

**City of Dunnellon  
City Council Meeting  
Zoom Meeting**

<https://dunnellon.zoom.us/j/86070707270?pwd=YldDeTJFRDZrbXdsZUR3bjlFS3pvUT09>

Meeting ID: 860 7070 7270

Date: April 11, 2022

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: City Hall, 20750 River Dr., Dunnellon, FL 34431

**Dunnellon City Council meeting attendance information.**

Anyone who wished to provide public comment was able to do so by participating in the City Council meeting in person, via the Zoom "AUDIO ONLY" platform and/or telephone, by speaking during public comment portions of the meeting when recognized or by submitting written comments, evidence and/or written testimony in advance of the meeting via email to the City Clerk at [modom@dunnellon.org](mailto:modom@dunnellon.org)

Members of the public who were interested in participating were encouraged to register in advance by Noon on Monday, April 11, 2022. Public input on non-agenda items were heard at the beginning of the meeting with a three (3) minute time limit.

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor White called the meeting to order at approximately 5:34 p.m. led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance. He invited any citizen wishing to volunteer to open with prayer. Father Paul Hamilton provided the invocation. Mayor White then called upon the City Clerk to call roll.

**Roll Call**

Bill White, Mayor, Seat 1

Valerie Hanchar, Vice-Mayor, Seat 4

Louise Kenny, Councilwoman, Seat 2

Anita Williams, Councilwoman, Seat 3 - Absent

Jan Cubbage, Councilwoman, Seat 5

**Staff Present**

Mandy Odom, City Clerk - Absent

Michelle Leonard, Assistant City Clerk

Troy Slattery, Public Works Manager

Jan Smith, Finance Officer

Georgina Cid, Community Development Manager

Julie Danowski, Records Clerk

Chief McQuaig, Police Department

Lt. Yox, Police Department

Cpl. Raines, Police Department - arrived 5:40

**Legal Counsel**

Patrick Brackins,  
Shepard, Smith, Kohlmyer & Hand, P.A.

**Proof of Publication**

Ms. Leonard announced for the record the agenda for this meeting was posted on the City's website and City Hall bulletin board on Thursday, April 07, 2022.

One or more members of the City of Dunnellon advisory boards may have attended this meeting and may have spoken to Council.

Mayor White explained the public speaking portion and sign-up sheet. He said this is a recorded meeting with video, audio and closed captioning. This meeting proceeded under Roberts Rules of Order and Chair conducted the meeting. Council was advised to wait to be acknowledged before speaking.

**Mayor White called for Council comments regarding the agenda.**

There were no comments.

**Mayor White called for public comments on non-agenda items – 3 minute time limit.**

Kathy Dunn, 11386 SW Hendrix Dr., thanked Council and staff for agreeing to look into Code Enforcement issues. She suggested utilizing current City staff rather than hiring another employee. She read from the code book and listed the people already employed who can be Code Enforcement Officers. She stated the Police Department even has a sign on their back door which says "Code Enforcement". She feels property owners should maintain their properties and business signage needs to be brought to code. She spoke about Mr. Slattery and Matt Pudlo not being paid enough.

Wally Dunn, 11386 SW Hendrix Dr., stated most of the Council meetings last 4-5 hours. He stated people leave long meetings early and Council doesn't pay attention by the end. He suggested allowing only one presentation per meeting and Council should limit their own speeches. He said the last meeting was 4 hours, it was ridiculous and nothing got done. He stated over the last three years every agenda discusses the Police Department. He asserted the City needs to wake up and understand there is no qualified building in town and it needs to be built. He declared the City needs to be run like a business and it is time to trim the agenda down.

Tim Inskeep, 12140 Maple St., stated he is having trouble obtaining a permit to replace an electrical box. He explained on March 15<sup>th</sup> he spoke with Duke Energy and they said it was no problem to replace the box. He said on March 21<sup>st</sup> he came to get his permit and was told they couldn't provide him one because he wasn't a licensed contractor. He stated he spoke to the Building Inspector who said he had no experience with condo's and had to research further. He asserted to date, he still isn't able to replace his electrical box. He said he needs help from Council. Mayor White offered to meet with Mr. Inskeep outside of the meeting. Vice-Mayor Hanchar stated she knows someone else who might be able to help with the codes.

Art Jones, 12163 Palmetto Way, stated he was happy Council was able to meet the people from Sea and Shoreline. He complimented the company and the turnaround they made in Crystal River. He spoke to the issues and chemicals other companies use to kill invasive aquatic plants in the Rainbow River. He stated Sea and Shoreline can fix the problem without chemicals but the next step is to raise the funds to have it done. He explained they would create a work plan and put together a permit application ahead of time. He stressed there is \$50 million in Tallahassee for funding river cleanup and he is asking everyone for their help. Vice-Mayor Hanchar asked if he was taking this project to the County as well and he responded he was. Mayor White asked Ms. Leonard to add this topic to the next Workshop Agenda. Councilwoman Cabbage asked if there are other funds available since Rainbow River is an aquatic preserve. He replied he is hiring someone to help look for funding.

## Consent Agenda

### 1. City Council Minutes

- December 20, 2021 Special City Council Workshop - Corrected
- January 05, 2022 City Council Workshop
- January 05, 2022 Special City Council Workshop
- January 10, 2022 City Council Meeting

### 2. Approve Proclamation #PRO2022-04, Motorcycle Awareness Month

### 3. Approve Proclamation #PRO2022-05, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Of The Woman's Club Of Dunnellon

### 4. Approve Proclamation #PRO222-06, Public Education Foundation Of Marion County Day

### 5. Authorize Mayor To Sign Agreement #AGR2022-08, Amended Use Agreement Between The City Of Dunnellon And Dunnellon Little League, Inc.

## Consent Agenda Approval

Mayor White called for public comments. There were none.

Vice-Mayor Hanchar asked for the consent agenda to be approved with the removal of Agenda Item #5 for discussion. Council agreed to move Agenda Item #5 to later in the meeting.

Councilwoman Kenny moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #1 - #4. Councilwoman Cabbage seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0.

## Regular Agenda

### Agenda Item No. 06 – Presentation Of Proclamation #PRO2022-03, Reverend Paul E.C. Hamilton

Ms. Leonard read the following into the record:

*"Proclamation #PRO2022-03 In Honor Of Reverend Paul E.C. Hamilton*

**WHEREAS**, *The Reverend Paul E. C. Hamilton is about to embark on his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary to the Ordination to the Priesthood; and*

**WHEREAS**, Father Paul has been a Parish Priest in 15 Parishes, served in five hospitals and has had a distinguished teaching career in six colleges or seminaries. He has been a Psychotherapist and Drug Counselor in three renowned clinics and founded three well-known not-for-profit corporations in 1988, 2001 and 2021. His private psychotherapy practice, now in its 43<sup>rd</sup> year, has changed the lives of couples, families, individuals and clergy alike; and

**WHEREAS**, Father Paul spearheaded the development of Dunnellon Community Services, a non-profit organization that offers free health care clinics; welcomed a group of Jewish women looking for a place to hold services; honored local heroes at the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup>; and launched a Spanish ministry at the Church of Holy Faith. Father Paul firmly believes “the church exists to serve people outside itself”; and

**WHEREAS**, under Father Paul’s administrative leadership the Church of Holy Faith raised \$7,300 for missionary work in Bor, South Sudan and is currently overseeing the expansion of the existing church building to accommodate both religious and community services; and

**WHEREAS**, Father Paul is a positive force in the Dunnellon community, which is evident by his involvement with the Dunnellon Chamber and Business Association, as well as the Food Pantry he offers for people in need; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Paul E. C. Hamilton commemorates his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary being known by his many titles of priest, doctor, psychotherapist, drug counselor, professor, headmaster, founder and international guide. He has a broad and rich career serving as a healer, pastor, mentor, educator and inspiration to countless New Yorkers, Floridians and International Christians. Many can and will testify to his influence and devotion to the church along with his dedication to personal and institutional wholeness; and

**WHEREAS**, Father Paul will be celebrated on March 25<sup>th</sup> by his church family, friends and communities from all around for the services and sacrifices made by this outstanding religious servant. We commend him for his steadfast Christian leadership over the years.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RECOGNIZED** The Dunnellon City Council honors the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Reverend Paul E.C. Hamilton and proclaims Friday, March 25, 2022 as “Father Paul E. C. Hamilton Day” within the City of Dunnellon and urges the citizens of Dunnellon to acknowledge the occasion of this day. He has earned the respect and affection of the residents and friends of Dunnellon.

**PASSED AND PROCLAIMED** this 21st DAY OF MARCH 2022. “

Father Paul spoke about our great “Boom town”. He noted the history book said the leadership of this town was not always very friendly to its religious leaders, but not this leadership. He is honored to be here.

**Agenda Item No. 07 – Special Presentation – Barbara And Jim Gissy**

Mayor White read into the record from the plaque presented to Mr. and Mrs. Gissy:

*“In recognition of your generous contribution to the Dunnellon Little League Program and Sports Complex. Your support will provide funding for much needed repairs and improvements at the Little League ball fields.*

*You are hereby commended for your generosity which will afford the youth and volunteers of Dunnellon Little League an upgraded modern facility to be proud of.*

*With heartfelt gratitude, pride and appreciation for your commitment to the Dunnellon community.”*

Mayor White then presented Mr. Gissy with an autographed baseball signed by each Council member.

Mr. Gissy stated it wasn't necessary but much appreciated. He thanked Council and said he is giving another \$5,000 to go toward the playground equipment. He complimented Council and staff and said working with the City is completely different than in the past and a much more positive experience.

Burt Eno, 9220 SW 193<sup>rd</sup> Circle, stated he attended a Florida Council Summit representing Rainbow River Conservation. He shared with the Summit a success story about a resort project Mr. Gissy attempted. He explained that when Mr. Gissy discovered the people of Dunnellon were not interested in his resort, he discontinued the project. He said the entire Summit stood up and cheered. He asserted this is the kind of impact Mr. Gissy's thoughtful actions have made.

**Agenda Item No. 08 – Presentation Of Proclamation #PRO2022-04, Motorcycle Awareness Month**

Ms. Leonard called forward the Motorcycle Awareness group who were in attendance;

John Melin - Forest Chapter Abate President

Bridgette Pace – Vice President

Russell Pace – Public Relations

Stan Menendez

Paul Zangline

Ms. Leonard read the following into the record:

*“**WHEREAS**, motorcycle riding is a popular form of recreation and transportation for thousands of people in Marion County and Florida's mild climate and scenic roadways make motorcycle riding an enjoyable experience throughout the year; and*

***WHEREAS**, Marion County's growing population, seasonal residents and travelers using Marion County roadways make motorcycle safety an important issue for all drivers and the safe operation of a motorcycle requires the use of special skills developed through a combination of training and*

*experience, the use of good judgement, and a thorough knowledge of traffic laws and licensing requirements; and*

**WHEREAS**, *motorcycling can be an enjoyable activity when safety is of paramount consideration and all regulations are observed; and*

**WHEREAS**, *there were 643,335 motorcycles registered in Florida with 14,730 in Marion County as of March 6, 2022 along with 1,373,517 motorcycle endorsements in Florida with 35,321 in Marion County as of July 1, 2021; and*

**WHEREAS**, *to prevent injuries and deaths on roadways, it is important for motorcyclists and motorists to always be vigilant in their efforts to share the roadway and ensure safety for everyone; and*

**WHEREAS**, *motorcycle organizations, clubs, dealerships, groups and highway safety officials in our county are encouraged to join the Florida Rider Motorcycle Safety Program, ABATE of Florida, Inc., and all motorcyclists in actively promoting safe operation, increased rider training, improved licensing agreements, and motorist awareness; and*

**WHEREAS**, *the Motorcycle Safety Foundation has designated the month of May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, as recognized by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the Governor of the State of Florida, to encourage other motor vehicle operators to be cautious and observe these vulnerable road users on Reddick's streets and roads;*

**THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** *the City of Dunnellon hereby proclaims the month of May 2021 as "MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH"*

**DULY PROCLAIMED** *this 11th day of April, 2022."*

Mr. Melin stated Dunnellon is a special place for him because he grew up here. He said his group is a motorcycle awareness and safety organization encouraging and offering continuing education, free of charge, to any group or person who would like to understand how to share the road safely with motorcycles. He shared a bit of the program information, spoke about blind spots in vehicles and things one could do to be safe on the road.

**Inserting item #5 from the consent agenda:**

Mayor White invited public comment and no one came forward.

Vice-Mayor Hanchar received communication from the Dunnellon Little League Secretary who is requesting clarification on the phrase "open to the public" in the use agreement. She said they want to be sure when it says "public use" that it isn't wide open to the public. Mr. Slattery stated they are also having trouble with the travel ball league who has no financial obligations to the field and just show up to use it without scheduling anything with those that actually carry the

Agreement. He explained they are trying to manage the field. Attorney Brackins stated there is a coordination clause and it isn't an open license for anyone to use as they deem fit.

Vice-Mayor Hanchar motioned to authorize Mayor White to sign Agreement #AGR2022-08. Councilwoman Kenny seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0.

### **Public Hearing Statement**

Ms. Leonard read the Public Hearing Statement into the record:

*"All persons wishing to address the City Council will be asked to limit their comments to the specific subject being addressed. Public opinions and input are valued by the Council. However, it is requested that comments are directed at specific issues rather than personal comments directed toward the council members or staff in order to foster mutual respect between Council members and the public.*

*Members of the public in attendance at public forums should listen courteously and attentively to all public discussions before the body; and focus on the business at hand. They shall refrain from interrupting other speakers; making personal comments not germane to the business of the body; or otherwise interfering with the orderly conduct of meetings.*

*Members of the public addressing City Council and boards/commissions on a specific project or proposal are requested to disclose any personal interest or relationship; and any business, professional, or financial interests with any individual, group, project or proposal regarding the subject matter under review. Members of the public should always err on the side of more public disclosure, not less, in order to provide integrity to the public process."*

### **Agenda Item No. 09 – Public Hearing Ordinance #ORD2022-04, Business Tax Receipt (Posted On The City's Website On March 07, 2022. Public Hearing Advertised on the City's Website On March 30, 2022 And Advertised In The Riverland News On April 1, 2022)**

Attorney Brackins stated this is a rate increase and is based on a simple percentage. He said he was asked if the Ordinance could be changed from two or more properties to one or more properties and he replied no. He provided reasons for this answer and stated it was in the statute changed in 2008. He explained a commission would need to be appointed and a study needs to be conducted. He commented if there is a possibility that our current code is in error, then it would be an easier fix. He stated right now we are looking at the rate increases and we should hold this question for a later date.

Mayor White gaveled down and said "it is now 6:37 p.m. and I close the regular meeting and open the Public Hearing to discuss Ordinance #ORD2022-04, amending section 18-49 of the Code of Ordinances by increasing business tax receipt fees currently listed in said section by the amount of five percent (5% = \$2.87) as allowed by section 205.0535(4) Florida statutes (ordinance posted on the City's website on March 7, 2022. Public Hearing advertised on the City's website on March 30, 2022 and advertised in the Riverland News on April 1, 2022.)"

**Staff Presentation:**

Mrs. Smith stated the Ordinance is fulfilling the City's allowance to increase the City's business tax to \$60.29. Mayor White asked if it mattered what type of business it is and Mrs. Smith replied it doesn't.

**Public Comment:**

There were none.

Mayor White gaveled down and said "it is now 6:39 p.m. and I close the Public Hearing held to discuss Ordinance #ORD2022-04 and reopen the April 11, 2022 City Council meeting."

**Agenda Item No. 10 – Second and Final Reading – Ordinance #ORD2022-04, Business Tax Receipt**

**Public Comment:**

There was no public comment.

Vice-Mayor Hanchar moved Ordinance #ORD2022-04 be read by title only. Councilwoman Cubbage seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Leonard read the following into the record:

*"ORDINANCE #ORD2022-04*

*AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DUNNELLON, AMENDING SECTION 18-49 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY INCREASING BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT FEES CURRENTLY LISTED IN SAID SECTION BY THE AMOUNT OF FIVE PERCENT (5% = \$2.87) AS ALLOWED BY SECTION 205.0535(4) FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."*

Vice-Mayor Hanchar moved Ordinance #ORD2022-04 be approved as written. Councilwoman Kenny seconded the motion.

**Council Discussion**

There was none.

A vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0.

**Walk On – Troy Slattery**

Mr. Slattery stated this afternoon he met with a new contractor for construction of the pavilions at City Beach who are capable of a completed project start to finish. He shared the total cost is \$22,000 which is within budget. He commented the other company's contractor was not licensed nor insured. He is requesting approval to proceed. He stated he would come back to Council if there are any issues that arise. He explained it would take up to four weeks for the materials but only three days to build once the materials arrive.

Vice-Mayor Hanchar moved to approve Mr. Slattery proceed with this contractor. Councilwoman Kenny seconded.



Vice-Mayor Hanchar asked if they have black metal rafters and Mr. Slattery confirmed they did, adding they have coco brown coverings. He commented the new pavilions will blend in very well with the existing pavilion. Mayor White provided a history of the project and stated it would provide three weather pavilions at City Beach.

**Public Comment:**

There was none.

A vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0.

**Agenda Item No. 11 – Police Facility Sites**

Mayor White reminded everyone we now have a contract for the sale of the former Souls Harbor Church. He stated there are a few concerns to be addressed but we need to start talking about where a new Police Station could be built as there are no existing buildings in the City that can be converted. He recounted they have searched exhaustively and there is one piece of property located on Powell Road that fits within the parameters of what a 4,000sf building would need which is currently on the market. Mayor White stated the property is listed for \$90,000 and he doesn't believe we can do much better. He suggested Council take a hard look at the property despite the fact that it is located in the Historic section.

Councilwoman Cabbage commented compared to other properties the price is very appropriate. She stated the other properties for sale on Williams Street need a lot of fill and have water issues while the property on Powell is high and dry.

Councilwoman Kenny commented we have learned that due diligence is critical with this kind of decision and said we are at a point where timing is important because this Council is on its way out. She suggested tabling the discussion until the new Council is elected.

Vice-Mayor Hanchar referred to lame duck and stated she would never stop governing due to a coming election. She said she feels it would be unfair to the Police Department. She said she agrees with due diligence and being responsible to the public and the Police but she asserted let's also get it done by adding it to the May agenda.

Mayor White said if the Powell property were to be off the market he has absolutely no idea where to go with the Police Department. He explained this was a major campaign issue the Council was elected to resolve. He stated he agrees with Vice-Mayor Hanchar and directed staff to look into the Powell property and have information ready for the May workshop.

Ms. Cid stated a Councilmember has already asked her to look into this property and she stated it would need to be rezoned but the parameters of the property is the same as the former Souls Harbor Church.

Juliane Mendonca, 11894 E. Blue Cove Dr., stated the Powell Road location is in an area with residences and churches. She said the Council has an obligation to go with the Comprehensive

Plan. She commented that area would be a great spot to house families or elderly and to put the Police there because we don't have any other place is the wrong way to go about it. She said she doesn't want to see Council go forward out of convenience. She asserted there was a document with a plan and vision for the Police referred to at the last meeting she would like to see made available to the public. She added she didn't believe the building the contractor spoke about would work for the Police.

Brenda D'Arville, 11661 Camp Dr., stated the Powell property is in the Historic District and she has to agree with some of Mrs. Mendonca's comments. She suggested the former Gary's Carpet location is a more appropriate place, if the City were to utilize that space along with the current Police Station space.

Mayor White stated he thinks the Powell Road spot is a great one. He said it is a major roadway with high traffic and it already has businesses on it. He explained there is also discussion of rerouting the commercial traffic traveling on US40 to Powell in the future. Vice-Mayor Hanchar said she was speaking with a citizen and he stated there must have been 4-5 semi-trucks down shifting in front of his building in the Historic District.

Nancy Benouaich, 11876 Cedar St., stated she owns the garage next door to the Police Station and wrote a letter to the City offering to sell it to us. She explained it is on a main roadway and with the former Gary's Carpet, the current Police building and her building it would be a great property. She asserted the property on Powell Road would be terrible for emergency vehicles to ingress and egress and cleaning up the historical area should be a priority for Council.

Mayor White asked Ms. Leonard to add this to next month's Workshop agenda. He asked her to check into the feasibility of the Powell Road property by itself as well as the other two combined with the current Police Department.

Councilwoman Cabbage stated those buildings were erected in the 1930's and there isn't any space in front of them. She explained the current Marion County code requires a 25' setback and with that there would be no place to park the Police vehicles nor the Fire Department vehicles who currently share the parking space. She stated the price on the former Gary's Carpet building is very high and someone would have to pay for its demolition as well as the demolition of the Police Department. She suggested Council discontinue discussion on those properties and focus on the Powell Road property at the next meeting.

Councilwoman Kenny agreed with ingress-egress, emergency use, speed, etc. and stated it would be very intrusive to the neighborhood. She stated to be on US41 would be ideal and real estate changes all the time.

Mayor White explained the Police Department is a little bit different than a first responder. He stated Police don't sit in the building and wait for calls, they are already out on patrol. He shared he doesn't foresee a Police Department in a residential area being a problem with regard to

speeding vehicles. He added he is only directing staff to get the bottom line on the buildings for sale, demolition, new construction ability and the feasibility.

Councilwoman Cabbage asked Corporal Raines when the last time any Officer had to race out of the station was. Corporal Raines stated he can't remember the last time it's been so long. Vice-Mayor Hanchar stated her office is right on the corner and she said the Fire Department does squeal out, but the Police never do.

Mayor White stated while the buyer from the former Souls Harbor Church was performing their due diligence, they found the radon level exceeds what would be acceptable for a school. He said staff is looking into that. He explained what radon is and said a closed up building may cause higher than normal levels because there is no way for it to escape.

Vice-Mayor Hanchar made some phone calls and received information from Danny Blankenship of Hometown Inspectors. She said Mr. Blankenship told her closed up buildings could cause some build up but rain will also affect the results of a radon test and we had some major rains prior to the inspection. He shared with her the cost to perform a re-inspection would be \$375 and he could be available in a week.

Mayor White suggested staff air out the building and do our own radon inspection. Attorney Brackins agreed. Mr. Slattery stated he would incorporate industrial size fans to blow it out and he said he would begin tomorrow. Council agreed staff should proceed.

**Agenda Item No. 12 – Discussion – Commercial Use Of City Owned Properties**

Mayor White stated we have several pieces of property the City owns. He said what differentiates City property from Blue Run Park is the funding with grants and Agreements. He stated other government property we own doesn't have the stipulations Blue Run Park does. He referred to Blue Gator who has a use Agreement for the City Hall parking lot. He stated there is also serious discussion to start charging ramp fees. He stated there comes a point when a facility is so used that safety becomes an issue. He said we have talked about developing a Resolution for the boat ramp and he would like to sit back and see how the dust settles.

Chief McQuaig stated he thought about the safety issue and took it upon himself to be sure there are safety considerations in place. He said he met with Mr. Anderson and they came up with a plan which worked well over the weekend. Mr. Anderson stated they are going to keep the ramp open and the kayakers would not interfere with the boaters.

Vice-Mayor Hanchar said some companies have worked decades to get their business up and running and they have found a niche. She stated there needs to be a happy medium. She recalled Mr. Anderson attempted to engage us with a mutual agreement with what he could and couldn't do. She would like to have a good faith discussion and see a business plan. She stated it might not be free but we should look at it and hold people to a standard to protect our assets.

Councilwoman Cabbage stated Dunnellon needs another boat ramp because the problem is congestion and safety. She said the April 1<sup>st</sup> regulations on Blue Run Park were not about keeping out Mr. Anderson, but anyone who doesn't have established business here. She talked about John Semmes working from the boat ramp as well.

Councilwoman Kenny said we need to identify the problem and get public input. She stated we need to be more specific.

Mayor White stated he is willing to postpone discussion for 30-60 days to see what, if any, issues arise. He asked if Council would agree to take a wait and see attitude, and add the topic to next month's workshop. Council agreed to this. Mayor White asked Ms. Leonard to add discussion about the ramp fees to the next Workshop agenda as well.

John Semmes, 11715 N. Circle Ave., thanked the City for the symbiotic relationship for the people who are coming from all over to see the area. He said he understands things change and he is hoping we all can come together to find a way through. He said the real congestion is the guy who just bought a boat and doesn't know how to back it in.

Chris Anderson, 11463 N. Williams St., stated one of the things Council is talking about now was actually in the Agreement he presented during the discussions of Blue Run Park but he never had the opportunity to open that door. He said by default they have ended up at the boat ramp because it is the only other logical exit point. He stated the kayakers are instructed to stay out of the way of the boaters and his guys can be very quick getting them out. He stated his clients are a benefit to the City because they are spending money in this town.

#### **Agenda Item No. 13 – Council Liaison Reports And Comments**

Councilwoman Cabbage spoke about the electric bikes coming into Blue Run Park at unsafe speeds, causing pedestrians to step off the paved paths. She stated she has talked with the director of the Withlacoochee State Trail and was told there are signs posted at the trail head stating the E-bike speed limit is 10-20 mph, but it is not their responsibility to put signs up on our piece of the bike path. She believes Jim Couillard would be the next person to speak to about pedestrian right of way signs. Chief McQuaig stated he received the same information. He said there weren't that many complaints about the E-bikes and they would monitor the issue.

Mayor White asked staff to reach out to Jim Couillard to find out what he says about this issue and the signs. He also asked staff to find out if KP Hole was planning to increase their fees beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Agenda Item No. 14 – Department Head Reports**

Ms. Cid stated they issued 38 building permits, 2 new homes, 3 tree removals, 2 certificates of appropriateness and 1 change of occupancy due to a new business in town. She spoke about Code Enforcement and said she will need to hire a Code Enforcement Officer. In the meantime, she has brought in an outside officer to work on major issues. She explained courtesy notices went out to blighted properties in the Historic District and if there was no reply a violation was sent to them.

She explained other violations are going out as well and some are already becoming compliant. She said Public Works has been helping them pick up signs in the right of ways. Further discussion was regarding what types of signs are being picked up, where they are going and real estate signs. Ms. Cid stated they are working on five new ordinances, an RFP for wayfinding signs and a letter for Main Street. Mayor White stated if staff comes up with a recommendation for Code Enforcement they will try to make that happen for her.

Chief McQuaig provided an update on arrests that are now in the court system. He stated Jeremiah Bennet was sentenced to 364 days in jail, Eric Slaughter sentenced to 30 months in prison, Lorenzo Baker received two 60 month terms in prison, Jamie Arendondo will serve 180 days in jail, Richard Pelt received 124 plus 60 days in jail, Cayla Glass sentenced to 150 days in jail and Abraham Grimes will serve 28 days jail. He said several other cases pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing. He pointed out that not only do his Officers make the cases, but they send a lot of people to prison and he said he is very proud of his Officers. Councilwoman Cabbage asked if this information could be put in the Riverland News and Chief McQuaig replied he will work on that.

Chief McQuaig provided an update on Boomtown and said he only had one problem, but the Officers defused it before it got out of hand. He said it was a great event.

**Agenda Item No. 15 – City Attorney Report**

Attorney Brackins stated he has corresponded with Attorney Hand and while there is no announcement yet, everyone is doing fine.

Kathy Dunn, 11386 SW Hendrix Dr., asked Ms. Cid to put out an update in the Riverland News regarding projects she is working on for Code Enforcement. She also offered her assistance on the Main Street project. She stated the City beautification needs to be a group effort and the Police should help pick up signs too.

**Agenda Item No. 16 – Adjourn**

At approximately 8:25p.m. Vice-Mayor Hanchar moved the City Council meeting be adjourned and Councilwoman Kenny seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed 4-0.

Attest:

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Penned Signature of  
Amanda Odom, CMC  
City Clerk

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Penned Signature of  
William P. White, Mayor