering a \$10,000 forgiveness loan, she would appreciate that being addressed. Clarification was also requested on her understanding from the workshop, that there may be a possible

recommendation to increase taxes. Strong encouragement was given to the Commission and their staff to come up with a strategy on troubleshooting, because of her belief that trust must be built in the community. Ms. Johnson reported that neighbors are keeping in touch about crimes taking place throughout the City using ring doorbells and cell phone video, with 45 additional boots on the ground as evidenced by the videos on YouTube. In a follow-up to her comments from the last meeting, she asked any of the Commissioners to introduce legislation for seat-wide elections prior to 2022. While she prefers not to initiate a petition drive, if no one presents the legislation soon, she believes that a petition may be the best way to go. Ms. Johnson stated that a couple of reporters have asked her if she has ever tried to mentor any of the Commissioners, and she stated that she had spent at least a couple of hours with some on the dais now. Recognition was given to Congresswoman Carrie Meek as her mentor and guru. Ms. Johnson stated that she does not want her name messed up with Opa-locka issues, but is willing to work, while strongly encouraging that transparent government be looked at. In closing, she affirmed that she believes it is very important that the City Manager be allowed to do his job by the elected officials, because both have the community's support, but that the responsibility must be separated.

Mayor Pigatt opened the floor for the Citizens' Forum for those who were in the audience.

Brian Dennis of 821 NW 54th Street, Miami, Florida came forward and voiced his concerns relating to the rumors about firing the City Manager, his perspective as the Chair of the Criminal Justice Committee of the NAACP, and the amount of shooting cases being cleared by the Chief of Police. He further stated that he believes that government money is being spent badly and the City is failing to invest in the residents.

There being no further persons to speak, Citizens' Forum was closed.

Mayor Pigatt asked if anyone had any responses to anything that was brought up during the Citizens' Forum.

City Manager Pate responded to Dorothy Johnson's question about taxes, clarifying that the millage rate has already been approved for the City and there are currently no budget discussions. He also addressed the question about the \$10,000 forgiveness loan, which he believes may be confused with the amnesty program for code enforcement violations, providing 75% relief for violations currently on file. In response to Mr. Dennis, Manager Pate stated he would be more than happy to work with the NAACP to develop a partnership and law enforcement strategy. As someone who grew up on the south side of Chicago, which Manager Pate stated is not a safe place to be, he explained that he understands the concerns that were raised. Manager Pate said he did not recall a workshop that addressed the issues raised by Ms. Johnson, but did share that there is a workshop coming up in February that is jointly being organized by the City Commission and the Audit Committee, that will likely be a session of at least 2 hours to review 4 audits.

Commissioner Burke asked for clarification if Ms. Johnson's statement about the information being provided to businesses, was about a small business loan, in the amount of \$10,000.

Commissioner Davis stated that former Commissioner Dorothy Johnson's statement about the \$10,000 small business loan may be related to the Community Fund of North Miami-Dade which has a PPP loan program that he believes is in the same amount. That is a subsidiary of the Opa-locka Community Development Program, which is his former employer and he is familiar with the employee making the calls to businesses.

Vice Mayor Williams responded to former Commissioner Dorothy Johnson's invite to mentor the newly elected board. She stated that she found it odd that since she has been on the board, she has only been attacked, but is willing to meet with any former Commissioner. Speaking candidly and freely, on behalf of her other newly elected colleagues, she said to get to know them, before you judge them.

12. ACTION ITEMS (items from consent agenda pull list):

1. (13-4) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, RESCINDING RESOLUTION 20-9809, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE EMERGENCY FEE PROPOSAL OF MCHARRY AND ASSOCIATES INC. TO CONDUCT A CONDITION ASSESSMENT OF HISTORIC CITY HALL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR SAME IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$43,350.00), PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

The above resolution was read by Attorney Cobbs.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Vice Mayor Williams to approve the resolution.

City Manager Pate asked Attorney Norris-Weeks to introduce this item on his behalf.

Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that the original resolution was passed in September, but MC Harry and Associates is not included as one of the engineers and architects that can be secured under one contract and used under a rotation. The item was recommended to be added to this agenda as an emergency item before the work starts, so that any future audit would not find that something was done inconsistent with the commission's code. She explained that the building has been abandoned since 2016, and due to weather issues there are roof and other structural upgrades that need to be determined. The repairs are needed on an emergency basis, because City staff does not want to continue having damage to the building. Attorney Norris-Weeks assured the commission

that passing this item will ensure this work is done consistent with the commission's procurement code.

Mayor Pigatt said he pulled this item because for all those who love the City, it is heartbreaking seeing the Historic City Hall in such conditions. In consideration of the fact that quite a few resolutions have been passed over the past few years to address this, the Mayor asserted that he just wants to make sure that it gets done. He brought up that the last time this item came before the Commission, it did not include funding for the fire station next to the Historic City Hall. The Mayor shared his belief that if an investment is to be made, that it should include a complete condition assessment of the entire complex.

City Manager Pate responded to the concern raised by the Mayor, explaining that the issue was missed with the original resolution, and thus can't be included with this one, because it is addressing a specific procurement issue for the old City hall, but it can be addressed as the assessment of the Historic City Hall is being completed.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

13. ADMINISTRATION:

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, APPROVING ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ("RFP") FOR THE PROVISION OF PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES AT 780 FISHERMAN STREET; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SSN ENGINEERING, LLC. FOR CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES TO PERFORM SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM HYDRAULIC MODELING, PURSUANT TO RFQ NO. 20-0324200; IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$130,000.00); PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

3. RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, AMENDING RESOLUTION #20-9818 WHICH DECLARED EMERGENCY REGULATIONS FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC MEETINGS DURING THE COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ARRANGE FOR PUBLIC WORKSHOP MEETINGS AND EXECUTIVE SESSIONS TO BE CONDUCTED BY USE OF COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA TECHNOLOGY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

Vote taken on Consent Agenda items can be viewed under Agenda Item 6 – Approval of the Consent Agenda.

14. NEW ITEMS:

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONSENT AGREEMENT WITH THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES, DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (DERM), SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FORM ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT “A” AND RESOLVE ALLEGED BUILDING DEPARTMENT VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

The above resolution was read by Attorney Cobbs.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the resolution.

City Manager Pate was asked to introduce the item by Mayor Pigatt. Reflecting upon the fact that when he became City Manager in October 2019, he was approached by DERM to complete an assessment of the Building Department, City Manager Pate recalled that he was asked for building license information and worked in a transparent way with the IT department to provide all requested information. The DERM assessment was completed in November, and a letter of intent for potential legal action in regards to the City’s inability to coordinate with DERM upon the issuance of certain business licenses in the City. The charge to assess every department is one that City Manager Pate asserts he will continue doing. DERM wanted to fine the City \$25,000, have the City sign a consent decree and invest over \$35,000 for improvements of the Building Department’s systems. Through his negotiations with DERM, he was able to get them to not fine the City \$25,000 which he stated was done in exchange for the City going over \$35,000 of in-kind contributions to improve the Building Department, including an assessment of the HR department to determining personnel requirements, as well as an IT assessment that looks at the systems of other cities currently being overseen by DERM like Hialeah. The goal as outlined by City Manager

Pate is to work hand in hand with DERM on the consent decree. Mr. Pate requested 30-90 day reports to be submitted by the City on a regular basis and requested IT upgrades, which must be completed with DERM's authorization and supervision. In effect, the assessment of the departments has been completed by DERM, including the assessment of the police department that was requested by Miami-Dade County. A memo has been written to outline the status of the current consent decree and what has been achieved since Mr. Pate became City manager, even as a new consent decree is being entered into. Due to the very rainy seasons, while hard work is being done to get out of the DERM moratorium this year, it may not be until next year that it is accomplished. Prior to 2019, the City was not working hand-in-hand with DERM, as they would request information that they would not receive. City Manager Pate asserted that while the violation may look negative, it also demonstrates that the City is moving forward in transparency, and that he believes the City deserves to be in a consent decree, because the City must do better as he welcomes transparency and accountability.

Commissioner Davis sought further clarification about being under another layer of governance from DERM, and its impact on the Water and Sewer Department as well as the ability to issue business licenses.

City Manager Pate confirmed that this will have the City enter into an additional consent decree.

Commissioner Davis asked what the penalty is.

City Manager Pate explained that documentation must be shown for investments in improvements equaling, totaling or exceeding \$37,500.00 in order for there not to be any enforcement action requiring the City to pay any penalty. There is an administrative fee of over \$1,000 that must be paid based on the amount of time DERM spent to complete their investigation. Mr. Pate asserted that there were planned improvements already included in this and next budget year.

Commissioner Davis asked if the in-kind match for the infrastructure improvements was negotiated by the City Manager's office and Mr. Pate confirmed that it was. Whether or not the consent decree was still on the table was a concern raised by Commissioner Davis.

City Manager Pate explained that such terms need to be approved by DERM, similar to the consent decree related to the Water and Sewer Department.

Mayor Pigatt asserted the importance of this step, and reminded the commission that the original consent agreement was entered into in 2018 when there were reports of sewage coming up across the City, and there being a dire need for infrastructure repair. The Mayor asked the City Manager what percentage of the City's commerce district was under moratorium.

City Manager Pate stated it was a significant percentage, but did not know the exact number. The moratorium is causing the City to not be able to open new businesses within the business park area and various other areas of the City.

Mayor Pigatt asserted that no new businesses can be established in almost 90% of the commerce and business districts in the City. This means that if a business has a warehouse or lots, they can't rent them out to new businesses without extra approval because of the pump stations. Since then, significant achievements have been made to get the pump stations up and running. A big problem was making sure that the occupational license was put in place. He said he is happy to see the partnership with DERM and the assessment of the Building Department, as well as the work that Public Works has been doing to get the pump stations up and out of moratorium, so that the City can have a platform to spur and engage new businesses.

Vice Mayor Williams stated she is glad that the City is addressing this problem now, and asked City Manager Pate if there are people in the Building Department that were there when this fell through, and what accountability there will be to make sure this does not happen again.

City Manager Pate explained that the City is doing a full analysis of the Building Department including the history in regards to staff. This requires a comprehensive assessment, which City Manager Pate has charged the HR and IT department to do. Personnel issues that were brought up in previous commission meetings are being included in the assessment, in addition to assessing failures, transparency and the system itself. He stated that due to the ongoing nature of the assessment, he is unable to speak on anything further in the public meeting, but is happy to discuss this with each Commissioner, the Mayor and the Vice Mayor.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA GOVERNOR TO AMEND EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-315 TO INCLUDE TEACHERS IN THE PHASE 1 COVID-19 VACCINATION DISTRIBUTION PLAN PRIORITY LIST; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager and Co-Sponsored by Vice Mayor Williams*

The above resolution was read by Attorney Cobbs.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Vice Mayor Williams to approve the resolution.

City Manager Pate asked Vice Mayor Williams to present this item.

Vice Mayor Williams stated that this item is near and dear to her heart, as it is to anyone in the field of education. Our teachers are part of the front line workers. The Vice Mayor shared that as an educator and a school administrator, the work doesn't stop and they are still on the front lines with their students, parents and stakeholders. Having this resolution to urge Governor Ron DeSantis to understand that we know that our seniors are essential as well as our healthcare workers and first responders, but to have our teachers in the priority list. Vice Mayor Williams asserted that our teachers are first responders and if they are being told that they must open schools and have students come back into the building, in consideration of the fact that many children with COVID are asymptomatic and can carry the virus, and they must take care of our teachers and provide the vaccines. She wants to have the resolution passed along with other municipalities to urge the Governor, so that this happens.

Commissioner Davis applauded Vice Mayor Williams and City Manager Pate for sponsoring this item. As a first year teacher this year, he can attest from first-hand experience that our teachers are undervalued. He admits that he was a bit alarmed to see teachers left out of the first round of vaccinations. The Commissioner believes this will be beneficial to students, families, and teachers who are front line workers. As a supporter of the item, Commissioner Davis offered a friendly amendment to not only expand to teachers, but all school staff. He asserted that teachers are front line workers, but so are janitors, lunchroom employees, and security guards who also interact with just as many students throughout the day, and he would not like to see them left out.

City Manager Pate confirmed as the prime sponsor of the item, that he does support that friendly amendment.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

15. PLANNING & ZONING:

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

B. APPEALS:

16. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. FIRST READING ORDINANCE(S)/PUBLIC HEARING(S):

B. SECOND READING ORDINANCE(S)/PUBLIC HEARING(S):

1. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE ANNUAL ADOPTED GENERAL, PROPRIETARY AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS BUDGETS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2020 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021; ADJUSTING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES AS REFLECTED IN EXHIBIT “A”; PROVIDING FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS ESTABLISHED BY THE BUDGET; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS; PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATION OF ALL BUDGETS AND EXPENDITURES; PROVIDING FOR FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND AMENDMENT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (first reading/public hearing held on January 13, 2021). *Sponsored by City Manager*

The above ordinance was read by Attorney Cobbs.

Mayor Pigatt opened the floor for a public hearing.

There being no persons to speak on the public hearing, the public hearing was closed.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the ordinance on first reading.

City Manager Pate asked Mr. Anathan to explain this item and to only go over any adjustments that were made between first reading and second reading.

Budget Administrator Robert Anathan appeared remotely and highlighted the 41 budget amendment items totaling \$2.3 million gross, to be included as part of the above ordinance which are reflected in the agenda cover memo as well as the FY 21 Budget Amendment exhibit. He stated that \$1 million has been identified in cost savings. The changes from the first hearing included:

- Removing two redundant items
- \$8,000 for police training because a member of the command staff is slated to go to Northwestern University for 3 weeks this Spring for a leadership and management training program.
- \$203,000 in administrative costs, moving two projects from one account to another for administrative reasons.

- \$75,000 to repair Hurricane Eta damages, including water damage to the municipal complex building and elevator damage related to water damage. For damages from the hurricane to have been eligible for FEMA claims, county damages must have totaled \$10.5 Million but were only \$7.7 million. The \$75,000 repair cost is also less than the City's insurance deductible, and thus this cost will come out of pocket.
- \$41,000 for Florida Incidence-Based Reporting System Software. 92% of this cost will be covered by a state grant.
- \$25,000 for a proposed property manager contract after an RFP is issued. While Mr. Anathan stated he is not sure what it will cost, he put in an upper number, so that additional budget will not be needed to fund it.
- 11 other items in aggregate were \$81,500 including:
 - \$12,00 for miscellaneous postage
 - Mr. Anathan reviewed all invoices and found a \$5,000 balance that was incurring large interest rates, so half of this amount was to pay that balance.
 - \$19,000 for trainings
 - \$10,000 for a temporary Assistant City Clerk
 - \$12,000 to replace 2 police radios
 - \$15,000 for unemployment compensation after not having any of these charges last year
 - \$6,000 for CRA advertising
 - Additionally, there are a few miscellaneous smaller items

Mr. Anathan urged consideration to be given to the general fund contingency for major events such as hurricanes. Currently the fund balance is far less than it should be and in the process of being restored, and the City's financial history is such that an emergency line of credit is not available right now. The original budget for this year was \$1.47 million, but over the budget amendments, it has gone down to about \$1.04 million which is a floor to where you want to be to have a line of defense against something such as hurricanes. Therefore, he suggested that the general fund contingency should not be used to fund any new initiatives for the time being. Any new initiatives deemed appropriate by the commission will need to look for cost reductions from other programs, until we better know what our financial status is. Although he believes the City has done well over the past two years, they will not know with any degree of certainty until the FY19 and FY20 audits are completed, which will not be until late Spring. Mr. Anathan cautioned that a second factor to keep in mind is not having a firm understanding of the FY21 revenue. The FY21 revenue budget for the general fund is a little over \$19 million and at the moment there is something like \$400,000 in revenue. The accounting community's focus on the FY19 audit has left us with little understanding on what FY21 revenue looks like. He further offered to answer any questions.

City Manager Pate asked Mr. Anathan if his revenue projection considered the \$498,000 that was released by the City's banking institution in regards to the loan payments.

Mr. Anathan explained that even though it was formally announced in the last 30 days, it was an assumption of the FY21 budget.

City Manager Pate asked Financial Consultant Gerri Lazarre if the \$498,000 was an assumption of the budget currently on the books, because he knows it is a new consideration for this year.

Financial Consultant Gerri Lazarre confirmed that based on her conversations with Mr. Anathan, the release of the monies being held by the bank were included in the budget, and that after this first review, the bank will conduct an additional review mid-year to determine whether or not they will release additional funds. Ms. Lazarre asked for clarification from Mr. Anathan regarding whether the projected funds from CITT based on the report that was issued, were factored into the budget.

Mr. Anathan stated that he has heard discussion of it, but has not seen anything in writing, and therefore it is not factored into the budget at this point.

Based on Mr. Anathan's response, Ms. Lazarre asserted that there are other items coming up on the horizon that will be included in the budget, which may be able to assist with some of the shortfalls.

Mr. Anathan stated that until additional expenditures and additional revenue are firmed up, he would recommend caution in terms of additional initiatives at this point.

Ms. Lazarre agreed with Mr. Anathan and added that the City is expecting a little over \$1.8 million from the CARES Act funding as a result of operating reimbursements. Ms. Lazarre stated that those reimbursements were submitted to the county and are awaiting review from their consultant.

Mr. Anathan added that the CARES Act funding coincides with the fact that he thinks the fund balance is moving in the right direction, but the City is not up to the \$3 million required to have that be used as a source of funding.

City Manager Pate thanked Mr. Anathan and Ms. Lazarre for their clarifications. After acknowledging that an upward hill is still being climbed in regards to fund balance, he said he just wants to show that the City is looking at funds that were not projected to come in, that will assist with the short fall, and that the Commission and the state have visibility of that as well. City Manager Pate asserted that the budget needs to begin to be cut, but reminded the Commission that the trend over the last 2-3 years has been that there are savings because everything that is projected in the budget is not spent. While the budget may show a shortfall, Mr. Pate asserted that at the end of the year, when everything is reconciled, most of the time we see savings. The progress being made and being transparent in communications, is what is key.

Mayor Pigatt stated that whenever second budget amendments come around there are many changes and he wants to focus on what they are. While he is glad to see that training is being increased across departments, despite them being cut from previous budgets, he inquired about what these trainings were for.

City Manager Pate began his response by acknowledging that the City's police department training has been under-invested in for many years, and first responders should come first especially in the current climate. Based on his assessment, there was a need to increase the training budget, to prevent lawsuits by having officers go through training on de-escalation techniques and ensure that their training files are up to date and current, as well as investing in police department leadership which the City had not done. Law enforcement agencies across the country invest in executive level training, but the City has not. Mr. Pate reminded the commission that he has a significant background in law enforcement, and he suggested that successful law enforcement agencies ensure that their staff is properly trained, including for leadership and development. Having just completed an outside search for a Chief of Police, which would have been unnecessary in any other agency because of succession planning, he hopes that with proper investment in the City's law enforcement officers, it will make them capable of moving up through the ranks, instead of having to go to outside services for staff. This is the reason why a little bit more was invested in training funds. The City Manager asserted that many of the budget amendments were done without full communication and all of the staff being involved. Thinking of last year's budget, Mr. Pate recalled that there were training budgets that were dropped down to zero through the budget amendments. Because of those line items being zeroed out, there is no money for training for the City Manager's Office, there's very little money for training in the Police Department or Parks and Recreation. Part of the reason for this is because of a breakdown in communications, which the City Manager takes full responsibility for, stating that his staff needs to run like a finely tuned machine. As asserted by Mr. Pate, when these amendments are done, finance, budget, and department heads are involved in the decision making. He stated it is important to him that these changes are not seen in second reading. He recalled that during the last Commission meeting, there were proposals to make changes during second reading in regards to a lobbyist and various other expenses. City Manager Pate asserted that such amendments are made on an everyday basis in every municipality in the United States of America, but the City needs to make sure they are reduced and make sure there are proper procedures in place to make sure there is full transparency and communication across departments with respect to finance and budget.

Mayor Pigatt pointed out that he specifically asked about what type of police training was being paid for with the \$8,000 budget amendment, because over the past year a huge movement called for more training of police for de-escalation, less lethal weapons, mental health and things of that nature. Because the budget is how the Commission says what they want the officers and staff to be trained on, he would like clarity on exactly the trainings that are being paid for.

City Manager Pate re-stated that they include various leadership and de-escalation training courses. The issue that has been identified that the City runs into, is that when the trainings the Mayor is speaking about come up, there are no budget dollars. These are projections, and there is no exact training schedule at this time other than leadership training. The City Manager wants to make sure that the training budget was robust enough, to prevent a need to make a request in a third budget amendment. The goal is to make one training budget for the year, and not have to come back to the Commission on multiple occasions, so that the trainings the Mayor is suggesting can be prioritized. He recognized that the Police Department was connected to the Commission meeting via Zoom, and he welcomed further conversation about the types of training that are done. As for Parks and Recreation, the City Manager said he wants to ensure their staff has appropriate certifications, after the department has been under invested for years. With a certified director and assistant director, along with a staff member that just became certified, the goal is to move the Parks Department up. The City Manager's budget deals with leadership and other trainings that the City Manager goes to, including conferences that come up. City Manager Pate reminded the Commission that he has not attended any conferences in the past year, because he wanted to focus on being fiscally responsible, but with all of the changes pertaining to the role of a City manager especially post COVID-19, he wanted to make sure those training dollars are built in. Recruitment dollars are also projected in the budget, which will be used to pay for things like the hotel expenses for the applicants in the Chief of Police search. Travel dollars will also be needed because it is the City Manager's intention to go to Tallahassee on multiple occasions this year to lobby on behalf of the City and meet with other departments within the state government to assist the City in moving forward. In a future budget amendment, there will be travel dollars for the City Commission. Most likely the City Manager will ask Mr. Anathan to pull the funds out of the City Manager's budget until a funds transfer can be completed to add additional funds for the City Commission. City Manager Pate reminded the Commission that it is important to understand that these budget amendments are approved by the state of Florida as they're passed as the City is still in a financial emergency, the Mr. Pate offered assurances that there are a second set of eyes from the state on what is being done in the City on a daily basis. The City Manager expressed appreciation for the questions from the Mayor and offered to make himself available to provide additional clarification.

Mayor Pigatt asked if the budget includes firearm training.

City Manager Pate replied, yes, it does.

Mayor Pigatt said that was what he was getting at because in a previous budget, he did not realize that the City was paying for assault rifles. He wants to make sure that the City is training the police on mental health, de-escalation, using less lethal weapons and those types of things because police officers do what they are trained to do as has been seen with police brutality, when they are not trained to de-escalate, but are trained to use firearms. He said that the City needs a police force that is responsive with implicit bias training and things of that nature, and he'd like to know

whether or not dollars are being allocated for things like the 21st century police force training, less lethal weapons training and even putting up funds for social services for those who are engaged. He further said that he would like to have an understanding as to how much of the \$28,000 training budget is going to mental health, de-escalation and less lethal weapons as opposed to high powered firearms training and things of that nature.

City Manager Pate assured the Commission that the City does not invest a lot of money in lethal force training, and that it is far less than \$2 or \$3 thousand dollars. The majority of the \$28,000 is not going towards firearm training. Range fees are paid for, in order for police officers to qualify. The nature of the beast must be understood, as stated by Mr. Pate, who acknowledged that all the trainings the Mayor mentioned are very important and need to be programmed within the City's law enforcement agency. He assured the Mayor that he, law enforcement leadership and whoever the new police chief will be, hear the Mayor loud and clear. Mr. Pate also offered clarification that the City's police officers just started carrying rifles in their vehicles and all of them have not been rifle qualified, even though at times when they respond to calls, high powered rifles are involved including the homicide that just occurred recently where high powered rifles were used. He said if criminals on the street have high powered rifles then officers need high powered rifles. While the City is partnering with the NAACP and various other organizations to try and reduce violent crime, the City does have a violent crime issue. The Mayor was assured by City Manager Pate that a large portion of the \$28,000 will go towards the trainings the Mayor has recommended as well as ones that various Commissioners and the Vice Mayor will recommend, and it will be taken into consideration when programming the appropriate training.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

17. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Pate began his report to the Commission by announcing that since the beginning of the year, the City is making great strides in achieving its goals on a very productive and transparent basis. The additional expenditures in the budget are needed to move the City forward. Some of the expenditures are at the recommendation of the State of Florida and the Governor's designee, to ensure that our police, human resources and various other departments are invested in, because they need appropriate training, staffing and personnel. While the City is in a financial emergency and the Governor's designee looks at the City's financial status, they look at the status of the City's departments and what they are doing, including Human Resources, Building, Code Enforcement. Anything that is related to a future expenditure or a future liability to the City, the State of Florida

provides guidance to the City Manager's Officer in regards to that. Manager Pate stressed to the Commission and the residents of the City of Opa-locka that their funds are being used responsibly and they are being transparent as a government. It is the responsibility of the City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to mentor and train new elected officials, to ensure they are knowledgeable in their job. He said his goal is to be transparent with all elected officials. He recalled having difficult conversations with everyone on the dais, including the Vice Mayor and Commissioner Taylor. There have been controversial conversations that are productive and rewarding to the City Manager because he understands what motivates them and upsets them, including the initiatives that they desire to get done such as the passion that Commissioner Taylor and Vice Mayor Williams have for Parks and Recreation, the passion that the Mayor has for police training and productivity, as well as Commissioner Burke's investment and guidance of the Police Department, and Commissioner Davis' commitment to social services for the residents of the City of Opa-locka. The thing most moving to him was seeing Commissioner Davis' relationship with the County Commission which made it possible to deliver the \$2.1 million budgetary request from the County, even having other City's requests reduced to accommodate the City of Opa-locka. This demonstrated the commitment that the County has for this City. He said the City Commission, prior to the new elected officials being sworn in, had a 6-month head start in moving the City forward and just needed a City Manager to take it to the finish line. City Manager Pate reflected upon his feelings that he will have to make the hardest decision he has ever made as City Manager over the next 2 days to select a new chief of police. He expressed his appreciation to Lieutenants Perez and Jenkins for manning the police department over the past 6 months, and helping make strides within the department, including 24 new police vehicles, training officers, and providing commitment and motivation for the officers to do good work. It must be understood that the role of a law enforcement officer is very difficult. Over the next 2 days, the City Manager explained he has to deal with a public assessment of the police department, review a survey that will be put out tomorrow for the public to review the interviews, observe both candidates during a tour along with a personal interview and lunch while the two candidates are allowed to interact with one another. The best interview process is when you bring candidates together and have them compete head-to-head at the same time, and you see their interaction and their understanding. The charter requires the Commission to provide advising only to the City Manager's office, to protect the Commission from being involved with the daily activities of the selection or termination of personnel. He stated the importance of getting the Commission and public's input and explained that if the two candidates being considered are not it, then the City will go back to the search process. The City Manager acknowledged that it is his decision to determine if one of the two candidates is the selected person, but he can make the decision that they are not as well, and asked the public to tune in tomorrow on YouTube to watch the interview process live from 5:30 – 7:00 PM. It will be recorded and a permanent archive will allow the public to view those interviews over the weekend until the date comments are cut off, and then the City Manager will go into deliberation. As part of his deliberation process, Manager Pate committed to have a conversation

with each Commissioner, he will get feedback, look at both candidates, and then he will have to get on his knees and pray because it is an important decision.

Mayor Pigatt, recalling having seen multiple candidates make it to the final round in the searches all across the nation, asked why there are only two candidates.

City Manager Pate explained that there were five candidates. The search panel and the search consultant did not feel confident in selecting 3 people if they felt they were not Opa-locka material or were not the right candidate for the job. It was acknowledged by Manager Pate that typically you do have 3 candidates, some cities have 6 finalists. The City Manager reminded the commission that he has been involved in many national searches. It is up to the search panel to move candidates forward to the level of the City Manager.

Mayor Pigatt asked if only 5 people had applied?

City Manager Pate explained that there were over 27 applications received, 5 individuals were selected as semi-finalists, 1 withdrew because they did not meet the qualifications, 4 were interviewed which were narrowed down to 2. Despite the City Manager asking for 3 finalists, the search panel felt only 2 were qualified based on the experience that is needed for the City. There are 2 strong candidates, both with sheriff office experience, both were chiefs within Jacksonville and Clay County Sheriff's Office, and both with Florida experience. The City Manager recalled that Commissioner Burke had asked why the City doesn't get a Florida candidate, and the manager noted that the way the search process worked, the City ended up with 2 Florida candidates. Because the City is in a financial emergency and has a high violent crime rate, it takes people that are very courageous to apply and come to work for the City.

Mayor Pigatt recalled that the original proposal from the consultant that was chosen, said multiple panels would be chosen which would include law enforcement partners, department heads, community partners, advocacy groups, and labor groups. Since only one panel was mentioned, he asked if there was only one, and whether or not there was engagement of the NAACP that has been very involved with police violence, the Circle of Brotherhood that has been close to Opa-locka or the Progressive Officers with its headquarters right here in Opa-locka, or other local community partners, and if not, who was a part of the panel.

City Manager Pate explained that as far as community engagement was concerned, at the beginning of the search, a survey was put out in regards to what the community wanted to see in the next chief of police. Community members were also able to submit questions for the candidates, even though not all questions were able to be considered. At the end of the process, the public will be able to watch the interviews and provide input. Jessica Modkins, Public Relations Consultant will engage in outreach to local partners so that they can watch the interviews and provide their input. The panel consisted of City staff which in his opinion is very important and essential to the process because whoever comes in as the chief of police has to assimilate to the

environment of the City of Opa-locka including its goals and objectives. City Manager Pate assured the Mayor that he is an experienced law enforcement officer who will make the proper decision.

Mayor Pigatt asserted that he was very excited about the police chief search when the manager came to the commission during the budget amendment process. He recalled a contentious debate when the commission voted to approve the consultant due to the level of community engagement that the consultant would be able to provide with the panels and engagement of the commission and others, so that the most important person that is going to direct the public safety of our community, is someone that is selected by the community and is for the community. The process was described as having been in the dark by the Mayor, with the Commission having just received the resumes for the 2 candidates today, and not having seen the engagement that he was hoping for when the commission spent \$25,000 for the consultant. The Mayor mentioned the meet and greet with department directors and elected officials that he had not even heard of being planned. He went on to say that when the Commission recruited the City Manager, it was one of the Mayor's considerations that Mr. Pate was a former chief of police, and as such the Commission understands his assessment. Mayor Pigatt asserted that the police chief is critical to this community. The Mayor then asked if anyone on the Commission or any of the citizens will be a part of the interview.

City Manager Pate clarified that it will be himself, the consultant and the 2 candidates answering a list of questions that were selected by the consultant or through community engagement. The reason Manager Pate explained that the Commission is not asking direct questions of the candidates is because of the protection of the commission and previous allegations in regards to the City Commission involving themselves in day to day operations of City government and micromanagement of the police department. Mr. Pate stated that Opa-locka is a very controversial City, and he further explained that he is very hesitant about candidates interacting with elected officials prior to the search, which potentially could have happened on at least 2 occasions during the search which the manager won't disclose on the dais. Based on that, the manager thought it was important to make sure that our elected officials are shielded from the political pressure in regards to the selection of a specific candidate. He reminded the Commission that they hired him for the independence of the City Manager's office. He went on to state that he has received some feedback from various members of the dais in regards to the search process, and those considerations were taken into account and he hopes that his explanation that was provided was satisfactory, and if not, he commits to doing better now that he understands the expectations moving forward. He further apologized for protecting the dais. He explained that it was not his intent to be offensive, and that he thought he was making the best decision possible on behalf of the City and those sitting on the dais. Mr. Pate clarified that the vice mayor and our new commissioner was not involved in the process initially, but feedback from the vice mayor has been received and those assessments will be done moving forward should there be any other national search.

Vice Mayor Williams acknowledged that this decision will be one the hardest decisions that the City Manager is going to make, and thanked him for thinking of protecting the Commission. She stated that there are 2 things she needs: communication and organization. The Vice Mayor suggested that if they had known before that the City Manager was going to be very limited in communication and how information was going to be presented to the commission, there would not have been any push or pull from the Commission. Because it left much up to interpretation, she was perceiving that she was being left out, and did not know that it was a protection until it was explained to her. She said she would have appreciated knowing that the City Manager was making that serious decision without any bias, and vetting the candidates without any politics involved. While she acknowledged that she does not have a dog in the fight, she also stated that everyone on the board has to balance being elected officials and residents of Opa-locka. Vice Mayor Williams said she hopes and prays as a God-fearing woman that the City Manager makes the best decision for Opa-locka, and she is confident he will. If God forbid it doesn't work out, Vice Mayor Williams pointed out that the Commission will get blamed, and that's why she wants to make sure that the City Manager gets it right.

Commissioner Davis stated that he received a resume from a 3rd candidate and wanted to ask if that person is also being considered, or why they received that information.

City Manager Pate responded that he and the Clerk only provided the resumes for the 2 candidates being considered for Police Chief.

Mayor Pigatt added that plenty of people sent their resumes to him, however, a search firm was selected for all those to go through, and that was the level of protection because it is the City Manager's decision.

Commissioner Burke added that he has also received some of those resumes, but he graciously said that the City Commission no longer hires Police Chiefs in the City of Opa-locka. That's the City Manager's job now.

Commissioner Taylor asked City Manager Pate when he thinks he will have his final decision.

City Manager Pate responded that he believed it would be approximately a week after tomorrow's interview and the on-site visit on Friday. He said he will probably make a decision the next Friday or that Monday, and it will not be a decision that he will make quickly in part because he would like to give time for public input. He added that one thing he learned from the search process is that we need to work on pushing our residents to be engaged in these processes. As an example, in almost a year and a half since he's been here, the many attempts to engage the residents have not been effective, including for public hearings on budget amendments where nobody comes up to speak about the budget and there is very little deliberation other than the 3 or 4 people who come up to the dais. This was the experience during the search, with attempts to engage residents, putting out press releases, and it moved at a snail's pace. That's why the City Manager is proud

that the Vice Mayor has brought up an excellent plan to engage residents and would like her to speak on her initiative.

18. OFFICIAL BOARD REPORTS:

There were none.

19. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

City Manager Pate proposed calling a special meeting on Monday to go over legislative priorities.

Mayor Pigatt stressed how extremely important that is because the City has people up in Tallahassee that are in meetings and do not have the City's priorities. He further expressed his hope that the south bus route will be included as a legislative priority.

20. MAYOR/COMMISSION REPORTS:

Vice Mayor Williams personally thanked Parks & Recreation Department Director Delven Patterson for everything he did at Saturday's COVID-19 vaccine distribution at Segal Park. Seeing the seniors getting the vaccines, including a 100-year-old resident, brought her to tears. Vice Mayor Williams also spoke of an initiative that she would like to start called *I Am Opa-locka* because in order to engage citizens, we must know who we are. The Vice Mayor would like to showcase residents who are doing good things in the community, on social media and at Commission meetings, to let them know we care and are thinking about them. That's how she believes the City is going to re-engage the citizens, so that when COVID is over we can fill up the auditorium. Vice Mayor Williams also stated that seniors are not going to go to social media, and they have to figure out how to get information to those specifically 65 and up. The initiative the Vice Mayor is proposing to work with the Parks & Recreation Department on, would have the Commission together with Parks & Recreation staff and residents walking the neighborhood once a month to place door hangers of all the events happening in Opa-locka to specific residents so they know what is being done for them. The need to build the City's listserv is another initiative of the Vice Mayor, which she proposes be done by getting residents to like the City's social media pages, visiting the website, and collecting emails and phone numbers every time there is an event in Opa-locka. She committed to working with Jessica Modkins, Public Relations Consultant on all of these initiatives.

Mayor Pigatt thanked Vice Mayor Williams and said that we secured a Public Relations (PR) person for the first time, despite the selection being contentious. He said that residents need to be highlighted and he is happy that the Vice Mayor is taking the lead.

Commissioner Burke apologized to the dais and his colleagues for his interruption and outburst at the last commission meeting. He suggested should there be any criticisms of employees, that an appointment be made to meet with the City Manager.

Commissioner Davis followed his colleague in apologizing for his comments at the last Commission meeting. He went on to state that they are all passionate about the police in our community, and oftentimes when residents are experiencing violence in stressful situations, the leaders get passionate and sometimes don't necessarily approach things in the best manner. He shared his appreciation for Commissioner Burke's comments, and that he agreed to meet with the City Manager under those situations, isolated from the dais

Mayor Pigatt expressed much respect for both Commissioner Burke and Commissioner Davis' comments.

Commissioner Taylor thanked everyone that supported the MLK conversation that happened on Martin Luther King Day. He said he loves Vice Mayor Williams idea of canvassing the neighborhood and talking to seniors, because when he was campaigning, everyone was saying the same thing that they don't see Commissioners until it's time to beg for a vote. He thinks this is a good way to engage the community and let them know that they care about them and don't want to just see them every 2 years when knocking doors and making promises during election time. Additionally, he reminded everyone about the clean-up taking place Saturday with the Vice Mayor and Miami-Dade County Commissioner Gilbert. He encouraged everyone from the community to come out to help clean the City up.

Mayor Pigatt recalled that this day and meeting is always very special to him because 6 years ago he was at the podium and while it was not a pretty situation, it sparked his will to be on the Commission and get a new generation of leadership. The Mayor proclaimed that there is a new day in Opa-locka. He went on to address the article that came out about the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, which compared the vaccination rates in Fisher Island as one of the wealthiest communities in Miami-Dade County to the rates in Opa-locka. After the outcry there was about that, he wanted to assure his colleagues that he had personally been in communication with the Governor's office, key individuals on the emergency management team, Miami-Dade County's Mayor and our County Commissioner. Just as they made sure the City had a walk-up rapid testing site for toddlers on up, we will be getting a vaccination site in the City of Opa-locka that reflects our residents. Right now due to the large rollout of the vaccines, they have been focusing on getting as many people vaccinated as possible using drive-thrus, but we know for it to work in our community, drive-thru isn't the best situation for us. He said the City needs a mobile site, a walk-up site, just like the pop-up one we had this past weekend, which was a direct call from the state to partner with religious organizations to make sure the vaccination gets out. Potential sites in Opa-locka have been identified, so those things are moving forward.

He continued by addressing the event policy, and said he believes it is important that everyone is on the same page when it comes to organizing events. He looks forward to seeing the legislation and for the Commission to discuss so that everyone knows when they need to show up, what they're doing, who is coordinating, who is the host, and the whole process. Lastly, the Mayor

spoke of his conversation with the President of St. Thomas University, which was initially sparked by conversations about a potential charter review coming up next year and getting as much support. When St. Thomas University was started in 1961, they were founded in Opa-locka and are celebrating their 60th anniversary this year. He said he wants to make sure that relationships are created with local universities and partners because it offers opportunities for Parks & Recreation and Optimist Clubs to have competition and tournaments. He said he is looking forward to the legislative conversation and beginning to talk about Commission priorities as a unit so that all of the ideas and initiatives are properly budgeted, so that they come to fruition.

City Manager Pate thanked Representative James Bush and former Mayor Joseph L. Kelley for making the COVID-19 vaccine event possible. The event was coordinated through Representative Bush's office and the location was former Mayor Kelley's Church. The Manager also reminded the Mayor that he had not announced the State of the City.

Mayor Pigatt pointed out that he had thanked Representative Bush and Mayor Kelley at the very beginning of the meeting. He went on to announce that the State of the City will be this Friday at 6:30 PM online on Facebook, and will include a compilation of the City's accomplishments.

21. OFFICIAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

There were none.

22. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Matthew A. Pigatt
Mayor

Attest:

Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk

CITY OF OPA-LOCKA
“The Great City”

CLERK’S ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
February 10, 2021
7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Matthew A. Pigatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on February 10, 2021 at Sherbondy Village, 215 Perviz Avenue, Opa-locka, Florida.

2. ROLL CALL:

The following members of the City Commission were present: Commissioner Alvin E. Burke, Commissioner Chris Davis, Commissioner John H. Taylor Jr., Vice Mayor Veronica J. Williams and Mayor Matthew A. Pigatt. Also in attendance were: Assistant City Manager City George Ellis, City Attorney Burnadette Norris-Weeks and City Clerk Joanna Flores. City Manager John E. Pate joined remotely by Zoom.

3. INVOCATION:

The Invocation was delivered by Mayor Matthew A. Pigatt.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

5. AWARDS/PROCLAMATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

There were none.

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND PULL LIST (deferrals and deletions):

Item 13-2 from the Consent Agenda was deferred by Assistant City Manager George Ellis.

Vice Mayor Williams pulled item 13-1 from the Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Williams to pass the consent agenda (13-3).

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Clerk Flores stated that a request was made to amend the agenda to include the following item as 14-1:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE CONVEYANCE AND SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH SAILBOAT TH DEVELOPMENT LLC; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF THE TITLE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

Mayor Pigatt asked the City Manager to state the emergency nature of this item.

City Manager Pate stated that the emergency nature of the item is based on the health, safety and welfare of the subdivision of Sailboat Cove in regards to initiating water and sewer services for that specific subdivision.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Davis to amend the agenda to include 14-1.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the agenda.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – May 28, 2020

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the minutes of the Virtual COVID-19 Workshop on May 28, 2020.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

Regular Commission Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2021

It was moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Williams to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting on January 13, 2021.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

Special Commission Meeting Minutes – February 1, 2021

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the minutes of the Special Commission Meeting on February 1, 2021.

There being no discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

9. DISTRICT ONE / DISTRICT TWO - COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT:

Ms. Melanie Burke, Miami-Dade County Mayor's Office Intergovernmental Affairs Liaison for Municipalities in the North County introduced herself in her new capacity. The County Mayor wants to bring the County government close to the people. Last week Mayor Levine Cava launched the historic civic engagement campaign "Thrive 305" to seek input directly from residents to inform them of her priorities and policies through a county-wide survey and engagement event, to make sure diverse voices across Miami-Dade are uplifted. With their ideas and voices at the table, we will be able to build a more equitable and inclusive economy where all Miami-Dade families can prosper. The community can learn more and take the survey at Thrive305.org Today, the Mayor launched Miami-Dade's first Office of Equity and Inclusion which entails doubling down on investments in communities that have been historically disenfranchised and underserved. Ms. Burke shared that her job is to bring the Commission information, so that it can share the information with the community, knowing that the Mayor wants to make sure that she can be reached. If there is an event or there is a request to have her tour an area where there is an issue, she will be the go-to person between the city and the Mayor. The Clerk has all her contact information.

Commissioner Davis highlighted our new County Mayor and Progressive County Commission and all the great work that is being seen. As a former organizer, he has always been an advocate of community engagement and encouraging the community to be involved in every level of planning of government. He gave props to the Mayor and the County Commission for taking on an initiative to look at ways that we can make Miami-Dade County more equitable.

Mayor Pigatt echoed Commissioner Davis' sentiments. He noted that Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava's administration so far has been impressive to see. The Mayor expressed much respect for the opening of the Office of Equity and Inclusion. He said that Mayor Levine Cava has been a friend to Opa-locka and the City will be there in support, and to ensure that the City of Opa-locka gets the resources it needs to battle the pandemic and address infrastructure problems.

10. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

1. Senator Shevrin Jones

Florida Senate District 35

ref: Legislative agenda and update on city's appropriations request

Senator Shevrin Jones connected to the meeting from Tallahassee, and acknowledged that while he did not represent Opa-locka while he served in the Florida House of Representatives for 8 years, he is looking forward to serving the city in Senate District 35. The Senator stated that the hope is for a legislative session that provides relief for the most vulnerable Floridians, putting forward bills including assistance for small businesses, a tax credit for businesses that provide full time work for former interns, a path for people who can't afford the fees for their license renewal, eviction assistance that is being worked on with the Governor, a legal overhaul of police reform

that the Black Caucus did a presentation to show what that looks like. Senator Jones shared the restrictions that have been put in place within the Capitol to protect the health of the community, including requiring staff to wear masks, a restriction on visitors including lobbyists, weekly testing of elected officials, and a lot of the work is getting done on Zoom. Having been in the legislature since 2012, Senator Jones shared that this is one of the most interesting times in the budget year. Because tourism was one of the strongest industries in Florida, we have all of our eggs in that basket, but the pandemic has changed all of that. The constraints of the reduced budget will make the appropriations process all the more difficult, Senator Jones is working with the Senate President's Office to advocate specifically for the City of Opa-locka, and working on committees like the Transportation Committee to determine what is going to be done for communities like Opa-locka, Miami Gardens and some of the unincorporated areas of Miami-Dade County that are dealing with flooding and drainage concerns. While the Senate President was going to visit a few weeks ago, he contracted COVID, but the relationship with all of the mayors, including Mayor Pigatt is providing the open line of communication so that the practitioners on the dais can talk with the Governor, Senate President and Speaker of the House to help them understand how difficult the city issues are and help Opa-locka in its 8 local funding requests. While the Senator has not yet been able to meet with members of the Florida House of Representatives on those 8 projects, he is staying in Tallahassee on Friday to meet with the House about the things that are important to Opa-locka. Senator Jones brought to the attention of the Commission, HB1 the public disorder bill because it will impact municipalities like Opa-locka. As the top legislative priority bill for the majority in leadership, the bill is expected to pass. Senator Jones asserted that he does not support it, and stated that the bill came in the summer during the Black Lives Matter protests. Senate District 35 is the largest black district in the State of Florida and the third largest in the country, and the Senator acknowledged that he is in a fight. The Senator wants to be in a partnership, and has asked his office to be on Commission calls at least once a week to give an update on what's happening in Tallahassee, and to keep the Commission in the know how he's fighting for the issues that Opa-locka has, to ensure the city can continue to thrive.

Vice Mayor Williams thanked Senator Shevrin Jones for his leadership and stressed how much she felt the agenda needed to be heard. She expressed her excitement to continue the partnership with the Commission and support him in any way possible.

Commissioner Taylor congratulated Senator Shevrin Jones on his win, thanked him for his support of the great City of Opa-locka, and said he looked forward to working with him.

Mayor Pigatt expressed his respect for Senator Shevrin Jones fighting for the community for quite a while, and recognized that he will continue to fight for the City of Opa-locka. The Mayor expressed how instrumental Senator Jones was in getting the COVID testing center in the City of Opa-locka. He further recognized that Senator Jones recently hired one of his mentees Timothy Hill for his office, and gave a shout-out to Mr. Hill's talent, as he continues to build his team in Tallahassee to fight for us.

Senator Jones added that his goal is to make sure people feel safe with getting tested for COVID in their community, so the Senator's office is working directly with Florida Emergency Management Director Jared Moskowitz to bring a POD to Opa-locka. He stated that the Director's Office said that they were going to reach out to the city. It is his belief that an effort was under way to intertwine Opa-locka, Miami Gardens and Miramar, and while the Senator stated that he had wanted to let it be known that only the people of the City of Opa-locka can get tested at the city's site, that will not be allowed, but he at least wants to make it more accessible to the residents of Opa-locka, so that they know it is available.

Mayor Pigatt confirmed that Senator Shevrin Jones put him in direct contact with Florida Emergency Management Director Jared Moskowitz and thanked the Senator for his advocacy for the City of Opa-locka.

2. Christina Banks
ref: Retirement Payment / Insurance Reimbursement

Christina Banks asked the Commission to take a good look at themselves and reminded them all that they took an oath to serve the community. She expressed that she feels it is a shame that she has to come before the Commission in order to get something that is hers. She went on to say that there is not one person on the dais that doesn't know about it. Assurances were given that she did not come to bash or put anyone on call, and asked the Commission to make the right decisions for the community. Ms. Banks asserted that when the Commission and the city asked her to give hours and money towards anything she did for the municipality, she did it. She recounted working 24 years with the city, from working with four of the main and major departments, including the City Manager's Office, Human Resources, Police Department and Parks & Recreation. Ms. Banks stated that there is not one employee that can't say that she didn't try to touch their lives to make it better in this community, and recalled living in the city for 50 years. She asked when she will be getting the retirement funds that she is entitled to, adding that the same way that she gave her hours when she was expected to be here, she expects for the Commission to do the right thing. Ms. Banks said she received a call from Ms. Kierra Ward, City of Opa-locka Human Resource Director, indicating that it would be ready on the 17th, which is the next payroll. She would like for the Commission to look at that, to make sure that it happens, and asserted that she is not asking for anything that isn't owed to her. Ms. Banks stated that in her file it doesn't say anything about anyone complaining about anything she did at that time. She invited the Commission to look at their employees, because they have good employees, and said she feels they don't deserve to fight for what belongs to them, and urged them to not let power and prestige get in the way. Mr. Banks asked that someone tell her that she is definitely going to get it, and when she can pick it up, and would like to put it on record that she would like to have a breakdown of the funds. She thanked the Mayor and Commission for their time, and wished them all the best, praying that they do the right thing.

Commissioner Burke asked Ms. Christina Banks when she retired.

Ms. Banks said she retired from the city on October 31st and she stated that as of today, she had not received one payment. She recalled offering to take positions at half salary, and she expects the Commission to do the right thing for every employee. She reiterated that she was asking for what she earned as an Executive Secretary for the municipality. Ms. Banks went on to say that she wants to receive a breakdown of what was sent to the state, because she has received nothing but lies, and wants the Commission to know that.

Mayor Pigatt recalled that this was brought to his attention during agenda briefing. While the Commissioners on the dais can't get involved in the day-to-day operations of city employees, they can inquire. He asked the City Manager to answer Ms. Banks' question and to let the Commission know if there was any breakdown in protocol that led to this, and how it is being addressed so that it doesn't happen again.

Assistant City Manager Ellis reminded the Commission that the city has to get approval from the state. He acknowledged that Ms. Banks spoke with Ms. Kierra Ward, City of Opa-locka Human Resource Director this week and will receive her payment on Wednesday, because it must be done through payroll. A calculation of what is really owed to her, has to be approved, and that had to go through a process.

Mayor Pigatt asked what the traditional timeline is, and how can it they make sure that if there is any breakaway from that timeline, that people are communicated with so that issues like this are resolved.

Assistant City Manager Ellis said he would have to refer to the H.R. Director on the process. He stated that once he found out about the issue, he inquired about it and called Ms. Banks to let her know when she was going to get her payout. Manager Ellis recalls doing requisition for data back in November, and explained that the state asks for information and backup documentation on what is being paid to employees.

Mayor Pigatt explained that the delay in payment is an issue that has been going on since the city has been under financial oversight. As a consideration, sometimes it is out of the city's control in terms of the approval office. He wants to be sure that she is communicated with, and hopes that what was discussed and said by management is followed through on, and if not, she should feel free to come back before the Commission to make them aware of whatever issues she may be experiencing. He further thanked Ms. Banks for serving the people of Opa-locka for so long.

Vice Mayor Williams stated that she believes in giving people their flowers while they are living, and while she has never personally met Ms. Banks, she wanted to publicly thank her for the many years of service to Opa-locka. She said she prays that all that is due and owed to her, will be given.

11. CITIZENS' FORUM:
(Opportunity for discussion of any concerns – please limit to 3 minutes)

Clerk Flores announced the protocol for public participation at city commission meetings.

The following public comment was submitted by email and read into the record by Clerk Flores:

Shirley Sherry Brown of 361 Sinbad Avenue, Opa-locka, Florida – To whom it may concern: I would like to send out a huge thank you to the City of Opa-locka Public Works Department, for the assistance I received today. I called earlier today reporting an issue and I spoke with Cathy who immediately relayed the information to Supervisor Ken or Kenneth and he responded swiftly by calling me to investigate the issue. Within an hour my issue was resolved. The level of service I received was exceptional. Kudos to Ken and Cathy. Thank you.

Michele Henney of 10640 Paris Street, Cooper City, FL 33026 – How is the Commission sure that John Pate is still not job searching while being employed by the city? Is the Commission aware that George Ellis, Assistant City Manager has acted very aggressively toward several city employees, both past and present? There have been several witnesses to his behavior. One of the very few people that Geraldine Lazarre of TriMerge has hired as a city employee in the last three years is Jeanette Lutsama, who has sued her previous employer, the City of Miami Beach, accusing them of slut shaming and sexual harassment. This story has been in the news. Geraldine Lazarre has complained that she is short staffed in the Finance Department. Lazarre makes \$139 per hour, in addition to half of every hour charged by her TriMerge associates. One can clearly understand why she would directly benefit from railroading and lying on several city employees, and discrediting them so that they would become frustrated and leave their employment, forfeiting their pension opportunity and other benefits. In the event that someone was not paying attention in the last Commission meeting, 13 people have resigned in the Finance Department since Lazarre took office. This would explain why the department is short-staffed and your audits are consistently behind. Any capable, reputable and professional CPA firm would have had your audits up to date by now. It has been over 3 year, and way over \$1 million later and you are still 2 years behind and the City has lost several great employees. Sounds like not much has changed under the new Commission.

Mayor Pigatt opened the floor for Citizen's Forum for those who were in the audience.

Dorothy Johnson of 13724 NW 22nd Place, Opa-locka, Florida appeared before the City Commission and shared that when the resolution that was removed from the agenda returns, that she hopes it will have a line item and also provide clarification whether it includes all the City Commission and the City Manager or just the City Manager. She went on to say that the workshop from yesterday was excellent, although she believes that the Chair of the Audit Committee should schedule their own meeting so that their own motions can be made. Ms. Johnson also clarified that she is not soliciting to be a mentor to any Commissioner, current or past. She went on to share

that mentorship is when you have a relationship, and she doesn't think she can have any of that at this time with the new elected officials or others. The ones that she poured into, she poured into really good, and she asserted that she was not soliciting for anyone to contact her, because someone told her it was very rudely misconstrued. She offered kudos to every city official who got their temperature checked, because they are exposed to too many people. She said that everyone should go through the temperature check, and that city officials are not exempt. Ms. Johnson said that she was given bad information, not by the Clerk, that all of the retirement comes out of the budget, and ended up losing \$14,000 in her retirement from the city. She added that you have to have thick skin to be up there on the dais, and that everything should not be taken personal. While some things that happened are absolutely wrong, she stated that isn't her battle and wished the Commission a blessed day.

Mayor Pigatt gave a shout-out to Ms. Shirley Sherry Brown for highlighting the work of the Public Works Department. He stated that he had many residents comment that they have called and Public Works have been responsive to citizens' concerns.

There being no further persons to speak, Citizen's Forum was closed.

12. ACTION ITEMS (items from consent agenda pull list):

1. (13-1) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL EVENTS POLICY AND PROCEDURES AND ADOPTING A SPECIAL EVENTS HANDBOOK; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL PRIOR RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

The above resolution was read by Attorney Norris-Weeks.

It was moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Burke to approve the resolution.

Assistant City Manager City Manager George Ellis asked Parks & Recreation Director Delven Patterson to explain the item in detail.

Parks & Recreation Director Delven Patterson presented the special events policy for the City of Opa-locka. A special event is defined as any event, meeting, activity or gathering of persons invited by public advertisement for the purpose of witnessing or participating in any common purpose in attainment or exhibition or pursuing, or selling any merchandise, food or beverage, or consuming any food or beverage upon any city owned public facility, street, sidewalk, ally, park, parking lot or other public places. There are city produced events, city contracted events, Commission initiatives (internal or external), and regular producer or organizer events. A major event is defined as anything that has a road closure, amplified music, the length of the event is four

hours or more, and it is more than one hundred people with the above characteristics. For major event and Commissioner sponsored events, a special event committee will be assembled to go over the application of the event. This committee consists of different department heads and the public relations team. For each event had in the city, a permit will be needed. A major event has to come before the Commission and has to be approved. A city produced event is any event produced and managed by the city and is approved in the annually adopted city budget, and will also come before the Commission. A city contracted event is any event that is contracted with the city and an outside entity and that also has to come before the Commission. Internal Commission initiatives are events with an internal department, which would be inside of the annual budget and will come before the Commission. External Commission initiatives are events with an external group, and will come before the Commission, with the funding coming from either a sponsorship or the organization. An organized producer event, encompasses events like weddings and party rentals, would have the organizer be responsible for any financial fees and damages. Anyone on the Commission or city boards can't be financially involved in a major event. The procedures for special events will be handled through the Parks & Recreation Department. Assessments and evaluations of all special events will be made to determine the effectiveness, and then brought before the Commission for them to adopt. A yearly schedule of all special events will be created. A program for donations will be established, with all funds being forwarded to the Finance Department, and all donations being considered gifts to the city. To donate, a letter must be written to the city including the who, what, where, when and why, and a donation proposal will be brought before the Commission. All special events will be advertised through flyers, the city website, and any owned city media. Each department will have responsibilities when there are major special events. Anyone who wants to do a special event in the city, will be given the special events handbook. The handbook includes a letter written by the Parks & Recreation Department Director, a table of contents, and answers any questions they may have. Section 1 includes information on what an event is, who can hold an event, who can apply for an event, the application process, where they can pay, the final approval process, and the department directory in case they need additional permitting. The handbook also includes a breakdown of the fees charged by the Parks & Recreation Department, and information to get any additional permits they may need. Additionally, in the handbook, there are guidelines on amplified sound, cancellation, filming, and insurance. Director Patterson then offered to make himself available to answer any questions.

Vice Mayor Williams asked Mr. Patterson how the policy affects the Commission, or anyone outside the Commission who wants to plan an event.

Mr. Patterson stated that the policy was designed to affect everyone.

Vice Mayor Williams pointed out that the community cleanup would not have been able to fit into the timeline proposed in the policy. She also pointed out that the event had no financial bearing on the city.

Mr. Patterson explained that the community cleanup was not the city's event, and the city was just a part of. Once an event like that comes, there will probably be a special event permit.

Vice Mayor Williams asked if an event was initiated by a Commissioner, and it had no financial bearing on the city, if it would still have to fit within the timeline in the policy.

Mr. Patterson clarified that he revised the language in the handbook for Commissioner and city events.

Vice Mayor Williams asked if Director Patterson knew the language.

Mr. Patterson explained that for non-city or Commissioner sponsored events, there is a process.

Vice Mayor Williams also said she would like to know what the difference is between an initiative and an event.

Mr. Patterson advised that an initiative is adopted in the annual budget.

Commissioner Burke stated that it is a good thing that the city finally has a special events policy, but it is sort of confusing as the Vice Mayor said. He said he was aware of the fact that in the past people just did what they wanted to do, and he asked if it would be necessary to obtain a permit for events such as a cleanup.

Mr. Patterson stated that any type of event in the city, would just have a permitting process, and there will be no charge for any city initiatives, but does need to go through the process.

Commissioner Burke also asked if anybody that wants to make a donation to the city, has to come before the Commission.

Mr. Patterson clarified that they do not have to, but if the Commission asks, they will have to come before them and let them know what they are donating.

Commissioner Taylor said that he understood the confusion that everyone has had, because it is the same confusion he had. He used the example of the cleanup and that one of the Commissioners faces was on the flyer, so he wanted to know if that event would have to go before the Commission.

Mr. Patterson stated that it wouldn't necessarily have to go before the Commission, because it was not the city's event.

Commissioner Taylor asked for clarification on whether an outside entity would have to have the organizer and producer come before the Commission prior to having an event.

Mr. Patterson responded that it would be like a normal birthday party.

Commissioner Taylor asked if someone who just wants to do a cleanup can just do it.

Mr. Patterson asserted that to do a cleanup, a permit is needed.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the 2 month period prior to the event would apply to such a cleanup.

Mr. Patterson clarified that it would be 30 days for a regular event, but the city's annual events will be presented way before the time of the event.

Commissioner Taylor noted that Sherbondy Village Pavilion is not listed under the rentals.

Mr. Patterson confirmed that will be changed.

Commissioner Taylor pointed out that there is a flat rate fee for residents and non-residents, but no specification of the length of time.

Mr. Patterson clarified that it is calculated hourly.

Commissioner Taylor also noted that the language says that you can have alcohol and then says there can't be alcohol.

Mr. Patterson explained that there are some changes to be made in that language.

Commissioner Taylor sought clarification on how the changes in the agenda order will affect how events will be considered.

Mayor Pigatt offered context, explaining that this policy was a direct result of the operational audit finding which said that the city was not being accountable to events. Every event has an amount of city resources. It costs for staff to be there, clean up, so even if the city doesn't invest, it is an investment of staff time and the audit committee saw that there were events that were not appropriated in the budget. He explained that the policy is similar to the policies he's seen in other cities, and offered respect to Director Patterson for bringing his knowledge and insight to the City of Opa-locka to help with this. He shared that the specific recommendation from the operational audit was for the city to establish policies and procedures for each special event. He hoped that after the policy is approved, the Commission will detail what events they would like to see throughout the year. After that, if there are any events that come up, it is just brought up to the Commission so that everyone is on the same page. He noted that there have been issues with promoting events, having security, marketing, and he is impressed that the policy covers almost all the bases that are identified in the operational audit. Mayor Pigatt asked the City Attorney if the approval of events that come outside of the budget, can be moved by just a motion, or if it has to be a full resolution.

Commissioner Burke asked if this can be workshopped.

Mayor Pigatt acknowledged hearing Commissioner Burke, and then proceeded to ask for the City Attorney's clarification on his question.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks explained that the Commission is always free to consider things that are within its budget, because it is not an ordinance. She explained the concern that staff has mentioned that certain things are going to be added or changed. If things will be added or changed, it should come back with those things in it, so that the document that is understood is approved. Staff can say it on the record, but it probably would be more appropriate to do it in a workshop setting as suggested by Commissioner Burke.

Mayor Pigatt said he is in favor of discussing this item in a workshop setting. He asked the City Manager if he wants to defer it to a workshop or do a motion to move into a workshop, so it addresses all concerns.

City Manager Pate asked to defer this matter to the next available workshop.

Mayor Pigatt confirmed the item is deferred to a workshop, and stated that he will be calling for one of those in his report.

13. ADMINISTRATION:

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. (13-3) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ESTABLISH A YEAR-END STATE OF THE CITY REPORT AND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Sponsored by Mayor Pigatt

Vote taken on Consent Agenda items can be viewed under Agenda Item 6 – Approval of the Consent Agenda.

14. NEW ITEMS:

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF Opa-locka, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE CONVEYANCE AND SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH SAILBOAT TH DEVELOPMENT LLC; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF THE TITLE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

The above resolution was read by Attorney Norris-Weeks.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Davis to pass the resolution.

Mayor Pigatt asked Assistant City Manager Ellis to introduce the item.

Assistant City Manager Ellis asked Public Works Director Airia Austin to explain the item.

Public Works Director Airia Austin stated that this item is for the conveyance of sanitary and water distribution infrastructure in a private development to be managed and maintained by the City of Opa-locka. This is necessary for Miami-Dade County to install water meters on the property, since meters can't be installed on private property. He said he was available to respond to any questions or concerns on this item.

Commissioner Burke asked if this had anything to do with a pump station.

Mr. Austin said that it will also convey the pump station.

Commissioner Burke asked if they are going to build the pump station.

Mr. Austin clarified that the pump station has already been built and the infrastructure is already in place. This will convey it to the City of Opa-locka.

Commissioner Burke asked for clarification on whether the conveyance to the city will make the City of Opa-locka responsible for it.

Mr. Austin confirmed with an affirmative yes.

Commissioner Burke asked if a deed comes with that.

Mr. Austin confirmed with an affirmative yes.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Burke	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Taylor	Yes
Vice Mayor Williams	Yes
Mayor Pigatt	Yes

15. PLANNING & ZONING:

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

B. APPEALS:

16. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. FIRST READING ORDINANCE(S)/PUBLIC HEARING(S):

B. SECOND READING ORDINANCE(S)/PUBLIC HEARING(S):

C. RESOLUTION(S):

17. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Assistant City Manager George Ellis stated that he had nothing to report.

Commissioner Burke stated that he had received a written request from a citizen that was troubling to him, informing him that there is a tenant at City Hall that hasn't paid rent in over a year. He said he is trying to find out who that is, and if there is something in writing that they shouldn't pay rent, or if it has to do with COVID-19.

Assistant City Manager George Ellis stated that he will have to get back with the Commissioner on that after doing some research because there are several tenants in the building. He will try to find out if there is someone with that problem, and get back with the Commissioner.

Commissioner Davis reminded the Manager and Commission that the county extended the deadline to expend CARES Act funding until September of this calendar year. With that new opportunity being afforded to the City of Opa-locka, while it has not been realized what exact dollar amount is left, to reallocate those funds towards much needed programs like food gift cards, rental and mortgage assistance for residents. He alerted the Commission that this is something he is working on through the City Manager's office.

Commissioner Burke asked if the financial help for rent had been extended.

Commissioner Davis explained that the city was awarded \$2.1 million to expend on rental mortgage and grocery gift cards. The County originally gave a deadline of December 31st to expend those funds, which is why there was a big push ahead of the holidays. Since then, a new County Commission was elected, and they chose to go a different direction with those funds, to mirror the federal government's extension for CARES Act funding to September of this year. With that new opportunity, the city has a longer timeline and the ability to re-allocate the funds that were not expended before December 31st to either rental and mortgage assistance or grocery gift cards.

Commissioner Burke asked who should be contacted, because he had a citizen contact him saying she needed rental assistance because she got laid off during COVID. He was under the impression that he needed to wait until the new COVID relief package passes, but wanted to know who he could refer to for assistance.

Commissioner Davis deferred to Assistant City Manager Ellis for his response.

Assistant City Manager Ellis explained that the monies received in the first round of the CARES Act program was approximately \$2.1 million. About \$1.9 million was spent on food cards. About \$400,000 was put aside for the rental and mortgage assistance program, but that money was being controlled by an entity that worked with the county, and they qualified the people. Only about 28 of 200 that applied got the funds, which was about \$150,000. The rest of the money was used to buy more food cards. The city was just reimbursed today the \$1.9 million for the food cards. The rest of the funds went for an administrative cost. They are analyzing that and will let the city know what is left over that the city has not spent yet. The county is currently working to see if there are any additional funds to give to municipalities, and has opened the door to the community to get funding for small business loans, and also mortgage and rental assistance, for anyone in the county. No other appropriations have been provided as of yet to the municipalities.

Commissioner Burke asked the Manager if residents who need rental assistance now, need to contact Miami-Dade County.

Assistant City Manager Ellis confirmed that is correct. The city was very blessed to have a very knowledgeable person in Ms. Linda Taylor to work with the city on the program, because she spent many years working with the county operating those types of programs. Ms. Taylor has identified other entities that received monies, that the city is trying to work with on a continual basis for the citizens, including rental assistance, FPL assistance and other entities that can provide corporate funding to provide services to people in need. Ms. Taylor has also been working with the Miami-Dade County CARES administrators, in the hopes that up to date information will be available by the end of the week, and believes that there will be more opportunities for the citizens.

Vice Mayor Williams shared her concerns that the branding and marketing of Opa-locka is moving slow. She referenced a news report on Channel 7 that was absolutely ridiculous, and that the city can't continue to allow the news to write the narrative about what's going on in Opa-locka. She extolled all of the amazing things that have happened in the city, in addition to what the City Manager and all of the departments are doing, including the workshops. She stated that she has asked for presentations to go on websites that are still not there. The Vice Mayor said it is unacceptable that 300 people get the city's newsletter, and that the city can't rely on people liking the Facebook page. She urged for more to be done, recalling that someone did it for 4 years on Twitter with the message going out the way they wanted it to go out. She stressed that the city needs to figure out how to reshape its message and branding, and urged the City Manager's office to get the ball rolling.

Assistant City Manager Ellis thanked the Vice Mayor and assured her that he will follow-up on that.

Mayor Pigatt stated that he thinks kudos are deserved for the City Manager's Office and Financial Consultant Gerri Lazarre, for the extension of the 2018 and 2019 audits which will allow the city to get its capital assessments included and set the city on a course to get a modified opinion, and

hopefully get one year shaved off the financial oversight. He thanked the Manager and staff for taking care of that and for hosting the audit workshop. Mayor Pigatt shared that earlier today he had a meeting with the owner of Glorieta Gardens, who expressed that lots of work has been done by them and the city to tackle flooding within that area, including cleaning out retention ponds and renovating apartments. He said that the owner of Glorieta Gardens did express a concern about public safety, with that area being one of the areas with a high concentration of violent crimes. He recalled being told that there would be an active police sub-station there on January 18th, and asked what the status is because it is not there.

City Manager Pate stated that he observed the call this morning, and asserted that the city has been in constant communication with Glorieta Gardens in regards to the police substation, which is all part of the public record. The substation was available to the city approximately four years ago, but the previous administration and the Police Department refused to use that facility. He stated that an on-site assessment was done with his staff, led by Lieutenant Nikeya Jenkins back in January, and required that there were various public safety related upgrades that were required, mentioned by the Police Department back in January, including security systems, additional cameras being installed, and various resources that were needed for officers to man the station on a constant basis. Lots of those items were recently done, and the sub-station was going to be operational at 6:00 tonight, but it was learned that there are additional items that were required to be done by Glorieta Gardens that have not been done as of yet, such as issuing individual pin codes issued per officer, so that who is going in and out of the facility can be traced. While it is not stopping the sub-station from being opened, one of the upgrades the city has invested into the sub-station includes the purchasing of signage to be installed outside the substation. There are technology related matters that are supposed to be resolved tomorrow morning. Since things are coming to light in regards to relationships between Glorieta Gardens and Cordoba Courts, Manager Pate suggested that a workshop be done with the management of Glorieta Gardens and Cordoba Courts to transparently state what the city has done and what they have done, and give a full status update, so that the public understands the resources the city has placed into both of the apartment complexes on a constant basis. He further confirmed that the sub-station will be operational tomorrow.

Mayor Pigatt acknowledged that a police substation becoming operational is a very significant event in the city, and usually there are ribbon cuttings. He asked if there will be an event to let the public know that the Commission has heard the issues and is responding with the establishment of a substation in one of the highest crime areas.

City Manager Pate stated that with most openings you have a soft opening, to make sure everything is operational and working smoothly and that shifts are flowing in a proper manner. Lieutenant Nikeya Jenkins has already reached out to Public Relations Consultant Jessica Modkins to start planning a ribbon cutting, but it is not uncommon for a ribbon cutting to occur after the opening of a facility, and the ribbon cutting is in the works.

Commissioner Burke stated that he welcomes the substation and is sure it will be a great asset to the community and the city, but because it is one of the high crime areas, the he urged the City Manager to not move too fast and make sure that the sub-station is ready to go before officers are put in there.

City Manager Pate acknowledged hearing Commissioner Burke loud and clear, and stated that they are moving slow and the sub-station wasn't opened in January for the security upgrades to be done. He said they are looking for other things to be done as well, but that they are going to slowly implement the sub-station, look at staffing and lessons learned, and then appropriately celebrate it, once the city gets it going for at least two weeks to a month to say it has been a successful mission, and then do a ribbon cutting. He acknowledged hearing both the sentiments from Mayor Pigatt and Commissioner Burke loud and clear. City Manager Pate also added that he heard the sentiments on the call with the ownership of Glorieta Gardens, and the Manager expressed that sometimes silence is better than making statements, which is why the Manager's Office didn't have much to say during the call, because they didn't want to get into a contentious debate over facts.

Mayor Pigatt asked the City Manager what he means by doing things slowly, and went on to say that usually everything is done when necessary. He stated that the city wants to make sure officers are protected, but that is a part of the process, and to his understanding there are just certain things that need to be done to make sure that it is an operational area. He asked for clarity because he wouldn't want to go to the residents and say that the city is slowly putting in place a police substation.

City Manager Pate responded saying that it was a use of words, and offered different words such as methodically, properly planned, ensuring that the residents get full efficiency and effectiveness of the sub-station, making sure there are enough officers and manpower to man the substation, not just opening an empty building and not having enough officers on the street because of the shortage of officers. He asked for trust that the concerns of the residents have been heard, but the city wants to do things responsibly. The city has done a lot of things out of haste and rush, and it ends up putting liability on the city and the officers as well. He added that when he speaks of doing things safely or methodically, he is speaking of officer and public safety, in consideration of risk management and not just having a building that says Opa-locka Police Department that isn't serving the way the residents need to be served.

Mayor Pigatt said the Commission would move on, but that the City Manager needed to make sure that those residents are not living in fear. He recalled that last year at around this time, the Commission called for a Code Enforcement investigation, and then a brief executive report came out in September saying that there would be a full report in 30-45 days. Mayor Pigatt asked where the city is at with the investigation, recommendations, and the plan of action to address the issues that were found.

City Manager Pate responded by stating that as with anything, delays happen. He added that the Code Enforcement investigation led to the arrest and termination of some of the employees. Some of those employees are going through the process of fighting for their jobs. The Manager stated that he is very methodically, without haste, making sure that when a complete report is put out, that it is accurate and does not put the city in any unnecessary liability position. Manager Pate added that new Code Enforcement officers have been hired and the Police Department is currently indoctrinating them. He said he is in the midst of evaluating his recommendations to the Commission, as to whether Code Enforcement will be kept the way it is, or make changes including possibly outsourcing the department entirely or partially. Budgetary issues have also led to a full report not being released. Assurances were offered by the Manager that it has not been forgotten. Lieutenant Sergio Perez and the leadership of the Police Department and Code Enforcement are looking at making improvements on an everyday basis. As soon as the assessment is done, and not rushed, Manager Pate stated that a full report will go out, along with the thousands of pages of exhibits that are required. The Commission required immediate action based on some allegations that occurred, and the Manager asserted that he did take decisive action, and a lot of other pending actions going on that transpired based on the Code Enforcement inquiry that was requested. Now, we're waiting on a report with recommendations on how to move the department forward for the future.

Mayor Pigatt stated that he asked because of the timeline. He recalled a previous Commission meeting when there was an issue with the Building & Licensing Department where the city was potentially about to get fined, and Code Enforcement was initially under the Building & Licensing Department. He said he is trying to figure out when the investigation will be completed, so that attention can be directed to the Building & Licensing Department. Mayor Pigatt noted that one of the things the Manager is tasked with is going through each department to make assessments, and he's seen a lot of changes happen in the Police Department and the Code Enforcement Department, and he knows there was mention of the Building & Licensing Department. He stressed that it is important because the city is still under the DERM moratorium that affects the business community and occupational licensing. He said he wanted to get clarity on where the process was, because not having proper Code Enforcement or Building & Licensing is one of the things that holds the city back, which can help with the development of the city. He asked the Manager if he had a timeline for the completion of the investigation.

City Manager Pate stated that it would be irresponsible of him to provide a timeline for the completion. He shared that he is working hand-in-hand with DERM on the administration of the Code Enforcement Department and the operation of the Building & Licensing Department. Manager Pate reminded the Mayor that when he began as Manager, one of the requests that were made by the Mayor as well as the previous Commission was for him to do an assessment of each department. The manager also reminded the Commission that he was the one who enlisted the assistance of DERM to do the assessment of the Building Department by releasing the documents that were needed for the current consent decree that was just approved at the last Commission

meeting. The Manager added that he has been enlisting the assistance of county and local partners, to find solutions that will make the city's systems more efficient and effective. As an example, the Manager cited the fact that today the IT department head met with DERM to upgrade the Code Enforcement systems and get direct integration with DERM and various other databases, so there will be simpler ways to communicate, in addition to integration with the website and more automation. Manager Pate offered assurances that actions are being taken by his office to address the Commission's concerns and they are making progress. He apologized that they are not moving at the pace the Mayor wants them to move, but said that they are moving as rapidly and responsibly as possible.

Mayor Pigatt stated that he is not worried about the pacing, but he wants to be able to have a timeline in place, so that it can be communicated to residents, and they can understand what is going on. He asked the Manager to let the Commission know when he is going to be clearer on the completion, because it is not something that he does not want to be dropped because it is not being brought up in Commission meetings.

Commissioner Burke added to his previous questions to the City Manager about the tenant that has been in City Hall for over a year without paying rent, that he needs to know how much money the city is owed, why the tenant was not paying rent and what the city is doing to get rid of or evict the tenant. He requested this information to be able to respond to a resident.

18. OFFICIAL BOARD REPORTS:

19. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Mayor Pigatt said he would like to have the city's water billing considered moving forward. That is the second major challenge as a city. Recently, he received more requests and comments about what is being done with the past water bills. One thing that has been done that made significant progress was replacing the meters and transitioning. He asked what the plan is for the outstanding debts. He further asked the City Manager how much is currently outstanding in the city.

City Manager Pate stated that it is over \$1 million.

Mayor Pigatt said he believes it is a couple of million dollars, and is an issue that has been going on for almost 4 years. There are still residents that have bills from that time. The Mayor would like to put on the agenda a plan to address that and close it out, whether it be through collections or another means, so that everyone is clear about what's going on with the water bills.

City Manager Pate stated that the reason that he hasn't gotten any plan is because of on-going class action litigation in regards to water billing and he wouldn't be able to provide a plan until that is resolved. Any action that the city may take in regards to that, may affect that litigation. The city

has been provided advice to that in the past. He asserted that he wouldn't be able to put a plan in writing at this time.

Mayor Pigatt asked City Attorney Norris Weeks to weigh in on whether or not the city can put some type of plan together for residents.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks confirmed that this issue has come up before and she is not clear on exactly what is being asked. Generally thinking she and outside counsel have spoken with the Manager in the past about issues that can affect the litigation. Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that the Manager is correct, and she is not sure how some of the things can be separated. She suggested having a meeting with the Mayor, and figure out how to address his concerns if they can, outside of anything that may impact the litigation activities.

Mayor Pigatt stated that it is not particularly his concern. There are literally thousands of residents that have kind of been in limbo, so at what point will clarity be provided. He wondered how long the case will take considering it's already been a few years. While he knows that litigation can last quite a while, and he knows that litigation deals with a class, he asked if that litigation stops all the residents in Opa-locka from getting some type of clarity and resolution on what to do with those past due bills. He said he just wants to see how this can be addressed.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that she thinks the city has done some things already, including some collection efforts. The City Manager's Office would be in a better position to address that.

City Manager Pate said that the City Manager's Office has attempted collections activities, and those activities caused an injunction to be filed against the city for filing liens against properties that owed on past water bills as of a couple months ago. Court action was filed and that action was requested to be halted and included as part of the class action suit. He asserted that there is nothing the City Manager can do at this point without it affecting litigation.

Mayor Pigatt stated that he doesn't want this to be something that the Commission doesn't stay on top of because there are literally thousands of people in the city in limbo, and the Commission needs to find out what is going on. He would like some type of statement or plan that gives them an understanding of this financial situation. He said he understands the sensitive nature of this because of the litigation, but he believes the Commission has to give residents some kind of process. Currently, he has been referring people to Public Works and Ms. Braynon in the Finance Department to get some type of review, but there are still a lot of questions. He said he will hold back on this for another meeting or two, but believes that the Commission needs to put something in place to address this and make a very clear statement on how the Commission is dealing with this issue moving forward.

20. MAYOR/COMMISSION REPORTS:

Commissioner Burke reported that on Saturday morning he was invited to the grand opening at a new business in the city and ran into the Vice Mayor doing her rounds talking to the business people on Ali Baba Avenue. He said he invited the Vice Mayor down to Lucy B's Thrift Store, a business owned by two young sisters who named the business after their mother. They met the owners and toured the store. He was surprised and amazed and thinks it is something all the Commissioners should do, getting out in the neighborhood to talk to the business people and let them know that the Commission is there. He further shared that after the Vice Mayor left, the business owners had nothing but kudos for her. Acknowledging that not all the Commissioners are on the same page, he asserted that he knows they all want the same thing for the city. He thanked the Vice Mayor for being there.

Vice Mayor Williams shared that on Saturday, she became family with Lucy B's Thrift Store. She explained that while the business used to work thrift, it is not thrift, and their items were amazing and beautiful. She reported that she also met a lot of business owners, including new business owners in Opa-locka, interestingly they were women doing their thing. She shared that she met another one today at Empowering Kids. She said she is really touched and that's why her passion is there, and asserted that the Commission must highlight what is happening in Opa-locka either through the CRA or something. She thanked Commissioner Burke for his invitation and everyone that showed up for the community clean-up, including everyone that works for Opa-locka and those who don't work for the city. Vice Mayor Williams also thanked Sergeant German Bosque and Sergeant Michael Steel for accompanying her to present a proclamation to the family at the funeral of Damon Richardson.

Commissioner Davis thanked his colleagues for hitting the pavement and having the conversations that keep the Commission grounded in the work that is done to impact the community. He sent a special thank you to Vice Mayor Williams for leading the community cleanup in the Triangle, which is an almost forgotten neighborhood, a part of the city that is near and dear to his heart. He recalled that the park that was cleaned was actually developed by him a couple of years ago during his time at the CDC, and explained that the park is a community park that was worked on by members of the community, despite the lack of political will to get it done. He expressed that he is glad that the area that has been forgotten, continues to receive support from this Commission. He offered kudos for doing that and all that the Vice Mayor does in the community, including reaching out to business owners. As an organizer, the Commissioner said that one of his favorite responsibilities was going out into the community and listening to authentic conversations, because it has so much value. Commissioner Davis thanked Commissioner Burke, Vice Mayor Williams and everyone who was a part of the cleanup at Magnolia North to help the community.

Commissioner Taylor also thanked Vice Mayor Williams and shared that it was fun when they were cleaning up. He said it was truly an honor to be out there cleaning up the community. He agreed with Commissioner Davis, saying that the Commission focuses more on the west side than the area that was called the Triangle and is now called Magnolia North.

Mayor Pigatt echoed the sentiments of his colleagues, and that it was good to see on Facebook that Vice Mayor Williams and Commissioner Burke showed up at Lucy B's Thrift Store. The Mayor also extended thanks to Vice Chair Oliver Gilbert and Vice Mayor Williams for hosting the community event, which was great and he expressed that the Commission needs to do that more often, which is why he began by calling for a workshop. He reminded the Commission that a series of workshops have been organized with the State of the City Address, Operational Audit, and Audit Workshops which have identified all of the good and the things that need to be worked on in the City of Opa-locka. With the current conversation about events policy, the Mayor thinks it is time to start to prioritize what those events are and make sure things get put into the budget. One of the things the Mayor realized when doing the State of the City Address, is that almost all of his goals for being an elected official have been accomplished. Mayor Pigatt said that most of it was bringing in a new generation of leadership and making changes to address the four major challenges which have been moving significantly. A large part of that was being very strategic about the budget and priorities and working with the City Manager, Attorney and colleagues to make sure that happened. He wants to make sure that the Commission has a workshop where the Commission can clearly lay out all of the goals and priorities, whether they be public relations, housing, public safety so that all those things are moved forward in the City of Opa-locka. He asked the City Manager and City Clerk when the strategic planning workshop can begin and asked for a good date and time. He further asked who would take the lead on this to really bring out the ideas that the Commission has and put together a plan for the priorities.

City Manager Pate stated that the Mayor can have the City Clerk poll the Commission and call the workshop as he wishes and he will ensure that his staff will be available, based on whatever subject he wants to discuss at that given time. He offered to send out an email to ask about various subjects that each Commissioner wants to discuss and then break it out over the next couple of months based on those themes, to make sure it is organized. He said that he thinks everyone on the Commission has similar wishes. He asked if the Mayor will allow him to work with the City Clerk to poll the commission via email in regards to goals and subjects of discussion and then set dates, which he can get done pretty quickly.

Mayor Pigatt said that is exactly what he would like to see, so that the Commission can plan it out, pull out their ideas and make sure they are structured, so that priorities can be put with budget items and plan out events for the year, and work on the events policy.

City Manager John Pate replied that he understood.

Mayor Pigatt brought to the attention of the Commission that he had just gotten off a call just before coming to the Commission meeting with Vice President Kamala Harris and all the Mayors of the African American Mayors Association where they talked about the COVID vaccine and the plans of the Biden administration to bring those vaccinations to the community in an equitable fashion. He said it was very promising to hear the level of detail in terms of data and the request

to get the vaccine down to the municipal level. Many of the mayors including Mayor Pigatt expressed concerns about the bottleneck of vaccines that happens with the state, and there was discussion of getting as much of that directly to cities and to the communities in different PODS. The Mayor characterized it as a very good conversation, and included an expression by Vice President Harris on the importance of masking up. He went on to say that he is happy to see that the city is leading by example, masking up and even double masking now or using N-95's to reduce the spread. This was, as the Mayor put it, an on the ground call from the very highest up, trying to make sure the message is communicated all the way down on a municipal and residential level. As those conversations continue, the Mayor committed to bring it back to the Commission. From the highest levels all the way down to the municipal level, the Commission is working on trying to get more doses of the vaccine out and put up mobile vaccination sites and PODS throughout our community. He further said he was excited to see the level of work and engagement of all the parties involved in making that happen, and looks forward to more information.

21. OFFICIAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

There were none.

22. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Matthew A. Pigatt
Mayor

Attest:

Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. XX-XXXX

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A CRIME STOPPERS PROGRAM, “NO MORE TRASH”, TO DETER ILLEGAL DUMPING IN THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Opa-Locka (“City”) desires to develop a policy that will help with the existing illegal dumping problem which has plagued the City for some time. This initiative will give the community an incentive to help the City with the problem of illegal dumping; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to engage the general public to provide an open dialogue of information regarding illegal dumping and criminal activity within the City; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City to establish a successful “NO MORE TRASH” Program, which will aim to provide a greater awareness in the community regarding the problem of illegal / open dumping; and

WHEREAS, the program is intended to increase the willingness of community members to take proactive measures to help eliminate illegal / open dumping within the City, improve the quality of life for the community and motivate and improve the relationship between the City and the community-at-large; and

WHEREAS, this City Commission finds it in the best interest of the City to establish an initiative to deter illegal dumping in the City of Opa-Locka.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA LOCKA, FLORIDA:

Section 1. RECITALS ADOPTED.

The recitals to the preamble herein are incorporated by reference.

Section 2. AUTHORIZATION

The City Commission of the City of Opa-Locka hereby directs the City Manager to develop and implement a Crime Stoppers Program, “No More Trash”, to

deter illegal dumping within the City of Opa-Locka.

SECTION 3. SCRIVENER'S ERRORS.

Sections of this Resolution may be renumbered or re-lettered and corrections of typographical errors which do not affect the intent may be authorized by the City Manager, or the City Manager's designee, without need of public hearing, by filing a corrected copy of same with the City Clerk.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption and is subject to the approval of the Governor or his designee.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of February, 2021.

Mayor Matthew A. Pigatt

Attest to:

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

Joanna Flores
City Clerk

Burnadette Norris-Weeks, P.A.
City Attorney

Commissioner Burke
Commissioner Davis
Commissioner Taylor
Vice-Mayor Williams
Mayor Pigatt

_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)
_____ (Yes)	_____ (No)



City of Opa-locka Agenda Cover Memo

Department Director:			Department Director Signature:		
City Manager:	John E. Pate		CM Signature:		
Commission Meeting Date:	02/24/2021	Item Type: (Enter X in box)	Resolution X	Ordinance	Other
Fiscal Impact: (Enter X in box)	Yes	No	Ordinance Reading: (Enter X in box)	1st Reading	
	X				
			Public Hearing: (Enter X in box)	Yes	No
				X	X
Funding Source: Account# :	(Enter Fund & Dept) Ex: 50-534520		Advertising Requirement: (Enter X in box)	Yes	
				No X	
Contract/P.O. Required: (Enter X in box)	Yes	No	RFP/RFQ/Bid#:		
		X			
Strategic Plan Related (Enter X in box)	Yes	No	Strategic Plan Priority Area: Enhance Organizational ☐ Bus. & Economic Dev ☐ Public Safety ☒ Quality of Education ☐ Qual. of Life & City Image ☒ Communication ☐	Strategic Plan Obj./Strategy: (list the specific objective/strategy this item will address)	
	X				
Sponsor Name	Vice Mayor Williams		Department:	City Commission	

Short Title:

A resolution directing the City Manager to develop a Crime Stoppers Program "No More Trash" to deter illegal dumping in the City of Opa-locka.

Staff Summary:

It is in the best interest of the City to develop a policy which will help with the existing problem of illegal dumping which has plagued the City for a while. This initiative will give the community an incentive to help the City with the problem of illegal dumping.

Financial Impact – Budget Amendment #3 will include \$10,000 added to Account 50-534520 – Illegal Dumping Removal Division – Operating Expense.

Proposed Action:

Staff recommends the approval of this legislation and upon adoption staff will implement the policy.

Attachment:

Draft policy

List of illegal dumping areas



CITY OF OPA-LOCKA ILLEGAL DUMPING POLICY

TITLE: Illegal Dumping (NO MORE TRASH)

SECTION 1. THE PROGRAM

“**NO MORE TRASH**” relies on cooperation between the City and the general public to provide an open dialogue of information regarding illegal dumping and criminal activity. Illegal dumping is defined as the unlawful disposal of trash, in an area not designated for such materials, by an individual(s) who is/are not the lawful owner or occupant of the property. It is hereby the intent of the City to establish a successful “**NO MORE TRASH**” program which will aim to provide a greater awareness in the community of the problem with illegal / open dumping, increase the willingness of community members to take proactive measures to help eliminate the illegal / open dumping problem, to improve the quality of life for the community and to motivate and improve relationships between the city and the public at large.

SECTION 2. PROCEDURES

All calls shall be received by the City’s Public Works Illegal Dumping hotline at 305.XXX.XXXX (telephone number to be determined). Upon receiving the report(s) of illegal dumping, the Public Works Department shall complete the tip information form, conduct all necessary initial inquiries, and then process the information to Code Enforcement for follow up action. Callers who attempt to communicate their own criminal acts shall not be considered “**NO MORE TRASH**” tipsters; and will not be eligible for any type of reward from the program.

SECTION 3. SPECIAL MAGISTRATE

All illegal dumping reports will be evaluated by Code Enforcement and forwarded to the Special Magistrate who will further evaluate offense(s), relevant facts from the caller and shall thereafter be based on the totality of the circumstances, determine the amount of a reward to be paid, up to an amount not to exceed \$1,000. Rewards shall then be distributed to the caller in either a private or public manner, depending on the preference of the caller.

SECTION 4. ELIGIBILITY

If a “NO MORE TRASH” tip leads to an arrest and prosecution of an individual involved in an illegal dumping crime, then the provider of said tip may be eligible to receive a cash reward. The reward amounts shall range from \$50 up to \$1,000, depending upon the nature of the crime and the significance of the information provided by the caller which ultimately led to a successful arrest of the violator.

SECTION 5. NON-ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Any person or persons who committed or were otherwise involved in the planning or commission of the crime of illegal dumping or, who at any time, harbored or concealed the person(s) responsible for the illegal dumping shall not be eligible to receive any reward from the “NO MORE TRASH” program.

SECTION 6. EMPLOYEES PROHIBITED FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM

Pursuant to this policy an employee shall not solicit or accept anything of value, including a gift, loan, contribution, reward, or promise of future employment based on an agreement that the vote, official action or judgement of the employee would be influenced thereby;

The following policy shall be applied to all employees and violations thereof shall subject that employee to disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

ILLEGAL DUMPING HOT SPOTS

LOCATION

NOTES

V/L Across from 1851 Ali Baba Ave.
 V/L East of 2070 Ali Baba Ave.
 2141 Ali Baba Ave.
 2152 Ali Baba Ave.
 Burlington St. between 24-25 Avenue
 Burlington St. & 23 Pl.
 V/L Johnson & Washington Ave. (County property)
 V/L next to 2047 Lincoln Ave.
 2100 Lincoln Ave.
 1981 Lincoln Ave.
 1801 Rutland Street
 1960 Rutland Street
 2061 Rutland Street
 21st Block of Rutland
 24 Ave. & Superior St.
 Across from 2307 Superior St.
 Alleyway - 1225-1227 Vermont St.
 V/L next to 2016 Washington Ave.
 2137 Washington Ave.
 Lot next to 2165 Washington Ave.
 1940 Washingron Ave.
 1841 Wilmington St.
 1951 Wilmington St.
 V/L - 2061 Wilmington St.
 Service Rd. between 18 -20 Ave. (swale)
 13911 NW 22 Ave.
 13100 NW 27 Ave. (Rear of Wells Fargo V/L)
 14701 NW 27 Ave. (Old Jackson Hospital)
 2238 NW 136 St.
 2260 NW 136 St. (E. side of swale)
 127th St. W. of Alexander
 130 -131 St. & 30 Avenue (Alleyway)