

CITY OF OPA-LOCKA
"The Great City"

**CLERK'S ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**

**February 24, 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 24, 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: City Manager John E. Pate, Assistant City Manager City George Ellis, Assistant City Attorney Candice Cobbs and City Clerk Joanna Flores.

3. INVOCATION:

The Invocation was delivered by Vice Mayor Veronica Williams.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

5. AWARDS/PROCLAMATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Mayor Pigatt acknowledged Black History Month. As a student of African American history, the Mayor stated that it is very important that the unique history and struggles of people be recognized. He expressed that black history is human and world history, and thus it is very important that everyone learn and understand that history. The Mayor encouraged everyone to take some time during the month to educate and learn about it, by watching documentaries and movies like One Night in Miami and Judas and the Black Messiah. He recognized those on the Commission who have recognized Black History Month and attended events, as an opportunity to understand our heritage.

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

Mayor Pigatt acknowledged the employee of the month, presenting a star of excellence to Officer Ruben Borrero from the Opa-locka Police Department.

Manager Pate expressed that he looks forward to days like this when he can acknowledge wonderful employees of the City that are doing an amazing job. The Manager clarified that Officer Borrero is now a Detective, and shared that he is one of the officers that he connected to when he came to the City and he saw a lot of potential in him. Manager Pate shared that Mr. Borrero came to him and told him he had been here for years and had always wanted to be a detective, but no one was willing to give him a chance to be one. The Manager recalled being new, he was evaluating things and then as time went on, when Miami-Dade County did a report and all of the transitions were done in the Police Department, and there were vacancies in the detective section and Mr. Borrero interviewed, a chance he has been interviewed for over and over again. While he does not say it to many other than his command staff, the Manager shared that Detective Borrero is one of the officers that he is very much impressed with, showing the true professionalism of the City of Opa-locka Police Department and is a symbol of where it is going in the future.

Manager Pate read the narrative to the STAR Award: Detective Borrero was assigned a case in reference to a 76-year-old man that was reported missing. Family members stated that after leaving Opa-locka, the victim advised that he was entering Highway US 27. First, Detective Borrero made contact with numerous jurisdictions to see if any vehicle accidents had been reported, but there were none. That evening, traveling down US 27, Detective Borrero began his search, and eventually arrived at the victim's residence which is located in Clewiston, Florida where there was no sign of the victim. The following morning, Detective Borrero took the same drive and contacted the Palm Beach County Sheriff Department to request a fly-over of US 27 and the local canal banks. While approaching Mile Marker 60, Detective Borrero observed a guard rail broken, and discovered a vehicle grill similar to the victim's vehicle. After once again notifying the Palm Beach Sheriff, a dive team was requested which discovered a vehicle submerged in 18-feet of water. The vehicle that was pulled from the water, had a license plate that matched the victim's vehicle. Sadly, it was discovered that the individual pulled from the submerged vehicle, was the missing person. While the investigation had a tragic end, had it not been for Detective Borrero the victim would not have been located, leaving the family with no closure or peace. Manager Pate shared the Department's commendation of Detective Borrero for his allegiance and exceptional attention to duty, and added that he does not believe any law enforcement agency would have put as much effort in as the Opa-locka Police Department did, including traveling over 60 miles away from the city to retrace the victim's steps. There is no way to know how long the vehicle would have remained submerged if Detective Borrero would not have searched that area. It was discovered that he got into a vehicular accident in the middle of the night, and when his vehicle submerged, he drowned. But his family was able to bury their father and get closure. Detective Borrero demonstrates unusual compassion, commitment and dedication to the citizens of the great city of Opa-locka. Manager Pate thanked Detective Borrero for his service.

On behalf of the Commission, Mayor Pigatt thanked Detective Borrero and his family, as well as all of the officers who go above and beyond the line of duty to bring justice and protect and serve all residents in the community.

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

Vice Mayor Williams pulled agenda item 13-1.

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 ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A NEW OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY BUS ROUTE IN AN AMOUNT OF UP TO TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE DOLLARS (\$225,121.00); AUTHORIZING A FUNDING MATCH FROM THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA FOR THE PROGRAM; FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FORM; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; 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 welfare of the citizens of Opa-locka.

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.

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

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

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

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – April 30, 2020

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Burke to approve the minutes of the Virtual COVID-19 Workshop on April 30, 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

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – June 4, 2020

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the minutes of the Virtual COVID-19 Workshop on June 4, 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

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – June 11, 2020

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the minutes of the Virtual COVID-19 Workshop on June 11, 2020.

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

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – June 18, 2020

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the minutes of the Virtual COVID-19 Workshop on June 18, 2020.

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

Virtual COVID-19 Workshop Minutes – July 2, 2020

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the minutes of the Virtual COVID-19 Workshop on July 2, 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

Four Major Challenges Workshop Minutes – December 9, 2020

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the minutes of the Four Major Challenges Workshop on December 9, 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 Minutes – January 27, 2021

It was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting on January 27, 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

Regular Commission Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2021

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting on January 27, 2021.

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

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

Mayor Pigatt recognized that the Commission had the honor of having Miami-Dade County Commission Vice Chair Oliver Gilbert in person, and thanked him for coming.

Vice Chair Oliver Gilbert, Miami-Dade County Commission, District 1, shared how good it is to be in the City of Opa-locka, acknowledging that while he was the Mayor of Miami Gardens, when he was growing up, everyone thought they lived in Opa-locka. With his father's Church in the City, the Vice Chair said he literally grew up in the City. He reported that he's been having conversations with the Mayor about economic development, and recently spoke with the Chairperson of the CRA. As he has conversations with the Beacon Council, developers, and people who do business at the airport, the main message he is sending to them is that Opa-locka is open for business, and that has to go beyond the airport. The Vice Chair stated that it is unfortunate that the relationship between the airport and the City was changed some years back, but the airport has to be the engine for economic development in the City, and he is committed to bringing resources and opportunities to make that happen. The Vice Chair shared that he sees in Opa-locka a city with extraordinary history and heritage, a city that actually is black history, and understands what it has been historically for Miami-Dade County. It is a City from which great leaders have come in every field, and is a City with leaders that are trying to progress. He encouraged the Commission to keep working hard together, and reminded them that they have a County Commissioner in him who is here to help. The Vice Chair committed to continuously meet with the Mayor, and while having just met the City Manager hopes to get to know him better, and offered to meet with the Commission for their strategic planning sessions. He assured the Commission that he is not going to give them an agenda, but will make their agenda more doable from the perspective of the County. He is looking at the things that the County can do something

about like economic development and outstanding debt, but is also interested in the Commission's ideas. The Vice Chair shared that his office is working with the Parks Department on a program that is completely free thanks to the scholarships obtained, to expose kids in the community to golf. From the Vice Chair's perspective, he expressed that Miami-Dade County is an extraordinary place, and stated that those who live in Opa-locka and the other northern areas of the County, may not know the beauty of the agricultural community down south, or may have never seen the historical areas of Coral Gables, or visited Vizcaya, or seen an opera or play, and may not know the beauty of the County until an opportunity exists and someone exposes them to it and helps them expand their mind, giving them greater opportunities going forward. The Vice Chair asserted that it is the job of leaders like him and the Commissioners to expose kids to those things, and he takes the responsibility seriously, looking forward to doing more of these things as the community transitions from COVID-19. He thanked the Commission on the work they are doing on COVID to help keep the community safe, including helping to bring testing and vaccination sites to Opa-locka. The Vice Chair expressed that technology and location can't be an impediment to getting the community vaccinated, which he is working on with Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and the State, and he looks forward to working with the City of Opa-locka also.

Commissioner Burke thanked Vice Chair Gilbert for gracing the Commission with his blessings in the City and stated that he is welcome any time.

Vice Mayor Williams thanked Vice Chair Gilbert for all that he did to help with the community cleanup, and further thanked him for being a catalyst for change in all of the County. She stated that his voice is always heard and welcomed, and thanked him for gracing the Commission with his presence.

Vice Chair Gilbert thanked Vice Mayor Williams for partnering with him on that, and expressed that he enjoyed it, recalling that a bunch of stuff was cleaned up and joked about Commissioner Taylor's white shirt and shoes. He recalled with the Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commissioners out there, they were all able to clean up the planned park area in about 10 minutes, and then moved on to multiple additional areas, which is evidence of all that can be accomplished if everyone does just a little bit. He stated that he will be back out to do more cleanups and encouraged everyone to come out, but recommended that Commissioner Taylor at least wear a dark colored shirt next time. The Vice Chair also reported that after Mayor Pigatt directed him to the Housing Department and he spoke with them to ensure that there is movement on the project that the County was paying for, and committed to doing his best to putting something there that makes the Commission proud and that the community is happy to have there. He asserted that the only pace in his district is fast, and wants to get these things done now.

Commissioner Davis thanked Vice Chairman Gilbert for coming out in support of the City, and for all of his wise words on economic development. He shared that a CRA Board Meeting was just wrapped up where that was discussed, and he looks forward to the workshop on March 17th to discuss that. He shared that he feels the City is a jewel that is centrally located, with many accomplishments that are being touted by the Mayor. The Commissioner expressed that he looks forward to working with the Vice Chair.

Vice Chair Gilbert stated that he looks forward to it, and that if the Commission is open to it and he is available, he would love to come to the workshop. He said the County has resources related to economic development, including information and talent, not just monetary that he can make available because that should never be the deficit for why something is not moved forward. He urged the Mayor and Commission

to reach out to him, and stated that from his position he sees a Commission eager to transform a community, and it is that unity, vision and solid nature that helps people want to invest in a place. The Vice Mayor expressed the importance of creating an atmosphere of certainty, detailing what land use will be and how businesses are seen, making sure that no is not the default answer for businesses that come before the Commission, but rather how can the Commission make that work. He asserted that ultimately, business will go where business can do business, and creating that environment will transform the tax base and make it possible to provide more services to residents and is something he looks forward to working with the Commission on.

Mayor Pigatt offered much respect to the Vice Chair and thanked him for his presence and leadership. The Mayor acknowledged that it is an honor to have the Vice Chair of the Miami-Dade County Commission in Opa-locka, and recalled that it is not his first time coming. He stated that it is a blessing to have him continually and consistently showing up and answering calls, and said it shows the progress of the City and the County, and how united we will grow into the great City of Opa-locka that it is.

Mayor Pigatt acknowledged that Florida House Representative Dr. James Bush III was joining the meeting via Zoom.

Florida House Representative Dr. James Bush III thanked the Mayor, Commissioners and City Manager for inviting him to speak. The Representative shared that he is delighted to serve the City of Opa-locka, with his roots and commitment going back almost 35 years. He provided an update on the Legislative Session which will begin on the coming Tuesday, March 2nd, requiring that he go to Tallahassee for 60 days to serve 60 days to balance the budget and propose things necessary to bring back dollars for the services that can be provided to the constituents of his district. The Representative committed to working closely on the issues that he filed, including getting money for the Police Department, dealing with the vital infrastructure needs, and other issues that the delegation may have pertaining to Opa-locka. As an update on things that have been worked on in the district recently, Representative Bush shared that an opportunity was provided for 500 residents of Opa-locka to be vaccinated and that he was there along with former Mayor and Commissioner and Pastor of Holy Temple Missionary Baptist Church Joseph L. Kelley. The Representative thanked the City Manager for giving the assistance needed to make sure that was a success. He reported that after speaking with the residents who had received the first vaccine shot, only two or three reported that they had sore arms after the shot, but that none had any major reactions. The Representative confirmed that he is currently working on the second dose of shots and has designated New Fellowship Christian Church under the leadership of Pastors Craig and Jimmy Larkin as the next vaccination site for the Opa-locka area, and that the dates will soon be announced. He also said that he was called into Glorieta Gardens Apartments by a couple of the residents, where there was major flooding. The Representative said that he worked with the City Manager as well as the owners and managers of Glorieta Gardens to assist the families that had been flooded out on the first floor and were able to put them into two different hotels in Doral. Since then, the Representative has had meetings every two weeks to get an update, and he told the Commission that things are moving along very smoothly. The major flooding made it possible to find out the major things that needed to be done. The Representative explained that the owners of Glorieta Gardens had their own independent people go in and do an assessment, which will provide a report with their findings. He added that a 13 inch line that caused a lot of the problems was cleaned out by the owners. The Representative assured the Commission that he is working together with the City Manager's Office and the management at Glorietta Gardens to come to an agreement and resolution so that the citizenry can

live in a decent and safe environment. He commended the Commission for working together, and Vice Chair Gilbert for the things he has planned from the County level. He committed to continue working with the delegation and leadership in Tallahassee as he begins his 13th year in the Florida House of Representatives. The Representative expressed that he believes this year they will be able to get some things done for the City of Opa-locka and asked for prayers as he attempts to do that.

Commissioner Davis thanked Representative Bush for all that he does for the community, including for the most recent work he has done at Glorietta Gardens, which is a community that has had long standing issues. On behalf of the Commission, the Commissioner thanked the Representative for lending a hand.

City Manager Pate thanked Representative Bush for his counsel, support and his great mediation between the City of Opa-locka and the management at Glorietta Gardens, helping to make headway on some issues. While there are still some issues to discuss and go through, the Manager expressed that he believes it will be beneficial for all to keep an open dialogue, with the leadership of the Representative during those bi-weekly meetings, until a final resolution is reached.

Representative Bush stated that the City Manager has made it very easy and that he is very impressed with him and believes with his leadership, the City will move to the level needed and get the kind of results needed from Glorietta. He thanked the Manager for what he does.

Mayor Pigatt expressed that it is an honor to have him serving and representing Opa-locka for 13 years in the state. The Mayor added that the Representative's veteran leadership is needed to ensure that the City of Opa-locka gets the appropriate appropriations, to ensure that it continues to develop. He echoed the statements of Commissioner Davis, stating that the Representative has been very consistent in his responsiveness to residents, showing the support Opa-locka has at all levels of government. The Mayor reported that the support includes the federal level, as Representative Bush was on a call with Congresswoman Frederica Wilson about another property that is moving the needle. He acknowledged that many of the issues that have been long standing challenges in the City of Opa-locka are being addressed because of the collective and united effort of all those who are serving Opa-locka, and recognized that Representative Bush's leadership shines in that regard. The Mayor thanked Representative Bush for taking the time to present to the Commission, and for his representation of the City.

Representative Bush thanked Mayor Pigatt for giving him the opportunity, and stated that he would be remiss if he did not say how much he is appreciated too, stating that every team needs a quarterback. The Representative recalled having quarterbacked for Miami Northwestern Senior High School in 1972, and said that you can't run a play unless you have a quarterback to take the snap, and he appreciates Mayor taking the snap and doing what is necessary to run the plays. He added that he believes that if the Commission continues to do what it is doing and work together, the City will not only achieve the economic development that Vice Chair Gilbert talked about, but Opa-locka will be the premier city that every other city can emulate. The Representative also reported that he has been in contact with the Governor's office as well as the departments that need to be talked to about the things he discussed with the Mayor. He shared that he submitted a letter to the Governor and the United States Senator for this area, to which he hopes to receive a response very soon, and committed to coming back and making a report when he gets an answer.

10. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

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

Opa-locka Community Development Corporation Chief Operations Officer Nikisha Williams joined the meeting by Zoom to share her report on the work that they are doing and the partnerships that they are pursuing to support the residents of the City of Opa-locka, and how they are working with the City.

Mayor Pigatt thanked Ms. Williams for coming to the Commission meeting and reported that he had a meeting with the Opa-locka CDC a few weeks ago and was very impressed with the amount of information on the services they provide to residents. The Mayor said he wants to make sure that everyone knows them as a resource for funding and care and all the things they provide as partners with the City. He encouraged all nonprofits that have services that serve Opa-locka, to come to the Commission meetings to let the residents know about the opportunities available, so that they can see that there are wrap-around services all across Opa-locka to help with almost everything that they need. The Mayor thanked Ms. Williams for her leadership at the Opa-locka CDC and for taking the time to present about their services to the Commission and the community.

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:

Michele Henney of 10640 Paris Street, Cooper City, Florida 33026 - Geraldine Lazarre, owner of Trimerge Consulting began consulting with the City of Opa-locka in mid 2017. The City of Opa-locka remains 2 years behind in financial audits. We are in February 2021 and the 2019 audit has not been completed. Based on my extensive knowledge of the City's financial records and the nuances of the software and manual systems and records, if the auditors started the audit tomorrow, you would not have your 2019 CAFR until May or June 2021, and that is being very ambitious. As of September 30, 2021, the City will again have 2 audits outstanding, years 2020 and 2021. With the "ever revolving" door of staff in the Finance Department under the direction of Lazarre, it can be safe to say that the City may, in fact, never get caught up. However, the City would have paid Geraldine Lazarre and Trimerge a tremendous amount of money for the effort. While I was an employee of the City, I would sit in my office countless times and wonder, am I the only one who sees what is going on? The City is losing staff left, right and center, there is no real effort to hire a Finance Director, and Geraldine Lazarre is billing the City \$139 per hour, almost for 40 hours a week consistently (\$300,000 a year). If you look at her bills, a lot of her tasks are not valued at \$139 per hour. It would bother me that this Consultant is billing all this money to a poor, Black City while treating the City's employees terribly, all while the City Manager and the Assistant City Manager watched...and apparently the Commission as well. All complicit. How many programs could the City have funded for children and seniors if they had listened to the

complaints of the employees in the Finance Department, and did the right thing by hiring a Finance Director and other staff 2 years ago? It will just be a matter of time before the State of Florida starts to wonder, "How is it that the City of Opa-locka keeps requesting deadline extensions and they keep paying all this money to Geraldine Lazarre of Trimerge?" The residents of the City of Opa-locka need to wake up. You are all being taken for a very expensive ride. Geraldine Lazarre complains about the City being short staffed in the Finance Department, when she is the reason, the common denominator. The City has backed itself into a corner by allowing this Consultant to take hold while basically trying to make herself indispensable. If the City's management knew what they were doing, they would not have let this happen, all at the expense of the taxpayers.

Marrilyn Chang of 16319 NW 17 Court, Pembroke Pines, Florida 33028 - I worked for the City for 13 years with the last seven years in the Finance department. I abruptly resigned last August immediately after what I considered, among many other complaints, an unfair performance evaluation which was conducted by Geraldine Lazarre in the presence of a very loud and verbally abusive George Ellis, Assistant City Manager. Interestingly enough, the assistant city manager was present at only two finance staff performance evaluations, not all. However, I was not the only one. Ms. Lazarre also gave mediocre evaluations to two other Finance staff members who have also resigned. They too worked long and exhausting hours to complete the 2018 audit, and were also promised comp hours which were never received. We worked every weekday and on weekends even during the time when the city was completely closed to the public due to Covid-19. It is interesting to note that our work performance was not in question prior to the evaluations, and was not good enough after the audit was completed and issued. The commission does not need more warnings about the completion of the audits and the urgent need for a finance director. I know how much work needs to be done to complete the audits (a large portion being manually), and in my humble opinion, there is no way they can be done on time. It was consistent, non-stop hard work when staff was available, so I cannot imagine what is going to happen now without adequate staff. Additionally, when Trimerge Consulting Group was contracted with the city in 2017, a major part of the scope of work as outlined in the contract was that Trimerge Consultants would take care of the fixed asset/inventory issues. This was never done and now the city has to outsource this service four years later and with over a million dollars already spent on consultant fees. Finally, management is using the services of an independent contractor who, in the performance of her duties, utilizes your office and equipment, has access to your bank accounts to make payments and conduct other business transactions. She also supervises staff, and has 100% of her work controlled by management. A few years ago the city reclassified the working status of the building inspectors who were initially on board as independent contractors. Ms. Lazarre will be able to provide additional information. Thank you for your time.

Carlos Martinez Pena of 2523 Opa-locka Blvd. Apt 134 Opa-locka FL 33054 - Good afternoon. I am a reporter from South Florida Media Network and I am writing an article about the distribution of vaccines for COVID-19 in the area of Opa-locka. 1st question I would like to know why by the end of January in Opa-locka only 2% of the senior population was vaccinated, unlike other

wealthier ZIP codes where almost 50% of the population were vaccinated. (Example: Fisher Island) 2nd question, what are you doing in order to accelerate the process of providing more vaccines to the senior population?

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

David Sutton of 2375 Superior Street, Opa-locka, FL 33054 - Mr. Sutton stated that he works for the City of Miami Gardens and called on the Commission and City Manager to document the things that are getting done as Miami Gardens does. He shared that the canal near Nathan B Young School needs to be cleaned, that the intersection near his home needs to have the trees cut or a 4-way stop installed because of all of the accidents that occur, and that despite some of the road work he has seen, there are pot holes in his area. Mr. Sutton expressed that while he hears about the police, crime is going to happen and called on the Commission to enact change. He added that he helped get many people to vote for Commissioner Taylor, but is not seeing anything going on. In comparing Miami Gardens to Opa-locka, Mr. Sutton stated the city he works for is moving things when they need to be moved, and that Opa-locka needs more public workers because he doesn't understand how you run a city with so few people, which he expressed he feels is the responsibility of the City Manager and his assistant. He concluded his remarks stating that he believed that his theory is that the Commission is going to let Miami-Dade County take the city right from under them, and left it at that until the next meeting.

Dawn Mangum of 1105 Sharar Avenue, Opa-locka, FL 33054 – Ms. Mangum lended her support, acknowledging that being on the Commission is often a thankless position. She stated that the change that others speak about, comes incrementally, but that she is seeing change they are working towards, expressing as a citizen that she appreciates having spoken to many of the Commissioners from her porch. As a resident for 40 years, she recalled that many have fleeced the city with promises of change that never happened. Knowing what the City was and what it can be, she thanked the Commission for standing in the fight despite the criticisms they come up against. In order to make sure the City progresses, Ms. Mangum shared that she volunteers for the City and is part of one of the boards, and once again thanked the Commission for giving their time, talent and treasure to make sure the City moves forward.

Adrian Wight of 1100 Sharar Avenue, Opa-locka, FL 33054 - Ms. White offered encouragement to the Commission despite the negativity and disparaging comments, as someone who grew up in Opa-locka over 40 years, living one street away from Vice Mayor Williams, recalling having played with her as kids, and loves Opa-locka as the Vice Mayor does. Ms. White said she is at the meeting to back the Commission because she knows they are going to do great things for the City. She expressed that the residents expect that the Commission will represent them with everything they have, and will make sure that they are accountable. Ms. White expressed wanting to volunteer and doing as much as she can to be of service. She expressed that she knows the Commission has

lots of ideas, and added that new voices and ideas are needed to bring the City to where it used to be, and urged the Commission to keep fighting on.

Mr. Brian Dennis asked the Commission for three extra minutes which the Mayor and Commissioners granted. Mr. Dennis addressed the Opa-locka CDC issue with respect to the \$300,000 that is owed in rent by Mr. Willie Logan. He stated that the Opa-locka CDC is receiving millions of dollars through all of the programs they have run for many years, and because Mr. Logan donates to many of the Commissioners' campaigns, they have to decide if they work for the City of Opa-locka or Mr. Logan. In his closing, Mr. Dennis urged the Commission to not make the news by giving away the \$300,000 that is owed to the City.

Dottie Johnson of 137 East Superior Street - Ms. Johnson asked for a copy of the CRA bylaws and annual report, noting that since the Commission has existed the board of the CRA has not changed. She lauded the excellent choice for the Chief of the Police Department, and suggested that he should be given a chance to do some of his initiatives. Ms. Johnson stated that from time to time it appears there is a strong mayor, and that the charter states the role of the Mayor is to preside over the meeting, but some of the speakers always allude to the Mayor, and Ms. Johnson asked what about the rest of the Commissioners, whether they cheated to get in or not. She asserted that what happened in 2018 and 2020 is not going to happen in 2022, and that a report card is being created including the promises made during debates. Ms. Johnson pointed out that the City of Opa-locka has nothing to do with the Opa-locka airport, and that several businesses that are in zip codes that do not belong to Opa-locka are being listed as being in the City, but she has done probing and investigations to get them to no longer be listed as being in Opa-locka. Ms. Johnson ended stating that you can fool some of the people some of the time, but not all of the people all of the time.

Natasha Ervin of 670 Dunad Avenue, Opa-locka, FL 33054 - Ms. Ervin thanked City Manager Pate for showing her that citizens matter. She appreciated being invited to meet the new Chief, who she expressed that she loves already and acknowledged that he and the community are ready to work with each other. As a resident who pays a lot of taxes in the City on her commercial property and her residence and acknowledges those need to be paid, but expressed she doesn't like that her taxes have to go up when there is a company that is making money that owes the City money that it needs. Ms. Ervin expressed that the money owed needs to be pursued, and that the City needs to stop those who are looking for something for free. She urged the Commission to look at the situation with signage, and the reality that many business owners are not getting new signage because it is expensive. After sharing that she grew up in Opa-locka since 1975 and stating that Downtown Opa-locka is dead, she said that she would love to talk about bringing Opa-locka alive once a month by doing something fun that allows residents to come out and enjoy themselves, and offered the example of Wynwood being brought to life. With the new Police Department, the police can protect the residents as they enjoy themselves in the City.

Lamar Cruse of 13831 NW 24th Avenue, Opa-locka, FL 33054 - Mr. Cruse urged the Commission to hire people from inside the City as opposed to from outside of the City. He said he spoke with Ms. Johnson about the issues on Superior street with the need to cut the trees and install speed bumps to help prevent all of the accidents, and that he would be willing to invest into the community to help solve these problems, as well as hire some kids to help clean up Opa-locka over the summer. Mr. Cruse expressed that before the current Commission was elected, money that was paid to outside groups was being lost, and change is now expected. He concluded his comments urging the Commission to put their foot forward on something.

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

Commissioner Taylor stated that he has also heard from many citizens complaining about the trees and old stop sign on Superior, and asked if it is something that can be looked into.

City Manager Pate stated that tomorrow he will have the Police Department and Public Works Department evaluate the area for possible safety issues regarding speed bumps and overgrown trees covering stop signs.

Commissioner Taylor asked whether or not the City cleans the canal.

City Manager Pate explained that while it is the responsibility of the County, they are stating that with their employees working from home the County has been unable to provide an estimated time to get it done. At this point, the Manager stated that the City is going to hire a private contractor and then will try to work with Vice Chair Gilbert to get reimbursed.

Commissioner Taylor asked if the bare minimum of clearing up the outside banks of the canal can get done.

City Manager Pate stated that it would have to be done through an outside vendor because of the safety and liability issues involved with sending untrained staff who could slip on the edge of the canal into the water.

Vice Mayor Williams stated that while she understood the issue with the canal, she asked the City Manager what can be done to get the projects with the trees and traffic moved along, in consideration that they are issues that have been mentioned for years.

City Manager Pate asked Public Works Director Airia Austin to answer the questions.

Director Austin explained that his department normally rents tree trimming equipment, but are in the process of purchasing the equipment so that tree trimming can be scheduled on a recurring basis contingent on obtaining labor forces beyond the five individuals who currently spend most of their time maintaining medians and parks. By ordinance, the contract for maintenance of the canal was awarded to Miami-Dade County because they do not have the manpower nor the

properly trained staff to clean an area next to a body of water. The opportunity to cancel the contract or re-bidding the services for a local contractor is being explored. The Director offered to answer any other questions the Commission had.

City Manager Pate added that various outside agencies are being worked with to bring in qualified temporary workers through temp to hire positions to transition them into the department. He explained that due to COVID-19, staffing levels have gone up and down in the department. The Manager confirmed that Director Austin had raised those concerns and is aware of the initiatives to address the manpower issue.

Commissioner Taylor asked Director Austin if there is a timeline for purchasing the tree trimming equipment.

Director Austin stated that his department will address the concerns with the stop sign tomorrow, but for the city-wide tree trimming effort, he anticipates a timeline of three months.

Mayor Pigatt said to Director Austin that since he has been on the dais, the tree trimming has been a constant thing that has been brought up. The Mayor recalled that the beautification plan that was submitted last year, detailed the schedule for tree trimming and maintenance, and asked if the department has gotten off of the plan and if so, why.

Director Austin said that his department has gotten off of the plan due to manpower issues, which are preventing them from addressing both the median maintenance and tree trimming.

Mayor Pigatt asked City Manager Pate if there is a plan in place to fix the employment issues as well as the funding issues that can be put before the Commission so that they can include it in their plans.

City Manager Pate assured that the employment matters are being addressed with temp to hire workers from South Florida Workforce, including at least two in the past month who have been approved. The Manager acknowledged that part of the problem is the pay, so he has gone over the pay plan with Human Resources Director Kierra Ward, to bring it before the Commission within the next month. He added that he needs to work with Budget Director Robert Anathan to incrementally deal with the pay plan in a way that is fair to everyone involved and not put a huge dent in the budget. With regards to the beautification plan, the City Manager confirmed that he, the Budget Director and the Public Works Director had put a section of money to the side for it, and it just needs to be pushed forward if enough staff becomes available. While he did not know the exact number, he asked Legislative Aide Randy Grice to write that down, so that the Mayor can be provided that number.

Vice Mayor Williams expressed that residents must see the work being done, otherwise you get the recurring theme from today's meeting where the Commission will be judged by one tree not

being trimmed. While those on the dais know the great work that is being done, the Vice Mayor acknowledged that those who are not as engaged don't know that, and that as the great mountains are being worked on, the grass in the valley is also trimmed. In recognition of Black History Month, the Vice Mayor quoted First Lady Michelle Obama, stating "When they go low, we stay high."

Commissioner Burke acknowledged the trees and streets being addressed, but that no one has said anything about the \$300,000 that residents spoke about. The Commissioner asked how it happened and what is being done about it. He recalled that this is the kind of stuff that went on in the last administration, and this Commission ran on change, committing to no longer having friends and family discounts. He added that if he had known that this money was owed, he would not have voted to raise taxes. In recognition that the Commission hired a certified City Manager, he can't sit there knowing that no action has been taken when someone owes the City that kind of money. Noting that with each passing day, the amount owed grows, the Commissioner urged the Manager to either start getting the money back or start eviction procedures immediately and urged the Commission to do its job.

City Manager Pate thanked Commissioner Burke for sharing his concerns. The Manager stated that one of his goals when he began as City Manager, was to look into all the liabilities the City had. He reminded the Commission that every budget year, Town Center One which is the Opa-locka City Hall, has been losing money as far as rent owed to the City. Initial discussions were started last year with Opa-locka CDC in an attempt to resolve the matter. While somewhat of a solution had been reached, some issues arose and then legislation was drafted to go on the agenda when issues came up about not having a property manager to evaluate all of the leases. An RFP that should have been released already, addressed the need for a property manager and upon a request for clarification, the Manager pulled the item from the agenda to make sure all of the concerns were addressed. The Manager shared that he is supposed to have a meeting with the Chief Operations Manager next week to see if there can be a resolution to the matter, and at that point he will make a recommendation to the Commission through the City Attorney about legal action. In hopes that one last mediation effort can work, the Manager would like to try and avoid destroying the relationships that the Opa-locka CDC has built over the long period of time they have been working with the City, or cause a war with the Opa-locka CDC, and upon that concluding, he committed to providing his recommendation.

Commissioner Burke reminded City Manager Pate that he has been here for a while and is not trying to start a war between the City of Opa-locka and the Opa-locka CDC, but business is business. Acknowledging that \$300,000 is not a little bit of money, and represents the salary of several employees and three more police officers. The Commissioner said a timeline is needed on this, and that he does not want this to linger for another year. If the Manager is not able to reach an agreement with them, the Commissioner asserted that he needed to turn it over to the City Attorney.

Commissioner Davis addressed the elephant in the room, as the person who can speak about Opa-locka CDC better than anyone, after having worked there for several years and providing several services through community initiatives. The Commissioner assured the Commission that he would never support an organization that wasn't in the best interest of the community, and he can attest first-hand to the benefits that the Opa-locka CDC has provided over the years. He understands that they have issues paying their bills and that the City and the Manager have taken an official position on that matter, and asserted that he would never support the City granting leeway to an organization and them not paying their fair share. He added that he doesn't believe it is an issue for the Commission to pick up, as there is not a strong mayor or political body form of government. As recognized by the Commissioner, the Manager has taken his position and this should be left in his hands.

Vice Mayor Williams addressed Ms. Natasha Ervin's comments about the revitalization of Downtown Opa-locka and expressed that she wholeheartedly agrees with her. The Vice Mayor shared that she mentioned it the other day in a meeting, and added that soon her wish will be granted when she sees outdoor exposure with pop-up shops and different things happening to engage the citizens in Downtown Opa-locka. She is excited to see the process moving forward to work with Ms. Ervin and the board to make it happen.

Mayor Pigatt expressed that he was glad that the City Manager responded to the issue with the trees and looks forward to seeing the beautification plan. He asked the Manager to forward the Commission a memo to detail the challenges with the cleaning of the canal, so that they can contact the appropriate elected officials and do their job as the elected officials and represent the City. As it relates to the amount of money owed to the City, the Mayor stated that Commissioner Davis stated it right, that it is not a political issue or Commission issue, and is squarely a City Manager responsibility, and they want to be sure that he does what he was brought to do and not let something like that even have the assumption that there is anything that has to do with politics. The Mayor asserted that all of the many debts and liabilities the City of Opa-locka has must be addressed, to be sure that taxpayer dollars are utilized and those that owe the city are properly addressed. He asked for an update, while acknowledging that the issue with Town Center One has been something he has seen on the dais for many years. Recalling that the Operational Audit recommended to get a property manager which was passed through legislation a few weeks ago. The Mayor asked when the RFP is closing and when it will be in place, so that this issue can be put to bed.

City Manager Pate shared his appreciation for the comments made by Commissioner Davis and Mayor Pigatt. In clarification to everyone on the dais, he stated that in his time as Manager he has never stated to any Commissioner or any resident that this is a political issue or that he feels pressure from someone on the Commission to not take action, and it is something the Manager said manifested because of the history of the City. The Manager went on to describe the situation expressing that Opa-locka CDC does a lot for the City, discussions were had with them about 3-4

months ago in regards to resolving it and then other things happened. He further recalled that he discussed it with the Mayor when he called, there were issues with the property manager and leases not being uniform, then there was an agenda briefing about six months ago to discuss amending their rental agreement and the Manager personally pulled it. The Manager offered assurances that the item was not pulled based on anything that any of the Commissioners said, and that he was trying to maintain a relationship with Opa-locka CDC based on everything they have done for the City. In addition, he explained that he was trying to collect the funds, and that there is a dispute of facts in regards to the lease, square footage, maintenance and repairs. The Manager shared that though they did not get City approval, with no record of permits or itemized billing, he had offered that the City would be willing to offer a credit for the improvements they made to the building. As a result, it is not just \$300,000 owed, but rather there are a multitude of issues going on. As noted by the Manager, the key is that it has been brought up on the dais and conversations are going to be had next week. If the point is reached where conversations are futile or break down, the Manager committed to seeking the assistance of the City Attorney to file litigation. He advised that such a decision would be made by next Friday and advised that the Commission will get a formal memorandum via email with a formal update. The Manager clarified once again that it has never come out of the City Manager's mouth that no one on the dais stopped him from doing his job, and that while they may agree to disagree, the Commission always lets him do his job. He went on to address the finance fiasco and the comments being made about the Finance Department. The Manager recalled sitting there hearing those comments being made at several meetings, while he sat silent allowing the comments to be made. He reminded the public that the City is under financial emergency, under oversight by the State of Florida, and Ms. Gerri Lazarre's bills, contract and performance are reviewed by the state of Florida, in addition to weekly meetings every Friday with the State of Florida and Ms. Lazarre, the City Manager, the Assistant City Manager and the Budget Director. To keep hearing the comments about Ms. Lazarre is getting ridiculous, and in recognizing that Assistant City Manager George Ellis is being used as the heavy because he assists the Manager with the day-to-day by attending the staff meetings, the Manager said enough is enough. He thanked the employees for their service to the City and shared that he appreciates them sincerely, but asked when this stops. The Manager reported that he is in conversations with the State about doing a national search for a Finance Department Director, and added that no one in South Florida wants the job because they don't want to put their CPA at risk with the City being under financial emergency, and those that are willing to do it want \$200,000 a year. He said to trust him that Ms. Lazarre is tired of being beat up and wants to transition to a Finance Director, a sentiment she has expressed openly in meetings and to the Manager directly. The Manager asserted that she is not exploiting the City or taking the City's money. He stated that all of the rhetoric at every single Commission meeting is discouraging the staff, and is causing them to have thought processes about Ms. Lazarre that are false in nature. The Manager asserted that if you are upset with the City and feel you have a claim, then you should do what you have to do and seek out the appropriate authority including the EEOC or the possibility of filing a lawsuit, but he asked for all the talking to stop.

Vice Mayor Williams expressed that she wholeheartedly agrees with the City Manager and asked if it would be possible to issue a cease and desist letter. She offered kudos to Ms. Lazarre for continuing to take the beating she takes every Commission meeting, and shared that she knows how she feels. Continuing to do the great work she is doing in the Finance Department, is a testament to her character even though conspiracy theories continue to fly around every Commission meeting about her and others. The Vice Mayor wishes that a cease and desist letter can be done.

Commissioner Burke asked to be recognized.

Mayor Pigatt stated that the Commission needed to get to the business of the meeting.

Commissioner Burke agreed.

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*

The above resolution was read by Assistant Attorney Candice Cobbs.

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

Clerk Flores provided a substitute item.

Commissioner Burke and Commissioner Taylor recalled their motions.

Assistant Attorney Candice Cobbs read the substitute item into the record.

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, "OPA-LOCKA, KEEP IT CLEAN", 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*

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

Mayor Pigatt asked Vice Mayor Williams to introduce the item.

Vice Mayor Williams thanked Mr. Austin, the City Manager's Office, Ms. Lawson and Ms. Flores for continuing to work with her as the item is moved. It is near and dear to her heart, because having been born and raised in Opa-locka, she recognized that dumping has always been an issue. She stated that if the Commission is going to talk about beautification projects, this is one where they need to take the bull by the horns. The item is asking for the community's assistance if they see a perpetrator dumping in the city, and the perpetrator is prosecuted, through some steps connected to the resolution, there is a possibility for a reward, which makes it like a Crime Stoppers program. The Vice Mayor asked for feedback on the item from the Commission because she doesn't want it to just be her vision, and wants to make the resolution better.

Commissioner Davis thanked Vice Mayor Williams for sponsoring the item, after it was recommended by the City Manager's Office. He acknowledged that the eye sore of illegal dumping has been an issue for some time. The Commissioner said that he likes the program, and asserted that a strong message must be sent to the community and those perpetrators who violate the City's code by dumping in the community. He shared that he has two illegal dumping signs to deter perpetrators in the perimeter of his home. The Commissioner did acknowledge that it was a really big problem at first, but he can see the curbing of illegal dumping thanks to the signage from the Code Enforcement Department, and suggested the Mayor may be able to attest to that. While he expressed that the allocation of \$10,000 to run the program is not a lot of money and acknowledged that the program was recommended through the City Manager's Office, with an understanding that there are a fixed amount of resources, and given the crime issues that have been experienced recently, he would rather see a more comprehensive program to address violence and public safety issues. The Commissioner added that if he is going to support an item that is \$10,000 in the middle of a public safety crisis, he wants to be sure that there is more money in the budget, and suggested that the item could be proffered under future agenda items to get a consensus. For the Commissioner, the priority is public safety as opposed to illegal dumping. He shared that he recently did some work to his home and had to put out wood in front of his yard, and Miami-Dade County was out the next day with a fine and notice. The Commissioner asserted that he is not opposed to the item, but wants to be sure if it is supported tonight, that there is money available to address the crime and violence issues.

Commissioner Burke acknowledged that illegal dumping has been a problem in the City for years. He thought that the City had an illegal dumping policy, but when he checked with City Clerk Flores, she couldn't find one. The Commissioner thanked the Vice Mayor for having this vision. He shared that this morning he saw what looked like someone had dumped all of the tiles from an entirely torn up bathroom on the service road near 37th Avenue. As a supporter of the item who thinks it is needed, he suggested that the Commission may have to go further than this, and install some cameras for it to be extremely successful, because there are still a lot of people in the city

who don't want to get involved even despite the money incentive. The Commissioner once again thanked the Vice Mayor for her good vision.\

Commissioner Taylor expressed that he loves the idea and supports it, but has to agree with Commissioner Davis about whether or not the City is financially stable enough to handle this at this present moment. In consideration that in this climate \$10,000 is a lot of money, the Commissioner asked the City Manager if he can offer assurances on that.

Mayor Pigatt stated that one of the responsibilities of the City Manager is to provide a cover memo and a financial analysis on the impact of all legislation, but he does not see that on this item and asked where that analysis is.

City Manager Pate stated that he had no idea, and was pretty sure that he saw one and signed it, but acknowledged that it could have been an error of his office. He recalled that there were some changes in language, and some back and forth, and that the Vice Mayor was at one point going to defer the item to make additional changes. The Manager apologized and affirmed that this was not customary for him, and he will find out where the breakdown was. To ease everyone's conscience, the Manager shared that the Vice Mayor met with Budget Administrator Robert Anathan, Public Works Director Airia Austin, Ms. Lawson, and Assistant City Manager George Ellis on Zoom to go over the program, and the Budget Director did set aside \$10,000 for the program, which is fully funded.

Clerk Flores stated that while this is a substitute item, in the agenda package there is a cover memo with the \$10,000 that the Manager spoke of.

Mayor Pigatt said he did not bring his agenda, but took a look at it.

Vice Mayor Williams clarified that it is her intent to defer the item, not to vote on the item, but to discuss it to make it crystal clear and succinct. She thanked the Commission for their comments, because what she wanted was that it be discussed and get more input to make it the best possible agenda item.

Public Works Director Airia Austin explained that the \$10,000 being proffered for the program will be taken out of the solid waste collection fund that is used for payment of illegal dumping and things like that.

Mayor Pigatt thanked Director Austin for bringing clarity to the discussion, and if the item will be deferred, he wants to be sure that the information provided by Mr. Austin, clearly explaining that the funding being taken from something else within the memo. The Mayor thanked the Vice Mayor for bringing the idea to the Commission, and recognized it as another step in the beautification of the City. He acknowledged, as Commissioner Davis did, that progress has been made, and recalled having made getting the trash picked up on time one of his goals. The Mayor

shared that after having some issues with Miami-Dade County, the City was able to get them to have a Code Enforcement Officer specifically for the Opa-locka area, which is why Commissioner Davis learned how quickly they fine people, but there are limitations to that and is dependent on the area where the dumping occurs. With the additional layer of protection that this program provides, the Mayor acknowledged that the City can't have eyes everywhere, and thus the City should engage and incentivize residents to help. He asked if the hotline will be combined with the SeeClickFix app, and that a public relations campaign is included. The Mayor asked that if there is any cost associated with that, it should be included in the legislation so that the Commission can make sure it is funded and will be executed when the Commission passes it. He asked the City Manager to address those concerns.

City Manager Pate stated that the IT Department has assured him the hotline will be fully active at the time of activation of the legislation. He reported that SeeClickFix is being finalized to be up and running, and just had some design issues resolved which includes the app design done by PR Consultant Jessica Modkins. An issue with the Apple Development Agreement is being taken care of by IT Department Director Nelson Rodriguez. The Manager confirmed that SeeClickFix will be a reality soon. If it is the Commission's will, the Manager stated that this will be sent to Ms. Modkins to make sure there is an appropriate marketing campaign, overseen by the sponsor Vice Mayor Williams and the City Manager, to make sure it is successful.

Mayor Pigatt recalled that one of the concerns that has been raised quite a bit over the past few years is having different numbers, and that the foundation for the call center was having one number that citizens can call at all times and get directed to the appropriate personnel, with SeeClickFix being the app integration for it. The Mayor asserted that he wants to make sure it is all interlocked and reflected in the policy, so that it can be successful.

City Manager Pate assured the Mayor that he will work with IT Director Rodriguez to address those technical issues, and will work through the workflow so that they don't have to wait for prompts, which many already don't wait for, but committed to figuring it out.

Mayor Pigatt thanked the Manager and asked him to figure it out and put it into legislation, so the Commission can pass it. The Mayor then asked if the Vice Mayor would like to defer the item.

Vice Mayor Williams confirmed that she wanted to defer the item, adding her thanks to all of the Commissioners. She stated that she does not have a timeline, but that when the Commission passes it, they will know that it is a solid plan and that it will spiral with other things they plan to do including the beautification project.

Mayor Pigatt confirmed the item was deferred.

14. NEW ITEMS:

- 1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A NEW OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY BUS ROUTE IN AN AMOUNT OF UP TO TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE DOLLARS (\$225,121.00); AUTHORIZING A FUNDING MATCH FROM THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA FOR THE PROGRAM; FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FORM; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**
Sponsored by City Manager

The above resolution was read by Assistant Attorney Candice Cobbs.

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

Mayor Pigatt asked City Manager Pate to introduce the item.

City Manager Pate stated that this is a transportation grant for the second bus route. Based on the Commission's will to open up the second bus route, the City diligently looked for and located funding. The Manager asked Budget Administrator Robert Anathan to come on the line to explain where the funding was found, and what the plan is for the next three years.

Budget Administrator Robert Anathan began with an administrative point explaining that the title he just heard that the grant is \$225,000, but the supporting documentation indicated that it is \$255,000 and he wanted to bring it up now in case it could create problems as the Commission moves forward on this. Administrator Anathan stated that the one bus route the City currently offers is funded by the Citizens Independent Transportation Trust, also known as CITT which is a County program to improve bus transportation. Right now the City is paying about \$210,000 a year to operate that bus route. The original estimate for a second bus route is \$510,000 which could be lower. At the moment, the grant is a one-year grant, and while it has not yet been confirmed, it is believed to be a 3-year grant. When this item came up before the Commission on January 13th it was recommended to not be accepted because accepting a grant that could be \$255,000 for three years meant that the City would have to come up with \$765,000 in matching funds. The Administrator explained that he was not as familiar with the CITT at the time, which does offer options. He reminded the Commission that the City gets money from CITT after successful audits, and reported that there was a successful audit for FY 2018 that was completed in the last couple of months as indicated by the Interim Finance Director and released \$261,000 which are unbudgeted funds. The issue becomes that money can't be used for the first-year match, and would have to get into the second and third year. The completed audit revealed that there are an additional \$469,000 that have been reserved for the City for future bus transportation. The Administrator detailed the math, explaining that CITT is distributing around \$750,000 a year to the City, \$150,000 is targeted for the bus transportation and the other \$600,000 is targeted for roadway and sidewalk improvements. He explained that \$150,000 is targeted for use, the City is spending

\$210,000 leaving a surplus of \$469,000 that can be used to fund future bus operations. If the city remains with only one bus, the City will run a deficit on average of \$60,000 per year, and the \$469,000 that is available will last until about FY 2026. What is being proposed is to use \$250,000 for the second year match, which would also wipe out the surplus. In the third year, the City would then have to fund the \$60,000 deficit from the first route and also the \$255,000 match from the second route for a total of a little over \$300,000. Staff recommendation is that by FY 2023, the road and sidewalk restoration will be at a point where it is going to be less necessary to pour so much money into it, thus the recommendation from the Administrator is to reprogram about \$310,000 from what would otherwise be for roadway and sidewalk improvements, and use it for the third year match. As the Administrator explained, those \$310,000 would be equivalent to resurfacing about two and a half miles of a two lane road. The Administrator advised that all of the numbers are based on assumptions, and explained that should those assumptions change, then the second bus route would have to be re-visited. He concluded with his assertion that this would be an appropriate trade-off and hoped what he explained was not too confusing and offered to answer any questions.

City Manager Pate stated that his office fully recommends Administrator Anathan and Director Austin's recommendation. He said that he knows when there is talk about moving money from sidewalks and roads that the Commission may get a little nervous, especially because that has been one of the four major challenges. The Manager shared that he thinks the City will be at a point where so many sidewalks and streets have been done, that the Commission can re-focus those funds. He offered assurances that work will still be done on the roads in the third year, but it will not be as aggressive as this year or next year. If the Commission wants a second bus route and thinks it is going to serve residents, they are going to need to make a trade off. As a caveat, the Manager stated that this is if Amazon and various other businesses employ residents, which at this time isn't very strong. The Manager did assert that he thinks a second bus route is a service that should be offered to residents, stakeholders, and those who come to and through Opa-locka. He recalled that the second bus route was the will of the Commission on the final meeting before the election, and he believes it is the direction the City should move in going forward. The Manager concluded stating that if the Commission feels the plan is too aggressive and would prefer to resurface two and a half miles of roadway and sidewalks done, the Commission can vote it down, but he reminded the Commission that there will always be plenty of streets to do and encouraged them to look at the issue holistically.

Budget Administrator Robert Anathan added that there are other sources for funding roadway work, including the gasoline tax, and thus this is not the sole source of funding going forward.

Commissioner Taylor asked if there is a timeline for the release of the money from CITT, expressing concerns that the resolution will take effect immediately and that the CITT funds may take time to be released.

City Manager Pate deferred that question to either Budget Administrator Anathan or Financial Consultant Gerri Lazarre who works intimately with CITT.

Budget Administrator Anathan explained that a new bus service for the second route will need to be identified, and by the time that is in place the \$261,000 will have been provided to the city, which the Administrator was confident Financial Consultant Lazarre would back him up on.

Financial Consultant Gerri Lazarre reported that earlier today she spoke with Cathy Jackson who performed the audit at the CITT who said she should contact the CITT Executive Director Mr. Toledo because the City should have gotten the \$261,000 already. Ms. Lazarre stated that she plans on reaching out to them tomorrow and doesn't think it will be that long because last year, the \$901,000 was paid within 45 days of getting the report, and thus she does not believe the time frame will be in excess of 30-60 days. She concluded by offering to take questions.

Vice Mayor Williams expressed that not seeing the full funding for the third year, gives her pause. Recalling that the Commission voted for a company to write grants for the City, the Vice Mayor wanted to know if they found this grant, and how they can ensure that the grant management company will aggressively find grants to cover year three. She wants to know if they can help the City in that way.

City Manager Pate explained that this grant was done in-house and was not through the grant writing company that the City hired, but deferred to Budget Director Anathan on future grant writing because he oversees the grant writers.

Budget Director Anathan reported that the grant writer is working on grants for other departments, including a broad inventory of grants that Director Anathan can't commit will be a source of funding for the third year, but assured that if there is something available out there the grant writer does respond to it. He also confirmed that the grant being discussed was done in-house and was done way before the contract was signed with the grant writing service.

Commissioner Davis asked Budget Director Anathan to elaborate on the \$600,000 that is being provided to the City for roadway improvements.

Budget Director Anathan clarified that because the City has had problems with CITT, it breaks into two parts: the monies that are received for bus operations are funded immediately but the \$600,000 is money the City gets after the audit is completed. As an example, the Director explained that if roadway work was done in FY 20, the City will not see those \$600,000 until that audit is done. He added that of the \$750,000 a year being provided, where roughly 20% goes to the bus and 80 % goes to road work, and while he acknowledged that it is a little more complicated than that, he is trying to keep it simple.

Commissioner Davis thanked Director Anathan for confirming that there is a source of revenue for the matching funds.

Mayor Pigatt pointed out that while Budget Director Anathan has stated that the grant is for \$255,000 and that he sees that in the budget, he sees \$225,121 reflected on the resolution, and asked if that was a scrivener's error. If so, the Mayor asked that an amendment be made to resolve that in the three places where it is at.

City Manager Pate confirmed it was a scrivener's error and apologized that the three reviews that resolutions go through, missed it. He confirmed that it will be resolved, and requires a motion to fix it.

Mayor Pigatt confirmed that an amendment is being made to the item, to reflect that the City is accepting a grant of \$255,000.

City Manager Pate confirmed by saying "Yes, sir."

Mayor Pigatt stated that he thinks that it is an accurate assessment from staff in assessing the role of the City and reutilizing those funds. The Mayor recalled that renegotiating the use of CITT funds to be allocated to roads when the bus was not available. With regard to the third year funding, while the Mayor understands that CITT funds are able to fund it, he echoed the sentiments of Vice Mayor Williams about finding funding. Acknowledging that the bus route will connect two major institutions including Amazon and Miami-Dade College with Tri-Rail and further acknowledging that he does not know where the dialogue with Amazon is at, the Mayor asked for for any proposal, memo or grant write up so that the elected officials can do their job to advocate for the partners in the City to invest in providing this much needed service that will provide ease of access to resident to work at Amazon and for students to go to Miami-Dade College. The Mayor stated that the Commission has three years to figure out a way to have those community partners put some money in to help ease the budget, and will be helpful to move this forward.

City Manager Pate asked Budget Administrator Anathan to write up a breakdown summary with the need for potential grant funding for the second and third year, so that the Commission can have it. The Manager expressed that it would allow the City's elected officials to do great things in their conversations with legislators and the County which has a very strong relationship with Miami-Dade College and Amazon, which was the County's project through the Carrie Meek Foundation.

Mayor Pigatt reminded the Commission that Amazon has a lobbyist registered with the City, who needs to be aware of these conversations.

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):

C. RESOLUTION(S):

17. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Pate reported that after careful deliberation, an outstanding meet and greet with the Police Department that included residents, employees and local stakeholders, in addition to the survey comments received over the last weekend through today, with great pleasure the Manager pushed forward his recommendation to hire Steven Barreira as the Chief of the Opa-locka Police Department. The Manager shared that the terms were accepted through the negotiations and that he hopes he will be on board in the next month, by April. Acknowledging that it was a difficult decision, the Manager shared that he thinks it is the right decision for the city after talking to Steve about his philosophies on law enforcement which align with the Manager's vision for moving the Opa-locka Police Department forward. Mr. Barreira has been accredited with the State of Florida and nationally, having served 23 year in Jacksonville County dealing with violent crime. The Manager stated that everyone knows that Jacksonville is not the best place to be as far as their crime. With his background there as well as a background in Clay County as the Assistant Chief over community services, dealing with community oriented policing on a full time basis. Having all of his time in law enforcement serving with County law enforcement agencies, coming up through the ranks in the large jurisdictional area, as well as all his years of experience will be a great value to the City. The Manager also formally announced that Lieutenant Nikeya Jenkins will be promoted to the rank of Assistant Chief of Police in tandem with Chief Barreira. He expressed that he thought it was very important that the selection be done internally for the exempt position, and that he believes she is doing a wonderful job. Upon Steven Barrera coming in as chief of police, the Manager will call for a special Commission meeting, for the special ceremony to swear them both in as Chief and Assistant Chief of Police at the same time. The Manager stated that the buck stops here and hard decisions have to be made as the City needs to move forward. He added that he's invested a lot of time and energy in the Police Department over the last six to seven months, and now it's time to give the reins to somebody else so he can focus on other departments and Commission priorities. When Lieutenant Jenkins walked back into the Commission

meeting, the Manager recognized her and the Commission applauded for her. Additionally, the Manager reported that he received an email from Comcast a couple of days ago about the cable station that has been inactive for years, and if it is not active in the next six months they will take it back. He has directed IT Director Rodriguez to figure out the equipment needed to operate the cable station, recognizing that it is a different conduit to communicate with residents. Once the financial liability is figured out, the Manager will have Director Rodriguez meet with Budget Director Anathan for a budget amendment that the Manager feels is greatly needed to open up the cable station and be able to stream and put up information for residents who have Comcast. The Manager expressed that he feels this is very important and is putting his efforts behind it to move the City forward into the twenty-first century. In tandem, the Manager explained that the Commission is going to have to figure out who is going to operate the station, in consideration that Director Rodriguez can't have another responsibility added on top of the responsibilities he already has on him. The City's options include doing another RFP or temporarily having someone in HR, Director Rodriguez's staff or PR Consultant Jessica Modkins' firm put content and scheduling content to be shown. The Manager explained that it is basically the work that Ms. Modkins is doing already, because the content is taped and then placed on the station. He asked Legislative Aide Randy Grice and City Clerk Joanna Flores to remind him to add this to the agenda for the workshops on strategic planning. He stated that he thinks the Commission would agree with him that the cable station is worth saving. The Manager concluded his report sharing his appreciation for the residents who speak about their expectations to see change in the City and reminded everyone that while change comes slowly it is not an excuse. He added that because the City is under a financial emergency, and until the City gets development and additional tax revenue, any change that is made to initiatives, eats into the five year plan which is updated and readjusted every year. If it is the will of the Commission to make budget amendments, money can be diverted. The Manager shared that he spoke with Budget Administrator Anathan yesterday about finding ways to cut the budget when budget amendments and major initiative changes are made, and considering that we are halfway through the budget year, he asked him to look at all the programs to see what funds have been used and what funding can be shifted either into fund balance, reserves or divert it to a different program. He acknowledged the statement of the resident who expressed that they had said the same thing three months ago and that both he and Director Anathan hear the residents, and the Manager asserted that it takes manpower, equipment and funding to get movement. The Manager stated that the Commission is going to have to figure out what the priorities are and if money is going to be shifted for a major initiative, the Commission will have to identify where the money is coming from and what cuts are going to be made, instead of eating into the budget or the fund balance. He asserted that the City is not ignoring residents and is very responsive, and the Manager assured that he takes it into account as he makes decisions based on the best interest of the residents and the financial security of the City. The Manager shared that when the budget is changed and money is shifted around, the State accepts it after asking their questions, but the Commission is going to have to start asking where the money is coming from. Additionally, the Commission needs to remember that the City is in negotiations with AFCSME and the Police Department that has had their contract expired for years and are going to make some kind of monetary ask. The Manager added that it would be irresponsible to not give any raise after 10 years because you have to retain employees and as the Mayor says, people have to have a living wage, which the lower 1/3 of the employees do not have, but he noted that he can't even present the pay plan to the Commission because of the negotiations. Manager Pate offered to take any questions from the Mayor, Vice Mayor or Commissioners.

Commissioner Burke recalled that city buildings used to have security, and asked if the police officers on the midnight shift make checks of the buildings.

City Manager Pate responded affirmatively, stating that they do.

Commissioner Burke reported that there are people living at City Hall or are going in there to do what they need to do. The Commissioner shared that he saw a woman and a man disappear into the compound at approximately 11:30 PM. He added that the boards on the second floor have been taken down, even though the rest of the building is secure. The Commissioner asserted that it needs to be looked into and the buildings need to be checked at night on the midnight shift.

Mayor Pigatt asked if there was a Sergeant at Arms.

City Manager Pate responded affirmatively with a yes.

Mayor Pigatt stated that he was hearing feedback and voices.

Vice Mayor Williams reminded City Manager Pate that he didn't speak on the re-opening of parks.

City Manager Pate reported that he sent out correspondence yesterday about the parks being reopened to the public from sunrise to sunset for outdoor activities such as walking, jogging and half-court basketball, including a restriction on groups of 10 or more. The Manager asked the Parks & Recreation Department for a plan to phase that in and he will make sure that PR Consultant Jessica Modkins puts the information out appropriately.

Commissioner Burke asked if that includes the kiddie park.

City Manager Pate stated that it is all park facilities, including the kiddie park.

Commissioner Davis stated that in consideration of how big of an issue public safety is in the community, as City Manager Pate and Budget Administrator Anathan look at ways to cut spending, that a valiant effort is made to include public safety.

City Manager Pate assured Commissioner Davis that his priority is public safety. He added that he is looking at those areas, and looking to give staff a decent wage to move the City forward, and make them happier when they come to work.

Mayor Pigatt asked City Manager Pate about the roads he is seeing as he drives around the City, that were in the middle of being fixed and have stopped.

City Manager Pate asked Public Works Director Austin to answer that question.

Public Works Director Austin explained that they were backlogged with payments to the vendor, but they have identified the problem and it is being resolved. Once the payments have been issued, they will be returning to finish the process.

Mayor Pigatt shared his concern about that, because of the history in the City of Opa-locka, and asserted that the City must respect vendors. He added that he thought that due to policies and procedures that have been put in place during the financial oversight, that this had been addressed. Recognizing that this is a major project, the Mayor asserted that it needs to get done because there are residents whose houses are being impacted by being directly in front of the construction area, and also stated that it affects the City's relationships with vendors that want to do business with the City of Opa-locka but are afraid of financial issues. The Mayor asked what performance measures are in place to make sure this does not happen, and that it is not a problem at all.

City Manager Pate explained that conversations with the state are on-going to shorten the review process, in addition to the ongoing issues with the procurement system that Budget Director Anathan is reviewing. The Manager also expressed concern with the work stoppages, and stated that he has not seen expedited requests come across his desk, which should be sent to him if there is a vendor that is at the brink of stopping work, so that he can send it to the State to get appropriate payment. He asked Public Works Director Austin if the vendor warned that they were going to stop work, or if it just happened.

Public Works Director Austin said it just happened.

City Manager Pate asked if there was any pre-warning, and if they ever said they were going to stop work because they were owed money.

Public Works Director Austin stated that they asked for payment, and his department submitted the request to the state for expedited approval. He added that the vendor had some concerns about the frequency of expedited requests, and these are some of the results.

City Manager Pate said he would deal with the expedited requests.

Mayor Pigatt recalled that this was one of the concerns he brought up a few weeks ago in the City Manager's Monday briefing and wants to be sure that it is something that is taken care of and addressed as a City, and he looks forward to updates at the upcoming meeting on Monday.

City Manager Pate confirmed that is not a problem.

18. OFFICIAL BOARD REPORTS:

There were none.

19. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

There were none.

20. MAYOR/COMMISSION REPORTS:

Commissioner Taylor announced that on March 11th at 6 PM there will be an event titled "Opa-locka Attacks COVID-19" with a panel of experts, including medical professionals who will answer questions

that citizens may have about COVID-19 and the vaccine. The Commissioner explained that there will be a drawing for two slots on the panel among all the citizens who want to participate.

Vice Mayor Williams thanked Commissioner Taylor for helping to organize the panel discussion, and expressed the need to help especially Seniors understand COVID-19 and the vaccine better, and extolled how great it will be to have community members talk to them. The Vice Mayor asked Commissioner Taylor if he had paired up with PR Consultant Jessica Modkins' office for this.

Commissioner Taylor stated that while he hasn't yet paired up with Ms. Modkins, he did go through the proper channels, and confirmed that she will be designing a flyer to put on Facebook to get the community involved.

Vice Mayor Williams explained that she only asked because she proffered an event in December that has not yet come to fruition, but is glad that Commissioner Taylor is taking the lead.

Commissioner Taylor confirmed he is taking initiative.

Vice Mayor Williams said she is following Commissioner Taylor's lead.

Mayor Pigatt wants to make sure that the new Commission hosts a few workshops to clearly detail out priorities and put together a strategic plan. Because part of the City Manager's annual contract is to have that set of priorities, the Commission owes that to him and the window for his evaluation starts on March 1st and ends of April 30th. The Mayor added that the Commission needs to talk about the events and event policy, beautification, H.R. evaluations, in addition to all of the things that have been brought up by the Commission. He asked if bi-weekly workshops can be set up during weeks when there is no Commission Meeting, scheduling 2-4 meetings over the next two months. Recognizing that at the end of that two month period, the City will already be half way through the fiscal year, and those guidelines have not been set. Additionally, the budget process will begin in March or April, so despite the sacrifice of time, it is very important that the Commission does these things. The Mayor stated that one of the main reasons that a lot of his goals have been accomplished, is because they have been put in the budget, and he has stayed on top of those priorities in the Commission meetings. He wants to make sure that all of the Commissioners' goals are very clearly outlined, so that the Commissioners can hold each other accountable, and they can hold the City Manager's office accountable, so they can move forward. The Mayor said he generally clears his schedule on Wednesdays anyway, and proposed that the workshops be put on the schedule on Wednesdays when there is no Commission meeting, but would like his colleagues' feedback.

Commissioner Davis proposed that the number of workshops be defined, as opposed to having recurring bi-weekly workshops, and asked that they be virtual to ease the access for the Commissioners.

Mayor Pigatt explained that the reason he suggested 2-4 workshops is because he knows that events will be a workshop within itself, strategic planning is going to most likely be 2-3, and the Commission still has to discuss evaluations, beautification and at the end of the day, needs to figure this out. Some of the workshops can be set later on, but some of the goals need to be done within the next two months to prepare for the budget cycle and respect the Manager's contract. The Mayor asserted that he is completely fine with the workshops being virtual.

Commissioner Taylor is good with Wednesdays, but would like a more organized outlook on the topics of the workshops, so that there are not just meetings without anything getting accomplished.

Mayor Pigatt explained that the Commission had talked about doing a workshop for events, and that strategic planning is tied to the budget and goals. The Mayor asserted that when the contract was negotiated with the City Manager, it was very clear that he has to have goals from the Commission in order for him to do his job. It gives the Commission, the public and the City Manager what the foundation on what the Commission wants to address, which is a basic part of how government is run. In those workshops, the Mayor explained that the Commission can decide whether they are going to be on beautification or H.R. The Mayor just wants to make sure that the Commission sets the time to tackle these things.

City Manager Pate asserted that at least two workshops are needed in March, that the staff will be engaged and that he will send out an email tomorrow for the Commission to agree to meet for the workshops on two Wednesdays.

Mayor Pigatt asked the Commissioners if they can do Wednesdays virtually when there are no Commission meetings, and confirmed they were OK with that.

City Clerk Joanna Flores asked to clarify if the workshops will be scheduled every other Wednesday, opposite the Commission meetings.

Mayor Pigatt confirmed by stating yes.

City Clerk Joanna Flores asked for how long the workshops should be scheduled.

Mayor Pigatt stated that just for March for right now.

City Clerk Joanna Flores stated that she asked because of the need to catch-up on the minutes from last year's workshops.

Mayor Pigatt stated that is why he wants to be very clear so that staff knows what is going on and that he understands that everyone has family to take care of and see. The Mayor also reported on a meeting he had with Cordoba Courts, Congresswoman Wilson and a few others, which covered the challenges that need to be addressed. He acknowledged that one of the top priorities that he and Commissioner Davis had when they were first elected, was addressing the slum conditions in the City with the hiring of a housing officer and Code Enforcement going into problem areas to evaluate, asking for help from NAACP, tenant associations, legal services, and Congresswoman Fredericka Wilson's office, there has been a lot of progress that has been made which the residents see. The Mayor gave a shout out to Congresswoman Wilson and Representative Bush, who is doing the same at Glorieta Gardens. He concluded his report by sharing appreciation for everyone wearing their masks.

21. OFFICIAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

There were none.

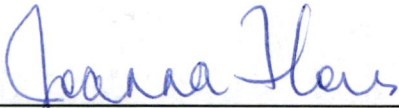
22. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Davis to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 p.m.



Matthew A. Pigatt
Mayor

Attest:



Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk