



CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025
6:30 PM
6738 Dixon Street
Milton, FL 32570

1. Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 06:32 PM.

Members Present:

Council Member Ward IV, Seat II Casey Powell
Council Member, Ward I, Seat I Mike Cusack
Council Member, Ward II, Seat I Marilyn Farrow
Council Member, Ward III, Seat I Gavin Hawthorne
Council Member Ward III, Seat II Robert Leek
Council Member Ward I, Seat II Tom Powers
Council Member, Ward IV, Seat I Ashley Fretwell
Council Member Ward II, Seat II Larry McKee
Mayor Heather Lindsay

Members Absent:

Members of the Public in Attendance

Sherry Chapman, Reni Johnmeyer, David Farrow, Cindy Smith, Amber Leek, Buddy Fisher, Lauren Odgers, Brian McGuire, David Samples, Vera Cooper, Pam Mitchell, Jerry Mitchell, Cameron Cauley, Roxanne Meiss, Art Brown, Susan Brown, Vernon Compton, Richard McCool, Jimmy Messick, Theresa Messick, Laura Coleman, Shari Sebastiao, Troy Hamilton, Teresa Harris, Yolanda Jones, Carol Rich, Wesley Meiss

Staff in Attendance

City Manager, Ed Spears
City Attorney, Alex Andrade
City Clerk, Molly Turnes
IT Director, Krystle Nowlin
IT Systems Analyst, Ashley Johnston
Public Information Officer, Bethany Anderson
Planning Director, Tim Milstead
Public Works Director, Joe Cook
Events Coordinator, Jay Conrad
Economic Dev. Director, Stephen Prestesater
Chief of Police, Tony Tindell

2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Nicole Jackson, Bearing Fruit Community Church

3. Approval of Minutes

Item # 2024-2917

December 10, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

ACTION:	Motion to Approve by Marilyn Farrow; second by Casey Powell; Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS:	Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilyn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Item # 2025-2983

December 19, 2024 Special Called Council Meeting Minutes

ACTION:	Motion to Approve by Gavin Hawthorne; second by Casey Powell; Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS:	Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilyn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

4. Approval of Agenda

ACTION:	Motion to Approve by Casey Powell; second by Mike Cusack; Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS:	Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilyn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Councilman Leek added 2 items to the council agenda under Section 19.

- Review of City Ordinance 13-24 (from work session agenda)
- Review of UDC Chapter 13&14

Items moved to consent agenda on the council meeting

- 2025-2984 Engineering Services- Community Center Expansion
- 2025-2977 Business Improvement Grant App 6863 Oak Street
- 2025-2978 Business Improvement Grant App 6867 Oak Street
- 2024-2972 UDC Proposed update - Monument Signs
- 2025-2985 Engineering Russell Harbor Park Erosion
- 2025-2986 Sanitation Vehicle for Auction
- 2024-2970 June 19th Work Session moved to the 26th

5. Public Announcements, Awards, Proclamations & Recognitions

Item # 2024-2961

Milton Christmas Parade Recognition

City of Milton recognized Stephanie Wright for her hard work for the Christmas Parade

Item # 2025-2992

MLK Jr. Proclamation

Mayor Lindsay read the MLK Jr Proclamation and announced former Councilmember George Jernigan passed away.

6. Public Hearings

No Public Hearings

7. Invited Speakers

No Invited Speakers

8. Persons to Appear

Public input was provided by: Pam Mitchell

9. General Consent Agenda

Item # 2024-2918

General Consent Agenda

ACTION:

Motion to Approve by Robert Leek;
second by Casey Powell;

Motion passed - 8:0

YEAS:

Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee

NAYS:

None

ABSTAIN:

None

8 Items moved to the consent agenda

- 2025-2984 Engineering Services- Community Center Expansion
- 2025-2977 Business Improvement Grant App 6863 Oak Street
- 2025-2978 Business Improvement Grant App 6867 Oak Street
- 2024-2972 UDC Proposed update - Monument Signs
- 2025-2985 Engineering Russell Harbor Park Erosion
- 2025-2986 Sanitation Vehicle for Auction
- 2024-2970 June 19th Work Session moved to the 26th
- 2025-2987 Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA) training

10. Ordinances & Resolutions

No Ordinances & Resolutions

11. City of Milton Events

No report

12. Public Information Officer Report

No PIO Report

13. Finance, Planning Board

Councilman Cusack reported to council and discussed the item from Work Session "Business Facade Grant Program Review".

Stated the Grants should be used to benefit the citizens of Milton. Money should be utilized better for the City.

Councilman Cusack made a motion "To Do Away With the Business Facade Grant Program"

No Second

Motion Failed Due To Lack of Second

Item was moved to the next January 23rd Work Session for further discussion.

Item # 2024-2972

UDC Proposed Update - Monument Signs (action item)

Item was moved to consent agenda.

14. Administration, Historic Preservation Board

Councilwoman Farrow reported to council.

Item # 2024-2962

Declaration of Surplus Property - 24-Acre Parcel (action item)

Councilwoman Farrow reported to council and invited discussion from her fellow council members.
Councilman Powell asked to move this item to next WS to discuss other options for conservation, etc.
Cameron Cauley of NAI, spoke to council.

Public input was provided by: Pam Mitchell, Vernon Compton, Lauren Odgers

MOVE TO FEBRUARY Work Session

Item # 2024-2965

City of Milton Board Vacancies (action item)

ACTION:	Motion to Approve appointing Laura Spencer Coleman to the HPB by Marilynn Farrow; second by Casey Powell; Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS:	Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

ACTION:	Motion to Approve appointing Richard McCool to the HPB by Marilynn Farrow; second by Casey Powell; Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS:	Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Councilwoman Farrow reported to council. 3 Applicants for HPB with 2 vacant seats. 1 seat for CIB with no application.

- Wesley Meiss
- Richard McCool
- Laura Spencer Coleman

Mr. Meiss recommended council to appoint Mr. McCool and Ms. Colman

1st Motion was Laura Coleman

2nd Motion was Richard McCool

Item # 2024-2973

NAI Pensacola Contract Renewal (action item)

ACTION:	Motion to Approve Renewing Contract for One Year by Larry McKee; second by Tom Powers; Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS:	Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilyn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

The city will renew the contract with NAI for *one year*.

Item # 2025-2981

City of Milton Legislative Priority List (action item)

Mayor Lindsay reported to council.

Tim Parsons of Liberty Partners spoke to council - February 14th deadline to submit Legislative Priority List

City Attorney Alex Andrade recommended reducing the amounts being requested.

- WWTP & Disposal Area \$1mil
- Locklin Lake \$500K
- Riverwalk Extension \$500K

Item # 2024-2948

Establishment of Policy for Council Communications (discussion)

Councilwoman Farrow reported to council. Item was talked about briefly in work session.

City Manager, Ed Spears and Council discussed procedures for communication.

Break 8:42p Reconvene 8:54p

15. Parks & Recreation, Community Improvement Board

Councilman Hawthorne reported to council

Item # 2025-2984

Engineering Services - Community Center Expansion/Renovations (action item)

Item was placed on consent agenda.

16. LEAP, Youth Council

No Report

17. Board of Adjustments, Stormwater

No Report

18. Growth, Development & Annexation, Tourist Development Council

No Report

Item # 2025-2977

Business Improvement Program Grant Application - 6863 Oak Street SRACF (action item)

Item placed on consent agenda

Item # 2025-2978

Business Improvement Program Grant Application - 6867 Oak Street (action item)

Item placed on consent agenda

19. Public Works

Councilman Leek reported to council.

- Requested Planning Board to review UDC Chapter 13&14
- Review of City Ordinance #13-24 Orderly Operation at Public Meetings

The work session prior to the Council Meeting will serve as an agenda review work session for the council meeting agenda. Items that need in-depth discussion will be placed on the agenda of the 2nd work session that falls at the end of the month. City Manager, Ed Spears will provide a red-lined amended ordinance for the next meeting.

Public input was provided by: Jimmy Messick, Pam Mitchell

Item # 2025-2985

Engineering Services for the Russell Harbor Park Erosion Control (action item)

Item placed on consent agenda

Item # 2025-2986

Sanitation Vehicle for Auction (action item)

Item placed on consent agenda

Item # 2025-2982

Discussion on RFP for a Project Director for the WWTP (Farrow)

Item to be moved to a future meeting.

Item # 2024-2947

Discussion on Possible RFP for PFAS Removal System to Include Wetlands
Discharge System(Farrow)

Item to be moved to a future meeting.

20. Public Safety

No Report

Item # 2025-2987

Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA) training (action item)

Item was placed on consent agenda.

21. Mayor Report: Emerald Coast Regional Council, Transportation Planning Organization

Mayor Lindsay reported to council

22. City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Alex Andrade reported to council.

- In the process of Quit Claim Deed of 100 acres back to the county per stipulation in the deed (WWTP Project property) (includes obtaining an easement)
- Police Chief Recruitment Committee meeting at 9:30 Tuesday

23. City Manager's Business

No Report

24. Public Input

Public input was provided by: Theresa Messick

25. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 09:47 PM.

Mayor

Date

City Clerk

Date