MINUTES
CITY OF COCOA
SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

NOVEMBER 21, 2022

A Swearing-In Ceremony was held on Monday, November 21, 2022, in Cocoa City Hall, in City Council Chambers, located at 65 Stone Street, in Cocoa, Florida, 32922, as publicly noticed.

I. Opening Matters:

Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Councilmember Goins provided the invocation and a former County Commissioner Lober led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The Assistant City Clerk took the roll.

PRESENT:	Michael C. Blake	Mayor
	Lavander Hearn	Deputy Mayor (via phone)
	Rip Dyal	Councilmember
	Alex Goins	Councilmember
	Lorraine Koss	Councilmember
	Anthony Garganese	City Attorney
	Stockton Whitten	City Manager
	Carie Shealy	City Clerk

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jack Walsh, Utilities Director; Tammy Gemmati, Administrative Services Director; Charlene Neuterman, Community Services Director; Samantha Senger, Asst. to the CM/PIO; Evander Collier, Chief of Police; Bryant Smith, Public Works Director/Interim Economic Growth and Development Director; Lora Howell, Deputy Finance Director; Jonathan Lamm, Fire Chief; Robert Beach, Chief Technology Officer; Mitch Lawyer, Tech Supervisor; Monica Arsenault, Assistant City Clerk; Colleen O'Donnell, Records Technician; and Lisa Richardson, Helpdesk Support Tech.

II. Council Business:

1. Resolution Certifying the Results of November 8, 2022 General Election

* **MOTION by Councilmember Dyal; Seconded by Councilmember Koss to approve the resolution certifying the results of the November 8, 2022 General Election.**

AYES: Blake, Hearn, Dyal, Goins Koss

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

2. Reaffirmation of District 1 Councilmember- James "Alex" Goins

City Clerk Shealy reaffirmed District 1 elect James "Alex" Goins.

Councilmember Goins shared that being on City Council is not an easy job and thanked his friends, family and community for their support over the last few years and is excited about moving forward.

He congratulated Councilmember Koss on being re-elected. He also thanked the City Council for their support. They are all here for the same reasons, which is to fight for the City of Cocoa and its citizens.

Moving forward his goals are to continue to improve infrastructure and growth in the city, support staff and continue encouraging businesses to open up here.

He expressed his appreciation for everyone and thanked Team Cocoa.

3. Reaffirmation of District 4 Councilmember- Lorraine Koss

City Clerk Shealy reaffirmed District 4 elect Lorraine Koss.

Councilmember Koss thanked her husband, her campaign team and all of her supporters for their support.

She shared that it is an honor to be re-elected as a Councilmember. She is grateful for the effort that her supporters put into her campaign. She thanked her husband, who always believes in her and supports her.

She will continue to advocate for more smart growth, sustainability and strategic development in the City of Cocoa.

Moving forward she will treat Council with respect and compassion and hopes to receive the same in return.

She thanked staff and expressed her appreciation for their professionalism.

Lastly, she thanked the citizens and is excited to continue moving forward as Team Cocoa.

4. Appointment/Election of Deputy Mayor

Mayor Blake asked Deputy Mayor Hearn if he would consider being Deputy Mayor again.

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal to re-elect Lavander Hearn as Deputy Mayor.**

City Attorney Garganese called a point of order and explained that each member of Council should be allowed the opportunity to make a nomination.

Councilmember Koss wished to nominate herself as Deputy Mayor.

Councilmember Dyal expressed that he is okay with Lavander Hearn being re-elected as Deputy Mayor.

Councilmember Goins shared that he would also like to consider re-electing Mr. Hearn as Deputy Mayor.

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to re-elect Lavander Hearn as Deputy Mayor.**

Councilmember Koss noted that she would like to uphold her commodity with Mr. Hearn and will support him as Deputy Mayor.

AYES: Blake, Hearn, Dyal, Goins Koss

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

III. ADJOURNMENT.

* **MOTION BY MAYOR BLAKE; SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DYAL TO ADJOURN THE NOVEMBER 21, 2022 SWEARING-IN CEREMONY.**

AYES: BLAKE, HEARN, DYAL, GOINS, KOSS

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

The Swearing-In Ceremony adjourned at 6:37PM.

Michael C. Blake

Michael C. Blake, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carie Shealy

Carie Shealy, MMC, City Clerk
(Transcribed by M. Arsenault, Asst. City Clerk)