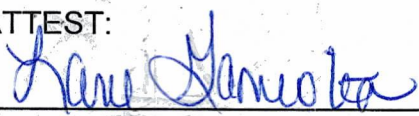





CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA
NOVEMBER 5, 2020, TOWN HALL MEETING
SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
Mayor Watford called the Town Hall meeting of the City Council for the City of Okeechobee to order on Thursday, November 5, 2020, at 5:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, located at 55 Southeast 3rd Avenue, Room 200, Okeechobee, Florida.
- II. ATTENDANCE**
Roll was taken by City Clerk Lane Gamiotea. Members present: Mayor Dowling R. Watford, Jr., Council Members Wes Abney, Monica Clark, Bob Jarriel, and Bobby Keefe.
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- A.** Mayor Watford explained those who would like to address the Council needed to complete a comment card or a written comment form. Both were to be turned into Deputy Clerk Jenkins. Those attending via Zoom will need to use the appropriate icon for Mrs. Brock to identify they wish to make a presentation.
- Comment Card No. 1 was submitted by Mrs. Suzanne Bowen who voiced her concerns with the overgrown vegetation and lack of maintenance on the drainage ditches surrounding her property on the corner of Southwest 7th Avenue and 9th Street. She has personally removed some of the overgrown vegetation to help alleviate the flooding of her property. Public Works Director Allen will ensure this issue is resolved.
- Mrs. Jennifer Tewksbury submitted a letter on behalf of the Economic Council of Okeechobee. It was read into the record recognizing improvements to the community. They asked the City to place importance on community aesthetics, establish a Community Redevelopment Agency, raise expectations for road improvements, drainage, and other vital infrastructure developments; require staff to execute all projects for which the people and the City businesses have been taxed; continue supporting full-time code enforcement professionals and the Charter Review Committee; and implement a nuisance abatement fund.
- Board of County Commissioners David Hazellief and Brad Goodbread were in attendance. Commissioner Hazellief responded to the Council's questions in that the County does not host Town Hall meetings but provides for public comments at each meeting, and the County's code compliance abatement program has been useful since its adoption.
- City Clerk Gamiotea announced copies of citizen board/committees' applications were available for anyone to take as well as the flyer regarding the Flagler Park Design Review Advisory Committee and encouraged sharing information for all citizen board vacancies.
- IV.** Mayor Watford adjourned the meeting at 5:18 P.M.

ATTEST:


Lane Gamiotea, CMC, City Clerk


Dowling R. Watford, Jr., Mayor

Please take notice and be advised that when a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. City Clerk media are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk.

VIII. COUNCIL COMMENTS CONTINUED

Council Member Clark then distributed an events calendar from the Okeechobee County Tourist Development Council and emphasized there will be a youth football championship tournament held in Okeechobee on November 18 through 22, 2020, which will bring in over 80 teams. All hotels have been booked, and she wanted to ensure businesses were made aware in order to prepare. She further explained the fishing tournaments scheduled bring approximately \$600,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00 per event to the County. She encouraged everyone to check the calendar on a regular basis.

- IX.** There being no further items on the agenda, Mayor Watford adjourned the meeting at 7:31 P.M. The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2020, at 6:00 P.M.



Dowling R. Watford, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Lane Gamiotea, CMC, City Clerk

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