



**CITY OF COOPER CITY  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 11, 2020 at 6:30 PM**

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Curran opened the meeting at 6:30 PM and Jackson Miller from Renaissance Charter led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present were Commissioners Pulcini, Meltzer, Green and Curran. Mayor Ross was present via telephone.

**3. CHANGES TO AGENDA/EMERGENCY MATTERS**

None.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS**

The Commission made the following announcements:

- Cooper City Open Play Chess continues each Saturday from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the Pool & Tennis Center with the Mayors Chess Challenge on each third Saturday. Instruction is available. For more information, call 954-434-7300. The next Mayor's chess challenge will be held by the City of Boca Raton on February 15, 2020 at 10:00 AM at the Boca Raton Downtown Public Library located at 400 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The City of Miramar will host on February 22, 2020 at 9:00 AM located at Vizcaya Park 14200 SW 55 Street.
- Cooper Academy will begin on Monday March 9, 2020. There will be 8 sessions from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. For more information, please call Denise Lasarte at 954-434-4300 Ext 263.
- The Mr. and Mrs. Seniors Cooper City, the Miss Teen Cooper City, Little Miss Cooper City and Tiny Miss Cooper City pageants will be held on February 18, 2020.
- Cooper City Recreation will hold the City Garage Sale on March 28, 2020. Registration begins on February 26, 2020 at the Community Center. For more information, call 954-434-4300 Ext. 272 for more information.
- Founders Day celebration will be held on Saturday March 14, 2020. For more information, call 954-434-4300 Ext. 272 for more information.

- Census Day is April 1, 2020. Everyone in your household must be counted. You should receive a postcard in the mail between March 12-20, 2020. If you have any questions contact Lisa Emrekovic or Sydney Bleiweiss at City Hall.
- Cooper City Relay for Life will be held on April 25, 2020 at the Cooper City High School. Cooper City Water Bottles may be purchased for \$7.00 or 3 for \$20.00. For more information, please call Denise Lasarte at 954-434-4300 Ext 263.
- Join Commissioner Meltzer for a Walk in the Park on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM at Flamingo West Park. Also, join the walk on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM at Memorial Park.
- Upcoming Commission Meetings: Regular Commission Meeting Tuesday February 25, 2020 at 6:30 PM. Commission meetings are scheduled at 6:30 PM in the City Hall Auditorium located at 9090 SW 50 Place.

The Commission made the following presentations:

- a. The 2019 Pageant Winners were recognized for their service over the past year - **Recreation**

## **5. PUBLIC SPEAKING**

### **a. Open Public Meeting**

Bob Sands, spoke on Ted Ferone park and his concerns with dogs and missing signage.

Interim City Manager Sims said they will look into the missing signage at Ted Ferone Park.

Commissioner Green said he does see unleashed dogs and he has not seen signs, he wants to make sure signs are visible.

Mayor Ross said there is a Broward County Ordinance against lose dogs and we should follow the County.

Ryan Shrouder spoke on the CDBG grants and his concerns on not awarding money. What can we do to recapture money to help residents or first time home buyers. Also, he has concerns with paying a consultant and not having money awarded.

Commissioner Curran will add this item to the next agenda.

Commissioner Green said he knows the county reduced monies over time but he will defer to hear from staff when the item is placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Meltzer said from calendar year 2016 to present \$215,000 was earmarked for us but zero was awarded to residents. He asked how we market this information.

Interim City Manager Sims answered in the City newsletter, the website and social media.

Commissioner Meltzer would like more marketing. He asked who is responsible to market the money.

Interim City Manager Sims said Broward County is responsible for qualifying residents. The contact for the City is Growth Management Director Matt Wood who works the City's PIO Lisa.

Matt Wood said there is a qualification depends on income level and Broward County is responsible for marketing.

Commissioner Meltzer asked if we have a list of individuals who applied for the purchasing assistance program and minor home repairs.

Mr. Wood answered yes.

Commissioner Meltzer wants the list of individuals from 2016/2017 to 2019. He also asked what the consultant's role was.

Mr. Wood said she was our consultant for the program.

Commissioner Meltzer does not believe we need an consultant if we are not awarding money.

Mayor Ross wants to invite a representative from Broward County. We could do our part and include this information in the Commission announcements as well as the website and Cooper Quarterly. We need to publicize the program and he has concerns about this.

Commissioner Pulcini wants to see communications between CDBG and the City added to the agenda item and see what happened. How many people made requests and qualified or did not qualify.

M. Shrouder said in award year 41 we submitted a letter to the County saying we had a long list but we did not award any money.

Commissioner Pulcini wants to see the list of individuals that applied.

Commissioner Curran asked Mr. Wood to clarify he is not the custodian of records and does he get involved in qualifications

Matt answered he does not get involved in qualifications.

Commissioner Curran said it seems the County did not do their part.

Commissioner Curran said it is our job to announce the program and we do that through the quarterly, website and social media. He also said he would add it to his DRW magazine article. He said it is not fair to say Mr. Wood is the one in charge. The City can promote better but it is the County's program.

Commissioner Meltzer asked if there is a waiting list.

Mr. Wood said there was for the minor home repair program but we do not have that program anymore.

Commissioner Meltzer said he heard there is a list and if there is why we are not getting the money awarded.

Mr. Shrouder said we chose to let the County run the program. In 2015 we lost \$49,000. He said we could administer in house.

Jim Federici, 3751 Ottawa Lane, said we should push some blame to the previous city manager.

David Nall said we spent \$25,000 on a consultant and gave no money out. Why are we spending money if no one qualifies for these programs. He asked City Attorney Horowitz if a sign is not posted about lose dogs he does not believe the City can preempt county.

City Attorney Horowitz answered you are generally correct; there is an Ordinance that prohibits dogs in parks. There is also a County Ordinance.

Mr. Nall asked Chief Cates about an issue at Flamingo West Park and the BSO deputy said it was up to the park attendant to take care of the situation. Do deputies have the authority to address the county issue.

Chief Cates will speak to Mr. Nall.

**b. Agenda Concerns**

Greg Popowitz, 3964 NW 82 Drive, spoke on item 10 and the importance of the Florida Hate Crime Coalition.

**6. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Cates advised he would take care of Mr. Nall's concern. Soccerfest was successful with no incidents. The crime rate is going down statistics show since 2017 we have had a 29.5% decrease in crime. In 2017 the major issue was vehicle burglaries. In 2017 we put out flyers to curve the unlocked doors. Do not leave jewelry in the box that is the first place thieves look. He introduced Deputy Don Reynolds who is in charge of the COP program,

explorers and recently RAD. He has 30 years' experience. Deputy Reynolds spoke on the RAD kids program. The program gives self empowerment and he invites all kids ages 3-12 to join. He also spoke on the explorer program. Children ages 14-21 can receive service hours for participating in the program. Call 954-435-2000 for more information. Chief Cates also spoke on the "Are You Okay" program for seniors who have no family nearby.

Mayor Ross asked how many vacancies we have.

Chief Cates answered three.

Chief Cates advised that Commissioner Meltzer gave him a flyer to put in cars.

## **7. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Caruso advised Fire was present at the Senior expo. He also said the Fort Lauderdale Diaper bank lost their facility were they distribute and used Station 28 recently. They will be set up the first Thursday of every month at the station. BSO Fire were present at soccerfest with four EMS calls.

## **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **a. Minutes**

1. Special Commission Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2020
2. Regular Commission Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2020
3. Regular Commission Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2020

### **b. Resolutions**

#### **1. Resolution 20-2-1 – Utilities**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COOPER CITY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A WATER AND SEWER DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT WITH VIJAY VARKI AT 3401 NW 96 AVENUE, ROYAL PALM RANCHES, COOPER CITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**MOTION:** To approve Consent Agenda. **Moved by Commissioner Pulcini. Seconded by Commissioner Meltzer. All aye on roll call vote. Motion passed.**

## **9. REGULAR AGENDA**

1. Motion to approve tentative Budget Workshop and Meeting Schedule – **Finance**

**MOTION:** To approve tentative Budget Workshop and Meeting Schedule. **Moved by Commissioner Green. Seconded by Commissioner Meltzer. Motion withdrawn.**

Commissioner Meltzer will not be available on April 21 or April 23, 2020 Workshops.

Interim City Manager Sims said herself and the Finance Director have looked at alternative dates.

Commissioner Pulcini suggested that we incorporate the two budget meetings before the regular Commission meetings.

Mayor Ross has no conflicts.

Mrs. Walker said the Commission input workshops can be moved to May 6 and May 7, 2020.

Commissioner Meltzer cannot attend.

Mayor Ross will be out of town.

Commissioner Meltzer suggested having one workshop to be held before the April 28, 2020 Commission Meeting. One workshop to be held before the May 12, 2020 Commission Meeting.

Mrs. Walker suggested the July 9, 2020 Workshop will be moved to July 14, 2020 before the Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Meltzer asked if 1 hour is enough time.

Mrs. Walker said there will be another special budget meeting in August.

**MOTION:** To approve the tentative Budget Workshop and Meeting Schedule with one workshop to be held before the April 28, 2020 Commission Meeting. One workshop to be held before the May 12, 2020 Commission Meeting. The July 9, 2020 Workshop will be moved to July 14, 2020 before the Commission Meeting. **Moved by Commissioner Green. Seconded by Commission Meltzer. All aye on roll call vote. Motion passed.**

## **10. RESOLUTIONS**

### **a. Resolution 20-2-2 – Commissioner Pulcini**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COOPER CITY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF COOPER CITY TO JOIN THE FLORIDA HATE CRIME COALITION (FHCC); PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Pulcini said Mr. Popowitz is still here if anyone has questions.

Commissioner Meltzer thanked Mr. Popowitz and thanked Commissioner Pulcini for bringing forth the item.

**MOTION:** To approve Resolution 20-2-2. **Moved by Commissioner Pulcini. Seconded by Commissioner Meltzer. All aye on roll call vote. Motion passed.**

**11. ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING (Public Hearing)**

**a. Ordinance 20-1-2 – Growth Management**

City Attorney Horowitz READ "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COOPER CITY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 9 "BUSINESS TAXES", ARTICLE III "SPECIAL EVENTS AND OUTDOOR SALES", BY AMENDING SECTION 9-28 "SPECIAL EVENTS; REGULATIONS; ENFORCEMENT", TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SPECIAL EVENTS PER CALENDAR YEAR AT ANY ONE LOCATION FROM FOUR TO EIGHT SPECIAL EVENTS A YEAR LIMIT; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE" by title.

Commissioner Curran opened the public hearing with no one wishing to speak. Commissioner Curran closed the public hearing.

**MOTION:** To approve Ordinance 20-1-2. **Moved by Commissioner Green. Seconded by Commissioner Pulcini. All aye on roll call vote. Motion passed.**

**12. CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Interim City Manager Sims spoke on FEMA reimbursements. All projects have been obligated and the City has been obligated an additional \$187,074 for a total reimbursement of \$3.95 million dollars. We have also become the reimbursement process for Hurricane Dorian as well.

Commissioner Curran recognized the team that worked on FEMA.

Commissioner Green thanked Denise Yoezle, Mrs. Walker and the Finance Department.

Commissioner Meltzer thanked staff in Finance and Public Works he was able to sit in on meetings and he's glad we have contracts in place.

Commissioner Pulcini thanked Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Yoezle.

Commissioner Curran also thanked Mrs. Sims.

**13. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

None.

**14. ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON NEXT AGENDA**

Commissioner Green asked for information at the next meeting in regards to the process for sober homes in the community.

## **15. COMMISSIONERS' CONCERNS/REPORTS**

Commissioner Green thanked everyone who worked on soccerfest.

Commissioner Meltzer said soccerfest was great and he said the only thing to address next year is parking. He thanked Optimist and all staff who worked on the event. He also participated in the Mayor's Chess Challenge it is a great opportunity and encourages everyone to attend. The Senior Lifestyle Expo was a great event and he thanked all staff. There were around 600 attendees 50 vendor tables, and giveaways. He also thanked Commissioners Curran, Pulcini and Mayor Ross.

Commissioner Pulcini thanked everyone as well as Mrs. Sims for a great job as Interim.

Commissioner Curran said the parking concerns were noted. Soccerfest was great, the place was clean and taken care off. He also spoke on graffiti at the parks. It started with chalk and then to spray paint. Several parks were destroyed with graffiti. He hopes that this can end.

## **16. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS (2 MINUTES)**

Jen Goldfrab thanked the girl scouts for cleaning up after soccerfest and asked about the status of the agent of record.

Mrs. Sims said staff is currently working with Gehring Group.

Jim Federici, 3251 Ottawa Lane asked if the Utilities Department is unionizing.

City Attorney Horowitz said the city received a petition 58 employees made up of Public Works and Utilities.

Commissioner Curran asked if there is a second group.

City Attorney Horowitz did not hear about a second wave.

Mr. Federici said he is he concerned and asked what the employees are not happy with.

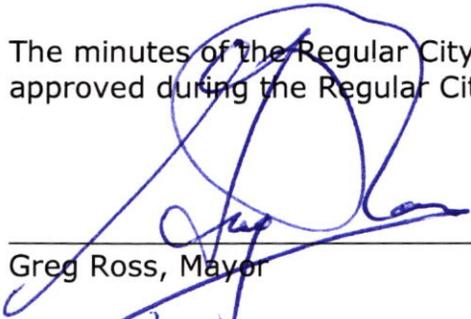
Commissioner Curran said unions are formed for protection and the workers have a right to unionize.

Ryan Shrouder said unionizing usually happens when there is problems with management. He spoke on unionizing.

## **17. ADJOURNMENT**

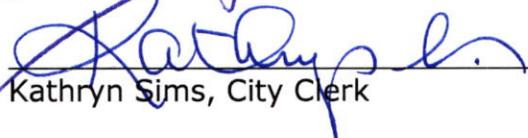
The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

The minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting of February 11, 2020 were approved during the Regular City Commission Meeting of February 25, 2020.



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Greg Ross, Mayor



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Kathryn Sims, City Clerk

**NOTICE:** This meeting is open to the public. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Office of the City Clerk, 954-434-4300 ext. 220, not later than two days prior to such proceeding. One or more members of the City of Cooper City Advisory Boards may be in attendance and may participate at the meeting. Anyone wishing to appeal any decision made by the Cooper City Commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Agenda items may be viewed online at [www.coopercityfl.org](http://www.coopercityfl.org) or at the Office of the City Clerk, City of Cooper City, 9090 SW 50 Place, Cooper City, Florida, 33328, 954-434-4300