

**Minneola City Council
Minutes
July 7, 2020 at 6:30 PM
Minneola City Hall**

The City of Minneola Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Pat Kelley. Also present were Vice Mayor Pam Serviss, Councilor Kelly Price, Councilor Joe Saunders, Grant Watson (Associate City Attorney), Mark Johnson (City Manager), and Barbara Hollerand (City Clerk). Councilor Lisa Jones was absent. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all present were practicing "social distancing" by remaining at least six feet apart in the council chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kelley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was observed, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Mayor Serviss.

AGENDA REVIEW

Mayor Kelley suggested moving Item 10 - Ordinance 2020-09 Golf Carts and Item 11 - Consent for School Expansion – Pinecrest Lakes Academy to just after the Consent Agenda.

Grant Watson requested that Item 7 – Ordinance 2020-06 – Duke Energy Franchise Agreement be tabled to July 21, 2020.

Vice Mayor Serviss asked that Item 12 – Discussion – No-Camping Ordinance also be moved up on the agenda to before Item 8.

MOTION by Vice Mayor Serviss, SECONDED by Councilor Price, to move up items 10, 11, and 12 on the agenda and to table Item 7 – Ordinance 2020-06 Duke Energy Franchise Agreement – Second Reading to July 21, 2020.

AYE: Serviss, Kelley, Price, Saunders

NAY: None

MOTION PASSED: 4-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Kelley asked for public comment.

Paul Giacalone, 625 Arbor Pointe Avenue, complimented Joyce Heffington, Mark Johnson, and Kristine Thompson for their efforts on the review of the Publix project.

David Yeager, County resident, spoke regarding concerns with squatters, funding for off road law enforcement vehicles, inconsistent property mowing near the turnpike, portable toilets near the turnpike, a back entrance to Esplanade to access Minneola businesses, small dumpster companies not paying fees, and landscaping at City Hall.

Lt. Ron Patton, Lake County Sheriff's Office, spoke regarding a potential solution he is researching related to the squatters issue. He said the agricultural exemption for properties may provide leverage for requiring property owners to clean up problem sites.

Mayor Kelley clarified what resources are available to the sheriff's office for accessing rural properties.

Edwin Portillo, 725 Woods Landing Drive in the Reserve at Minneola, spoke regarding speeding concerns in his neighborhood and asked for more stop signs.

Paul Giacalone spoke regarding speeding near the intersection of Woods Landing and Jorhagen Drive.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item 1: City Council Meeting Minutes June 16, 2020

Item 2: Project Award – Library Design-Build – Budgeted

Item 3: Purchase Request – Air Conditioning Unit Replacement

Item 4: Contract – Professional Services – Budgeted

Item 5: Contract – Professional Services – Budgeted

Item 6: Contract – Trail Resurfacing – Budgeted

Mayor Kelley asked for public comment. There were no comments.

MOTION by Councilor Price, SECONDED by Vice Mayor Serviss, to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYE: Serviss, Kelley, Price, Saunders

NAY: None

MOTION PASSED: 4-0

MOTION by Vice Mayor Serviss, SECONDED by Councilor Price, to excuse Councilor Jones.

AYE: Serviss, Kelley, Price, Saunders

NAY: None

98 **MOTION PASSED: 4-0**

99

100

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

101

102 **Item 10 – Ordinance 2020-09 – Golf Carts – First Reading**

103

104 **Grant Watson** read the ordinance in title only. He reminded council that it was first reading
105 and no vote was required.

106

107 **Mayor Kelley** provided some background information. He spoke regarding vague language
108 in the proposed ordinance, City streets, 20 m.p.h speed limits, licensed drivers, safety
109 equipment, deeded communities with active H.O.A.s, and implementation strategies with
110 the City and the H.O.A.s if there is neighborhood interest.

111

112 **Vice Mayor Serviss** spoke regarding liability issues and safety requirements.

113

114 **Grant Watson** stated he noted the council's questions and will undertake further research
115 into applicable state statutes.

116

117 **Diana Mahadeo**, 1836 Kerry Street, spoke regarding all the modifications made to her golf
118 cart based on consultation with the sheriff's office and review of state requirements.

119

120 **Shivan Baboolal**, 1836 Kerry Street, spoke regarding other requirements they had to meet.

121

122 **Diana Mahadeo** spoke regarding children operating golf carts, educating golf cart owners,
123 and changes recommended to the proposed ordinance.

124

125 **Mayor Kelley** spoke regarding the proposed ordinance as a starting point for discussion.

126

127 **David Yeager** spoke regarding the Villages as a source for golf cart standards and criteria.

128

129 **Nathan Focht**, County resident, spoke regarding Peachtree City, Ga. as another good city
130 to research. He spoke regarding policing golf cart usage, the definitions of a golf cart and
131 other vehicles, and golf carts on major roads and on multi-purpose trails.

132

133 **Mayor Kelley** spoke regarding safety concerns and modifications to golf carts.

134

135 **Paul Giacalone** spoke regarding forming a resident committee to review issues associated
136 with operating golf carts.

137

138 **Mayor Kelley** proposed leaving the tighter restrictions to the H.O.A.s to tailor to their own
139 neighborhood needs.

140

141 **Daniel Smith**, 1849 Kerry Street, spoke regarding underage drivers, low-speed vehicles,
142 inconsistent hours of operation from community to community, and signage on trails.

143

144 **Mayor Kelley** spoke regarding safety and providing protections for the community.

145 **Rob McCue**, 235 Gentle Breeze Drive, suggested that the council consider how other cities
146 such as Tavares and Eustis involve their H.O.A.s in the process.

147
148 **Mayor Kelley** said those cities were allowing golf carts as a strategy to promote their
149 downtowns. He spoke regarding how golf carts are being used in Minneola.

150
151 **Rob McCue** spoke regarding inconsistencies with H.O.A.s.

152
153 **Mayor Kelley** closed public comment.

154
155 **Councilor Saunders** spoke regarding registered and tagged vehicles that are street legal
156 and regulated by the State. He spoke regarding the Villages golf cart parade, golf carts as
157 toys, personal responsibility, risk management, and the courts' role in determining liability
158 in vehicle accidents. He expressed his position that any golf cart on a thoroughfare must be
159 a registered vehicle equipped to be on the road. He spoke regarding cars passing low-speed
160 golf carts and causing accidents. He suggested that the Villages would be a good source for
161 data on the frequency and extent of golf cart-related accidents. He stated he was not in favor
162 of golf carts on streets. He mentioned Sun City near Tampa as another golf cart-centric
163 community, and that Minneola is not predominantly a golf cart community.

164
165 **Vice Mayor Serviss** spoke regarding the manual for low-speed vehicles.

166
167 **Daniel Smith** provided the state definitions of golf carts and low-speed vehicles.

168
169 **Mayor Kelley** spoke regarding the council's need to understand the issue.

170
171 **John Coleman**, 804 Arbor Hill Circle, spoke regarding his children using golf carts on local
172 streets to run errands.

173
174 **Joseph Holloway**, 1048 Arbor Hill Circle, spoke regarding uninsured drivers in Florida.

175
176 **Mayor Kelley** recommended additional work be done on the ordinance, and it be brought
177 back for second reading when it was ready.

178
179 **Item 11: Consent for School Expansion – Pinecrest Lakes Academy**

180
181 **Mayor Kelley** provided background information on South Avenue, the school's expansion
182 plans, and prior approvals.

183
184 **Joyce Heffington** provided background information. She said staff recommends approval,
185 contingent on site plan approval.

186
187 **Mayor Kelley** asked for public comment.

188
189 **John Coleman**, 804 Arbor Hill Circle, requested a guarantee that the road will not open.
190 He asked about the noticing requirements.

191
192 **Mayor Kelley** provided some background on prior public hearings and citizen participation
193 at the meetings.

194 **Grant Watson** spoke regarding prior meetings' noticing and the City's practice of
195 following state requirements.
196
197 **John Coleman** spoke in favor of speed tables.
198
199 **Mayor Kelley** spoke regarding the security gate, public safety access, and speed tables.
200
201 **Joseph Holloway** spoke in support of the gate.
202
203 **City resident** spoke regarding speed tables on Arbor Hill Circle.
204
205 **Mayor Kelley** asked if the area was in the C.R.A. and suggested looking at creating a
206 boulevard or other traffic calming strategies to slow down speeders on South Avenue.
207
208 **Daniel Smith**, spoke in support of the gate and the City's responsiveness to the
209 community's safety concerns. He spoke regarding the need for car stacking at the school's
210 start and end times.
211
212 **Mayor Kelley** spoke regarding the school's responsiveness to working with the City and
213 the neighborhood. He stated the school will be staggering start times.
214
215 **Kelly Bajek**, 943 Parrish Drive, spoke regarding her Eastridge neighborhood and her
216 concerns with the gate opening in the future. She spoke regarding the noticing of meetings
217 and posts on social media.
218
219 **Vice Mayor Serviss** spoke regarding the council being available for citizen concerns.
220
221 **Council** discussed putting a sign up at the gate.
222
223 **Nathan Focht**, spoke regarding the City's Facebook page and posted meeting agendas. He
224 suggested that the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting agenda be posted as well.
225
226 **Chuck Hiott**, with BESH Engineering at 902 N. Sinclair Avenue, Tavares, clarified that
227 the request on the agenda was to approve the increase in students at the school from 750 to
228 1,200. He spoke regarding the approved site plan for South Avenue. He stated that the road
229 will be constructed, turned over to the City, and blocked off.
230
231 **Grant Watson** reminded council that this approval is contingent upon site plan approval.
232
233 **MOTION by Councilor Price, SECONDED by Vice Mayor Serviss, for granting**
234 **Consent for School Expansion – Pinecrest Lakes Academy contingent upon site plan**
235 **approval.**
236
237 **AYE:** Serviss, Kelley, Price, Saunders
238
239 **NAY:** None
240
241 **MOTION PASSED: 4-0**

242 **Item 12: Discussion – No-Camping Ordinance**

243
244 **Mayor Kelley** spoke regarding a City of Ocoee ordinance regarding camping without
245 permission. He suggested holding off on the discussion until Lt. Patton is able to report back
246 on the approach he had suggested.

247
248 He asked for public comment. There were no comments.

249
250 **Item 8: Ordinance 2020-08 – Property Transfer – Ardmore Reserve Tract F – Second**
251 **Reading**

252
253 **Grant Watson** read the ordinance in title only.

254
255 **Mayor Kelley** asked for public comment. There were no comments.

256
257 **Grant Watson** spoke regarding Tranquility Street right-of-way that may be included in
258 Tract F.

259
260 **Council** discussed tabling the item to get clarification on the legal description.

261
262 **MOTION by Vice Mayor Serviss, SECONDED by Councilor Price, to table Item 8:**
263 **Ordinance 2020-08 – Property Transfer – Ardmore Reserve Tract F – Second Reading**
264 **for further review.**

265
266 **AYE:** Serviss, Kelley, Price, Saunders

267
268 **NAY:** None

269
270 **MOTION PASSED: 4-0**

271
272 **Item 9: Resolution 2020-05 – Preliminary Annual Fire Assessment Fee Rate – Fiscal**
273 **Year 2021**

274
275 **Mayor Kelley** provided background information. He spoke regarding the proposed
276 resolution generally the same as last year with a few exceptions.

277
278 **Mark Johnson** summarized that the council consensus had been to keep the residential rate
279 the same and to begin assessing vacant lands. He said because the study was updated, the
280 rates for commercial and institutional have changed.

281
282 **Mayor Kelley** asked for public comment. There were no comments.

283
284 **Grant Watson** read the resolution in title only.

285
286 **MOTION by Vice Mayor Serviss, SECONDED by Councilor Saunders, to approve**
287 **Item 9: Resolution 2020-05 – Preliminary Annual Fire Assessment Fee Rate – Fiscal**
288 **Year 2021**

289
290 **AYE:** Serviss, Kelley, Price, Saunders

291 **NAY:** None

292

293 **MOTION PASSED: 4-0**

294

295 **Mayor Kelley** asked if there was any objection to adjoining the meeting to convene the
296 C.R.A. meeting after a short break.

297

298 **MOTION by Vice Mayor Serviss, SECONDED by Councilor Price, to adjourn.**

299

300 **AYE:** Serviss, Kelley, Price, Saunders

301

302 **NAY:** None

303

304 **MOTION PASSED: 4-0**

305

306 *(Meeting adjourned at 9:12 P.M.)*

307

308

309

310

311

312

313

314 **ATTEST:**

315

316

317

318

319

320



Pat Kelley, Mayor

Barbara Hollerand, City Clerk