

# City of Opa-locka

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



## **SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING Agenda**

**Tuesday, April 5, 2022  
5:30 PM**

### **City Commission**

**Mayor Veronica J. Williams  
Vice Mayor John H. Taylor Jr.  
Commissioner Sherelean Bass  
Commissioner Chris Davis  
Commissioner Audrey Dominguez**

### **Appointed Officials**

**Interim City Manager James B. Wright  
City Attorney Burnadette Norris-Weeks  
City Clerk Joanna Flores, CMC**

## **SPEAKING BEFORE THE CITY COMMISSION**

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

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

### **DECORUM POLICY**

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

### **NOTICE TO ALL LOBBYISTS**

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

### **FLORIDA STATUTES, CHAPTER 285.0105**

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

### **PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

#### **How to watch the meeting**

Members of the public can watch public meetings and public hearings at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofOpaLocka>

City Commission Meetings are held in-person while allowing virtual participation. Members of the public wishing to address the Commission may do so in person or virtually.

**To participate virtually**, please register by 5:30 p.m. on the scheduled meeting date via the City of Opa-locka website at [www.opalockafl.gov](http://www.opalockafl.gov).

**CITY OF OPA-LOCKA**

**“The Great City”**

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**SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING**

**Tuesday, April 5, 2022**

**5:30 PM**

**AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:**
- 2. ROLL CALL:**
- 3. INVOCATION:**
- 4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**
- 5. PUBLIC INPUT:**  
*(agenda items only)*
- 6. RESOLUTIONS:**
  - a) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, TERMINATING INTERIM CITY MANAGER JAMES B. WRIGHT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by Commissioner Davis***
  - b) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, APPOINTING JOHN E. PATE AS THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by Commissioner Davis***
- 7. ADJOURNMENT:**

# RESOLUTIONS

Sponsored by: Commissioner Chris Davis

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY  
OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, TERMINATING INTERIM  
CITY MANAGER JAMES B. WRIGHT; PROVIDING FOR  
INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN  
EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Resolution No. 22-9955 the City Commission of the City of Opa-Locka ("City Commission"), Florida appointed James B. Wright as Interim City Manager to serve for a term not to exceed nine (9) months starting 12:01 AM on February 1, 2022, and requiring a national search for appointment of a permanent City Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission now desires to terminate James B. Wright, with cause, at its Special Meeting held on April 4, 2021 for reasons to include: willful disregard of a direct order, demand, or policy of the Commission and conduct unbecoming a public City Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, the City finds that it is in the best interest of the City to terminate the City Manager with cause.

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

**Section 1. Recitals.** The recitals to the preamble herein are incorporated by reference.

**Section 2. Termination of City Manager.** The City Commission hereby terminates James B. Wright, Interim City Manager, with cause.

**Section 3. Scrivener's Errors.** Sections of this Resolution may be renumbered or re-lettered and corrections of typographical errors which do not affect the intent may be authorized by the City Attorney or designee, without need of public hearing by filing a corrected copy of the same with the City Clerk.

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED this** \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Veronica Williams, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joanna Flores, City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, P.A.

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

**VOTE:**

Commissioner Bass: \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner Davis: \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner Dominguez: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Mayor Taylor: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Williams: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsored by: Commissioner Chris Davis**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE  
CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, APPOINTING JOHN E.  
PATE AS THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER; PROVIDING  
FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR  
AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, at a Special Meeting held on April 5, 2022, the City Commission of the City of Opa-Locka, Florida ("City Commission") voted to terminate James B. Wright as the Interim City Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, subsequently and at the same meeting on April 5, 2022, the City Commission appointed John E. Pate as Interim City Manager to serve for a term of thirty (30) days, subject to full dismissal of the lawsuit filed by John E. Pate against the City of Opa-Locka styled *John Pate v. City of Opa-Locka, et. al.*, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, CASE#: 1:22-cv-20537; and

**WHEREAS**, the salary and benefits of employment for the position of Interim City Manager shall be the same as the immediate prior Interim City Manager, except for the provision of allowing for outside employment; and

**WHEREAS**, if John Pate fully dismisses the lawsuit specified herein, he shall become the permanent City Manager within thirty (30) days following the passage of this resolution, however, if the specified lawsuit is not fully dismissed, John E. Pate position of Interim City Manager shall thereby cease; and

**WHEREAS**, John E. Pate shall have all powers of an Interim City Manager, for a temporary time period, including the power to approve purchase orders and perform other functions pursuant to existing financial policies and procedures of the City of Opa-Locka.

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

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 1.** Recitals. The recitals to the preamble herein are incorporated by reference.

**Section 2.** Appointment of Interim City Manager. The City Commission hereby confirms the appointment of John E. Pate as the Interim City Manager for the City of Opa-Locka, effective immediately and subject to full dismissal of the lawsuit styled *John Pate v. City of Opa-Locka, et. al.*, filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, CASE#: 1:22-cv-20537 within thirty (30) days from the passage of this resolution. If said lawsuit is dismissed, John E. Pate shall become the permanent City Manager of the City of Opa-Locka following a thirty (30) day period. However, if the specified lawsuit referenced herein is not dismissed, John Pate's position of Interim City Manager shall thereby cease.

**Section 3.** Scrivener's Errors. Sections of this Resolution may be renumbered or re-lettered and corrections of typographical errors which do not affect the intent may be authorized by the City Attorney or designee, without need of public hearing by filing a corrected copy of the same with the City Clerk.

**Section 4.** Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED this** \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Veronica Williams, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joanna Flores, City Clerk

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, P.A.

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

**VOTE:**

Commissioner Bass: \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner Davis: \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner Dominguez: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Mayor Taylor: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Williams: \_\_\_\_\_