LAKELAND CITY COMMISSION

Regular Session
June 15, 2026

The Lakeland City Commission met for the Regular Session in the City Commission Chambers. Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley and Commissioners Terry Coney, Chad McLeod, Stephanie Madden, Mike Musick, Ashley Troutman, and Guy LaLonde were present. City Manager Shawn Sherrouse, City Attorney Palmer Davis, Assistant Finance Director Deidra Joseph, and City Clerk Kelly Koos were present.

CALL TO ORDER - 9:00 A.M.

PRESENTATIONS - None

REQUESTS TO APPEAR FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC - None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered routine by the City Commission and will be enacted by one motion following an opportunity for public comment. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a City Commissioner or Citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence. For items listed with an asterisk (*) under the Community Redevelopment Agency portion of the agenda, the City Commission shall be deemed to be acting in its capacity as the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Lakeland when approving the consent agenda.

Motion: Commissioner Guy LaLonde moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Ashley Troutman seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (with any amendments)

*City Commission Minutes May 29 – June 1
*Utility Committee Minutes May 29

Action: The Commission approved these minutes as part of the Consent Agenda.

REPORTS AND RELATED ITEMS - None

EQUALIZATION HEARINGS - None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinances (Second Reading)

Ordinance 6143; Proposed 26-016; Approving a Conditional Use to Convert a Nonconforming Commercial Lodging Use to a Six-Unit Multi-Family Residential Use on Property Located at 817 South Boulevard (1st Reading 06-01-2026)

> AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ZONING; MAKING FINDINGS; APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE TO CONVERT A NONCONFORMING COMMERCIAL LODGING USE TO A SIXUNIT MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL USE ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 817 SOUTH BOULEVARD; FINDING CONFORMITY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis read the title.

Motion: Commissioner Chad McLeod moved to approve the ordinance. Commissioner Mike Musick seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Chad McLeod, Terry Coney, Stephanie Madden, Mike Musick, Ashley Troutman, Guy LaLonde and Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley voted aye. Ayes-seven. Nays-zero. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 6144; Proposed 26-017; Vacation of Public Right-of-Way Located South of Walnut Street, West of S. Webster Avenue, North of Herschell Street and East of Cornelia Avenue (1st Reading 06-01-2026)

> AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY; MAKING FINDINGS; VACATING PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY ON PROPERTY LOCATED SOUTH OF WALNUT STREET, WEST OF S. WEBSTER AVENUE, NORTH OF HERSCHELL STREET AND EAST OF CORNELIA AVENUE; AUTHORIZING THE RECORDING OF A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis read the title.

Motion: Commissioner Mike Musick moved to approve the ordinance. Commissioner Terry Coney seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Guy LaLonde, Mike Musick, Ashley Troutman, Stephanie Madden, Terry Coney, Chad McLeod, and Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley voted aye. Ayes-seven. Nays-zero. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions

Resolution 6067; Proposed 26-031; Providing for the Issuance by the City of Lakeland of Not-To-Exceed $170,000,000 Aggregate Principal Amount Series 2026 Hospital Revenue Refunding Bonds for Lakeland Regional Health Systems

> A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE BY THE CITY OF NOT TO EXCEED $170,000,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF ITS HOSPITAL REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS (LAKELAND REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEMS), SERIES 2026 IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, AND FOR A LOAN OR LOANS BY THE CITY TO LAKELAND REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC. OR ITS AFFILIATES IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SUCH SERIES 2026 BONDS FOR THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSES OF CURRENTLY REFUNDING ALL OR A PORTION OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING HOSPITAL REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS (LAKELAND REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEMS), SERIES 2016 AND FINANCING AND REFINANCING (INCLUDING REIMBURSEMENT OF) OF ALL OR A PORTION OF THE COST OF THE ACQUISITION, IMPROVEMENT, INSTALLATION AND EQUIPPING OF CERTAIN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE BORROWER OR ITS AFFILIATES; PROVIDING FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE OWNERS OF THE SERIES 2026 BONDS AND FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; MAKING CERTAIN OTHER COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF THE SERIES 2026 BONDS; AUTHORIZING A DELEGATED NEGOTIATED SALE OF THE SERIES 2026 BONDS UPON MEETING CERTAIN CONDITIONS SPECIFIED HEREIN; AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE USE OF A PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT AND A FINAL OFFICIAL STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH DELEGATED NEGOTIATED SALE OF THE SERIES 2026 BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT, BOND INDENTURE, LOAN AGREEMENT, ESCROW DEPOSIT AGREEMENT AND INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT; APPOINTING THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS BOND TRUSTEE AND ESCROW AGENT; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION VI-B-1 JUNE 15, 2026 2 AND DELIVERY OF THE SERIES 2026 BONDS AND ALL OTHER NECESSARY AND RELATED INSTRUMENTS AND CERTIFICATES; PROVIDING FOR OTHER AGREEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis read the title and the public notice required by law.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley watched Friday's agenda study session and heard the explanation for the conduit bond. This was a pass-through financing.

Lance Green, Chief Financial Officer of Lakeland Regional Health (LRH), and Rick Harb, Hospital Bond Counsel, were in attendance to answer questions.

Mr. Green explained they were refinancing and issued new money to fund strategic initiatives. This will also allow them to preserve some cash to prepare for competition and uncertainty around payments.

Mr. Harb's firm serves as bond counsel to the hospital. The most important thing to remember is that this is a pass-through. The City has no liability with this debt. It incentivizes lenders to loan money to nonprofits.

The Commission discussed:

- $60 Million was outstanding bonds and the new money was $100 Million.
- The Emergency Room in Eagle Lake gave additional opportunities for medical care to citizens.
- The lease buyout was not financed through the City of Lakeland. That was done through the State.
- The loss of Certificate of Need has brought competition to town.
- By the time a nonprofit gets to this point, they already have a need for the cash. Should the Commission vote no, they would look for another provider.
- LRH must provide service to indigent and full-time payers. If commercial payers decline, that puts pressure on the system.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the audience. There were no comments.

Motion: Commissioner Mike Musick moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Ashley Troutman seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no further comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Chad McLeod, Terry Coney, Stephanie Madden, Mike Musick, Ashley Troutman, Guy LaLonde and Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley voted aye. Ayes-seven. Nays-zero. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 6068; Proposed 26-032; Amending Resolution No. 5212 to Authorize the Expenditure of Funds from a Community Redevelopment Area Trust Fund for Projects within an Adjacent Community Redevelopment Area District under Certain Circumstances

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA RELATING TO COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT; AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 5212; AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM A COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA TRUST FUND FOR PROJECTS WITHIN AN ADJACENT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA DISTRICT THAT PROVIDE A SUBSTANTIAL BENEFIT TO BOTH DISTRICTS; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis read the title.

Motion: Commissioner Chad McLeod moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Mike Musick seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

Palmer Davis gave an overview of the resolution. The immediate effect would be to recognize the South Florida Avenue Road Realignment Project. It would allow funds from Dixieland and Downtown CRA Trust funds to fund this project. It would also allow future funding between adjacent districts. The funds are being used for the sidewalk extension and other aesthetics.

The Commission recognized staff for their work to push the funding ahead. Without their work the project would not have been funded for many years.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Guy LaLonde, Mike Musick, Ashley Troutman, Stephanie Madden, Terry Coney, Chad McLeod, and Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley voted aye. Ayes-seven. Nays-zero. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - None

CITY MANAGER - None

CITY ATTORNEY

Ordinances (First Reading) – None

Miscellaneous

Amendment No. 1 to the Parking Management Operating Agreement and Construction Services Agreement for the Airport Economy Parking Lot with The Car Park, LLC

This was Amendment No. 1 to the Parking Management Operating Agreement and corresponding Construction Services Agreement with The Car Park, LLC for the

Economy Parking Lot at Lakeland Linder International Airport (Airport). On February 17, 2025, the City Commission approved the Agreement with The Car Park, LLC for the implementation and operation of a parking management system at the Airport, as well as a related construction services agreement for the installation of entry/exit kiosks and related equipment for the parking facilities. Since the original solicitation awarding the contract to The Car Park, LLC (2024-RFP-217) contemplated a scalable parking management system capable of supporting future expansion of Airport parking facilities, the Airport is now seeking to implement the parking system for its Economy Parking Lot.

Accordingly, Amendment No. 1 to the Parking Management Operating Agreement (Amendment), expands the scope of services to include the Airport's Economy Parking Lot and any additional future expansion of Airport parking facilities. The Amendment also provides for the continued operation, monitoring, transaction processing, customer support, reporting, software services and management of the Airport's existing system pursuant to the same terms and conditions set forth in the original Agreement with The Car Park, LLC.

Compensation to The Car Park, LLC for parking management services pursuant to this Amendment will remain consistent with the Agreement, which includes a $0.99 or 5% per paid transaction fee, whichever is greater. The City's existing payment of $720.00 per month ($8,640.00 per year) during the term of the Agreement for the cloud-based software (SaaS) equipment utilized by the parking management system will cover the expansion of the services for the Economy Parking Lot and, as such, there will not be an increase in the monthly fee paid to The Car Park, LLC. Lastly, the Amendment also incorporates required Florida statutory provisions passed by the Florida Legislature since the Agreement was executed in 2025. Except as otherwise set forth in the Amendment, all other terms and conditions will remain in full force and effect.

The corresponding Construction Services Agreement will govern the construction/installation of the expansion of the parking management system for the Economy Parking Lot. The Construction Services Agreement includes the purchase, delivery, installation, integration, testing and commissioning of 1 entry kiosk and 1 exit kiosk, as well as associated equipment and related support services. The Car Park, LLC will provide a 1 year warranty on all parts/labor provided for repairs to the equipment and associated services. The term of the Agreement shall commence on June 15, 2026, subject to City Commission approval, and continue for a period of 6 months or until the parking access control/equipment is installed and approved by the Airport, whichever is earlier. The total cost of the construction/installation of the parking management system for the Economy Parking Lot is $70,150.00, which is included in the FY 26 Airport CIP budget.

Staff recommended that the City Commission approve Amendment No. 1 to the Parking Management Operating Agreement and the corresponding Construction Services Agreement with The Car Park, LLC for the Airport's Economy Parking Lot and authorize the appropriate City officials to execute all corresponding documents related to the agreements.

Deputy City Attorney Ramona Sirianni presented this item to the Commission.

Motion: Commissioner Guy LaLonde moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Stephanie Madden seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

The Commission discussed:

- How can traffic access the economy lot.
- The parking management system costs $70,000. The airport had an open solicitation to close June 24, 2026, to design the car park and install the kiosk. LLIA has spent $1.3 Million on parking improvements. Adding the additional kiosk will improve safety, add additional camera security and add parking safety.
- Total revenue was $165,000.
- LLIA just completed the terminal master plan. They do eventually plan to pave the economy and overflow lots.
- The possibility of tram service to get passengers from the economy and overflow lots to the terminal building.
- LLIA staff compared parking rates with similar airports in central Florida.

Action: Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Land Lease Agreement with Sabal Aviation Lakeland, LLC

This was a proposed Land Lease Agreement with Sabal Aviation Lakeland LLC, (Sabal Aviation) located on the south side of Lakeland Linder International Airport (Airport). Sabal Aviation, a private aviation hangar developer who has been in business since 2002, is seeking to develop and construct private hangars, inclusive of restrooms, for aviation purposes on 1.426 acres of Airport property.

The Land Lease Agreement is for an initial term of 30 years, effective on June 15, 2026, subject to City Commission approval. The Lease also contains 2 additional 10 year renewal options upon mutual written agreement of the parties. The rent commencement date will be the earlier of 12 months from June 15, 2026, or upon issuance of the certificate of occupancy for the construction of the hangar facility. Beginning on the rent commencement date, annual base rent for the first year of the Lease will be $26,088.96 ($0.42 per square foot), which is consistent with the price per square foot rate for other new land lease agreements at the Airport.

The base rent does not include utilities or any applicable taxes, which Sabal Aviation will be required to pay in addition to its base rent. At the expiration of each 1 year period during the Lease term, base rent will be subject to an annual adjustment in an amount determined by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), with the maximum annual increase capped at 8%. Prior to year 11 of the Lease term and for each subsequent 10 year period, including any renewal term, base rent will be adjusted to 10% of an appraisal of the unimproved leased premises (land only) conducted by a certified Member of the Appraisal Institute (MAI), with such adjustment becoming the new base rent for all CPI adjustments.

Staff recommended that the City Commission approve this Land Lease Agreement with Sabal Aviation, LLC and authorize the appropriate City officials to execute all corresponding documents consistent with the above-specified terms.

Ramona Sirianni presented this item to the Commission.

Motion Commissioner Mike Musick moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Guy LaLonde seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

The Commission discussed:
- Sabel will lease the hangars for profit.
- The hangars become a city asset after 50 years.
- The desire for a Public-Private-Partnership (P3) going forward so the city would get a greater share of revenue.

Action: Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Professional Services Agreement with Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. for Construction Engineering and Inspection Services for the Hartsell Avenue Trail Project.

This was a professional services agreement with Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. (JMT) for construction engineering and inspection (CEI) services for the Hartsell Avenue Trail project.

The Hartsell Avenue Trail project consists of replacing an existing five-foot-wide sidewalk with a ten-foot-wide, shared-use path along the east side of Hartsell Avenue from Sikes Boulevard (SR 563) to Lake Beulah Drive. Additionally, the project includes roadway resurfacing, lighting modifications, curb work, and signing and marking improvements. Construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2026, with an estimated duration of 140 days. A project location map depicting the project limits is included in the agenda packet for reference.

In October 2025, the Lakeland City Commission approved a Local Agency Program (LAP) Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) providing FDOT funding assistance for the project. The LAP agreement provides a maximum reimbursement amount of $850,000 for the construction and CEI phases of the project. Specifically, that agreement provides a maximum reimbursement amount of $90,000 for CEI services.

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was issued in April 2026, with proposals received from eight firms. The Selection Committee evaluated each submittal based on the evaluation criteria and ranked the firms as follows:

1. Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. (JMT)
2. KCI Technologies, Inc.
3. DRMP, Inc.
4. Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP (RK&K)
5. Infrastructure Consulting & Engineering, LLC
6. England-Thims & Miller, Inc.
7. RS&H, Inc.
8. SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Based on its highest ranking, the Public Works Department negotiated a scope of services and fee with JMT in an amount not-to-exceed $83,873. FDOT has reviewed the negotiated scope and fee and authorized the City to proceed with execution of the agreement with JMT.

Staff recommended that the City Commission award RFQ No. 2026-RFQ-040 to Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. and authorize the appropriate City officials to execute the Professional Services Agreement for CEI services for the Hartsell Avenue Trail project in an amount not-to-exceed $83,873.

Assistant City Attorney Katie Prenoveau presented this item to the Commission.

Motion: Commissioner Mike Musick moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Ashley Troutman seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience.

The Commission discussed:
- This project is included in the budget.
- 10 ft wide sidewalks - the criteria is established in the Florida Green Book. It recommends a 10 ft path if there will be both pedestrian and bicycle traffic on the path. The sun trail is a 12 ft trail. The standard is 10 ft minimum for combined pedestrian/bicycle traffic.
- This trail will be concrete. Asphalt requires a wider base under the asphalt and therefore needs more space.
- The City is always trying to separate non-motorized traffic from vehicular traffic.
- This trail will take pedestrians to the portion that goes under the CSX RR into Bonnet Springs Park (BSP). That is a much more direct path to BSP.

- Advocacy by the City of Lakeland for funding for a safer passage under the tracks to BSP.

Beverly Copeland asked if the trail will be marked for pedestrians and bikes? There will be no marking on the actual trail. The 5-foot sidewalk across the street will remain.

Action: Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Construction Agreement with DB Civil Construction LLC for Construction of the Hartsell Avenue Trail Project.

This was an agreement with DB Civil Construction LLC (DB) for construction of the Hartsell Avenue Trail project. The Hartsell Avenue Trail project consists of replacing an existing five-foot-wide sidewalk with a ten-foot-wide, shared-use path along the east side of Hartsell Avenue from Sikes Boulevard (SR 563) to Lake Beulah Drive. Additionally, the project includes roadway resurfacing, lighting modifications, curb work, and signing and marking improvements. Construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2026, with an estimated duration of 140 days. A project location map depicting the project limits is included in the agenda packet.

In October 2025, the Lakeland City Commission approved a Local Agency Program (LAP) Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) providing FDOT funding assistance for the project. The LAP agreement provides a maximum reimbursement amount of $850,000 for the construction and CEI phases of the project. Specifically, the Agreement provides for FDOT funding for construction of the project in an amount not to exceed $760,000.

The City's Purchasing Division sought bids for construction of the project in April 2026 and received the following four bids:

1. DB Civil Construction, LLC - St. Augustine, FL $544,442.05
2. CM Engineering Services Florida, PLLC - Kissimmee, FL $599,163.18
3. Cathcart Construction Company, LLC - Winter Springs, FL $678,674.60
4. Tucker Paving - Winter Haven, FL $732,790.14

Public Works staff conducted a comprehensive review of DB's proposal, in accordance with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Requirements. The bid was found to be reasonable and fully responsive to the needs of the City.

Staff recommended that the City Commission authorize the award of Bid No. 2026-ITB-035 to DB Civil Construction, LLC for the Hartsell Avenue Trail project and authorize the appropriate City officials to execute the construction agreement in the amount of $544,442.05.

Motion: Commissioner Mike Musick moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Guy LaLonde seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Appropriation and Increase in Estimated Revenues - Transportation Fund

The City of Lakeland was awarded a Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant in 2024, and the grant agreement was signed by Federal Highway Administration Office in March of 2026. The total project amount is $365,000. The 20% recipient share, $73,000, is included in the FY 26 Budget of the Transportation Fund.

The award will be used by the City of Lakeland to develop a high-visibility speed enforcement and education pilot program, install permanent radar speed feedback signs, purchase a two-year AI traffic safety analysis software subscription, conduct road safety audits for two city-owned high crash streets, and conduct a demonstration project using temporary materials on one of those streets.

Staff recommended that the City Commission authorize an appropriation and increase in estimated revenues of $292,000 in the Transportation Fund.

Assistant Finance Director Deidra Joseph presented this item to the Commission.

Motion: Commissioner Mike Musick moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Ashley Troutman seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

The Commission discussed the City’s 20% share, $73,000, which was included in the budget.

Action: Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Appropriation and Increase in Estimated Revenues - Public Improvement Fund

The City of Lakeland has been awarded $79,827 in grant funding from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund for a geotechnical study of the Lake Mirror Promenade. The purpose of the grant is to support recovery and related expenses for historic and cultural resources in areas impacted by natural disasters that have received a major disaster declaration. Completion of the geotechnical study is an important first step in the process of developing a restoration and ongoing maintenance plan for the Promenade.

During visual inspection of the general condition of the Lake Mirror Promenade and Loggia, several issues were observed. Portions of the overall structure contain cracks and obvious deterioration, including rebar impacts, brick paver walkway tilt, and water intrusion. The Loggia has developed leaks during rain events, and visible stains have been observed. It was also noted that the Promenade was effectively underwater following Hurricane Milton.

This project includes three phases. Phase I includes a site reconnaissance survey and research to document general conditions. Phase II consists of a full ground penetrating radar scan of the Promenade floor, upper sidewalks, portions of the Loggia roofline, and structure walls as well as a Concrete Imaging GPR scan to evaluate the upper walls inside the Loggia where water has been intruding. Phase III will focus on conducting physical soil sampling and testing in preparation of the final geotechnical report.

The estimated cost of the geotechnical study is $79,827. Since the grant requires no match, the City will be reimbursed by the National Park Service for the entire amount upon project completion. The estimated timeline for the project is 120 days.

Staff recommended that the City Commission authorize an appropriation and increase in estimated revenues of $79,827 from the Public Improvement Fund for the Lake Mirror Promenade Geotechnical Study.

Assistant Finance Director Deidra Joseph presented this item to the Commission.

Motion: Commissioner Ashley Troutman moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Guy LaLonde seconded.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

The Commission discussed the Summit building and the need to review the studies conducted prior to building. Flooding was new to that area of the City.

Action: Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley explained the speaker card. Each speaker should provide a speaker card. Each speaker will have 5 minutes.

Beverly Copeland raised the issue of the need of a calming zone. She showed photos of recent accidents and conditions. She tried to submit her application online and it would not go through. She was requesting a calming zone.

Michael Joseph did not like the 5-minute time limit. 5th Street and 9th Street need maintenance. The Lakeland Housing Authority is not open. Citizens cannot visit the office. He wanted the Commission to do something about it. Kathleen Road needed more traffic signals. Turn signals at Memorial Boulevard and Lincoln also are an issue. It was not a citizen's job to get a pole number to report that a light was out. St. Luke's used to be a 55 and older community. Now anyone can move into St Lukes. There are problems at St. Lukes. The new apartments do not permit BBQ. If the power is out, residents are not permitted to grill out.

Jaxon Samples spoke about the moratorium on the data center. A moratorium is a regulatory bridge. It does not serve as a permanent ban. It serves as a loophole to allow the developer and local government to get the upper hand over the citizens. They do not want a moratorium they want a ban.

Brittany Singletary raised an internal email obtained from a public records request. She believed the City failed to ensure the structural soundness of her condo during construction. She believes the City failed to do their job on the project. She believed the City abdicated their life safety duties.

Olivia Bienaime, a local pastor who has been a resident of Lakeland for 30 years opposed the data center and the moratorium. She spoke about Bill 44, Chapter 20 which gave cities full authority. The governor has permitted data centers to keep their information on projects out of the sunshine. The right to keep details in the dark speaks volumes of character.

MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COMMISSION

Commissioner Guy LaLonde:

- Attended America 250 on Saturday at Sun 'n Fun. Andrew Gash can really sing!
- Clarified to the public that every Commissioner is a city resident and loves the City. The Senate Bill referenced restored authority back to local government. The moratorium allowed the City to stop the development to allow time for research. No one on this Commission is getting money in their back pockets for development. Every member of this Commission reads their agendas, emails and looks out for the citizens of Lakeland. He commended folks for coming out to speak on matters that concern them. He encouraged them to encourage others to get out and vote. No one here is lining their pockets.

Commissioner Ashley Troutman

- Rath Center - He had a great opportunity to learn about the Senior Hub and their efforts. If you're interested in their activities, they are meeting this Wednesday.
- Utility Committee – It was a great meeting this Friday. He encouraged the public to listen to hear about the data center and the rate study. The conversation is complex and we are all trying to learn about the issue.
- Transportation Planning Organization Board meeting was an interesting conversation.
- Municipal Boards - He was looking forward to the upcoming Municipal Boards Committee meeting. He encouraged citizens to apply to serve. Citizens should get involved to be more informed.

Commissioner Mike Musick: We do get hundreds of emails on hot topics. Citizens coming in person are always good. It is frustrating when accusations are tossed about. We are here to serve the community. We are working for our children and grandchildren.

Commissioner Stephanie Madden:

- Utility Committee – Friday was an excellent meeting. It was good to hear from Dan Tillman who has so much experience with transmission. The American Public Power Association (APPA) annual conference will also provide more information. Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA) is this month which will also yield more information.
- Police - Friday afternoon additional police officers were sworn in. It is exciting to see the new officers starting their careers. It was standing room only. It was a room full of family, friends, and supporters of the Lakeland Police Officers. It is always an exciting event.

Commissioner Terry Coney:

- Summer Trades Academy Graduation - 40 students graduated; 9-12 grade students. It is a great program that gives kids an opportunity to consider a career in the trades field. That is another bright spot for the City. The program is also now available at The Ridge.

- Washington Park/Rochelle High Schools held their annual scholarship program and awarded $30,000 in scholarships to local high school students.
- Data centers - The Commission found out about the pending project at the same time the public heard about the project. LkldNOW was looking for something else when she discovered the application for Project Swan. There are a lot of moving parts. The City has made no commitment to the project. We are working to educate ourselves on the project.

Commissioner Chad McLeod travels for work. That gives perspective. We have challenges but we are blessed. The City's planning and infrastructure is a blessing. Many communities around the world do not have that. He wanted to see from staff how the moratorium will strengthen our planning process. The City has a rigorous planning process.

Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley:
- She is always trying to ensure each commissioner can be heard.
- Fire Station groundbreaking - It is exciting to see that project come to fruition. When the City is looking to purchase land, the price seems to go up. A lot of work goes into making things like that happen at a City level.
- City Commission - Serving on the Commission is a part-time job. Everyone up here has other jobs outside of this building that supports our families. We have the same constraints as other citizens and families. When you call the office and fuss at our staff, please remember we do not live here and are not in the office every day, all day. Please remember that we are human too. That is one of the great things about our country, that normal people, fathers, moms, doctors etc. are elected to make the community better. Also, this is the only time the Commissioners can discuss city business. They do not have discussions in private about issues that may come before the Commission. That rule is different for State and Federal legislators.
- Comprehensive Plan - Data centers are national and world issues. To date, the State has not developed any guidelines on what a large-scale data center could look like. The City did not name the proposed data center Project Swan. That was up to the developer.

Palmer Davis explained the moratorium. It will take the form of an ordinance. There will be two public hearings on July 6 and July 20. There will be no vote on July 6. There will be public comments at both hearings.

Commissioner Mike Musick asked Mayor Sara Roberts McCarley to explain the funding buckets. She explained the City's budget had passthrough expenses. Transportation dollars are regulated by how City captures the dollars and must be used for projects for which funding is provided. The City cannot move the money around. The City must follow the laws and guidelines on use of funds.

Palmer Davis raised the purchasing procedures. There were 3 tiers:
1 – below $5,000 purchased on a purchasing card

2 - $5000-$35,000 requiring a quote process
3 - anything over $35,000 required formal purchasing processes.

The discussion on Friday was if that threshold should be raised. Did the Commission want the staff to consider raising that threshold. The purchasing process and spending authority for the City Manager are two different processes.

Shawn Sherrouse explained there was no standard practice on signature authority.

The Commission debated transparency vs. efficiency. They discussed increasing the threshold from $35,000 to $50,000 - $70,000. Staff will bring back a report showing how many purchases would be affected by that change.

Commissioner Terry Coney asked Shawn Sherrouse to talk about how streets are selected for maintenance. Shawn Sherrouse explained there is an evaluation process that prioritizes roadways based on the grading. Public Works moves through projects based on that priority. Citizens are welcome to contact the City if they see an issue with a roadway and it can be evaluated. That may or may not change the priority.

CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT - 11:16 a.m.

Kelly S. Koos,
City Clerk

CITY OF LAKELAND FLORIDA
INCORPORATED
JAN 1 1885