MINUTES (Amended)
City of Cocoa
Regular Meeting of The City Council

April 27, 2021

A Regular City Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 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 6:05 p.m.

Rabbi Sanford Olshansky provided the invocation and Jack Masson led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The City Clerk took the roll.

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

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Matthew Fuhrer, Assistant City Manager; Tammy Gemmati, Administrative Services Director; Jack Walsh, Utilities Director; John Hankins, Interim Chief of Police; Jonathan Lamm, Fire Chief; Bryant Smith, Public Works Director; Rebecca Bowman, Finance Director; Nancy Bunt, Community Services Director; Trevor Roth, Helpdesk Support Tech; Mitch Lawyer, Technical Services Supervisor; and Samantha Senger, Assistant to the City Manager/PR Specialist.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

1. **Agenda:** Regular Meeting of April 27, 2021 (21-302)

2. **Minutes:** (a) Regular Meeting of March 23, 2021 (21-247)

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to amend the agenda by adding the reappointment of Joy Rutherford as a member of the Sustainability Advisory Board, Item VII.3, and to remove Item VII.1, as Cocoa High School Chorus will no longer be requesting the use of this facility.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Goins; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to approve the Minutes as presented.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Mayor Blake recognized Interim Chief John Hankins for his thirty-year career with the City of Cocoa Police Department. Former Chief Cantaloupe was in attendance to help with the presentation. City Manager Whitten thanked him as well and noted he has been invaluable in terms of the selection process for the new chief and his knowledge of Cocoa is insurmountable.

III. Awards and Presentations:

1. Reading of Amanda Gorman's "The Hill We Climb" by Kyah Coleman, Cocoa High School class of 2021. (21-322). (Councilmember Koss)

   Councilmember Koss read a poem in the place of Ms. Coleman. "Let Us Cry" is the name of the poem. The poem was written by native Cocoan David Jackson[1].

2. Proclamation: "Proclaiming Friday, April 30, 2021 as Arbor Day". (21-304). (Community Services Director)

   Deputy Mayor Goins read the proclamation into the record.

[1] Minutes were amended by Councilmember Koss at the 5/11/2021 Regular City Council meeting.

3. Certificate of Recognition for "The Tulip Restaurant & Lounge" in recognition of their 40th Anniversary of Business in the City of Cocoa. (21-325) (Councilmember Dyal)

Councilmember Dyal recognized "The Tulip Restaurant & Lounge" for their 40th anniversary in the City of Cocoa.

Daniel, owner of "The Tulip Restaurant and Lounge" introduced his family and those in attendance. He provided a brief history of the restaurant and thanked all for being patrons of the business. They reiterated their thanks to the City and citizens and noted they will continue to succeed.

4. Update by Cocoa Rotary on special events. (21-287). (Cocoa Rotary)

Mr. Mike Arnold with the Cocoa Rotary thanked Council, City staff, and Leisure Services for their help with concerts that have been put on for the last seven years. He provided a history of the Boys and Girls Club on Dixon Boulevard. It was Cocoa Rotary's mission to keep the Boys and Girls Club open.

This is a way to give back to businesses that support the city. He listed the concerts that have been held and how much of a profit they made on the events. All of the funds raised are put back into the community. Cocoa Rotary was founded in 1926 so it has had 95 years of service to the community.

He stressed they are here to help the City and they appreciate the City helping them. He further reiterated their thanks to city staff.

Councilmember Koss added that the Cocoa Rotary has adopted Provost Park and is doing quarterly cleanups. The next one will be this Saturday, at 9:00 a.m., and anyone is welcome.

Mayor Blake saluted all Rotarians and thanked them for investing in children in the community.

5. Presentation by EFSC Provost Sibley. (21-303). (Councilmember Koss)

Provost Sibley announced that Councilmember Koss attended a board meeting at EFSC and invited her to speak about the programs offered at EFSC. She advised she was the current Provost at the Cocoa campus. She spoke about all of the programs offered including workforce and technical programs along with Associate in Arts and Bachelors Degrees. She looked forward to working with the new Police Chief and welcomes any others to come by and learn more about what they have to offer to the citizens of Cocoa.

Mayor Blake announced that Cocoa High School has the largest number of AA graduates of all schools in Brevard County.

IV. Delegations:

Rabbi Olshansky, 3810 Murrell Road, Rockledge, Florida, is the interim Vice President of the Sister City. He advised that their president had to travel this week so he read a letter from Pastor Alonso. He pointed out that Beit Shemesh means "House of Sun" in English. On May 13th at 7 p.m. the Sister City Program will hold their first in person event since 2020. It will be at the Cocoa Civic Center and Mayor Blake will be in attendance. The most notable recent achievement was a joint Space Camp event in December, 2019. He noted that former Mayor Jake Williams was a big supporter and looked forward to continued support of the program.

Mayor Blake advised that his biggest concern was to re-establish the relationship with the Sister City.

Kathy Hamilton-Brown, 306 Edinburgh Drive, Cocoa, noted she received a call from the director at Clearlake Education Center and was asked if she knew anyone in the automotive business. She mentioned Mr. Johnny Fred Bailey and provided a brief history of him. She asked for the City's support by way of a letter addressed to Dr. Mullins in honor of a building at the Center to be named after him. She felt it was very deserving and would need the letter by the middle of May so it can be delivered on time.

Mayor Blake and all of Council were in support of this.

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Goins; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to get a letter in support of the building being named after Mr. Bailey at Clearlake Education Center.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Montray Anderson, 1003 N. Cocoa Blvd., Cocoa, is the founder of the POTS Foundation, Inc. He spoke of their mission and provided information to Council. They would like to utilize the old Joe Lee Smith Center for their foundation which would be to keep children off of the streets by providing services to them.

Stephanie Carter Gallon, 1003 N. Cocoa Blvd., and Owner of Dakota Detailing, Cocoa, thanked Council for the donation of the shade. She piggybacked off of Mr. Anderson's comments about the POTS Foundation going into the Joe Lee Smith

Center. They would like to put in a boxing arena, basketball program, and build a better relationship with the community. She requested they read the proposal.

Mayor Blake mentioned that Deputy Mayor Goins had a request for an RFP for the use of that building and they need input from the community so he asked she and Mr. Anderson come to that meeting.

Deputy Mayor Goins announced it was decided to put that item on the second meeting of May.

Pat Chambers, 37 Derby Street, Cocoa, congratulated the Mayor because it only took eighteen days to approve and distribute $475,000 to save a grocery store. She spoke of the plan and noted that in the eighteen days they should have done their due diligence. She felt that they could have opened an ESOP grocery store which could have had a board of directors. By doing this they could have given sixteen people a chance for a future.

Frank Sullivan, 1705 Indian River Drive, Cocoa, felt it was interesting to hear from the residents who have been here all of their lives. He spoke of his attendance at a meeting that Councilmember's Koss and Dyal attended in District 4. That area has real opportunity that will make Cocoa better. He also noted that he was trying to get more interest from the Cocoa Rotary to see if they can help with the Brevard Museum.

Donna Kettner, 103 Derby Street, Cocoa, has been in business over thirty five years in the downtown. She spoke in regards to the noise ordinance and that music was still going on at 12:30 a.m. at night. She had the parents of the Commander from the recent launch in her store and believed that it is nice to see what this community has to offer yet we cannot come up with a solution for grease traps. They are pouring it into the drains behind her building again and this also pollutes the river. She will be vacating her business because she does not see anything being done. She believes it is sad and has a cliental that will miss her.

Anita Gibson, 451 Stone Street, Cocoa, requested a Cold Case unit in Cocoa. She was aware that the Sheriff's office has a unit and she spoke about her son's murder. She, along with other mothers and fathers, feel that their cases have been forgotten. She encouraged the new Police Chief to remain in contact with the family even if there is no new information. She wants something done to bring justice to her son's case.

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to extend Delegations by fifteen minutes.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Aleck Greenwood, 640 Brevard Avenue, Cocoa, voiced concerns with the noise ordinance. The businesses are ignoring the peace that is usually in the Village. He never thought he would have to complain about noise. He had a breakfast meeting with the owners to talk about it as well.

Councilmember Hearn spoke in regards to the noise and assured him that Council cares and will seek further solutions. There will be a workshop held on this as well in the coming months.

Phyllis Moscoso, 2209 Catawba Drive, Cocoa, spoke in regards to the Brevard Museum and surrounding areas. She believes that a 501C3 seems to be the best option for the museum and a marketing plan would need to be established in order to know who they are partnering with. She felt tourists who come to the area would like this place to visit. She further spoke about the planetarium at EFSC and explained research that she did in regards to that. Lastly, she felt that the Tiger Den needed some attention.

Gregg Stoll, 2203 Salem Drive, Cocoa, recently expressed to Council why museums are important to him. He looks forward to both being reinvigorated and being re-opened to bring multi-cultural events to the area.

Marlene Weiss, 2415 Tulane Drive, Cocoa, is a business owner in Cocoa. Her health and the community's health has suffered with closures of the Cocoa Conservation area as green spaces are important. She felt that to have a closed gate in the community is demoralizing. She offered a request to Provost Sibley to open the gate on the side of the college so they can walk the loop around Clearlake as they have for many years. Ms. Weiss spoke about the pool at the college as well as the walls and felt it was demoralizing to see that type of neglect. Clearlake has been a place of recreation for many years.

Terrance Thomas, 704 Rosa L. Jones Drive, Cocoa, asked if there was anything that can be offered in the way of vocational classes as many have been taken out of schools. He further asked if retired workers could start a program to get kids off of the streets and try to help them.

Mayor Blake agreed that many of those programs were eliminated, however, this would be a School Board issue. He recommended he speak with Provost Sibley as well because EFSC offers programs.

Deputy Mayor Goins noted this was one of the reasons that he wants to save the old Joe Lee Smith Center as they can do things that Parks and Recreation cannot do because they are not built for those types of programs.

V. Consent Agenda:

(A) General Consent Items:

1. Approve Change Order #1 to Purchase Order 77774 with Insituform Technologies, LLC to Provide Additional Cured in Place Pipe (CIPP) Rehabilitation Services and Sanitary Sewer Mid-Term Cleaning & CCTV Inspections of Main Line Sewers, Project No. WS0904. Approve a Resolution Amending the FY21 Budget, BAF#20-070-T. (21-263). (Utilities Director)

2. Authorizing Staff to submit Renewal of Consumptive Use Water Permit (CUP) #50245 with St. Johns River Water Management District; In furtherance of the professional services required by the City to renew the CUP, Approve Task Order 2021-19 with Water Resource Associates for Consulting Professional Services to Assist the City of Cocoa with the Renewal of the Consumptive Use Permit (CUP) #50245; Approve de la Parte & Gilbert, P.A. as Special Counsel subconsultant for CUP Renewal Through the City Attorney's Agreement, by Exemption to Competitive Bid; and Authorizing the City Manager to approve and contract with Other Consultants as deemed necessary to support the CUP Renewal. (21-266). (Utilities Director)

3. Approve a Resolution Waiving the Competitive Bidding Process for the Purpose of Making a Sole Source Purchase from CST Industries, Inc. of Conroe, Texas, to Replace the Aluminum Dome Cover Parts for Both Sulfureator Tanks at the Wewahootee Water Treatment Plant; To Approve a Resolution Amending the FY2021 Budget; BAF #21-059-A. (21-269). (Utilities Director)

4. Council approval to apply as necessary for two types of grants through the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the removal of eligible derelict vessels. Authorize the City Manager to administer the grant process. (21-273). (Public Works Director)

5. Approve a Resolution Amending the FY 2021 Budget, BAF # 21-068-A, for the Mid-Year, Budget Review and Cleanup, Through the use of Fund Balance Reserves, Contingency and Transfers between Object Classifications, within each Fund. (21-301). (Finance Director)

6. Approval of Resolution No. 2021-25, Adopting "Starship Drive, Calypso Way, Hyperion Way, Gemini Place, Cressida Lane, Cocoa Landing Way and Proteus Lane" as Street Names for the Arbors at Cocoa Landing Apartment project. (21-306). (Community Services Director)

(B) Multi-Year Contracts:

7. Approve the first amendment to Purchase Agreement with Underwater Engineering Services, Inc., C&D Construction Inc., Rush Marine LLC, and TSI Disaster Recovery LLC for Marine Construction Services (RFQ 18-15-COC). Authorize the City Manager to sign the first amendment effective June 22, 2021 through June 21, 2022. Authorize the City Manager to sign the second and final amendment effective June 22, 2022 through June 21, 2023. (21-254). (Public Works Director)

8. Approve Participation in a Cooperative Purchase Agreement with Vortex Services, LLC, Houston, Texas, to Provide Rehabilitation Services to the Existing Sulfuraetors at the Wewahootee Water Treatment Plant Utilizing Houston-Galveston Area Council National Cooperative Purchasing Contract 018-00382 Effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021 in the amount of $197,950; To Approve a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Approve Change Orders in an Amount Not to Exceed $19,795 (approximately 10%) for a Project Total of $217,745, Project No. WS21WS; To Approve a Resolution Amending the FY2021 Budget; BAF # 21-071-A. (21-270). (Utilities Director)

9. Approve a Multi-Year Contract with GARDA CL Southeast, Inc. for Armored Car Service and Authorize the City Manager to Sign the Contract. (21-286). (Finance Director)

10. Approve First Amendment to the Multi-Year Premier Power Services Contract between the City of Cocoa and Duke Energy Florida, LLC. (21-290). (Utilities Director)

11. Approve Multi-Year contract with Five9 in conjunction with Multi-Year contract with Verteks Consulting Inc. for the Utility Customer Service Call Center Platform.

Utilize Standardization Purchase to exempt from Competitive Purchase. Authorize City Manager to sign and execute each contract. (21-319). (Finance Director)

* **MOTION by Councilmember Dyal; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn, to approve the Consent agenda.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Chief Lamm announced that there will be a vaccine site at Provost Park on Saturday, May 1st from 10 am until 7 p.m. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine will be given.

VI. Public Hearings:

None.

VII. Council Business:

~~1. Seek Council approval to waive fees associated with renting the Porcher House for the Cocoa High School Chorus special graduation recognition program on Saturday, May 15, 2021. (21-299). (Assistant to the CM/Public Information Officer)~~

- **This item was removed from the agenda.**

1.~~2~~. Approval of Resolution No. 2021-033, Adopting "Jim Wallen Park" as the Park Name for Circle Park. (21-315). (Councilmember Hearn)

Councilmember Hearn read the resolution into the record. He thanked Ms. Stephanie Morretto and former Councilwoman Brenda Warner who started this initiative.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-033

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE RENAMING OF CIRCLE PARK TO JIM WALLEN PARK; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT RESOLUTIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ms. Diane Gunn, former Mayor of Cocoa, mentioned that she served with Mr. Wallen on Council and he is a fine man. He and his wife were both very civic oriented and dedicated and this has been very sad ordeal. She thanked Council for honoring Jim's memory.

Mayor Blake thanked them and when they have a dedication ceremony he looked forward to seeing them all there.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Hearn; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Goins, to approve the Resolution.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

2.~~3~~. Consider the Appointments of Ronald Deel, Diana Robinson, and Jonathan Templeton as members to the Sustainability Advisory Board and the Reappointments of Paige Horr, Kristina Jackson, Linda Gombert, and Joy Rutherford, to the Sustainability Advisory Board. (21-321). (Administrative Services Director)

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Goins, to approve the appointments and reappointments.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

VIII. City Business:

1. Approval of the re-platting of a portion of a Final Subdivision known as Summer Breeze Plantation, which shall be known as Summer Breeze Plantation Phase Two, in accordance with Appendix A Zoning, Chapter 18, of the City of Cocoa Code, with conditions. (21-284). (Community Services Director)

Deputy Community Services Director Neuterman provided a detailed background of the subdivision and pointed out that it was approved by the Planning & Zoning Board and was in compliance with City Code.

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to approve the re-platting of a portion of a Final Subdivision known as Summer Breeze Plantation, which shall be known as Summer Breeze Plantation Phase Two, in accordance with Appendix A Zoning, Chapter 18, of the City of Cocoa Code with the following condition: 1) Provide a revised Title Opinion within 15 days of Council approval with the following changes:**

a. Remove the start date of the search and only state that the search runs through March 10, 2021.
b. Address the Title Opinion to the City's attention

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Multi-Year Contracts:

None.

IX. Informational Agenda:

1. Review the cumulative purchase approvals over $35,000 and under $50,000 for period 10/01/2020 to 3/31/2021. (21-280). (Finance Director)

2. Approved change orders to construction contracts that the City Council has authorized the City Manager, by resolution, to approve in excess of the City Manager's spending authority. (21-295). (Finance Director)

3. FY 2021 Budget Adjustment Report. (21-296). (Finance Director)

4. Data showing the relation between the estimated and actual income and expenses to date. (21-297). (Finance Director)

X. Reports:

Chief Lamm provided an update on COVID-19 and advised that in the state of Florida there have been 2,212,097 cases; 40,432 in Brevard County with 853 deaths; in Cocoa there have been 3,689 and 44 active cases in city limits. A vaccination update was provided and he noted we are still in the top five in the variant. The CDC has updated its recommendation for masks and mask wearing. He will be ready at the next council meeting to provide an update on that issue. He reiterated the clinic at Provost Park this Saturday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m., or until the 400 available vaccines run out.

Ms. Senger provided a quick presentation regarding the Porcher House Tenant Leases. These will be up on October 1st. It is a process to do these and she pointed out that there are two private tenants at the Porcher House. Staff is proposing an increase on the tenant leases from $1.42 to $1.56 per square foot. There has not been an increase in at least seven years. An analysis of office spaces in the Cocoa Village area was shown of similar properties. We are in the middle and increasing to $1.56 will keep them in the middle. She asked for a consensus of council.

Councilmember Koss felt this was premium space in Cocoa Village. In response, Ms. Senger advised that they have an option to renew each year, however, this

was a ten percent increase given that they have not had an increase in many years. She pointed out that that they can continue to raise the rates to get higher prices. Councilmember Koss would like to see an increase of 15% and did not feel anyone would leave.

Councilmember Hearn appreciated staff's assessment but agreed with Councilmember Koss in regards to the location and facility.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn, to raise the tenants rent by 15%.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Ms. Neuterman explained that at the workshop yesterday a resolution for business permit fees was approved. They originally thought it would be live on May 3rd but they are requesting that be extended to June 1st in order to get necessary changes implemented in their system.

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Dyal, to change the date from May 3rd to June 1st.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Interim Chief Hankins mentioned that the City Clerk had provided a copy of the Police Departments Annual Report to Council. He thanked his staff for the report and their hard work on the project.

City Manager Whitten spoke in regards to Chief Hankins and mentioned how amazing it was to be able to do what he loved in the town he was born and raised in. He reiterated his thanks to him for a job well done.

Councilmember Dyal thanked Interim Chief Hankins for his service and mentioned that PAL won the basketball championship. He spoke of his attendance at the "A Day with Your Dog" event and that it was a great event.

He felt staff had done a great job with the budget workshops and was looking forward to the nightlife workshop.

Councilmember Koss spoke in regards to her accident on April 18th. She will be participating remotely for the next month.

She acknowledged the first responders and felt confident that she was in good hands. Councilmember Hearn then drove her and ambulance to the hospital.

She expressed her appreciation for all of the help and response to this.

Councilmember Koss stated that all of this has left her more dedicated and would like staff to look at some sort of incentive in the budget for first responders to live in the City. Secondly, she spoke about her service on the Space Coast TPO and their new initiative VisionZero and noted that we have some of the worst streets in the nation.

She also apologized to her constituents as her tragedy was also a tragedy for them. There were three announced budget workshops and the City Manager had identified $8.8 million. She did not feel comfortable with some of the votes they were tasked with making as in the past they have had more time to consider things. She would have liked a little more time to reflect and have some constituent feedback and prefers that method.

She attended the first meeting, but missed the second and some of the third. She knows that monies were allotted for District 1, 2, and 3, but there was none for District 4, which has parks that need attention.

Councilmember Koss was sorry she was not there and hoped that in the future when a councilmember was absent this is taken into account or actions are delayed until they have a voice.

Councilmember Hearn mentioned his Town Hall Meeting on April 20th and felt it went well. He appreciated those who attended and staff for their hard work in putting this together.

Deputy Mayor Goins made the following announcement in regards to his recent travel to Daytona Beach for the Florida League of Cities Institute of Elected Officials Conference which took place at: The Hilton Daytona Beach Resort, 100 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32118. He left on Thursday, April 22nd and returned on Saturday, April 24th. The estimated cost of the trip, including registration, hotel reservations, mileage, parking and per diem will be around $745 dollars. This is budgeted under Council's travel and per diem account.

He felt that the money was well spent and priceless for anyone to go. He learned a lot and believes that Cocoa was in a great position compared to other cities.

He spoke about the RFP for the old Joe Lee Smith Center and requested that Council do their research before the meeting occurs. He wants to ensure that there would be no costs to the City.

Deputy Mayor Goins further clarified with Ms. Neuterman that there were funds available from the Diamond Square CRA. She agreed that there are some funds for uses such as this in the Diamond Square community.

He noted this would be on the agenda for the second meeting in May.

He spoke about the Night Life Workshop and that it will not just be about the noise but also about the future of Cocoa Village. People are coming to us now because we offer different things.

He asked all to keep his mother in their thoughts and prayers as she is having her second round of chemo therapy. She is a strong woman and the family is dealing with a lot right now.

Lastly, he thanked the City Manager for empowering him and appreciates him for empowering him to do the things he does. He was not coached when he first started on what to do and not to do so he voiced his appreciation for that guidance.

Mayor Blake asked the City Manager the status on Rosa L. Jones/ Florida Avenue property. He knows there was some litigation of former owners.

In response, City Manager Whitten explained that he was in the process of reviewing the RFP and it would be brought back to Council at the next meeting.

Mayor Blake asked again about the FBI investigation. He asked if a document could be done and be made public regarding the status. He wants this issue addressed.

Comments were made in regards to the investigation and City Manager Whitten recalled that he had a conversation with a field officer and the FBI's position is that they cannot tell you if you are or are not under an investigation. As far as he knows, no one from the FBI has reached out and asked questions of staff. As far

as he knows there is no FBI investigation and nothing was presented to the FBI from the late former mayor.

City Manager Whitten understands the Mayor's perspective because some of the employees affected by this may want to move on one day and it is a tough position to be in, plus we do not have the former mayor to ask. Additionally, he reiterated that the FBI's position is to not say whether or not we are under an investigation.

Mayor Blake asked that Council dress down during the summer months, beginning with the month of May until September.

CONSENSUS OF COUNCIL TO DRESS DOWN DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

In closing, he reminded all to buy local, spend local, and keep it local.

XI. Adjournment:

* **MOTION by Councilmember Dyal; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn, to adjourn the Regular meeting of April 27, 2021.**

AYES: Blake, Goins, Dyal, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Michael C. Blake, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carie Shealy, MMC, City Clerk

SEAL