



Volusia County - October 18, 2022.

**SPEAKER:**

Welcome to the Volusia County Council meeting. The meeting will begin in 10 minutes.

Welcome to the Volusia County Council meeting. The meeting will begin in five minutes.

Welcome to the Volusia County Council meeting. The meeting will begin in two minutes.

(Music plays)

**\*\*Audio lost\*\***

**\*\*Audio restored\*\***

**SPEAKER:**

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**JEFFREY BROWER:**

We have been prayed for.

**\*\*Audio lost\*\***

(Standing by for audio)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

We are going to commence (?) with the public comments. (indiscernible) if you would come down to the podium here (indiscernible) if everybody would be able to hear you (indiscernible). However, for those of you that sent in PowerPoints you are going to be on your own with that (indiscernible).

When you come up just tell us where you are from (indiscernible).

SPEAKER:

My name is (indiscernible) on September 6 I talked about how President Biden (indiscernible) going to get someone killed (indiscernible). No one has been able to identify (indiscernible) you guys all know me, I have been trying to talk about the (indiscernible) anniversary (indiscernible) celebration, we should start ahead of time.

As you know I suggest a five-member committee (?) based on (indiscernible) the question of independence (indiscernible) chair, vice chair, secondary treasurer (indiscernible). This committee will ultimately decide what kind of celebration fair, concert, parade or whatever.

This committee will not take any public money from the county, it would only take private sponsorship money and donate money to charities throughout the county (indiscernible). I was wondering if I could go ahead and get a resolution (indiscernible) ordinance or whatever we need to do.

They will need to present it to the Council next year for the first meeting in February. Which should give the councilmembers plenty of time (indiscernible). If I could get that from you guys today that would be awesome. We could write it and present it to the new counsel (?) early next year so we can start planning in advance for the celebration (indiscernible).

SPEAKER:

One, two, one, two? (indiscernible) I have power.

SPEAKER:

Try the other one. Behind the screen. (indiscernible)

(Laughter)

SPEAKER:

Check, check.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Can you hear me?

SPEAKER:

A little bit.

SPEAKER:

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven?

JEFFREY S BROWER:

OK. (indiscernible) before we continue the public comment I need to call role deceive any of us are still here (Laughs) So (indiscernible) can we start the role?

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

(Laughter)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Should I call the roll for you?

SPEAKER:

Yes please!

JEFFREY S BROWER:

(indiscernible) it changes every week the order.

(Roll call)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

We are five instead of seven but we are able to proceed.

SPEAKER:

Mr Brower can you clarify because you are the only one with the mic, that Heather Post and Danny Robbins are not here?

JEFFREY S BROWER:

(indiscernible) Heather Post and Danny Robbins are not here. OK, this is a test for everybody.  
(indiscernible) second speaker will be (unknown name). I will just follow these in order.

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible) most of you know I am a candidate for the position on this council in the November election (?) is a candidate (indiscernible) it appears where people pay attention what we say then when you are in the role of citizen so that is why I'm here today to use my voice (?) to appeal to this council in support of the (indiscernible).

I'm here to bring attention to the Volusia County veteran services stand out (indiscernible) Friday, November 18 at the Florida health department offices at 1845 (unknown name) Drive in Daytona. I want to ensure that everybody (indiscernible) knows of this event and is in support of that.

The original standouts were held and make intended to provide soldiers returning from battle areas with a secure place to go to have a shower and get a clean uniform and equipment and (indiscernible). As a veteran's personal record (indiscernible) combat zone, I can attest to the feeling of humanity that the simple every action can provide. (indiscernible) continued to have standouts around the country for decades as a way to serve a generation of veterans who are not treated very well when they came home.

There are 60,000 veterans in Volusia County. (indiscernible) percent of the population and (indiscernible) survivors are counted that numbers. 90,000. As part of the stand up Volusia County and veterans services under the direction of retired Marine (unknown name) will be providing close, jackets, toiletries, food gift cards, (indiscernible) resource information, homeless veterans resource information and most importantly they will be provided Veterans Administration benefit information.

Unless you've been involved in it there is no more bureaucratic nightmare to try to navigate without assistance from the VA (indiscernible) system. The Volusia County veterans services can provide (indiscernible) every veteran in Volusia County to seek out their systems.

I'm here to ask each of you and your capacities County Council member to support the veteran services department in every way possible to ensure that we reach all veterans to (indiscernible) this event and the Council does all in his power to perform the support and resources necessary to ensure its success. I also had an inclusion that item 10 on the agenda today is to support Veterans Day as a holiday in Volusia County and I ask for a vote for each of you on that.

Is a veteran we always appreciate (indiscernible) for services and this is a chance to demonstrate that appreciation and to ensure we serve those veterans who are most in need. Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Good morning everybody. Thank you for letting me have the opportunity to speak. I'm here on behalf of (indiscernible) I'm new to this. My name is (unknown name) I'm here on behalf of (indiscernible) who lives in Victoria Park.

He is a lifelong resident of (indiscernible) and has lived at (indiscernible) Westchester Drive since 2007. This property is just under 2 acres and sits at the eastern limits of the old country club. Victoria Park is continued expansion over the past few years and has (indiscernible) his property line with the newest neighbor Victoria Oaks.

The builder of the new neighborhood has constructed two large retention areas that are parallel to the common border. Here is where the problem begins: as Victoria's retention area empties and floods on the property (?) the water level of the flooding (indiscernible) neighboring retention area. I've monitored the water levels since hurricane? The last hurricane in the flooding covered my driveway and more than half of my property (indiscernible).

2 to 3 inches per day. This is precisely the level that Victoria's retention is reducing. I'm confused as to how a project of this size is soon to be engineered and permitted would be allowed to discharge storm water onto an adjacent property.

Has a taxpaying property owner and lifelong resident of this town (indiscernible) require protection. I petitioned the Council today to assist with relief on the flooding, I believe it is incumbent upon the Council to reevaluate Victoria's policies (indiscernible) neighboring property.

As I said my name is Stephanie and I also live in Deltona, another flood prone area. Deltona and Volusia County has a wide problem of flooding. The cities are all pointing their fingers at each other because so-and-so did this and so and so did that. We need smart growth now, not later.

Deltona and Volusia County swore that it would not happen again in 2008. It is worse now than it ever was. So I would appreciate the Council's future guidance in taking care of some of these problems that seem to continue. Thank you.

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

SPEAKER:

Thank you, Stephanie. Next is Cynthia (unknown name).

SPEAKER:

Good morning Council, how are you this morning? Bless you guys! I'm here as (indiscernible) church (indiscernible) but journey church (?) asked for donations in (indiscernible) and Deltona. Immediately after hurricane Ian we mobilized and help citizens with the emergency needs of the community.

And made sure that we did an emergency action pantry, again we will do one in October 21 at 10 AM as a drive-through program at 975 (indiscernible) Avenue in Orange City. Our last mobile drive did 200 families. And we hope to multiply that again.

Would be providing food and support and prayer. We also want to welcome all of the councilmembers and help you guys to come (indiscernible) and that is why I'm here. We invited Barbara Girtman to our

church on Sunday and it will be October 23 at 10 AM at (unknown name) Park. Last year we had 2500 people, and 300 baptisms.

And we pray that we double that this year. We know that God really needs to be in our community (feedback) and we know (indiscernible) God especially because of hurricane Ian because we have had flooding and communities at last food and loss provisions and we need prayer and we need (indiscernible) during this time of need.

We are going to come (indiscernible) part-time so we will have food trucks there, we will have live music and again we have encouraging messages that is going to come and we also have baptisms that will be there. We cannot wait to see you guys there! That is it, thank you. Have a blessed day.

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible) turn this off? (indiscernible)

SPEAKER:

Hi, my name is Jason Figueredo and I live (indiscernible) sort of Westside of Victoria Park. It is not my first time asking you guys for help (?) in some type of assistance. (audio issues) really try to help. I have been there four years ago, asking you guys as a whole to slow down the development, to stop it and give us some kind of relief when the issue was much smaller.

I already hear that we had 500 (indiscernible) and that is why we have this flooding. Which is not accurate. I had water on my property before the storm. The day before had a foot of water in the day after had one and 1/2 feet (?).

And there's others here, who are surrounded by Victoria Park (indiscernible) allowed a crazy development to happen. We need your guys' help now. We are tired of it. We cannot cut emergency services out to our properties because of this. A neighbor who is involved with the county running (indiscernible) called the Sheriff's apartment last night and they could not make it because the water was too deep. This is not a new issue. This issue is old.

Used to be controlled and now it is out of control. Can you guys keep allowing developments to happen in places where they should not happen and this is going to be the long-term outcome of this. Has anybody here been affected by the hurricane? Some type of flooding of water during the storms? I'm not getting any answers. We have been dealing with that for four years.

Almost 5 now. Were you guys have a little inconvenience for my hurricane this is been my life my family's life and my neighbor's lives for the past four years. I went to the city (indiscernible) last night and did the same exact thing, pleading for help, which they what the figure you guys and they point the finger at the city. I'm a County resident and I pay my taxes, there always paid on time, I never complain.

I'm requesting that you guys help us?

SPEAKER:

Now put your headset and?

(Multiple speakers)

SPEAKER:

? You guys vote for ultimately to live our lives better the way they should be because this is a disastrous (indiscernible). That is it. Any help would be appreciated, any type of movement with these developments doing this you guys need to put a cap on and start controlling this because this is just (indiscernible). Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Thank you. Stacy (unknown name)? Is this microphone? Working? You can hear it? OK.

SPEAKER:

Stacy (unknown name), Daytona Beach Commissioner, good morning chair, counsel, I was just here recently to correct this information from the County chair regarding our Daytona Beach DTS facility (?). (indiscernible) the city Commissioner I hear a lot of political (indiscernible) but something is (indiscernible).

You are advised that due to no beach city Commissioner city staff, residents were there to talk about flooding and how to help. Instead Mr Brower you decided to use the tragedy as an opportunity to campaign for your campaign candidates.



(Indiscernible) mindset judgment and public servant to the county. Any natural disaster or human tragedy demands decency and (indiscernible) from politics (indiscernible) real solutions (indiscernible) when you took the floor.

The town has had a flooding problem for some years (indiscernible) I question what have you done during your time as County chair to help the town? The vice chair did step up and showed up in towns to lend her support after the storm. (indiscernible) political party or what area (indiscernible) and according to experts, hurricane Ian was a once in every 500 occurrence due to the nature of the type of the storm.

Record flooding took place (indiscernible) west to the East Coast. All of which the County endured heavy flooding, not just Daytona. But this particular meeting was called for solutions (indiscernible). Flooding problems that (indiscernible) look for a scapegoat for a 500 year flooding event.

Mr Brower, you decided to campaign on our city facility, people were displaced or homeless due to the tragedy are waiting for answers. At times like this it is incumbent upon our leaders to put politics aside, unite people (indiscernible) for solutions. This is not the time to talk about developers taxes when people are trying to figure out where they're going to live and how they're going to repair the damage of their homes (indiscernible).

At the meeting your allusion to putting politics aside did not match your rhetoric. It was obvious Mr Brower you prefer candidates (indiscernible) political agenda. (indiscernible) takes a little more (indiscernible). The damage that it causes but it is the actions (indiscernible) defines a leader. But I will let our residents decide. You have a great day.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Is this still working? Yes. Normally we do not respond to a speaker but since my name was called out I will just say that I don't believe Ms (unknown name) was there. I was actually asked to speak about politics and I declined. I did not talk about development and flooding and took our emergency operations director Jim Judge with me who gave excellent information and hope to the public.

Our next speaker will be Harley Smith. Hardy, I'm sorry.

SPEAKER:

That's OK (indiscernible). Hardy Smith, city of Daytona Beach (indiscernible) thank you County Counsel this opportunity to share an update on some of the storm mitigation activities (indiscernible) involved with especially since 2009.

Daytona Beach has invested billions of dollars to address flooding. Again, especially since 2009. There has definitely been an increased proactive maintenance of storm water system related infrastructure. There is a very aggressive practice by the city during the storm event preparation such as draining down of storm water (indiscernible) critically important.

Since 2009, specific activity the Daytona Beach city government has been involved in, we have (indiscernible) billions of dollars, there was a massive enhancement of the (indiscernible) storm drainage pipe. A major project there.

The (indiscernible) retention pond system was constructed, very important in that particular neighborhood. (indiscernible) installed throughout the city in major drainage areas. And I would certainly be remiss not to think the county at the same time for the \$20 billion partnership investment for the rebuilding of Orange County.

That particular project is so critically important because when you saw the potholes on top of the street you just assume it just needs repaving. Underneath the street is where the real issue was. And in that project we found literally storm water pipes made out of wood.

70 or 80 years ago, (indiscernible) will tell you that was standard practice. But fast forward to 70 or 80 years later, all of those (indiscernible) seems to function and storm water cannot flow through the pipes because they all collapsed that directly affected storm issues (indiscernible) Caroline Village areas of Midtown and (indiscernible).

We know for a fact that this project that again, the county participated with us on helped alleviate the damage during hurricane Ian. And everything else since 2009. (indiscernible) Canal is a major contributor to anything happening with drainage and flooding in Daytona Beach.

And if you think about it, it is a major, major issue, the city is involved, the Army Corps of Engineers now as it is a project and lastly we are inciting (indiscernible) about the potential (indiscernible) Daytona Beach housing (indiscernible) in Washington to relocate residents of the most effective drainage areas and we would be coming back to the town to join us in support of that venture. Thank you so very much.

SPEAKER:

Thank you. Cynthia Slater?

SPEAKER:

Good morning to the leadership on the Council. I'm Cynthia Slater. I'm a resident of Daytona Beach (indiscernible) I participated in the meeting last Monday and what I heard and what I saw and the residents of the community were not happy with the conversation.

Anyway, I'm here to share with you the need that the community has from the Volusia County Council to support individual families who were devastated by hurricane Ian. I've lived here over 30 years and my house has been flooded four times. I have four (indiscernible) that's how many times my house has been flooded.

We (indiscernible) in our communities and we certainly need the help and support of Volusia County. All municipalities, we are all hurting and we do not see the support that we should be seeing as residents and citizens of Volusia County, as a taxpayer (indiscernible).

I'm not going to spend a whole lot of time, other people will say it, we all are hurting! And we all need the support and were not getting the support. It's not about politics. It is about the souls and the hearts of the people (indiscernible) that is all I have to say.

SPEAKER:

Daisy Grimes.

SPEAKER:

Good morning to each of (indiscernible). I'm Daisy Grimes, a resident of Orange Beach and I'm here today representing the Volusia County (indiscernible) Council which is a Council of 70 presidents of all of our African-American organizations here in Volusia County. I stand here today to say that each of you have been elected to represent the citizens of Daytona Beach and all the other areas and all the municipalities and county areas here in Volusia County.

You made a promise on your campaign trail that you would do all that you could to make life better for the citizens here in Volusia County. I challenge you today to do something better (?) and let's solve this

flooding problem in Volusia County. Some of these families have been flooded three and four times. Some of them have lost their insurance a couple of times.

Homes and families. I was at the Ocean Center on Saturday after the hurricane, until the following week, I have been (indiscernible) I told a mother who had a child who had just been discharged from the hospital (indiscernible) I'm asking you, I'm challenging each of you, call all of the municipalities. The federal, the state authorities, whoever you have to call, and sit at the table and let's say we can solve this problem.

You cannot solve it being separated. You cannot solve based on political difference. (indiscernible) you were going to do all that you could to solve our problems. I did not get flooded but I work with families and the Ocean Center continue? (indiscernible) I work with families over there crying every day not knowing what they're going to do with their children.

Each of you I'm saying let's solve this problem. It is not beyond your leadership. Thank you so very much.

SPEAKER:

Thank you, Daisy Wilson. John Nicholson.

SPEAKER:

I have to disagree with a lot of people (indiscernible). I was not at the meeting (indiscernible) being here for the last 40 years or so (indiscernible) more than once I have been (indiscernible) wanted to curb development. There was a gentleman saying he wanted to curb developing. I was here (indiscernible) often said curb developing.

(indiscernible) talked about politics. (indiscernible) she is not even in that zone. Her zone is now (indiscernible) any zone in the city. About a thousand people (indiscernible) 10,000+. She had almost 20,000 and refused to allow the zoning because of the election. She (indiscernible) politics all the time. (indiscernible) I know absolutely that you did not deny (indiscernible).

You all know the problem. (indiscernible) there is flooding all over (indiscernible) that area of Daytona Beach for years. I don't have a problem with hurricane (indiscernible) I understand you cannot keep losing your house over four years. The question is (indiscernible) they come to George to work on a solution.

We have to work together. We are the same (?) and you cannot blame Jeff for something that has been going on for 70 years. (indiscernible) people are misdirecting this problem. It can be self (indiscernible) any water from the canal and ship it out West. (indiscernible)

Get that water out because it is going to flood again and again and again. I'm asking you (audio issues) federal government, solve it. Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Karen Clark.

SPEAKER:

Karen Clark, (indiscernible) hello everybody. I'm glad you earlier. I just feel so bad for all of these people with the flooding. Oh my God! I want to say the roadway pick up (?) that the county has hired is doing a wonderful job.

The only thing is that (indiscernible) not the racetrack. (indiscernible) we have hills, that is the only side (indiscernible) driving too fast going back to unload their stuff. Number two, (indiscernible) should not just have a single day, you should have (indiscernible) week.

(Applause)

SPEAKER:

Animal control. I want to thank the County for coming in with the most outrageously gorgeous well-equipped spay and neuter truck. (audio issues) good job on that. We have a preview at the animal control advisory board meeting and I want to thank you for that. They are going to love it.

There is one question, Ruben told me (indiscernible) which everybody knows is the newest capital of our end of the county. Why was the sandbag pickup stopped at 2 PM on the day of the hurricane? The prisons? It just stopped. There obviously must've been a whole lot because (indiscernible) and people (indiscernible).

One last thing, we are bringing in a cat show to the county at the fairgrounds on May 27 and 28 then we are hoping that with a little bit of luck, Adam will be able to have that span neuter truck there because there's a lot of people to come and see the cat show. (indiscernible) they are going to be (indiscernible)

lots of people working with the tourism board (indiscernible) you guys have for us to use and I want to thank everybody. Thank you, that is it.

SPEAKER:

Thank you. Warren Richards?

SPEAKER:

Warren Richards (indiscernible). I'm speaking for all the residents in the county that have lived here for decades and have never flooded. And were devastated by Ian. Who is standing up for the rights? (indiscernible) due to our mismanaged development. Wastewater (indiscernible) and the structure (indiscernible) all the while developing (indiscernible) diverting water from (audio issues) for tickets. We are the definition of insanity.

Establish community's that have never flooded should not be (indiscernible) due to our mismanaged growth. (indiscernible) process by which water is transferred through land to the atmosphere plays a key role in where the surface water goes. For instance, (indiscernible) 40,000 gallons per year. (indiscernible) 50,000 gallons per year.

St. Johns River (indiscernible) as a reference. One of our wettest years on record was 1953. We had 70+ inches of rain recorded by October in Daytona Beach in the Daytona Beach area, the majority of which was flooded in August and September.

(indiscernible) 10.62 inches October 14. Compared to 12.5 inches on October 6 in 2022. Only 48 inches being recorded in the Daytona Beach area this year. Can you imagine what our county would look like if we had a year like 1953?

That is not 500 years ago. That is 70 years ago. Where is the leadership we desperately need to reign in (indiscernible)? When are we going to change our development practices and start planning for our future flooding? This will happen again. Most likely within our lifetime.

Planning for development needs to stop (?) we need a moratorium on development until we have a better solution for growth. We need the leadership at the county level to guide our municipalities in the right direction.

SPEAKER:

Pierre? Are you still here? Yes. Pierre Louis, thank you.

SPEAKER:

Good morning to the board and Council. Pierre Louis (indiscernible). I'm here to add my voice (indiscernible) when I was a kid my mother would say "come in off of the flooded street (indiscernible)" a couple years later she would say "come off of the street" when is a paperboy (indiscernible) all wet.

(indiscernible) she said the same thing. For 20+ years (indiscernible) we had a bunch of jungles and swamps all over the world. Seeing how some of the flooding is and I come back to Daytona Beach the same streets are still flooded. When I think of it I talked to my Marine buddies and (indiscernible) surely we have slept in swamps all over the world that is a lot worse than this. How do the water draining off (indiscernible)? As a Marine we do not just look at problems we look at solutions.

I went to Google and I looked at Google and I said (indiscernible) China has some of the most flooded cities. For concrete that is impermeable they create some (indiscernible) concrete and vegetation. For every building that is near they have these roof gardens so when the water comes in that area the vegetation takes in the water. (indiscernible)

Once water goes on the concrete it stays there (indiscernible). These cities are created, the concrete is there, the water goes there (indiscernible) runs off into the ground. I'm asking the council to just look at this. Look at the concept of sponge cities and how the designs are made and look at those areas (indiscernible).

That would probably offer some solutions. Like I say, it is a business model, environmental model (indiscernible) find the business models that work, then fixed the problem (indiscernible).

Do not come to move problems, come to me with a solution. When we look at the solutions, we look at other areas that have flooding a lot worse than we do and follows best practices and use them in your area. All the rain that comes down (indiscernible) this is my mother and my (indiscernible) still flooded. As a Marine, as an American, that is unacceptable. (indiscernible) thank you for your time.

SPEAKER:

Thank you. I'm glad you brought that up. The sponge cities are something we can learn from. In fact yesterday, I posted articles about sponge cities on my personal page and the County Counsel page

because there is a lot that we can learn. There are some differences? I think the article I posted was from Arizona and dryer areas.

There are some differences. We have different soils, we have different elevations, and right now, our soils are saturated. But there are a lot of things to learn from that about fund cities, things that you can do and I appreciate you bringing that up. Thank you sir.

That concludes the public participation. We will move to the consent agenda. Does any council member have an item they would like to pull for discussion or vote? I guess Kevin? Are these controls going to work? Ben, post your button and let me see if?

SPEAKER:

They are working.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Ben is now Barbara Girtman and Barbara is Ben Johnson. OK. I would like to pull, just for discussion G because it is encouraging to hear about it then I would also like to pull for vote item Q.

DR FRED LOWRY:

Moved to approval (indiscernible).

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Doctor Lowry a motion to approve the consent agenda except for item Q. Is there a second?

BILLIE WHEELER:

Second.

S BROWER:

Second by Billie Wheeler. All in favor say "aye". In the consent agenda is passed except for item Q50.

SPEAKER:



I'm going to go ahead and restate the motion for the record. The motion was by Lowry, the second was by Miss Wheeler. It is to approve the consent agenda minus item Q which is for a vote. I do want to remind you chair that you do have a public participation form.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

For items you. Yes. Are you going to speak to G? Thank you. Carmen Hall (?).

SPEAKER:

Good morning County chair (indiscernible) I'm Carmen Hall (?) (indiscernible) towards our disaster strategy. This will be able to assist (indiscernible) in the area (indiscernible) disaster. (indiscernible) and also insurance deductible payments.

We also have assistants for housing payments. For those that are displaced due to the storm. Maximum grant will be (indiscernible).

JEFFREY S BROWER:

And the public can access that through our website? Facebook?

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible) disaster recovery Center. So individuals go through the (indiscernible) process (indiscernible) you will need to go through your insurance captive you have one and then our program is designed to help individuals that are not able to receive assistance through this program so that (indiscernible) we are at the disaster recovery center (indiscernible) can assist those individuals.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

OK, thank you very much. OK, then on item Q, this will not take much time. We need to do this in two parts. (unknown name) you can speak to the item itself. But let's deal with the items as it appears on here and we will get that proof. I think that is important and that I just have a request from the Council pertaining to the exhibit. Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Good morning (indiscernible) item Q is the selection of (indiscernible) to oversee (indiscernible) walk-through exhibit (indiscernible).

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Is there a motion to approve?

BEN F JOHNSON:

Motion to approve.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Motion to approve by Johnson, second by Lowry. All in favor say "aye"? Motion carries?

SPEAKER:

You have a public participation form?

JEFFREY S BROWER:

I do but not for this part. I will have public participation on what I'm about to say right now. Trust me on this. I'm just asking? Thank you? I'm asking the council to go a step further with this but we need to do it properly and legally.

I would like to, I'm requesting of the Council to rename, right now it is there a Marine Science Center Reef Aquarium Exhibit. I don't want to change the name of the Marine Science Center. I'm asking the cancel to make a motion and approve a request to go to the county staff to bring us back the next public meeting? To bring back to the next public meeting? Do I still have the handheld because this thing is breaking up.

Test, 12. I will just keep going. Can you hear me now? OK. And I can speak louder as well. Anyway, my request, keep the name of the Marine Science Center the same, I would like to rename the Marine Exhibit the John Crisp (?) Reef Aquarium Exhibit. And here's why, John Crisp (?) was? I thought your premia and help. John was a longtime Volusia County employee.

SPEAKER:

Mine is the same.

SPEAKER:

It's Jeff.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

It is Jeff? It's not just? OK. Calm down. John was a long term public employee. Just a little very brief history. I had the pleasure of training John and our current County judge Terrence Perkins in 1972.

They appear to the lifeguard station looking for work, neither of them had a Red Cross senior lifesaving card and Bob Wheeler who if you know him when he told you to do something, you do it immediately and he told me "put these guys through the paces, test them and get them a senior lifesaving card."

John was 6 foot three, look like Tarzan and I looked at Terry Perkins and he was just like me, about 5 foot nine and 135 pounds. And I said "how in the world are you going to get your arm across John's chest to pull him across the pool?"

Fortunately, water is an equalizer and judge Perkins did quite well. The both passed. John went on to be one of the most dedicated lifeguards that I saw. That I served with. He took his job seriously. He loved the work.

He rose to the level of assistant chief and then he transfers in 2000? In 2007. He transferred to Parks and Recreation. To help build the Marine Science Center and all of the displays there. He absolutely love it. He was (indiscernible) he could've (indiscernible) spent most of his life in the water.

He wanted to preserve (indiscernible) diving and fishing. I just thought this would be an appropriate renaming. We do have a couple of people from the public who would like to speak but before I've asked them to do that I will just ask Ben Johnson (audio issues).

SPEAKER:

Mr Chair... Mr Chair I agree with you on this. The sad part is (audio issues).

SPEAKER:

Check, one, two.

SPEAKER:

(audio issues) also what I would like to say (audio issues) people in the audience in the county can know why this is being done. And give him the proper recognition (audio issues). Can we agenda this? (audio issues) put together properly. Under this counsel, not after this counsel, on this counsel.

SPEAKER:

I will second.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Test, one, two, I don't think it is carrying any sound. Hello? Test, one, two, three? everybody is shaking their head "no". Should I continue to talk? Test? Can you hear me now? I'll go back to this and I will not scream into it anymore. We have a motion by Ben Johnson, second by Billie Wheeler to do this. Then, that is an excellent idea.

I think Pat (unknown name) is already on the video. She's collecting pictures. If you have any pictures of John's service days. One of the reasons I'm doing this is you probably have guessed, John became a close friend. He passed away. Last month, far too early. This is one of the things that we sometimes get the pleasure of doing is honoring somebody posthumously. He was also honored his life. Just quickly I will call on a couple people that are here, (indiscernible). Max is the only person I knew that was taller than John.

SPEAKER:

I can squat?

(Laughter)

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible) I hate to break up like this. Excuse me.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

It is OK.

SPEAKER:

We were friends for 50 years. We matured together, grouped together, work together, and I'm a strong supporter of this issue. (indiscernible) he was very proud of the situation (indiscernible) this is just one of (indiscernible). Like I said I'm sorry for breaking up. I'm supposed to be a very tough guy? (indiscernible) thank you for this time. I hope you see it through. (indiscernible) I am in support of it. (indiscernible)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

You can just?

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

SPEAKER:

Thank you, Max. (indiscernible) I knew John (audio issues). Great guy. I was also on beach patrol, I worked for beach patrol for 37 years and John was a down to earth person. It transferred to Parks and Recreation and (indiscernible) John had such a? He helped form the science center. He is called it his baby and he lived and died for the Marine Science Center.

Even after he retired, John was still doing volunteer work for the Marine Science Center. If you know John, (indiscernible) he had a soft heart. And John right now would probably not want this to happen but (?) (indiscernible) John deserves this. He deserves this in this moment. He did a lot for Volusia County. Thank you.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Do I need that? I do. Thank you. Test, test. Number five (audio issues) can anybody hear me now? Test, one, two, three. Lastly, I will read this very brief email that I received last night.

(audio issues) I cannot be here today, I started a jury trial the blessed rest of the week. As result I regret I will not be able to attend the County Council meeting tomorrow to speak in favor (audio issues) thanks, Max. Of naming the reef aquarium exhibit after a devoted County server, John Crisp (?).

John was a naturalist at heart and an advocate? For the natural beauty and wildlife associated with coastal living in Florida. His devotion to that cause started while keeping our citizens safe on the beach patrol and extended to his years protecting the sea turtles and other threatened species.

He was committed to the marine science center. Overseeing his creation, construction, and operation. Naming the rebuilt facility as the John Crisp Reef Aquarium Exhibit would be a fitting tribute to his contribution and an honor to those who worked with John to advance this cause. Signed by Terrence R Perkins circuit judge in Volusia County.

Just a plaque, very short, that Mr Reid brought up it was from the Marine Science Center in recognition of significant contributions to the developer and of the Marine Science Center we provide this special service award to John Crisp, June 10, 2012.

Just to answer Ron and Max, your question, he transferred to Parks and Recreation in 1996. And the beach missed him. The beach patrol. So thank you for your motion, for your second, counsel will or staff will look forward to this coming back.

I'll try this one again. Now we will call for?

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Test, test. Cracker box. Hello? Test, one, two. Turn this one off? Breaking new ground. Hello? Test. Test. Is it working?

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

I will talk louder (indiscernible). OK. We need to call for a vote. All in favor of Ben Johnson's motion (indiscernible) renaming with a significant explosion to the public of what we are doing this. All in favor say "aye". Any opposed? Motion carries. 5 to 0. Thank you for coming in, you guys.

OK. That brings us to item 2. My beard was not gray when we started this meeting. We want to also honor Pat (unknown name), we have (indiscernible) were going to go outside to do this because we want this filmed, we are going to stay inside, correct?

SPEAKER:

Yes sir Mr Chair (unknown name) information director. Item 2 and three are somewhat combined. They do recognize a very important former County Council member. First of all I would like to apologize for the audio issues were having today. We are working through those and we will just make a few changes with items two and three and that is to present them here in chambers.

Item 2 begins with a proclamation of Pat Northey Day, October 18, 2022. It was requested by Heather (unknown name) of the Volusia County cultural alliance to honor Ms Patricia Northey for her longtime support of the arts. The county councils will break after the proclamation is read by the chair Jeff Brower and we will present this plaque that will be hung in our foyer (indiscernible) award which now is on the west wall in our foyer. With that Mr catcher I believe you have a proclamation to read and Miss Northey, please come up.

(Applause)

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

I make one up for you.

SPEAKER:

Read the one off the plaque.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

I will just read the plaque. I think I will add this meeting is being recorded but Pat, I will stand up to this that since we cannot go outside. You deserve the honor. And it is my pleasure to read this proclamation. "Where is Pat Northey is a long time and distinct proponent of the arts with a long and distinguished

record of service to the residents of Volusia County and whereas she served on the Volusia County Council for 20 years. It is the current chair of the Volusia Echo Advisory Committee which reviews funding applications for environmental, cultural and historical and outdoor recreation facilities and whereas her dedication to promoting trails has helped the counties trail network grow to more than 67 miles and earned her the nickname the trail queen.

And whereas, at the heart of her community service is a desire to create a better quality of life for Volusia County residents, ensuring they have a clean and natural place to live with access to a variety of arts and cultural facilities. And whereas the Volusia County Council congratulates Miss Northey as she accepts the Tippen Davidson Award from the Volusia County cultural alliance. Now therefore, we the County Counsel of Volusia County Florida, do hereby proclaim October 18, 2022 as Pat Northey Day in Volusia County and (indiscernible) think this outstanding woman for serving your community and elevating the arts in Volusia County." and Pat, I'm personally glad that we did this while you are here to enjoy it and all of your friends around you. Congratulations.

(Applause)

Before we take some pictures, Pat, if you could please say a few words. See how your speech goes then I (indiscernible).

SPEAKER:

We have to turn the microphone on.

SPEAKER:

Thank you. I had prepared remarks but like this day has turned out I just threw them out the window. Let me just say thank you to the County Counsel and to you, Chair Brower for your marks. It has been an honor to serve this county (indiscernible) and continue my service with Volusia County (indiscernible) on a number of boards.

SPEAKER:

Testing, check.

SPEAKER:

That is the only time I've seen Pat Northey silenced.



(Multiple speakers)

SPEAKER:

Is not working. OK, we are getting another one. We will try again! Kevin is going to have a heart attack?

(Laughter)

SPEAKER:

Thank you again. (audio issues) it is been an honor to serve this county for my 20 years on the County Counsel then to continue to serve Volusia County government and Volusia County, I'm honored to be part of this organization. This award is particularly a wonderful award because I do not know, I know most of you up here knew Tippen, but I don't know how many of you are however his contributions to the arts.

The Echo program would not exist without Tippen Davidson. It is especially humbling to me to be serving of chair of this organization and to get this award. He was an amazing person that valued quality of life and absolutely believed in Volusia County voters (indiscernible) we would vote with him on quality-of-life projects.

I want to take on what of personal privilege and acknowledge my family out here, hello family.

(Applause)

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible) my chairman Frank (unknown name) and we serve together for almost 20 years and he did a fabulous job and he is in support of the culture. With that I am just honored to be here and thank those that turned out to support me. Truly, I came a little (indiscernible) about what do I say and what do I do, but this is a real honor and I am very, very touched by it. So thank you.

(Applause)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Test, test?

SPEAKER:

We are going to get some pictures into (indiscernible) and the proclamation then we will move on to item 3.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

We have one more speaker (indiscernible). Test, test, test? Heather from the cultural Alliance, we asked her to say a few words before we vote on Pat's speech.

SPEAKER:

Thank you everyone in the audience, the Volusia County Council, the Volusia County cultural Council for supporting arts in Volusia County. My name is Heather (unknown name) I'm the president of (indiscernible) for the next two years. Really looking forward to serving our community in this position.

Those of you may not know Volusia County (indiscernible) are a nonprofit network of businesses and visual artists and nonprofit cultural organizations devoted to developing arts and culture in Volusia County. And enhancing and enriching the lives of community members (indiscernible).

Since 2001, the Tippen Davidson Award has been given to recipients who have made significant contributions in Volusia County and I know you already do but I just want you all to join me again and congratulating one of the most deserving women and recipients of the award (indiscernible).

(Applause)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

OK? Before we unveil the plaque we should probably vote on it then we will take some pictures, OK? Do I have a motion to approve Pat Northey Day?

BILLIE WHEELER:

Motion to approve.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Motion to approve by Wheeler, second by Johnson, all in favor say "aye". Any opposed? Motion carries 5 to 0. Would you unveil the plaque, please, then we will take some pictures?

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

SPEAKER:

Over to your right. That's good. You guys take a step to your right. (indiscernible)

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

OK.

SPEAKER:

Tip the top of it towards us to avoid the glare. That's it.

SPEAKER:

Let's get one more? Hold that.

SPEAKER:

Hold it down a little bit (indiscernible).

SPEAKER:

Thank you.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Family?

SPEAKER:

Family and friends.

SPEAKER:

Don't go! Bottom row, move to your left. I'm sorry.

(Laughter)

SPEAKER:

OK, gotcha.

SPEAKER:

Pat has been doing this a long time, she knows how to do it.

(Applause)

JEFFREY S BROWER:

OK, that took care of two and three, correct? Then we will move on to item 4. Presentation? This should be fun (Laughs). No PowerPoint, presentation of the economic development (indiscernible) third-quarter 2022. I can't wait to see how you are going to? Imagine a graph!

SPEAKER:

Good morning Mr Chair (indiscernible).

SPEAKER:

Can't hear a word!

SPEAKER:

Sorry. Alright. Can you hear me? (indiscernible) we will persevere. Alright. Good morning, (unknown name) aviation and economic resources. It is with much pleasure introduce them I will give you the third quarterly for 2020 would happy to have the majority for economic development team here along with our stakeholders.

SPEAKER:

Thank you. Let's see if this is going to work for us. (indiscernible) alright. Great. Thank you for allowing us to provide this overview today. I did not expect to have the PowerPoint so I shortened my presentation so you'll get the abbreviated version.

What we wanted to do this quarter is take a minute to step back and give you a broader overview of what is going on. (indiscernible) did a study and if you look at the graph that is up there, it is actually a heat map of the United States. And it shows you where money is moving within the United States.

In other words, the people who have an income of 200,000 or more they tracked when they moved to and from through income tax returns. To see where you are seeing your money move. This is on an annual basis, smart asset just put this out. Based on the color that is there, the darker the blue the higher the number.

Florida is the highest number of people moving into the area. Just between 2019 and 2020, over 20,000 people have moved into this state from various areas. You will see the more orange the area is, the more people have moved out. Mainly New York.

So with that shows a population growth within the state of Florida from 2016 to 2021 being 5.7%. Again you can see it has been a steady growth as opposed to any jump during any one year. So we're continuing to grow at a rate that we have been for quite some time. Pretty steady.

Then you can take a look at the workforce through that in Volusia County. So we are going from national to state to county level here. And if you look from 2016 to 2022, I'm really happy with the presentation showing the graphs (?) it has the same kind of increase as we have seen with population.

Our workforce has been growing approximately at the same pace over the past few years. We did have that one deep dive during COVID, but it has been in line with population growth, we have seen the

workforce grow as well. Mind you, this workforce still does not show those people who are not showing (indiscernible) of employment or employment, those who have fallen kind of off the charts.

And we are working on bringing those back to the workforce through other programs as we will talk about in time. This is the standard graph, I showed you every quarter that shows Volusia County's unemployment and employment with the total workforce available, I will reiterate that that part in the middle is the best part because that shows you where we are seeing the change between the number of people coming in and the number of people who are employed.

As the number continues to increase with our workforce growing, you can see those people coming in are also being employed. Or somebody within the community is being employed. With new people comes new business. And fortunately for Volusia County (indiscernible) business establishments within our community. Volusia County from 2016 to 21 is a 15% growth in new business establishments.

The state of Florida as a whole has had 23% so we are right there in line. Florida actually took a big jump where Volusia County has maintained a nice, steady growth. The chart that you will see there, the line you will see is the positive.

If you want to do the number of businesses we have, there is now 16,000 businesses and this chart shows you what the breakdown is with respect to the types of businesses within the community. This quarter we are not showing the year-over-year change of those businesses with the community.

I want you to get a feel for basically where we were in the (indiscernible) employment opportunities that are out there and businesses that are there. Of those businesses, 91% are 20 employees or less. Of that, 82% are 10 employees or less.

Needless to say, Volusia County is made up of predominantly small business establishments. Which is something that this counsel has been focusing on this past two years and actually has made it one of our department's primary focus is as well. Which brings about the establishment of Volusia business resources. Which is one of my favorite things to talk about.

VBR (?) is because as of the number of the compliments. Just a quick overview, Volusia business resources a collaboration of all the business resource entity is within Volusia County. Those that are either educational, chamber, association, incubator, we all come together on a bimonthly basis. I am happy tell you that quite a few of you are here with me today in the audience.

We work to find out where the hiccups are within the community so to speak where the gaps and we work to respond to those areas. VBR has been around (indiscernible) we had our one year anniversary.

Just within that year, I wanted to provide you a quick summary of what we have been able to accomplish. As you know we did a survey over 500 businesses, some of the survey results were in person, some of it was done electronically. But through that survey we learned that there were three primary areas of concern to our business community.

Those being gaining information, finding the resources, which as part of those resources, we think that we communicate really well when we are where we are in the survey (?) was quite an eye-opener for all of us to learn that there were so many businesses out there that really did not know where to go for what they needed. And when they found somebody, they were not always with the right entities so they felt they were being bounced around from one entity to another.

So by bringing us all together we help to eliminate that. The other concern was financial and the last concern was employers being able to find their workforces. Especially post COVID. Over the past year, getting together, finding solutions, VBR was able to put together teams or committees to work on those three topics.

We leverage all the resources that were available to us to develop solutions. Part of that, as a result of that we actually (indiscernible) one the Florida planning and zoning award, we were one of the recipients of that. We received a \$10,000 grant from (unknown name) energy to help promote our program and in a minute I will talk to you about one of the major promotional things that we are doing that we are very excited about but first I want to give the team kudos because we created team logo, team website, team awareness, team business input, team workforce and team finances part of those groups.

You have to understand there's about 40 people who come together bimonthly and we come up with the big ideas then we leave that meeting and those participants continue to work over the next weeks to provide results and responses to what we have talked about during our primary meeting so that when we (indiscernible) we can move on to that program.

The team logo group actually helped us with the branding. You can see the Volusia business resource logo at the bottom. It was done through a countywide competition that used resources from the county to spread the word that we made sure it was a county business that got? That was (indiscernible) built for that.

The primary focus of all of the three over this past year has really been the communication and the outreach. We felt it was most important to get that down. Then we focused further on the finance and on the employment although we did not touch on that.

So today what I really want to talk about is the outreach. As you know, there are 40 some odd entities involved in VBR. On October 31 we are going to kick off the Volusia business resource week where every day, from 12 o'clock until 1 o'clock, we will have a live webinar and each of our partners will get to talk about who they are, what they do, for three minutes.

So it is an elevator speech, (indiscernible) while we're at it because there's a lot of people who need to speak. Each of those entities will provide an overview, every day will be a different group, if you click on the QR code that is on the presentation it will actually take you to the list of participants in that.

So you can see there is about eight people a day that are going to speak. Then we will take questions and answers through that. It is going to be done through a live webinar that will be posted on LinkedIn, Facebook then we will be making a video of it and it will be saved and put on our website as well.

There's no way that I tell you all of the resources and the things that we have within this County just standing here so if you look at all of these people, you can see there's so many entities out there that really care about business community and want (indiscernible) so with that I'm hoping that everybody tunes in and (indiscernible) put together. Any questions?

JEFFREY S BROWER:

This item does not require a vote but it does require a thank you for work really well done. This has been something that I was looking forward to and I think you had a home run.

SPEAKER:

Thank you. It was not me, I have to tell you like I said there are 40 people who on a weekly basis are working on making this work.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Just a quick public (indiscernible) the graphs, is hospitality where it normally is or is it down? I notice if you go into most restaurants they tell you right up front "we are short staffed, service might be a little slower." Is that about where normally is or is it down more?



SPEAKER:

On the chart is about where normally is. Those are the number of establishments, not the number of employees in that establishment. I would imagine it is still a bit lower than it was before. But last quarter we saw that it did have an increase of employees. Getting closer to pre-COVID terms.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Thank you. Counsel, any other questions? OK, the comments I hear because everybody does not have a microphone is that this is very important (?).

SPEAKER:

OK, thank you.

JEFFREY S BROWER:

Are you going to go right into item 5 and introduce?? That is item 5, correct? (indiscernible) it is going to be presented in here now, correct? (indiscernible) Barb, are you going to handle that?

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

I will.

We are proud to present a proclamation, I'm proud to be the representative to present the proclamation. (Name)? Proudly present a proclamation to acknowledge the hard work of the County economic development team held especially our stakeholders, small business partners and community, the small business community. I will read it.

Where as the Volusia business resources otherwise known as BPR initiative created by Volusia County economic development to assist local businesses during COVID 19 during the COVID 19 pandemic has been adapted to meet the changing needs brought about by today's business climate.

Whereas moving on from the pandemic, the program has updated the information and website to provide detailed resources and how to guides on creating a business plan. Growing a business, building a workforce and other topics of interest for local businesses. And whereas VBR initiative has accompanied the partnership of local business resource, providers dedicated to the success of Volusia County

businesses. And VBR affiliates include municipalities, universities and colleges, chambers of commerce, workforce boards and federal state and private organizations.

And whereas VBR affiliates will continue to develop and implement programs that provide tools to facilitate the growth and resiliency of local businesses. And the Volusia County Council recognizes of the collaborative VBR initiative between private and public partners on local businesses.

Now therefore, we the Volusia County Council hereby proclaim October 31 through November 4, 2022 as Volusia business resource week. And urge business owners and residents to participate by visiting [Volusiabusinessresources.com](http://Volusiabusinessresources.com).

And attending events designed and organized by VBR, by the VBR partnership. Dated today is the 18th, signed by each of the Council members. And we are so proud of you and your efforts and are really taking this to the next level as you told me that you would.

And I'm so proud of you for doing that. So please participate. Let these resources work throughout our community and the seeds have been sown become greater strength for our small business. So I thank you. Can you help me present this?

(Applause)

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

SPEAKER:

Now they are being shy.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

As I said, it really is a team effort. (indiscernible)

SPEAKER:

The County Council, just to your right. (indiscernible) towards me. That's it. A bit more toward me at the top.

(Multiple speakers)

JEFFREY BROWER:

Yes, Barbara makes the motion to send the report seconded by, proclamation, seconded by Fred Lowry. All those in favour say "aye". Any opposed? (indiscernible)

SPEAKER:

Thank you. In my role, I have the honour in introducing small business affairs specialist. We'll talk about what they are doing to help our small businesses within the community.

SPEAKER:

Good morning. My name is Monica Miles, I'm a public affairs specialist designed -- assigned to Volusia County by the US small business administration. I just wanted to share some information regarding how the (Name) has assisted the residents of York County.

Since the residence to declare Volusia County to be one of the counties affected by the recent hurricane, the SBA disaster program is able to provide loans to the homeowners, our mentors, businesses of all sizes, not just small businesses. And nonprofit organizations.

The homeowners are able to receive up to \$200,000 for their property. For their own home establishment. And that can include other things such as if they lived on a boat, that would be (indiscernible) \$200,000 as well.

In addition, homeowners and ranchers are eligible up to \$40,000 for their personal properties, the contents of their homes, their automobile that may have been affected or damaged by the recent hurricane, things of that nature as well.

With respect to businesses, generally the maximum amount that the SBA is able to eligible businesses will be up to \$2 million however the SBA is able to extend that amount under certain circumstances, which (indiscernible) it would seem to be in need of more funds, they can discuss that with the SBA. They have been the same with respect to nonprofit organizations as well that are eligible.

In addition, the SBA has economic injury loans that are eligible for businesses, small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives and those private nonprofits in agriculture. These loans are also up to the \$2 million amount. For the business collectively in terms of all the funds that they are illegible to get, for the most part they are limited to \$1 million and that includes litigation costs. If the business wants to rebuild to avoid this type of damage in the future, that can be included in the \$2 million as well.

With respect to homeowners, the SBA is also able to increase the loan up to 20% as verified by physical damage for the homeowners, limited to \$200,000 as well. If they wanted to do some of the funds for mitigation as well, these are issues that the applicant would have to talk to the SBA about a little bit further.

In order to apply for the loans, the potential applications can call the SBA. If they want to have an application of increment, application and mail to them, they can reach the number 659-2955.

Also the applicant and go to one of the FEMA disaster locations. The applicants would essentially register with FEMA and then the SBA is also situated at those locations as well. And then they can come over to the SBA and apply also.

And then for with respect to anyone who want to call the SBA, if you're hearing impaired, have any kind of speech disability, they can also call 711 as well.

The SBA also has some of its own disaster centres as well and of course they want -- they could go there as well. Now the preferred method is to apply online. SBA has been correctly determined that that is actually the fastest way. And that is me as that applicant's as soon as possible not (indiscernible) company decision or wait till they have all the documents gathered to go ahead and apply.

**\*\*Audio lost\*\***

**SPEAKER:**

The SBA describes, once a person has completed, provided their documentations, the SBA (indiscernible) send out a team to determine the damage of the property or establishment (indiscernible) as needed. After that point, the process, the application goes to a loan officer who will discuss what additional documents may be needed if any further are needed by the applicant.

As well to tell the applicant what loan amount that they are eligible to receive. Now there's no need to apply for an SBA loan. The SBA is (indiscernible) able to help people apply for the moment. They need (indiscernible) are in place. And our goal is to give the applicant a determination within 2 to 3 weeks after receiving the complete application package.

The applicant -- if the applicant decides to go forward with the loan, generally they receive up to \$25,000 for their physical damage first. And that is usually given out within about five days. After all of the loan documents are completed. And also the deadline to apply for physical damage, being damage to the real estate or to other properties, personal property is November 28, 2022. That is basically two months from the beginning of the declaration.

With respect to the businesses that want to apply for an economic injury application, that deadline is not until next year, June 29, 2023.

Ultimately, who is eligible? The applicant has to have to live in or have property in one of the declared counties and of course Volusia County is one of those. Second is credit history, a lot of applicants may be concerned about. However the SP does not use that particular credit score, you don't have to (indiscernible) that spay looks at the person's financial situations, determine whether or not they are likely they are able to repay the loan and in terms of determining whether or not they qualify for the loan.

The SBA does pull the credit record but they look at a number of factors and that is something to be discussed with the loan officer. And then repayment terms are usually for the individual, it's usually up to 30 years. And of course the interest rate is low.

Some businesses do have a lot of lower term to pay. It could be as so as seven years. Now with respect to the interest rate for businesses, that interest rate is 3.04%. For nonprofits is 1.875. Individuals and homeowners is 2.8. T

he SBA is focused on mitigation fund and that's (indiscernible) applicant into himself to avoid damages, similar damages in the future. So mitigation funds tries to be used for such things as a safe room, a storm shelter, (indiscernible) or perhaps if you get it, (indiscernible) earlier regarding this signage system or something like that. Maybe that could be used as well. Something to talk to the SBA about.

Again, the SBA is encouraging people, don't wait to mitigate to avoid this happening again. The SBA has determined that one dollar scale on mitigation today deferred the estimated six dollars in future damages.

Now the other thing thing is that applicants do not deal with the bank. The funds come from the US treasury directly to the applicant once the (indiscernible)... Sometimes applicants may already have an SBA loan and that is fine. The two loans just would not be consolidated. They would just have two separate SBA loans.

Also if an applicant need some further assistance, the SBA does have some resource partners including (Name)... Further information is available in the SBA website. And these organizations are in your communities.

OK. So again the application -- submit the application as soon as possible. The deadline for physical property damages, November 28 of this year and for the economic application, June 29 of next year.

To apply online, the website is [SBA.gov/disaster](https://www.sba.gov/disaster). To submit your application (indiscernible).

Questions?

SPEAKER:

Just a quick question that I received yesterday from a constituent, who was actually in here this morning. His driveway (indiscernible) so he's called, the question has to do with deadlines, maybe he can help us.

I told him he needed to contact his insurance company first, but they won't, because they can't get through his driveway, is deeply flooded. So then FEMA came out and said we can't evaluate you either because your flooded and we can get to the house, they can see it in the distance but how will that affect his deadline rates? Neither one of them are active, he's been flooded for four years so it may not drain before November 28.

SPEAKER:

He can apply for the SBA loan now. The rule is that the application, the decision has to be made by November 28 but the application needs to be submitted prior to November 28.

His paperwork and everything may not be complete until after that date but that would be fine. He should go ahead and apply now, he doesn't have to wait for that inspection to take out the loan.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Any other questions? Thank you very much, we appreciate the information.

That takes us to item 6 and (indiscernible).

SPEAKER:

Take you Mr chair. So item 6 is for the approval to execute an unanticipated grant we are with in the amount of \$3 million. Of course the Florida Department of Transportation grants are 50-50 this year. So the airport share will be one per \$5 million this will go towards the airport security systems replacement upgrade.

JEFFREY BROWER:

And we have a motion to approve by Johnson, seconded by Girtman. Any discussion or questions, Ben Johnson? All in favour say I. Any opposed? Motion carries 5 to 0.

SPEAKER:

Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Mr Brower?

JEFFREY BROWER:

Yes?

SPEAKER:

Would you like to take a break? (indiscernible) Jeff? I didn't even realize it was noon, it's been so much fun. (indiscernible) sound system will be... I think we have a fried computer though, don't we? It's a bigger problem than rebooting.

OK, if the Council so chooses, that is fine. Doctor Lowry said to knock out seven first and then we will break.

OK. Item 7, budget resolution appropriation of the Housing choice voucher program. And Carmen is doing it.

SPEAKER:

Good morning, County chair. Carmen Hall, and community assistance director. This agenda item is for the appropriation for our section 8 funding for the upcoming fiscal year. Our total amount we anticipate receiving is right over \$3 million. This is for our rental assistance that is provided in the form of a rental voucher.

The breakdown is we have our regular Housing choice voucher program which is our traditional section 8 program. We have 327 vouchers that we administer through this program. We also have our mainstream program. This is for households that have an adult disabled member that is nonelderly. So we administer 39 vouchers through this program.

We also have our family unification program. This is for you that are aging out of foster care system and we administer three vouchers through this program. Are there any questions?

JEFFREY BROWER:

Doctor Lowry makes the motion for approval, Girtman seconded. Follow-up, Johnson any question or discussion? All in favour say I? Any opposed? Motion carries 5 to 0. Thank you, Carmen.

And with that why don't we take lunch break. It is 12:08 PM and we will be back 1:10 PM, or we could see what Kevin (indiscernible).

OK, we do have some people that have been waiting all day. From Daytona Beach and surrounding areas, actually all over the county from hospitals. So why do we do that so we can release them back to their work, it's item 9, budget resolution and resolution authorizing imposition of special assessment against nonpublic hospitals in accordance with the County's local provider participation fund.

And Brian (Name).



SPEAKER:

Good afternoon, councilmembers.

JEFFREY BROWER:

You have to use your "discipline your children" voice.

SPEAKER:

Testing. Good afternoon chair and council members. This item is a continuation of a program that took place (indiscernible)... This program is very similar to our (Name) program aware by utilizing local (indiscernible) and certain Medicaid (indiscernible)...

Similar to the program, (indiscernible)... Special assessment of properties (indiscernible)... Taken more federal organization dollars back to our hospitals, (indiscernible)... Any questions?

JEFFREY BROWER:

(indiscernible)

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

Motion to approve.

BEN JOHNSON:

Seconded.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Motion to approve by Girtman. Seconded by Johnson. Any opposed? (indiscernible) thank you.

SPEAKER:

Good afternoon. (Name) and I am the CEO of the North region of ethnic health and Central Florida division. So I've been in the role recently, probably I'm a year in but I entered my first six months, how well we work with our county and the great relationship that (indiscernible) has supported with Volusia

County. In fact (indiscernible) and so I do look forward to this continued working relationship as we think about providing quality healthcare for the citizens of our county.

As a part of the school as our CFO mentioned earlier, the opportunities for us to work together to care for our community and that's why I stand before you today. I am in support for efforts to establish the local provider participation fund in Volusia County. Your endorsement of this program allows private hospitals in Volusia County to leverage presently available federal dollars to close a significant gap (indiscernible) as a result of how much uncompensated care that we are providing under federal Medicaid program.

On average and I'm sure you're probably aware, Medicare covers only 60% of the cost of healthcare services provided by hospitals to Medicare eligible participants. Which result in significant uncompensated costs for caring for some of our most vulnerable communities.

While uncompensated cause for care provider under the Medicare program have always been a consistent concern of healthcare providers, as you probably can imagine, the COVID 19 pandemic exacerbated the issue and we've seen in Florida that Medicaid enrolment since 2020 has increased from 3.8 million to 4.8 million. So I will close by saying, private hospitals and healthcare systems in Volusia County not only provide vital healthcare services crucial to the community, but they also are a source of providing jobs for the millions of dollars and economic impact in supporting the implementation of this program ensures the financial stability and viability of the hospitals and healthcare systems.

In other words this program will generate critical funds to support hospitals in Volusia County, not just (indiscernible) and any kind of (indiscernible) we see in the region (indiscernible)... In Volusia County. As always, we appreciate your continued support of public health and in many ways were able to collaborate in order to ensure that Volusia County residents have every opportunity to access high-quality healthcare in their local communities. Thank you for your time.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Thank you very much. We have a promotion -- a motion to adopt the assessment (indiscernible) you'll see revenue of \$8,000,800. (indiscernible)... We will get that money out to where it's needed as quickly as possible. It's not something that (indiscernible)...

With that, the motion by Barbara Gartman, seconded by Johnson. All in favour say aye? Motion carries 4 to 0.

OK, with that, let's take a lunch break. And we will be back at 12:45 PM. You want longer? We will be back at 1:15 PM.

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

JEFFREY BROWER:

Thank you for bearing with this and you'll have to continue to bear with us, we'll get through this. We are on item 8 which is a quasijudicial hearing and we will, it's an appeal of a development review committee's denial of the subdivision exception. Clay, you're going to start with us?

SPEAKER:

Yes, sir. Clay, I'm the director of growth and resource management. The we were going to handle it is I will present for the staff, Mr Deas who is the appellant who is here today. What he is looking at is an appeal based on the requirements contained in chapter 72 of your code of ordinances. As it pertains to subdivisions.

He will then come in, identify what he believes is the correct interpretation of the code and seek approval of his appeal. Basically what we're dealing with today is a subdivision issue. In 1976, Volusia County put in place minimum subdivision regulations. Prior to that timeframe, there were the abilities to God to create these subdivision plots, record them but you didn't necessarily see the public improvements that are expected with a viable piece of land being used for residential use. Such as roads, storm water, if it's within all water and sewer utility area, those extension of those utilities. So what we're dealing with today is the (Name) area. The Florida (Name) subdivision to be precise.

Residential lots equal about 1.15 acres in size. The subject property is one of those lots. Based on our standards that are contained in chapter 72 of the code, this lot is not invested. A vested lot means that all public improvements are necessary for it to be able to be issued a building permit. Because we don't have those public improvements, the staff does not issue building permits.

This is based on an analysis that was done by the staff in 1976. They went out and drove all the roads of Volusia County to identify the subdivisions that should be vested. In other words certain improvements had been done, 25% of the lots had been sold and you had a situation where all of the area could be accessed by an ordinary passenger vehicle.

(Name) Road is a private road. All the roads leading to this gentleman's property or private roads. There's not a specific homeowners Association responsible for the maintenance of what we have is a situation where you have a road that leads 2 1/2 miles down to this property approximately. That has no maintenance responsibilities. Those of you who have been on the cancel for a while, may have remembered that residents of (Name) Road showing up several times complaining about the fact that they had flooding and inability to access their area.

So when this gentleman, Mr Deas acquired the property. He came in and tried to get a building permit. That is review by your staff in the land of Veltman division. They refuted to determine if it was meeting the criteria 1976 of having open and passable roads and lot issues. It was determined it wasn't. Pursuant to the chapter 72 of the code, he has the right to appeal that determination to the development review committee.

Review committee consists of myself, the growth and resource management Director, the Public Works Director and the director of the airport economic development the facts that were presented in front of us and unanimously recommended denial of his appeal. He has underwrite and again under Chapter 72 to appeal that decision to you. And that's what you will be looking at today.

So what you need to look at the facts that were presented into the digit packet that you have. Starting on page 8 ? 11 is where we have our staff report. It provides the background and history on (Name), it also identifies that there were also Florida form acres which the County Council approved in 1980.

This was a smaller subset of the (Name) which they did certain improvements that were being privately maintained for roads and stormwater. Again, in 1980, the County Council at that point approved that small subsection for (Name) area. That is why you see there are some homes that are constructed across the street from Mr Deas's property and in the immediate area.

Also there were some properties that were appealed in front of the Council and the subsequent to 1980 where there was justification provided and the Council granted approval for those. Since that time we realize that there has been a considerable amount of concern with development in this area.

This is technically an antiquated subdivision plat. These plague notches of Volusia County but all 67 counties. What has happened in the previous years prior to the County having these subdivision standards, folks could come and and plat these things and sell them. And it's the old Florida land deal, five dollars down, five dollars a month and you get your lot in the state of Florida.

So what you see is that in this particular area, the reason why staff is concerned and I'm going to get to the, this is a little bit harder to see out here but the image on this left side of the screen shows the (Name).

There's about 2000 of these lots out in this area. We have a major concern with any continuation of development in this area until we have the ability to get under control, access and is stormwater in this area. Today we heard about folks complain about stormwater, here's an area that does not have any and does not have any ability to provide for it right now.

This is similar to West Highlands which is a similar area but the big difference there, those replanted streets that the county, were dedicated to the county, dedicated to the county. In this particular situation we don't have that. Was Highlands we are able to put together a special assessment go in there and do the grading and proper maintenance of the roads.

Is it unfortunate that we are putting this burden all on Mr Diaz because he is again an owner of a single lot. This was acquired by Orlando Realty group in 2018 via tax deed endures a subsequent conveyance to Mr Diaz on that as well. So the fact is is that what we've been saying to everyone who's come in and talk to us about trying to develop in (Name) Road is that we need to see some way of getting a surety in regards to the roadways ensure that all the conditions that we would normally see for current subdivision in regards to access stormwater those other things are provided in accordance with that code.

This is giving you an idea of the lot that he owns, that's the image on the right. This give you an idea of the zoning that is out there. It is currently 81 which requires a minimum of 10 acre site and the land use is agriculture resource. So again when you look at what our compline and our land use and our zoning has in place, these are supposedly larger lots. So the theory is is that this is a smaller lot, it will be combined with authors to meet the 10 acre minimum requirement.

This area on the left side of the screen gives you an idea of what were dealing with out in this area. As you can see there is a variety of either pasture lands. The area that you see that's to the right or to the east is the old Kirkland sought piece of land which is also being used by FPL for a solar facility.

And then you see on the other image a little bit closer (indiscernible) which shows the location of his properties and it does reference the fact that there are develop properties around him. This next map gives you an idea of what has been approved by previous councils.

So you see several unrecorded subs that have been there and some of those are associated with Florida Farm acres. So we're just basically at this point, we have to kind of draw a line in the sand and be able to from a staff perspective, ensure that we're not adding to the difficulty in being able to provide the necessary minimum services for a development of a single-family home.

So this basically is what (Name) identifies what needs to be done as part of the review of the appeal. Paulo, you want to kind of go over the criteria?

SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr chair, members of Council. Paulo (Name), Senior Assistant County Attorney.

So as Clay doubt -- pointed out, this is an appeal of the DRC. You are looking at their decision, so your determination is whether there was substantial evidence to support that decision of the DIC. And essentially whether or not they made the right decision.

When you do that, you take into account all the evidence that was presented at the DRC. You also take into account the petition of the appellant, the petitioner statement of the grounds for the petition is in page 8 ? 37. So you also have to take a look at that. And those are the two things you take into account, you can also take into account any new or additional evidence that is presented during this hearing.

So if any new evidence comes from Mr DS as the appellant, he can take that into account essentially is based on the petition, based on the petitioner statements. That the DRC with the information and how to make the correct decision? So that's fundamentally what your task with doing.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Can I ask you a question before we talk to the petitioner? Are there any plans for these public improvements? And if there were who would it come from, who would be responsible?

SPEAKER:

These are private (indiscernible) so there's no obligation by the county to go out there and to any maintenance or routine maintenance or upgrades whatsoever so it would have to be done by the private land owners out there. They can petition to counsel for a special assessment where they will be paying their prorated share for the improvements and the maintenance costs.

JEFFREY BROWER:

And those have to be approved by 100% of the residents in that area?

SPEAKER:

Because we are detailed with private easements, yes. If this was public right-of-way, it be a different thing but because it's private they would have to basically donate what is in the easement as a public right of way for us to go in there and make those improvements.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Are there emergency services available in that area?

SPEAKER:

Yes sir, fire and EMS traversed the roads. Right now I would say they have some difficulty again because of the amount of rain. I was reading that we were about 12 1/2 inches more than we would be this time of year so that makes the unpaved roads that are out there difficult to manoeuvre. Do they make service because down there? Yes.

JEFFREY BROWER:

OK, thank you. This is a public hearing, all open that, we do have a member of the public that wants to speak but before that I think the applicant should be granted the time to speak.

SPEAKER:

First time, how are you doing to the Council?

JEFFREY BROWER:

Relax, you're alright.

SPEAKER:

I'm sorry. My name is Christopher Diaz. I have been a Volusia County resident since 1995 when my mother bought me down from New York City. When my mother about an attorney from New York City. I purchased my first home in 03 in Deltona off of to Highland Brevard. Residential home from that point on.

I've been in an incorporated areas of the county. That has been shown to drive that was at one time a doubtful as well as Braddock of doing. So I have been very familiar on the unincorporated side growing. As my son was born, I decided to go ahead and purchase a property out in the new summer in area which was ruled for agricultural regions because I am also what my cock Or so for agricultural purposes that's the reason why purchase the property at first. So I'm there on a daily basis handling animals. I just really was actually granted power for agriculture wish to be year to finally get there. So that made it very difficult running on a generator.

So basically from this point, I've had to do everything by myself as well as it is out there. The command handles the doctrine from start to finish. The hurricane, 12 hours after past. We were able to pass with Bingley and was back with the trailer on a terrible drive vehicle. Within six days, the complaint community had a dirt road where it was possible through a Honda Civic. So the maintenance that they have done has been beyond I can possibly imagine. We more than anything I've ever seen. The actual county or private institutions do as well.

In 2019, in May, there was a fire which (Name) County while the forestry division was able to get there in 35 minutes to stop a 2 acre fire. Which they brought their machinery with no issues whatsoever. They were back and forth within the next 72 hours to make sure that the fire was maintained. They had no issues whatsoever going in and out of the facility. General just recently passed away up the road for me, elderly fellow, they were able to meet them with ambulance with no issues.

Again, once the hurricane passed, everybody bought -- brought their animals in and was at least eight tractors working on the road. 20 doublets of road immediately within 48 hours past the hurricane. So that was just one. During the last 5 to 6 months, of rain season, the road did get beat up but again, the community is out there every day doing more and more work to that to keep the ability to have everybody come in and out because there is residential as well as agricultural.

So I'm just coming in today to say that they have had five or six other people that have you seen around me that have full residential properties, that was the point, that was the reason why I purchased this.

It's not just this area. This other areas offer for 15 just like it. So for people to have been in Florida for quite a long time trying to go to the right ways of doing this, every step of OA has been a stop. Not only the agricultural side for but now even to the residential. Because if I can't get agricultural through whatever classification the county wants then I have to go through building permits, which is what we're here today.



So even to have a pole barn for my animals, so have to get building permits. So it doesn't matter what it is, it's everything that's been stopping to can't use the property for even what is worth with everything they have already put into it as well as the people there around me.

My next door neighbour in front of me, has been there since 2017 and have to fight for his right as well to build and he's an elderly gentleman, he and his head back and forth through the hurricane and his wife were able to get in and out with her Subaru as well. Even without county citizens on the road, access is still fully there. In and out even after hurricane.

So thank you very much for listening.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Barbara Girtman, did you have a question for him?

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

I had a question for Clay. You mentioned this is an acre and some.

SPEAKER:

1.158.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

OK and it requires 10 acres, you said? So the 1.55 is going to be added to some other acres to make this complete?

SPEAKER:

No man, at the heart of the issue is that if this was a vested lot because it was created and subdivided before and there is no other property that Mr Diaz owns surrounding it. It would be a legal nonconforming lot and he would be able to go through but he would have to get variances for the placement of any structures.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

I just wanted to make sure I didn't miss them.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Is there any prohibition for whoever sold this property that wasn't going to be usable? They can still sell it, take the money?

SPEAKER:

Again, this was picked up as a tax deed in 2018 by Orlando Realty group, it's according to the deed and so they were basically watching what was going on at the courthouse steps. Made their bed, picked it up and did not do any due diligence and basically transfer the property to Mr Diaz two months later.

JEFFREY BROWER:

That is a shame. Yes, if you'd like to reply.

SPEAKER:

The property on my West corner, website properly and is now for sale off of a gentleman that I've recently worked for, a real estate agent. I unsecured know exactly what detail for that said property but there are still properties around that they're selling off nobody knows exactly a needy where shape or form, how to get any type of firms or do exactly what I'm able to do.

They have it posted on Zillow at least four or five of them and lots have been transferred my hands within the last four years that I've had at least four times. I've been here for four days and actively using it as agricultural in those four years and since then there are still multiple violations that occur because of the fog override on the specific lot. So they are selling lots at this time in point as is with no information whatsoever backing it on the permanent side.

JEFFREY BROWER:

OK, thank you, did you have a question?

BILLIE WHEELER:

Have there been environmental infarct -- violations? That I read something about that?

SPEAKER:

Yes and going to estimate the West to clarify.

SPEAKER:

Yes there are environmental violations for a while and clear and on-site.

BILLIE WHEELER:

And this is listed as a flood zone? No, it's not?

SPEAKER:

It's flood zone X which means it's outside the hundred year flood line.

JEFFREY BROWER:

OK. Karen Clark, did you want to speak to this?

SPEAKER:

Karen Clark in Glenwood Florida. Anyway, I really happy that our zoning division is actually denying a request with change because if I read it correctly, that if there were many complaints already in that area, and proven things that were happening like the flooded roads and everything, I hope you got that right. I got it right.

Stay with that, stay with the denial and maybe he can acquire the property next door to him. So that it comes to the 10 acres that is required. I'm just tired of watching everybody chop things down but thank you for actually sticking to the law. That is it.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Thank you and there's no other request to speak that you have? So I will close the public hearing. Counsel, is there a motion? And I know this is a tough one for everybody... Ben Johnson?

BEN JOHNSON:

This man may not pose a problem but we are just coming through a period of time to wear these unplatted subdivisions, Delbert in there knowing that they will not have those county services within they

seem to forget. And then they start complaining about the roads not being up to par, the services not being up to par.

I think what they need to do is start getting with their neighbours and fix this problem then come back to us, but I'm going to make a motion to deny this request.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Ben Johnson makes a motion to deny, Billie Wheeler seconds. That motion and I'll open it up for any discussion from counsel.

This is unfortunate, Ben, I think it's, in this case I agree with you that your recourse is to go to neighbours and get to get a special assessment to maintain the roads. And to purchase properties around it. I wish there was something we could do to shut down the land developer who is selling 1 acre lots when he knows that there's nothing that can be done with them.

Anyone else? OK. I just saw you pointing, I didn't know.

The motion and the second is to uphold the denial by the DRC based on the grounds and facts specified in the petition. All in favour say I. Any opposed? And I'm sorry Mr Diaz but the motion is denied.

We have concluded item 9 already, brings us to item 10. Also an open public hearing, ordinance number 22-26. Amending Section 86513 of the code of ordinance to provide that November 1 be Veterans Day as an additional county designated holiday.

SPEAKER:

Motion to approve.

JEFFREY BROWER:

I didn't even see your lips move. (Laughs) Motion to approve by Johnson and was that to you? Seconded by Fred Lowery.

We do have a member of the public who want to slow this down, wants to speak to this. John Nicholson. And Dana, did you want to speak?

SPEAKER:

Sorry about this, guys. John Nicholson, Daytona. Sorry about this but you do recall that you just went through a budget hearing. Alright? You do recall that it will be a 10 \$20 million. It will be short. You do recall that we are on the ballot, the initiative to take more taxes off your budget.

They're going to give, what do they call it, tax abatement for police, fire, teachers and about half the county will get another \$25,000 exemption off their taxes. It's going up for vote in two weeks.

When you do this, you realize that it's going to cost you money. You do realize it's going to cost services to the public. It's a feel-good initiative. How many days off do we already have for our employees? You can only have so many days off. I know the Europeans get two months. Are we trying to go to two months? Holidays? It's a feel-good issue but I don't know whether you've discuss what is going to cause because I didn't see the cost anywhere.

What's it going to cost to shut down the government for another day? There is a cost to that. Over time, there is a cost to that. And I know you're in a rock and a hard place. Because you don't want to denied because their veterans. All habits were the next one comes in the next one comes?

But you will pass this one, but you can't deny them. If it's a feel-good, you have to pass field goods. Because they put you in a bad position if you don't. Alright, it doesn't feel good. It's not something that we have to do. My father, grandfather, all my uncles were all in military. It has nothing to do with whether in the military or not. Having been a schoolteacher my absolute to vote no on the special exemption for police, fires, school teachers because we just can't keep putting the exemptions.

I think there's what? 280, 300,000 in exemption so far from taxes? And our average homes are only 285? So we should be very cognizant whenever we lower the amount of money coming into the county. Thank you.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Thank you, just to clarify one thing. We don't shut down the government completely when there's a holiday like this. If you need enablers, fire truck, there's lots of services that continue on. But George, do you want to...?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

I just want to comment, we did discuss this a bunch of times. Actually asked for permission before the budget to include that as a proposal. So we did and it is figured in. You are correct, it will cause over time and the protective services category. I can get you the number, I just don't have it off the top of my head right now. But it is figured into the budget.

It'll be our 10th most of the places around us are at 10. And it was contemplated also as a recruiting tool part of our package. Part of a package (indiscernible) so the idea was to be competitive for some of the other agencies.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Thank you. Barbara Girtman?

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

I am with George. I think there is a cost to net acknowledging the needs of our staff. And not only being more competitive, but also acknowledging where we are in the hiring and the maintaining and the morale of and the things that employees need to feel supported by their employers.

And I think it is time for that. So I certainly support it.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Ben Johnson?

BEN JOHNSON:

I'm not a military veteran but I can appreciate what the military veterans have done for us and given us and given us freedom. Military veterans are proud group. Sometimes a forgotten group and in the past, there were even a villain iced group unjustly. And I think we need to do things to make sure that they know that we know who they are, we appreciate them and rethink them for what they have done to this, for this great country and without them where we would be. We would not be this country.

So I very much support this and I think what we can do to recognize our veterans is important.

JEFFREY BROWER:

We have a motion to approve by Johnson, second by Lowry. If there's no other discussion, all those in favour say I. Any opposed? And the motion is approved 5 to 0.

Which brings us to item 11. Also an open public hearing, ordinance 2022 ? 24 amendment to the zoning ordinance article to division six. Nonconformities.

SPEAKER:

Clay Irvin, with me is Carol MacFarland. This is coming to you at the request of staff because what we and our planning and land development regulation commission. Last year, we reviewed approximately 20 variances as they pertain to variances to allow for the creation of nonconforming lots.

And what you see in front of you today right now is what were talking about in order to make things easier for our residents. This is affecting the general public as they owned their property. And if you could work with me as I go through and try to describe what were talking about. If at some point nonconforming lots were held in ownership by a single entity, be it a person or corporation, per our code, they are automatically considered grouped together and cannot be sold independently.

This is a standard practice that is utilized by cities and counties anywhere that they have zoning regulations. The main goal is that if you have property, which has not been developed, that you can group it together so that way when it does speak, developed, it complies with the zoning. Where were having the breakdown is with some of these existing subdivisions at the visions of lands, which occurred prior to the zoning ordinance and had building permits issues for single-family homes.

We see it in your areas. This is an example of one of our variances from last year. This was 25 acre tracts in an area zoned A1... But when the owner of the northern parcel came in to try and get a building permit, their nonconforming lot letters to show that at some point the property was owned with the adjacent property and so they had to go through a variance.

The variance tax on at least 60, sometimes up to 90 days and requires a payment of a thousand bucks roughly for that process. Not including the delays it may have in getting your final building permit but it also includes the survey data. So therefore what you're seeing is there is a delay to these folks.

Here is another example induces -- and this is why -- in Bethune Beach where we had a similar type of variance where again you have platted subdivided lots with the structure built on them. And when the subdivision was approved. There was a nonconformance. It's only once we applied our unified zoning that the nonconformance became existent.

So therefore what were trying to do is minimize the impact on our general public were buying these homes and may not realize it until two, three or four years later with a comment to try and get a building permit for an expansion or an upgrade. Then all of a sudden they find out that at some point in the history of and the adjacent property they had to go through this variance to create it. Her nodding during the nonconformity, what were just doing is it allowing it for a staff approval if it's again, an existing structure on a subdivided lot that meets all other criteria.

The whole point behind this is that those 20 variances probably would not have had to on through the PLDRC and those folks would not have had that delay and that time expense. Our primary goal is to help the general public right now.

If there's any questions, I will be glad to answer.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

Motion to approve.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Motion to approve by Girtman, second by, was it Johnson? Or do you want to take it?

Clay, I would bet that probably every Council member here has sat in a PL DRC meeting for one reason or another. I have and it is, you talk about heartbreaking sometimes. When a property owner has to come in and ask permission for that, and they never anticipated, were never told. So I think this is good for the public. I also think it will free up your office to be able to handle the weightier things that we need to do as well. Because it's overwhelming. At times.

So I think it cuts both ways and I'm glad for the motion to approve. You have no request to speak? I'll close the public hearing. There's no other discussion, all in favour say I. Any opposed? And the motion carries 5 to 0.

Item 12. Clay, you will be with us for a while. Resolution rejoining 22.7 acres located at 1776 Lightfoot Lane.

SPEAKER:



Yes sir, this is the pioneer settlement, this is a former school site is located up in (Name). What you are seeing is that the subject property was originally developed as a school. Had an art for zoning which is a residential, basically 7500 square-foot lot type of development.

Schools are allowed in the zoning district so therefore it wasn't a major issue. Now that we've shifted to a museum and historic site, where they go and basically talk about the settlement of this area and relive a lot of their history, it was discovered when a group was trying to establish a classic car garage so that they could show some of the history behind that that has occurred out there, we discovered that there was really kind of a mistake in the zoning.

That this site doesn't need to have the sea zoning. To clarify, conservation is the name of the zoning classification were sending it to her requesting it. That doesn't allow for museums and historic sites to be a part of it. It also gives them greater flexibility in the future as they go forward, they need to make improvements or expand or modify, this will be much easier for them to do.

So we feel that it's appropriate, present to your planning and land development regulation commission with recommendation of approval. It's coming to you with unanimous as well from them.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

Motion to approve.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Motion to approve by Barbara, second by Billie Wheeler. And that takes Ben Johnson... I'm also glad to see this, you and your office were essential, helpful to this museum group. Which is mostly older Volusia County members, some above 100 years old.

I think it all Conover caught all of us by surprise the pioneer settlement is a wonderful place if you haven't visited there, go visit. Almost on the corner of 44 or 40 and 17. It's a great place, this is a great move and clear sentimentalism to go ahead. If there's no other discussion, all those in favour say I.

I did not ask, this is a quasijudicial. Does anyone have anything to declare besides me? I did go and review the location, talk to the people, the wonderful people and asked for Clay's help which is office did.

All in favour say I. Any opposed? It's approved 5 to 0. Which brings us to item 13. No, that was 12.

This is a resolution which is also quasijudicial hearing resolution rezoning 1.15 acre parcel located at 64 one at Lake Florian Drive.

SPEAKER:

Once again Clay Irvin, also Carol McFarland joining me. the subject property has got a split zoning which grates a problem for the development of it. It does not meet the minimum requirement of one of the zoning classification, the A1. And as you can see, it is located kind of on the edge of where you have some suburban type development.

To the east you have more rural development going on. As you can see, there's properties to the south. South of Lake Florian that I have similar type of zoning which is being requested for the entire parcel which is a three. D3 requires only one air care whereas the Eaton or anyone requires 10 acre standard, we feel that getting rid of the split zoning, having the zoning following the property line and allowing for the property owner have the ability to utilize the whole property for a single-family home make sense.

It is sent forward to your planning and land development regulation commission with a recommendation of approval. They followed suit unanimously. If there's any questions, will be glad to answer them.

JEFFREY BROWER:

The applicant is not here? So they wish to speak? Is there any request from the public to speak? No, is there a motion?

Motion to approve by Wheeler, second by Johnson. I said that at the beginning, what I did ask is if anybody had anything to declare? OK. No other discussion. All in favour of approving the resolution say I. Any opposed? Motion carries 5 to 0.

Which brings us to item 14, also a quasijudicial hearing so I will open the public hearing. And Clay Irvin if you'd like to lay this out for us.

SPEAKER:

Yesterday, the property owners acquired 70.1 acres in this area. It is currently zoned RR, rural residential which allows for hobby farming which does not allow for true agricultural uses.

They seek to use what the property for true agricultural uses. They've identified the growing of ornamental flowers as primary purpose behind this. So staff reviewed it, there is area out there that's consistent with the E2 zoning so we're not creating a spot zoning situation.

It is consistent with the land use so staff recommended approval to the planning and land development reinitiation commission. The planning land development regulation commission followed suit and unanimously recommended approval. This is actually would be technically a down zoning because it does reduce the amount of development that could occur. But it does allow for a greater expansion of the potential agricultural uses. And I know the applicants are here so if there's any questions for them, I'm sure they'll be glad to answer them.

JEFFREY BROWER:

There's a motion to approve by Wheeler, second by Lowry. Does anyone have any ex parte to declare? You said the owners are here?

I don't want to embarrass you but would you mind coming up? For a second? I just want to find out if what I read or heard is true. That you're going to grow flowers?

SPEAKER:

Yes, cut flowers. In the ground.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Welcome to Volusia County, you don't know how happy that makes me. It tells me you are a really tough couple and good farmers. Because it's a difficult crop, a beautiful crop so I wish you all the luck in the world. I think you're about to be approved. So thank you for choosing Volusia for your business.

All in favour say I, any opposed? Motion carries 5 to 0.

And clay is done. And Tad is in the room? Item 15 also acquires side judicial hearing. Resolution proposed vacation of a portion of the plat of WB Titus subdivision.

Yes, this is one of those days.

SPEAKER:

We can move on to 16 (indiscernible) if you'd like. Should we wait?

JEFFREY BROWER:

He's coming, he's that close?

SPEAKER:

Item 16 is more exciting though.

(Laughter)

JEFFREY BROWER:

Oh! It is. (Laughs) You're going to be scolded by the Council.

SPEAKER:

And 15. -- Item 15.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Don't use any B or P words.

SPEAKER:

(Laughs). I've got a long list of words I'm not allowed to use. Tad (Name), County engineer, item 15 is a request from a property owner to vacate a portion of Eden Avenue which separates the property on the south and and then also allows them to straighten out some issues that they've got where there portion of their building is in the right of way.

Duval home has a couple of different structures that are located within Eden Avenue right of way and they are looking to potentially sell that particular property so as part of that, they'd like to get that fixed up. They've worked with the adjacent property owners to come to an agreement. And so they jointly are requesting the petitioning to the county to vacate that section of road. This section of road is unimproved. The county doesn't have a need for it and were recommending approval.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Motion to approve by Girtman, second by Wheeler. Does anyone have any ex parte to declare? There is none. The owner does want to speak? It's not required? If you would like to.

SPEAKER:

... Thank you.

JEFFREY BROWER:

King of brevity, thank you. Any discussion? All in favour of approval of the vacation? I'm sorry?

Kirk (Name)? He did speak. When you get up here, just tell us who you are and what area you are from. And you have three minutes.

SPEAKER:

Hello, I'm Janice Ferguson. I'm the property owner on the east side of the right-of-way that's being vacated. There was no discussion about how that vacation is going to affect me. I was told that I would be receiving 50 feet of that vacation but that was not clarified in this discussion. Was that the way it's going to go?

JEFFREY BROWER:

Tad, can you clarify that?

SPEAKER:

Yes, ma'am. That is consistent. When the plot creates this road section, each property owner on each side of the road gets half of it. So yes, you will get 50 and they will get 50 through that section where you own on the eastern side. And for clarity, keep at the aerial back up that was just up there?

The property to the south, have the same situation. They will get 50, do fall will get 50. Not a problem.

JEFFREY BROWER:

I'm glad it went that way. OK. I will close the public hearing if there's no other discussion. All in favour of approving this vacation, say I. Any opposed? And the vacation is approved 5 to 0. Thank you for coming in.

Item 16. Not a judicial. Ordinance 2022-29 amending cause of action provision of civil rights ordinance to conform with court decision.

SPEAKER:

Good afternoon. Andrea Carr assistant county attorney. We are proposing this amendment to update our current civil rights ordinance. Inform to a court case and clarify that all of the conditions that currently exist under the state law needs -- still needs to be followed before a cause of action can be found in a court of law.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Motion to approve by Johnson, second by Wheeler. Is there any request from the public to speak? I will close the public hearing. Any discussion? All in favour of approving the amendment say I. Any opposed? Motion carries 5 to 0. Well done.

SPEAKER:

That was so exciting.

(Laughter)

JEFFREY BROWER:

Attorney Dyer was certain it would be. Pad for item 17, resolution closing of old DeLand Road east of fire tower. This was a carryover from our last Council meeting.

SPEAKER:

Yes sir, again Tad Case, beer County engineer. As you said, this is a revised resolution per the direction from the Council from the last meeting.

It includes the severing or closing of the connection of old the land road with the proposed accessory for this on gate logistics part. -- Park. It also includes the signage such that restricts trucks from the use of old DeLand Road, east of the access road.

So, we've also put in this time around, we had noted that that were going to do it as part of any. But we've gone ahead and put in the resolution that were required of developer to prepare a second phase or prior to their second phase a new traffic study based on their actual traffic counts.

JEFFREY BROWER:

A motion to approve, if I can get my pen to work, from Johnson, second by Wheeler. We do have a member of the public who would like to speak and also a resident of the area. Robert Judd? Would you like to speak?

SPEAKER:

Is Robert -- my name is Robert, 3500 old the land Road as a resident for the last 11 years and as a former schoolteacher, I like to give everyone on the Council today the Goldstar for how patient you have been in handling matters under very stressful times.

You guys did well too. Catching the ball in midair. Basically in the file number 10296 just as the gentleman mentioned, under the summary highlights, line 2, says truck traffic will not be allowed on old DeLand Road east of the proposed access road which is wonderful except it's very vague. And I'd mentioned at the last meeting that I hope you would put signage at the old DeLand Road and international Speedway will avoid intersection based on the idea of closing off the traffic.

I'm concerned that my neighbours been putting up with a lot of truck traffic, turning down educators Road which is a 10 foot wide lane. It is not really contracted for heavy traffic. So I would like to see that change made and my thanks to the developers and their cooperation in all of this. Thank you.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Can you shed more light on that? I heard you mention signage but...

SPEAKER:

We would require that the developer installed the signage on our behalf but yes, it will be at Oldham land Road at the intersection of 92 and at educators wake again. Or are they not try to prohibit delivery trucks, those types of things, garbage, but everything else will be prohibited. Nonlocal truck traffic.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Does not speak directly to your question? He has a thumbs up.

SPEAKER:

Cooperation is very appreciated.

JEFFREY BROWER:

Yes, thank you. We have a motion to approve by Johnson, second by Wheeler. All in favour. Any other discussion? No other public? And he opposed? Motion carries 5 to 0.

That brings us to 17 A. (indiscernible) can I see Paulo? Yes, if I turn my head. I've asked Paulo to give us a brief synopsis of the legal report that he wrote and I just want to create a stage for the Council, I want to clear up some public mental understanding -- public misunderstanding. Make it clear as far as what's legally possible it was not. There is concern that I'm here from the public, each of you have probably heard concern one way or another as well and your input and opinions are just as valuable and welcome as mine.

I just want to get a final hearing on this so that the public knows exactly where it stands.

SPEAKER:

, (Name). Senior Assistant County Attorney so this is a supplemental item from the chair and this is regarding a memo that our office or your legal department provided to the Council on August 15 regarding what we are calling potable reuse. Locally it's kind of known as toilet attack or flesh to faucet, something cute like that. Essentially we examined the county's ability to regulate potable reuse and looked at the recent changes on the state level regarding potable reuse.

Fundamentally boils down to this. Within the county service area and that's kind of imported, service areas not the unincorporated area. It is essentially where we have control over and provide utility services within that area. The county has the authority to regulate Blackwater. So Blackwater is



essentially, it is a component of the domestic wastewater system. And it comes from your toilet, your urinals and your kitchen waste. Everything else that comes from your residence is kind of called greywater. And your traditional waste that's produced and treated at your wastewater facility, it all exist together so there is not... And that is usually used and treated to a certain level and right now, it's kind of used to water for irrigation purposes.

So in 2020, and 2021, the legislature started to kind of direct DEP to start drafting rules for potential potable reuse. Because they kind of took a look around and said, you may have to do this later on. So right now, the rulemaking is in place. So what it does is getting back, the county can regulate within its own service area, Blackwater. It cannot regulate how the other municipalities and the other municipal utilities regulate potable reuse.

Additionally if a developer comes in and puts in a greywater system, that essentially creates a development that essentially separates your kind of toilet and urinals and kitchen sink raised from all the other source, sources of water. The county must approve that and that even within our own service area.

That kind of narrows the scope of what a local government can do for the county because were at Turner County, anything, any changes to the charter must be comply with the state law. So essentially the stabilizing within your own utilities, you can regulate your sources that go into your water treatment system or your water supply but you can't prohibit greywater and you can't use it, you can't prohibit other municipalities from using any type of potable reuse.

There some other details on that but fundamentally, that's where we are on the county level. Because these bills are very recent, there hasn't been any case law. There wasn't even any rules in place. So the use of potable reuse is not a thing that currently exists now, they are still in the rulemaking process. It's going to take a while before anything kind of shows up. I think 2030 was a date where if a municipality or local government needs to, they can use that as an alternate water supply.

JEFF BROWER:

OK let's, bear with me just for with a few questions to really bring this out to the public. What you have just said is that we have already been preempted from doing this countywide. We can't tell the municipalities what to do but it's even narrower than that.

We can't, we can't outlaw it for unincorporated Volusia as a whole. We can only have a prohibition, if we were to have one, for our service areas. That means the areas where we have water treatment plants established and the customers that they cover, correct?

PAOLO SORIA:

Yes.

JEFF BROWER:

OK. So that's where we are. I also want to make it clear that what you are talking about, what we are talking about in potable, is the very definition of that, is for drinking water.

PAOLO SORIA:

Yes.

JEFF BROWER:

We do not have graywater separation and blackwater separation. So, everything we have here is a mixture and if it was going to be made potable, it would be that combination of water. Potable reuse. I'm just reading from this legal paper and I will add this too.

This didn't come up yesterday, that you wrote this down. This has been, I've talked with you and Attorney Dyer for several months and you have worked on this and even worked through it at my request through Hurricane Ian's aftermath when you were buried. The reason I did this is because of what I hope that this brings out.

What's the preemptions and the limits that we have? Personally, I think that's unfortunate. I don't like losing local control but that's not your fault. You have to tell us what the law says and then we have to act accordingly.

On the second page it says, "potable reuse treats the domestic wastewater regardless of source, blackwater graywater, to a certain level to be used as a water source to be introduced into a public water supply treatment and distribution facility to meet potable standards, drinkable standards."

Furthermore, at the bottom of that page it says, "the legislature further finds that for those wastewater treatment plants permitted and operated under an approved reuse program by the department, the reclaimed water shall be considered environmentally acceptable and not a threat to public health and safety."

Therein lies my concern with this. First of all, I don't think there's anybody on this council that has any argument with reclaimed water. And I don't want to outlaw the use of reclaimed water for irrigation purposes. However, I don't want it to be forced on our residents as drinking water.

This, in my opinion, just declares that it's safe out of thin air. There's no science backing it up. We have to take the government's word that it's safe and I think we've already proven that that is sometimes dangerous.

On the next page, it says the 2020 legislative session amended the section governing reuse of reclaimed water and required Florida Department of Environmental Protection to initiate rulemaking based on its recommendations of the Potable Reuse Commission's 2020 report.

As of the date of its memorandum, rulemaking is still ongoing and you indicated that. We don't know what the rules are yet. They are still being made. Crucially, the legislature in the bill stated that reclaimed water is deemed a water source for public water supply systems. My second concern: one, is that I don't think, I don't know, none of us know, if we are honest, that it is safe. Number two, is that it's coming.

The legislature has decided that we need to look at it. It's not coming next week. It's not in any city right now. Daytona Beach's experiment has shut down, so it's not in the city right now but it's coming. SB 64 specifically authorizes the DEP to convene a technical advisory board to coordinate rulemaking and review its rules for potable reuse and authorizes utilities to include conceptual plans for potable water reuse projects.

And it goes on to state that potable reuse projects are eligible for alternative water supply funding, which will make them attractive to municipalities and perhaps the county because everybody needs funding. The use of potable reuse water may not be excluded from regional water supply planning.

Again, that's my second concern: is that it's coming. It goes on to say the bottom of the page that we can expect that it will be here. Let me just read it so nobody thinks I'm being loose with the facts.

An article from April of 2021 when discussing SB 64 stated that, "reused water would be cleaned and available as drinking water around the year 2032." And then on page 1785 it says, "However, the general rule is that state legislation and the authority it specifically delegates may override County

action if that action expressly conflicts with the legislature." Therein lies your concern, that we are preempted.

PAOLO SORIA:

To a certain extent, yes. So, that provision in SB 64 that's in the memo where it says it cannot be excluded from the regional water supply. While each independent municipality or controller of their service area can decide we are not interested in potable reuse as an alternative water supply. We can't regulate or legislate to the effect of affecting other service areas.

So even though we are in charter County, we can't implement a countywide ordinance or charter that tells other utility services what sources of water are acceptable. So that's the kind of preemption mode that the legislature has chosen while each cupholder and each utility service provider is the master of their own domain, to the extent that you can't affect the others.

JEFF BROWER:

OK. That brings up my two quick key questions for you. Let me read one more sentence in that same paragraph. "To avoid such conflict, any action by the county must be able to coexist with the states. And in this example, the FDEP, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Water Management District's rules without frustrating their purposes."

I'm assuming, and I don't ask you to assume, but I'm assuming that their purposes are because they know that there is pressure on our aquifer. We saw an economic development report this morning. Florida is growing and we are a desirable state. And so, they are trying to protect the aquifer and our aquifer has a bubble of fresh water above saltwater.

The more we pump out freshwater, the more we will continue to see saltwater coming up. So I think they are right and being concerned with that. I disagree with their source, alternate source, I think we need alternate sources but I disagree that toilet to tap should be one of them.

Let me ask you a question: is it possible, if we asked you to write an ordinance that did not frustrate the law, is it possible to write an ordinance or a charter amendment that would stand up in law?

PAOLO SORIA:

It would regardless of whether it's an ordinance or charter amendment. It would have, we can only regulate within our service area. Even within our service area, you cannot prohibit graywater development. So if someone comes in and actually separates out those, you cannot prohibit it.

Other than that, the way the law is currently written, it does allow each municipality, or each local government, or county to regulate that narrow scope to say prohibit blackwater as a water source for its utility water plants. That seems to be permissible under the current statutes.

JEFF BROWER:

OK. One other question because I'm not sure that I understand. It's in the next paragraph down that says, "The 1968 revision of the State Constitution of Florida gave charter counties all powers of local self-government, not inconsistent with the general law or with special law provided by vote of the electors." Is that special law approved by a vote of the electors? Would that be a charter amendment?

PAOLO SORIA:

It could be that or actually most likely is talking about a special local law that goes through a specific process. So, there are two things that a charter amendment cannot be inconsistent with: the general local law or a specific, a general law that applies statewide to every single county and municipality. Or, a special local law that applies to the Volusia County, for example. So, it has to meet those two rules. It's not, we can ignore the general law and only comply with the special law, for example.

Our concern right now is the general law is saying for the regulation of potable reuse, you are preempted in this particular ways. So, even if you have a special local law you'd have to go to the legislature to get an exemption and to say Volusia County can prohibit blackwater, for example.

JEFF BROWER:

Right.

PAOLO SORIA:

So, that would have to be what I think it's speaking to. It's not really talking about whether or not Volusia County can pass a charter amendment because the charter amendment itself has to be consistent with the general law, which says you know, you can't prohibit potable reuse on the countywide level and you must allow graywater technology in your service area.

JEFF BROWER:

Lots of restrictions.

PAOLO SORIA:

Yes.

JEFF BROWER:

And we already lost local control. In the cities have lost even more but you don't have to respond to that. That's my opinion. You need, you are speaking strictly on the legalities. Here's what I, here's my conclusion: you make a statement here, "the County may regulate potable reuse within its own service areas." And then the very last page in your conclusion you go on to say basically the same thing with Blackwater as you have described here.

What I would like as an outcome of this brief discussion is for this council to, I'm going to start off by offering a compromise. There's two ways we could go. We could go with an ordinance that a future County Council could do away with or a charter amendment, which is very difficult if not impossible to get away with. This council, I understand, is not comfortable, I don't think unless they tell me different today, with changing it permanently and that's their prerogative.

We all have a vote. I would like for the Council to request for you to bring back an ordinance that you believe is consistent with the law to prohibit the use of Blackwater as a potential potable water supply. I believe, I will just list a couple quick reasons why I believe that's necessary.

One is that I think that would provide a template for the municipalities if they choose to but they have to do it on their own. We cannot do it for them.

PAOLO SORIA:

That's correct.

JEFF BROWER:

OK. I can't deem that it's safe as a state legislature has done. I can't tell anyone with any degree of assurity that we are going to give you toilet to tapwater and that it's environmentally or healthwise safe. That's one reason I think we shouldn't do this.

The second reason is that we should keep our focus on protecting our aquifer. I think that this takes our eye off of it. I think if we allow toilet to tap to go along, it says we are just going to keep developing the way that we are and worry about the water later because we can always drink toilet to tap.

I think our focus needs to be on conservation, on the way that we grow, where we are growing, preserving our water. I also think that it's, if you look at safety, the last step in the process to make blackwater drinkable is reverse osmosis, which in itself is number one very expensive but it's also a public hazard. You can even drink it without adding minerals back into it.

For every gallon of reverse osmosis water that you produce, you are also producing, according to the system, 7, 8, or 9 gallons of waste. What do you do with all that wastewater? You pump it underground, you put it below the drinking water aquifer and hope that in our Swiss cheese, limestone aquifer, it doesn't commingle. I'm not willing to do that. What do you do with the waste?

And then third, we should focus on other potable water supplies, which the county is doing and should continue to do. And also finally, I think, again all I am asking for is for you to write an ordinance. Bring it back. I can't guarantee that it will get passed and I'm not requiring that this council pass it.

What I am asking them to do is let you write that and look at it and see if it's something that they would pass because it protects our image as a community as well.

How good with this before a tourism-based economy: "Come to Volusia County where we drink toilet to tapwater." It will be better for our economy. It would be better for companies that are already here like B. Braun that depend on a really high quality of water. So that's my ask, Council: I will lay aside the charter amendment because I know you're not comfortable dealing with something that's that permanent.

I'm just asking you to give Apollo, or whoever the legal staff appoints, to come back with an ordinance that we can then look at and discuss and see if it meets with your approval.

Ben Johnson.

BEN JOHNSON:

I believe we are trying to find a solution for a problem that doesn't exist. Nobody's talking about this. The first time we ever heard about it was Mr (unknown name) Franklin, it has been you bringing it up and it's all been political and I kind of have a problem here. That we discussed this in August and it did not get a second. Now we are three weeks, 2 1/2 weeks, whatever three weeks, from an election and all of a sudden we bring this back up again.

It's just not something that we've ever talked about. The only place in Volusia County that's ever been done was a test that was asked by the state, which has been since taken down at the moment. I don't know anywhere in Florida that's doing it. We regulated all the way around it. I'm going to make a motion that we not address this issue again as long as this council is sitting.

JEFF BROWER:

OK. Ben has made a motion that we never talk about this again. Ben you didn't listen to what I just read, that the Florida legislature says it is coming. No, it's not here. That's the time to work on something. That's the time to preempt something and wow! I asked Paula-

BEN JOHNSON:

to bring it up after the first of the year. I made a motion. Is there a second?

PAOLO SORIA:

Yeah, I don't think we heard any of that.

SPEAKER:

If you guys, I believe the problem is you can't directly speak in the mic. If you kind of back off just a little bit, that should help.

JEFF BROWER:

OK. We have a motion on the table. This is the first thing to deal with, the motion on the table, to not discuss it again with this council, that's the motion. Is there, there is a second unfortunately for that. So we have a motion to not even discuss this with this council from Johnson and a second by Lowery.

And then the discussion on that, I will just, hopefully you can hear this now. You said we are dealing with something that's not an issue. The state of Florida says it's an issue. They are making plans and telling us to get ready. This is the time and the only time to get ready.



It's not the only time? OK. It's not the only time as long as you are here.

BEN JOHNSON:

It can come up after the first of the year.

JEFF BROWER:

OK. I will bring it up again. The motion is to table it as long as this council remains in place. I think I made a very reasonable and very measured request. We have a motion in a second to deny that and to not talk about it.

Would you please call the role, Carissa?

SPEAKER:

Miss Girtman?

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

Wait. So yes is supporting Ben's motion?

JEFF BROWER:

Yes, it's to not discuss it again.

SPEAKER:

Mr Johnson?

BEN JOHNSON:

Yes.

SPEAKER:

Doctor Lowry?

DR FRED LOWRY:

Yes.

SPEAKER:

Miss Wheeler?

BILLIE WHEELER:

Yes.

SPEAKER:

Mr Brower?

JEFF BROWER:

No.

So the motion passes four to 0. Is that legal? To tell the Council that we can never discuss something again, Attorney Dyer? Or, Attorney Paolo?

MICHAEL G DYER:

A council can decide whether to take of an issue or not by majority.

JEFF BROWER:

OK so we just by majority voted that we will never discuss this again at court as long as it's counsel is here.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

I think I had my name up prior to the vote.

JEFF BROWER:

OK, I'm sorry. I didn't see it. Barb Girtman?

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

I just wanted to say, discussing for me is, in the challenge, it's this time. There was no reason for this concern to be brought up at this time. There's no urgency to this concern at this time. So, I don't know what the reasonings are. I'm not going to make assumptions about what they are but I'm not sure why you brought it back at this time when there's no critical issue in the next 90 days to address when we have so many other critical issues on our table, coming two weeks behind a major hurricane.

So, I don't understand it. It's not really relevant but that's my concern. We can talk but now was not the time.

JEFF BROWER:

Let me just answer that and then it's over. In my opinion, it's absolutely relevant because what I just read is that the state of Florida is at this minute writing rules. And if we don't act now there's nothing that we can do.

I don't know if there will be anything to do after the rule. You have to act. They might come out tomorrow. I don't know when they're going to do it and our County Charter tells us that we have to be, we are responsible, as far as we can control it, the health and safety of our residents.

The Florida state legislature has just decided for us that this is safe. I can't say that and nobody can honestly say that.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

There's a lot of interpretation. Again, OK that's my perspective.

JEFF BROWER:

I'm just answering your question. I think it is critical.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

Thank you.

JEFF BROWER:

OK and that brings us to Item 18, Community Events update.

KEVIN CAPTAIN:

Good afternoon, Council. Kevin Captain, Community Information Director. So to go through the community events. A couple of social media activities that we are working on. And I did mention in the previous meeting, we have the Imagine all Day Without Water, which is October 20. This is to increase awareness of water and so just watch our social media platforms to be able to see some of the activities we are doing for that.

In addition, we are also increasing awareness of Mobility Week, which is a partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation and this is a week from the 21st to the 28th. And obviously, Votran is very actively participating in this.

Also, want to bring to your attention to the farm tour this year. The farm tour is on Friday, November 18. This is where residents can visit local farms and really learn more about the silent economic engine of Volusia County: agriculture.

There are a handful of really cool farms to check out both on the east side and the west side. If you are interested, you can just click on Volusia.org. Go under the Calendar of Events and you will get more information on that also. Also, this was mentioned earlier in the meeting today. We have the Veterans Stand Down event, which is coming up also.

We also have the Veterans Hall of Fame that we are working on and we are going to be presenting proclamations to six Volusia County residents who were inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame and we will unveil a wall with those pictures. We were going to do that on November 15. We've got some scheduling challenges with some of the veterans, so we are going to likely move that to December the 6th. So, lots of good activities coming up for veterans and timely for Veterans Day in November.

And then also a reminder, the Volusia County Fair is on the horizon. November 3 to November 13 and some more information to follow. And again, just a reminder, anyone who's interested in checking out

any events, go to Volusia.org, click on the news drop down box. Click on the County Calendar and you can find out all the information you need. You can also call us. Any questions?

SPEAKER:

(indiscernible)

KEVIN CAPTAIN:

I am pulling away when I have to use the p. Let me mention this, miss Wheeler. You know, I apologize for the audiovisual difficulties today. We are certainly doing our best to improvise with a backup audio system and so I apologize but I appreciate all of your patience. We are unable to live stream as a result of that today but our team is going to be capturing what we did capture today and it will be posted on YouTube just like it normally is. And if you have any requests for any of the slide decks, just feel free to reach out to me and I will be happy to get those to you. So we should have that up at our earliest convenience. Thank you very much.

JEFF BROWER:

Thank you. That brings us to Item 19: An update and the third extension of the Declaration of Local Emergency for Hurricane Ian and that will be presented by Russ Brown.

RUSS BROWN:

good afternoon, Counselor. Russ Brown, Assistant County Attorney before you as the third extension for the Declaration of a local emergency.

It's for another week. I will take any questions and I think after that the manager will have an update.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

Motion to approve.

JEFF BROWER:

I have a motion to approve by Girtman and second by Lowry. Any questions for us or staff? All in favor say, "Aye."

(Multiple speakers)

JEFF BROWER:

Any opposed? Motion carries 5-0.

And according to my, both of my, that brings us to public participation. Yes?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Mr chair, as part of this item we do have a short update of some of activities we've done. And I also have something I'd like to talk to the Council about that I'd like to do under the executive order that you just passed.

So, if Kevin could come up. This is much shorter, and overall summary of what we've been doing since the last meeting and a little bit of information on the storm. Then we will get into some specific actions that I needed to take, and I feel like I need to take, under the executive order here. Go ahead.

KEVIN CAPTAIN:

Thank you Mr Recktenwald. Kevin Captain, Community Information Director. Quick update on the Hurricane Ian recovery efforts. The damage assessment, the most recent is 316 million. You might remember from the October the 3rd, it was started at about 131 million, so significant increases. We've got 5400 homes damaged, over 600 businesses, 44,825 residents have registered for FEMA assistance and the Disaster Recovery Center continues to provide service on the (Place name) location in Daytona Beach.

There is also a location in Astor and there's no wait. So we encourage you, if you don't mind taking the drive out to Astor, you can get up there and get service right away with the FEMA representatives.

So far we've had 915 residents who have visited. So just a little update on the shelter: we had a transitioning that occurred yesterday from the Ocean Center. Those that were impacted by the storm that were not able to go home, back to their homes, because of in inhabitable damage or repair, those people were able to be screened and they were provided a shelter at two of the Baptists Churches that worked with FEMA and they joined forces to be able to provide sheltering.

Yesterday, we had a total of 89 clients at the shelter at the Ocean Center. 21 of those did elect to go to the shelters. We also were working with our Coalition for the Homeless to make sure that we were meeting and provided resources to all the clients whose individual needs were different to make sure that there was a insured, seamless transition from that shelter.

Today, there's down to three people in the Osteen shelter. Definitely making process with that. We just certainly want to thank our partners with that: the American Red Cross, FEMA, the Florida Division of Emergency Management, our Community Services division and Emergency Management. So we are continuing to work with FEMA to make sure that eligible residents do get TSA or transitional sheltering assistance and this is where they are able to provisionally find a motel or hotel room while their home is being repaired and that's one of the FEMA benefits. And so right now, a hundred and 34 residents have been able to receive this benefit and we are continuing to work with the Hotel Motel Association for more and more of those efforts.

Little bit earlier into the recovery, I should say into the response, we worked with the Sheriff's Office to go out and help and assist with water, pet food, meals ready-to-eat, and lots of supplies that we provided through Lake Harney Woods.

Yesterday, the state's emergency support function and number six, which is a function of Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Human Services, they were in the County yesterday to assess further the areas impacted mostly by the flooding from Ian, which includes Lake Harney Woods, Stone Island, Osteen, and they also assessed the Independence Farms area on state road 46.

So after the meeting with the points of contacts in these areas, missions and resources are again being provided to these areas and those are going to continue in the coming days. And again, this is just another reminder of the Disaster Recovery Center. We've got basically two, even though one is in Lake County. It's still providing services to Volusia County residents.

So we are up to over 60 news releases. Lots of social media activity with news and also we had Mr Jim Judge and Ben Bartlett on our radio show to continue to talk about the recovery efforts that we are going through.

I also just wanted to mention too, Bob Davis and Nancy Keefer have been very important partners in this process, particularly to ensure that they are working closely with FEMA to, you know, ensure that our hotels and motels are, you know, are cooperating with the Association and being able to render aid to those in need for our community.

So with that, I will pass this over to Public Works Director, Ben Bartlett.

BEN BARTLETT:

Thank you, Kevin. Good afternoon! Ben Bartlett, Public Works Director.

So obviously we are a couple weeks out from the storm and Public Works is still going pretty strong in dealing with a lot of the issues associated with it. I'm just going to give you a little bit of an update on what we are doing as far as the recovery goes. We are dealing with, obviously, you heard today multiple folks talk about the flooding. Talk a little bit about what we got going on with the beach. And of course, after the storm everybody wants to know about what we are doing with the debris.

So first up on the flooding side, you've heard it mentioned, you know the St. John's River is record stage. The numbers we are seeing are astronomical. We think, Dave relayed to us that they think it's crested but we still have multiple areas underwater: Stone Island, Lake Harney Woods, portions of Deland over on Hontoon and Astor, and Lemon Bluff.

Basically at this point with those folks, as far as getting the roads open, it's a waiting game. Waiting for that river to come down. We did have a meeting the other day with a representatives from St. John's Water Management District and he talked about how 1200 mi.<sup>2</sup> of the St. John's River basin got over 10 inches of rain. So, that's 1200 mi.<sup>2</sup> of the St. John's River basin got over 100 year storm event. That's a lot of water that has to move through, get into the river, and eventually work its way out.

And then you combine that with the tidal influence that we saw during the storm. You know that same St. John's Water Management District official said that the St. John's River was actually flowing in the opposite direction all the way down to Lake Monroe? So you know, a lot of water is being dropped in the area and they can't get out.

And so, it's kind of what you saw on the east side of the county as well. I know we had a lot of folks talking about the flooding over there. That much rain and then all of your areas that take that water out: your Tomoka River, your Spruce Creek, the Nova Canal, all of those other canals, they just couldn't get the water out. So you have all the rain falling and normally that water will flow out but in this instance it didn't and it cause significant amounts of flooding.

We also have some additional areas. These are mostly areas where there is closed basins, where the waterfalls. It's like a bowl and it fills up. Areas that we've seen in the past: Pooser Pond down in Orange City, areas around Deltona, and the Enterprise. We've reached out to the city and they've reached out to



us as far as we've offered up some areas where they could possibly move some water and some retention ponds we have that are not full. And we will continue to work with those folks and provide whatever help we can.

And then we've got, you know, we had some water on Taylor Road for a while. We were able to get that pumped out and we've got some folks down in there that also have water on their property. They are pumping as well and we are trying to help with that.

So next up, we've got the beach. Damage assessment is still ongoing. There's a lot of damage and we talked about that. However, you know, we've started working on getting those facilities up and running. You know, we have one of the most accessible beaches in the state of Florida and we understand how important that is to our citizens and our visitors. And our staff and contractors are working really hard to get as many of those assets up and up and running as possible.

I want to talk a little bit real quick about temporary repairs versus permanent repairs. Obviously, any work we do is going to be, we are hoping to get reimbursed by FEMA. We want to make temporary repairs as best we can to provide that access knowing full well that we are going to come back and make those permanent repairs. And hopefully, both types of repairs will work. We will do that work through the FEMA process to make sure that we get that reimbursement. And on a timeline, you know, it's really important that we can't really start doing anything demolition or anything like that to any of these assets until FEMA representatives actually come down and put eyes on it.

We've been working, talking to them, meeting with them, and trying to get them down here as quick as possible so we can get that process started. We want to make sure we maximize the reimbursement but that's a time-consuming process. Obviously, doing any work on the beach, you have to limit it to you outside of turtle nesting season. And then, we've got the issue of the tides and when we can access the beach. And it's just, you know, I think the main thing from our point of view is that we are going to ask for patience because this is a unique situation and we have very limited time to do the work out there. So, we are going to be working as fast as we can.

We are working hard to provide access for private property owners to access the beach to make repairs to their damaged property. We are working in conjunction with our permitting staff and those folks to make sure that they can access the beach through our ramps and get down there and protect their property to ensure that there is not additional damage.

We are coordinating, like I said before, with the FEMA, DEP, and the Army Corps. I mean, we've had multiple conference calls and meetings. I think you know between Jessica and I, we've been on one of

those calls just about every day so we are working hard with those folks to try to push them and get that assistance that we need to get the beach back up and running.

And just one last thing: the beach profile. We lost a lot of sand and the beach profile is lower and I think that's why you were seeing the water come up higher, more frequently. You know, during the lower tides, there is less time available for those accesses so that is something we are going to continue to monitor and hopefully, hopefully we can get to work on maybe, we are working with the Army Corps on getting some sand and those kinds of things but those are, that's a process that takes a long time but we are working on it.

SPEAKER:

May I ask something?

BEN BARTLETT:

Sure.

SPEAKER:

How many accesses do we have open?

BEN BARTLETT:

Ah! That's the next slide.

SPEAKER:

Well see, there you go.

BEN BARTLETT:

Perfect timing! So you know, understanding that beach access is hugely important, up on the screen are the areas that we have open currently. We still have about 15 of our walk, our beach ramps I should say, severely damaged. Some of those ramps that we think we can repair in-house, make temporary repairs, and get them back open. Some of them require, are going to require some, as evidenced by the photo on the screen, some really significant repairs.

Our coastal inlet parks, the two that we had last time that were closed, Lighthouse Point and Frank Rendon, still remain closed. Those are going to require significant repairs before we can get them up and running. And then our dune walkovers, I think two weeks ago when I presented last, we had 91/140 closed. So we've gotten 22 of those open with our own staff and they are working every day as fast as they can to get those open as best we can.

And then lastly, debris operations. You know, I came to you all last time and we had an initial estimate of 300 yd.<sup>3</sup> of vegetation debris and about 180,000, sorry 300,000 cubic yards of vegetation, 180,000 of construction demolition. We started collecting on October 5. That was 12 days ago.

Through yesterday, we collected 60,000 yd.<sup>3</sup> of vegetated debris and about 20% of what we've estimated. To put that into perspective, that 600,000 yd.<sup>3</sup> is about a football field area piled about 28 feet high. So, we are going to have to get that up to about 150 feet high before we get done.

We started in a little bit on the C and D. You know, it takes some time for that material to get out. I know a lot of the areas that flooded, that material is coming out quick. Your construction demolition, just a reminder: drywall, carpet, furniture, those kinds of things, is going to come out when we have these flooded events.

We've removed a lot of that C and D off the beach that was where we did a lot of it at first but now this week we are really starting to get some of those areas that have the high frequency of the flooded homes because that C and D is starting to come out and we want to get it off the street as quick as we can.

We still have the debris hotline up and running that folks can call if they have questions. If they are in the city, it will direct them to, you know, the appropriate agency for them to speak to you. If they are in the county, we can help them out.

Messaging is key. We are working with Community Information, you know, separate those piles: veg, C and D, white goods, appliances, make sure all that is separated so it gets picked up because I'd hate for a truck to come through someone's neighborhood and they didn't properly separate it and it doesn't get picked up. You know, obviously it can upset some folks.

And then finally, the landfill and the transfer station, I mean those places are, we are running seven days a week mainly to accommodate, I mean some of that is to accommodate our debris haulers, but we are seeing a significant increase in the amount of folks visiting both of those facilities. It's leading to some wait times. We are working through some modifications to how we do things to try and speed that up

but it is lot of work out there for folks and we are seeing some tonnage numbers that we've never seen before.

So with that I'm going to pass it off to Clay. He's going to talk a little bit about what we've got going on on the permitting side for helping these folks with their repairs.

Clay Ervin:

obviously, we want to make sure that we are not being an impediment with the public. And so, I can tell you we been able to work very well with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. They currently have two staff members sitting with our staff at 440 Beach Street, working on trying to get the temporary permits that we can issue out to those who need it.

Also, one of the critical things that I think Jennifer Winters is doing is hunting down sources for beach compatible sand. There is a lot of people that are concerned about, you know, the fact that we do have this requirement. It's a state requirement that, for any kind of stand placed on there, it has to be compatible. Mainly for environmental purposes but also for geological purposes. So what you are seeing is that we are trying to help facilitate those private landowners to get those repairs done.

We also have a commitment from DEP to partner with us and, you know, the fact that they have staff members there at 440 Beach Street, speaks volumes. We are also still trying to get out to a lot of the areas that are flooded for safety assessments of some of the buildings. Many of these areas, Baxter Pointe, has been flooded since the storm hit and so we are still working to try and get down there.

So once we get a handle on that, Paolo, one more time, Paolo is working on trying to come up with an emergency ordinance so that we can allow for some temporary housing via RVs. That's going to be something we will be bringing up shortly with you all. So that way, if anybody is coming forward and they have a damaged structure, they can come forward and use their RV if they have one so that they can stay on their property, if possible.

Tomorrow night we have an open house. What's going to happen is, we sent invitations to all five of the coastal cities who received their properties, received impacts, to come to meet in Daytona Beach Shores at their community center between four and seven. And you will have representatives from DEP, Volusia County, and the cities available to help folks kind of work through the permitting process so that we can give them the temporary permits to get on the beach when they can to make those improvements.

Also, you know, just what you're seeing is all levels of government from the Army Corps, DEP, counties, and cities, they are all working together realizing that this is damage to people's homes, condominiums. What can we do to help facilitate it? And you're seeing that there is definite improvements to try and

get things that otherwise wouldn't be allowed going as quickly as possible. So, we are working through that.

You all nicely waived all the fees so we are still following through with that. We are getting a ton of roof permits for the unincorporated area, we are trying to work through all of that and really that's really where we are at.

JEFF BROWER:

Just a question. I don't know if it's for you or for Ben. Is it, as we travel around the county, we are going to have to deal with roads. Some of them counties, some of them have been underwater for a very long time. You know from Lake Harney, Freedom, and Independence, all over the county. Is there any hope that FEMA will work with us? Some of those just have sections that need to be raised. Some of them, like you discussed yesterday, the foundations might be ruined and it's probably going to be like Jell-O. Can we get any outside help because it's definitely storm related.

BEN BARTLETT:

Actually, FEMA has very specific guidance on repairs associated with submerged or flooded roads. Basically, there has to be immediate visible damage. So when the water recedes, then we will know. You know, it's really a 50-50 proposition on a road that's been submerged for a significant period of time on whether it's going to be, you know, really bad shape or whether it will be fine. It depends how many, you know, what's been driving over it while it has been flooded and that kind of stuff. So once the water recedes, we will take a look at it and I can promise you any damages that we can attempt to get reimbursed for, we will.

Now on the other sides of things, if you have a road that's washed out with that kind of damage, that's flooded, there's mitigation grants available. Post declared events where you can apply and maybe mitigate for the damage and make it more resilient. However, if the road doesn't have any repairs, there's not really a funding source out there for something like that. Specifically, FEMA doesn't consider lack of access something to mitigate for. They would consider something that washes a road away something you would mitigate for.

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

so they would allow you to armor a road or something like that. We've gotten grants in the past for that type of activity but just purely raising a road, we have not. So, that would be, there are maybe some other resiliency type of grants that we could look at. Maybe even through the Department of Transportation, who endured some of the same issues.

So, the State Road 46 for instance, you know, we hear a lot about Lake Kearney Woods. It is still underwater and so you cannot approach Hardy Woods from the West. So you have to go around to the east from Mims in that particular way. So yeah, it's going to be a major issue I think for a lot of communities.

A reminder that we had over 240 miles of road underwater at some time during this, so it's not just limited to those areas. A lot of other areas are also underwater.

BEN BARTLETT:

And the states made quite a bit of money available through their resiliency program. We are in the initial stage of that. I look at Ginger because her office is, the grant that we received two update our resilient plan. I forget the exact wording but we have to have that plan in place and then we can identify those areas in need, some of these areas that probably flooded and are in need of resilience funding. And then we can go turnaround and apply for that state funding.

JEFF BROWER:

Yeah, that sounds like a logical place to find it but it also sounds like a long haul for all of us to get that done. George mentioned 46. Has anybody seen drone video? Does anybody have any guests when that road might open?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Well, the Department of Transportation estimated the earliest would be the end of this week and probably beginning or the beginning of next week.

JEFF BROWER:

That would relieve a lot of the hardships down and that very extreme southern tip of Volusia County.

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

And that's from the river. I believe once the water recedes and they can get a look at it and there's no damage to there, there are several bridges that are affected, if there's no damage around those bridges, it could come pretty quickly.

JEFF BROWER:

Yeah, the river down there is now a very large lake as you know. OK, thank you.

Oh! What, this was, I was going to save this to end but you and Clay are the ones to ask, and Ginger perhaps. Is there, there's a lot of wells that have been covered up and septic systems covered up with flooding, including pumps and everything. They are now working, people are drawing water, is there a way, is there any program or any way to help them test for E. coli in these wells that have been covered up by filthy water?

BEN BARTLETT:

I would say that's probably through the DOH.

CLAY ERVIN:

Let us check on that. I can't give you 100% answer right now.

JEFF BROWER:

Ginger was going to give me 100% answer.

SPEAKER:

I was going to say why Clay said. It is going to be through the Department of Health and I don't know exactly what they're doing but I can certainly check.

JEFF BROWER:

Thank you. I appreciate it. The extreme, that Lake Carney area is very close to Seminole and I've heard today, I haven't verified it, I got a text today that Seminole is offering free E. coli tests. Is there, you don't know, you're not going to know, any of us are not going to know, if Seminole would include that part since it is Volusia County?

CLAY ERVIN:

It would be the individual Department of Health for each county would be handling that so we can check with them to verify that they are doing.

JEFF BROWER:

Thank you. Anybody else? Barbara Girtman?

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

I'm sorry.

JEFF BROWER:

I hope not. Well no, you are still wrapping up 19 or are you done?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

OK. Just one point. Clay mentioned the item on the temporary living on one's property. I want to turn it over to Mike. We've been working on that and we actually, so that we don't have to come back or people don't have to wait for us to get an ordinance, we can get that started, I believe under the authority of the Emergency Declaration. Mike?

MICHAEL G DYER:

so your staff has the authority to waive some formalities during a state of emergency. During COVID, you did waive, you did suspend enforcement as a director, the manager to a staff, because of the social distancing. People were trying to go through the time you allowed people to stay in their RVs or mobile homes while they were social distancing.

Also back after the 2004 storms, you did, the county did allow the suspended enforcement for the same reason. So essentially, in your current code, you can restrict RVs and other mobile homes from being connected to water, sewer, or electric lines for residential purposes unless they are in recreational vehicle parks.

So in talking with staff, I think they would have the authority to issue a directive to suspend enforcement, which would be a directive to their staff. If essentially the homeowner had pulled a permit and was trying to repair their home to get back in it.

We wanted to mention it to you since while we had you here to see if any of you had objection to that because otherwise, I think they can go ahead and proceed to do that under the authority, emergency authority that staff have currently.



BILLIE WHEELER:

So you don't need a motion?

MICHAEL G DYER:

I don't believe that, yeah.

BILLIE WHEELER:

I definitely think that's-

JEFF BROWER:

Anybody who is opposed, they can speak up because that allows the homeowner to stay on their property for security reasons, if nothing else.

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Exactly. And I think that's the desire. And speaking with the governor and others office, when we were talking about this, our problem is going to be relatively small compared to what you see down in Southwest Florida. So I appreciate that and thank you. We will continue on that track.

BEN JOHNSON:

Did I hear though that they had to have a permit to rebuild in order to do that? Because I'd say let's just leave it totally until this is over.

MICHAEL G DYER:

Yes, well it was tied to them pulling a permit just so we can do this.

BEN JOHNSON:

I think we can just waive it at the moment because some of them haven't gotten to it and may not know how to get it yet. And let's just wait until the emergency is over and we can always cancel when it is.

CLAY ERVIN:

Yes, sounds good.

MICHAEL G DYER:

Yes.

JEFF BROWER:

Fred Lowrey had a question.

FRED LOWRY:

Does this allow, what we are doing here, is for someone let's say their house is underwater and they are staying in their RV on a property. Would this enable them to have a temporary electric service put in?

CLAY ERVIN:

We will have to look at that on a case-by-case basis.

FRED LOWRY:

I know a couple of situations over in my district where people, I mean they're spending 60, \$70 a day or more on generator fuel and a generator. Whereas, if they could get a temporary electric service put in-

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

I think it's also, where in the past we tied it in with the permit because in like a construction of a home, you would get a temporary service line put in that is on a separate poll or something of that nature but we will look into what that would mean. And we're certainly going to air on the side of helping people.

SPEAKER:

I would say that would be one of the benefits I think to tying it to a permit, if that was a concern. So if it's OK with Counsel, we will take this back and see what, study to find out the best way to give relief.

FRED LOWRY:

I have two families in particular that I've talked to that are staying up on higher ground in their RV and their house is basically ruined. And they are going to have to rebuild and they sure would like some

relief on the ability to put in temporary electric service. So there's nothing that's going to hinder that at this time if they contact?

CLAY ERVIN:

What we are hearing is that you are giving us the authority to allow people to stay in temporary structures, RVs on their property. If they are coming in for a temporary electricity and it's tied to the permitting for the improvements or repairs, we've got no problem doing that?

FRED LOWRY:

OK, awesome.

JEFF BROWER:

I think that's a sense of the Council. OK. George, anything else? Dan?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

I have a couple of items. I didn't know if you are going to do public participation.

JEFF BROWER:

I didn't have any but I do now.

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

OK. So I will be back in a minute.

JEFF BROWER:

OK, John Nicholson.

JOHN NICHOLSON:

I'm not as tall as Russ. John Nixon, Daytona Beachside.

Last meeting, I talked to you about Jenny. I brought before the city commission the idea that the loss of trees create a heating area in our urban areas. The gentleman that spoke earlier talked about an oak tree sucks up 40,000 gallons of water and a pine 50,000 gallons. With all the trees that we are losing, that's a lot of water that would not be sitting around at this point. So, I'm asking you again, when we do things, think holistically because if we had replaced all those trees when we put in the roadways, etc., they would have been absorbing all of that water.

I also talked to you about four years ago again a while ago with regards to the reefs off the coast. About 20 years ago, some gentlemen from Coco came up to Glenn Richie's Kitchen Cabinet to present an idea of creating reefs off the coast for surfing but some of the side effects would be that it would build up the sand off the coast for up to 400 feet every year and it would stay there permanently.

One of the other side effects is it would be that it would build up the sand off the coast for up to 400 feet every year and it would stay there permanently. One of the other side effects is it would prevent the massive damage from hurricanes. So that which we did, from the shore south, that massive damage would not have occurred had we had these reefs off the coast. So if that indeed is the case, I've asked you to look into it. If their idea is valid, If it is true and it does that, it would have prevented a tremendous amount of loss to, not only the owners themselves, but to the community because all the damage would have been there. We could have gone right back into mode immediately.

So, like flooding that we've had in downtown Daytona Beach for like 70, 80 years, if we work on it, we can solve it. So, I'm asking you at least to look into it. Thank you.

JEFF BROWER:

Thank you, George?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Yes, sir. A couple of more storm related items. First off, under that emergency power and actually, in any case, when there is an emergency. I do have the authority to make a purchase but in accordance with the policies and procedures, I have to report to the County Council at the next available meeting.

I have two purchases to report. One is with Central Florida, aggregate materials. We needed 4000 tons of lime rock base for the roads that we know are damaged. That PO amount is for \$127,040. And also, as you know, at our Dickerson Library down on Keats Street was the most severely damage property that we had. It feels essential that we get access back into that area with computers, Wi-Fi, and at least some collection of materials to meet the community needs.

And I think that the emergency part of this really has to do with us and the whole southeastern Florida, or southwestern, are going after these buildings. So we needed to get a modular set up. Price of the PO. It is \$76,807. We went ahead and ordered that to try and get in the queue to get that as soon as we could because if we waited, we would be, I think a lot farther down.

I also wanted to mention there was a comment earlier today about people, the managers and cities, counties getting together, and also other agencies. I just wanted to report, you know, that the city managers have been wonderful to work with. And, you know, during the storm and the week after the storm, we met every single day. We continue to meet a couple of times a week so we do work on these things together and I just want the citizens to know it is a very coordinated effort.

It's one of the great many things that Jim Judge, his folks coordinate all year-round to make sure that things like that do go smoothly when it does happen. And I also want to say, you know, we have not been alone. Other agencies I think have come at a quicker rate and probably listen better than we've ever had before. So, I definitely would like to, you know, shout out to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the FDOT, the Army Corps of Engineers, you know.

In addition to what's been reported, I mean, they sent a team of engineers here on the ground to look at what was going on out there and that's very, that's not common. So the governor's office, Senator Rubio's office, Representative Leek, all of our other elected officials have been very accessible and very receptive. And like we mentioned in the meeting, coming up on Wednesday night, over in the shores, where you're going to have a lot of these groups they are in attendance so that we can get people, not just get information but maybe get something actually accomplished towards the permitting or towards a plan of action.

So again, I want to thank all those agencies and we will continue to be working with them. It's probably, again, the most coordination I have seen.

I do have a couple non-storm related things to report. One, there has been some discussion of this and I, and some notifications have gone out to doctors offices. We're in the middle of negotiations right now to make things just, you know, so if you're ever to think I'm not busy, I can show you my calendar. Right now, we have negotiations going on with Cigna, who is our representative insurance. They manage our plan and they are in negotiations with some of the major providers, and one being Halifax Hospital in their network.

We have a meeting Thursday with Halifax so there may be a letter, I think there will be a letter going out saying that people who use Halifax, they may not be included in the network. They would still be covered if they were there for an emergency, a trauma but they may be treated as nonnetwork provider. I just wanted to let everyone know we are still working on that but there are rules, letters that had to go out with a certain timeframe by law. So, they are out there but we continue to work this issue and we are committed because we realize we want to have, for our employees, the ability to use all of the available care providers in our areas. So we will continue to work with that but I did not want that to be a surprise to you.

And lastly, just I know you all received it but as you asked me to do, we did do a desk audit for the deputy clerk position that was given to all of you. I don't think it really requires much explanation just that the classification, based on what we found again, that our position is unique as a county. It's different than the cities and this position does not, it's not, while it says the clerk, it is different than what you would see even outside of the county.

Remember, like our case the clerk of the court, she does just do court but in many other countries that clerk position does really, is almost like your CFO. But we have a CFO and we have these other positions and we feel to the desk audit and the comparison, that everybody is, the position is classified correctly. And that's all I have.

JEFF BROWER:

County Attorney.

MICHAEL G DYER:

Yes, sir. At your September 20th meeting, a member of the public brought up the concept of increasing the tourist development tax rate. So I did send you out an email just to explain that when we went back and looked, confirmed that we are currently levying at the maximum amount that the law would allow for the TDT and the CDT. So, the tourist development tax and the convention development tax at 3% each of the 6% total.

At the time, you were interested or directed us to look into preparing the presentation for you on that but in light of that, we are certainly happy to do that. But in light of that information, I didn't know if Council still really wanted us to come forward with an agenda item if we are already at the maximum rate. So, I thought I would bring it up to you.

JEFF BROWER:

Thank you.

MICHAEL G DYER:

So if you would like us to proceed, I will with an agenda. I had a feeling there may be a good chance maybe you wouldn't at this point.

JEFF BROWER:

You know, we know what the answer is. Thank you.

MICHAEL G DYER:

Thank you.

JEFF BROWER:

OK, Council Member Barb Girtman.

BARBARA GIRTMAN:

Thank you, Chair. Just wanted to say that I echo what George said about having the support of a lot of the leadership at the federal, state, and local level. We were able to sit down and really have a good discussion with Senator Rubio. And I asked him about federal criteria that's restrictive and if we can get some support and especially for our affordable housing and housing challenges to have more flexible access, if he can help us with any of those opportunities to be able to free up to spend dollars the way we need to in this region, and especially after this concern.

There was also a meeting with Transportation Secretary Perdue and local John Tyler, Secretary for Region Five. We had really good discussions about, discussions for resiliency and how we can respond after the storm and work together in partnership to be able to move a number of concerns forward.

And know that we are all at the table together, including St. John's Water Management, Mr Register, and Mr Purcell. So I think it's real important to note that we have those relationships and we are here trying to make a difference in talking about what changes can be made and supported for customizing what Volusia County needs to be able to respond. And I'm just really pleased that, again, they asked for the meeting with us to be able to have those discussions. So, they are getting in front of it to be here for us and I know for one, I certainly appreciate it. Thank you

JEFF BROWER:

Thank you. Ben Johnson?

BEN JOHNSON:

Yeah, these storms brought up a little something that I think that maybe might help us out as council people and that's to get some kind of a window placard that we can put in the cars. You know? People sometimes will think we are just gawkers instead of actually doing our business, whether it's something like a storm or were there is something like special events on the beach side of Daytona that we need to look at. But something that we can, that you can issue to Council people that they can put in the window so they are readily recognized as to who they are.

You know me, being the former Sheriff, most of the law enforcement knows me but they probably don't know some of the other people and they have to talk their way through or not get through. So, I think it's something that we really need to look at that's all I got.

JEFF BROWER:

Like a bull's-eye target?

(Laughter)

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

I think it would identify because when this, you know when the officers or traffic control people see people, they are still going to check your ID and things but if they see something on your vehicle, they know that like, say they are not assuming you are a gawkers something.

BEN JOHNSON:

(indiscernible)

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Exactly. So yes, it's helpful and we will come up with something like that.



JEFF BROWER:

Doctor Lowery?

FRED LOWRY:

I'm good.

JEFF BROWER:

Heather, Danny Robbins, Billie Wheeler?

BILLIE WHEELER:

OK, just a few things. First of all, I want to thank again, staff. The meeting on Wednesday was something that I kind of was hearing from the community, the beachside community. No one can describe what you see when you are on the beach and you are looking back at the beachfront properties of 22 homes in Wilbur that are at risk, along with condos and everything else.

So, I just made a phone call to Suzanne and said I think this is something that would be helpful for the area and she took it from there. We've got this with everybody's help. We've got this amazing meeting that I think it's going to be really beneficial and I know the citizens really appreciate it, that we are really trying to help them out as much as we can. I just thank you for all of your efforts on getting that done.

This thing is driving me crazy. And George, I will say too that the cities, all of the cities in my district that I've been going to in speaking with the managers and everything, they are really appreciate of the communication. That was one of the things I ran on way back in 2016, was the communication between the cities and the County. I felt it really needed a big boost and you have done that and you've accomplished that. They are so appreciative and really raved about the amount of communication and especially from you. Very appreciated with their commissioners, their councilmembers, and their staff. So, I just thank you all for all of that.

I'm so glad to see this meeting coming up on Wednesday. This is extremely important. I want to be there with all of the residents in that area. I just want them to know that we are all there standing beside them. It is really, really so, so very sad.

Let's see, I think that is it, oh, what Ms Girtman has said: the communication, communication, communication and the people that we have that were able to pick up that phone and make a phone call. And to each and every one of us, I know have been using those relationships.

I was doing that with Florida Power, you know, FDOT, everyone else. And it was good to have a phone number that I could call and say, "Hey, what are you doing about this?" So I could answer for the citizens.

This has been really, really a trial in going over onto the, off to the beachside onto the mainland side. And in going through my flooded areas, it's just a hard thing to handle but I'm so proud of staff coming by and saying that we have to think outside the box. You know? Let's, you know, not having to have the permits and the fees, this and that, and the other.

I shouldn't say the permits, the fees have been so beneficial. I appreciate so much all that staff is doing to help us represent the citizens in our county. It's been a challenge for all of us but thank you so very much.

JEFF BROWER:

And just a couple of things from me. I will pick up on what Billie talked about on the Wednesday meeting. I, it's a shame that this is not being livestreamed because the public really, that's an answer to so many questions that we are getting. It's a place where the public can go and perhaps get some answers. I did look while we were talking. It on the homepage of our webpage, volusia.org.

I'm assuming, Kevin, it's on Facebook and social media? Do you have any idea when the YouTube will be up that people could? For the meeting with his discussion about that?

KEVIN CAPTAIN:

Thank you, Mr Chair. Kevin Captain, Community Information. First of all, the one question about Wednesday's meeting. We have it on social media. We have it on Next Door. We have it on Mayday News Release. We are pushing it out to the best of our extent possible. It's on our pin page and it's been shared with our coastal cities as well.

The YouTube video, one of our guys is editing and editing the first part of the meeting so far. So it will be as soon as possible.

JEFF BROWER:

It will be on? OK. On the website it says, I just glanced at it because we are in a meeting here, but it says the Wednesday meeting, is it directed just to coastal residents or some of the people that are now lake property owners? Is it open to anybody in the county?

KEVIN CAPTAIN:

Suzanne is going to take that.

SUZANNE:

Sorry. The focus, I'm sorry, the focus of the extended office hours tomorrow are with all the permitting staff regarding coastal permits. However, FDEP, who I really am grateful for their cooperation and joint efforts at hosting this tomorrow night, said they will have staff there to deal with non-coastal issues. When they have done these open houses with local governments before, there is inevitably questions that are outside the coastal box. So I think if there are people who have state permitting questions, FDEP will be staff to answer them and we will have staff there who can assist as well.

JEFF BROWER:

Thank you.

SPEAKER:

We will have zoning and building staff there to address any of those questions if they come up. So therefore, we should be able to answer them. Also just add, our Code Enforcement Officers went in handed out the flyers to all the properties that we posted. I know that Daytona Beach Shores did the exact same thing. I don't know about the other cities.

BILLIE WHEELER:

And I contacted Wilbur. I knew that that wasn't the situation so they were doing it to their mailing list. And Ponce Inlet also did it too.

JEFF BROWER:

So Clay, can you stay here a second. You are my second now I don't have to ask you to walk down. Yesterday, we talked, I get a lot of questions about this, we talked about the low impact development. You told me we are negotiating with, negotiating with the University of Florida now for a contract. They got the grant money in and then you said May 2023. What happens in May 2023?

(Mobile phone rings)

JEFF BROWER:

Just give us just a brief update.

CLAY ERVIN:

That's when we are supposed to have all the drafts finalized so that way we can proceed forward with any comp land amendments, land development regulation changes.

JEFF BROWER:

So a lot of work being done until May 23. I didn't want to give the impression that we are not doing anything until May.

CLAY ERVIN:

And we will be presenting our findings as they go along to the NRAK Group. They've already held their meeting. They were very much engaged in the topic and Ginger indicated to him that we are going to be taking it through them as we go through it. So, therefore there will not be further delay of, OK, we have completed it now let's put it through another review process.

JEFF BROWER:

OK, thank you. There is a lid conference that is this week Thursday and Friday in Rockledge that ends up coming at a bad time I know for other council members especially, that really wanted to go but it's busy. I'm going to still go. I was really glad to see that a number of the staff is going.

George?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

There was something at the end. It's OK.

JEFF BROWER:

I thought you were going to tell me I wasn't going to the lid conference (Coughs). Excuse me.

My last thing is that the, I sent an email and you replied by email I think to every Council member. At the last meeting, it was asked that the clerks pay scale be looked at in comparison to other counties and then brought back. You have dealt with that, it wasn't on the agenda today but just where does that stand?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Well, that's what I mentioned when I said the desk audit. That also, that gave the classification for the Deputy Clerk. And they, and then that has the pay scale. So, the pay scale is accurate and our Deputy Clerk is within that pay scale.

JEFF BROWER:

OK. Nope. We've covered everything else. The, I assume you've gotten letters from every one of the council members about the response from staff on emergencies around the county. They are plentiful and we are a big County and a lot of the county is underwater and there is immediate needs from the people that just don't have immediate resolutions until water disappears and it dissipates and we can't make that happen quicker.

One of the things, I will just end with this, one of the, when I went down to Lake Harney and Independence, and Freedom area, and it was, well, it came up to there. One of their biggest concerns was that we can't get our mail. And the mail won't come down, they won't drive through any water. Used to be through snow, or sleet, or hail, it didn't say flood.

I know know it's hard to tell people that there's not a darn thing I can do about that. Those are federal laws. It does seem, like down their mail comes from another county. It comes from Seminole. They have Seminole addresses although they are Volusia County residents. I, you know, I don't know if saying this will have any positive effect on it but it would really be nice if the post office would send a truck as far as they could get on their road that's dry.

Residents will go there and they will walk through the water. They need their, they need to pay bills, they need to receive-

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Mr Chair, do you know if, I'm assuming they probably have their mailboxes in gang boxes. Did you happen to see if that particular area was dry or?

JEFF BROWER:

It's dry where the gang boxes are but you have got to drive down Morgan Louderman, which is impassable for a car. A truck-

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

I think we could, I will ask our team if there's a way, maybe not daily, but if we could gather mail at a certain period of time. Or like say meet the mail delivery person and bring or have one of our, you know, like fire units or something bring them in.

JEFF BROWER:

For transporting them in?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Yeah, to do that. They may not be willing to do that but we could at least make the ask to find out if there is a way.

JEFF BROWER:

You would have to transport them. They have actually sent people to the post office to pick up their mail and it's a federal offense. You can't give somebody else your mail. Right?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

You are right.

JEFF BROWER:

You can bring in their license and the people are really, they are a little leery about giving their license to somebody as well. I don't blame them.

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

I think the idea would be to bring a postal person to-

JEFF BROWER:

Haul all the mail.

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Again, that would be something we can put in that request to find out.

FRED LOWRY:

(indiscernible)

JEFF BROWER:

Yeah. Yes, did you have something to wrap up, Kevin?

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Actually, I have something to wrap up.

SPEAKER:

So yeah, Mr Chair, I just want to, on that topic and in collaboration with Jim Judge, I'm just going to reiterate what the state ESF6 has committed. That includes Lake Harney Woods with the 180 families that are there. They are bringing a semi tractor to that area with an immense amount of water cleaning supplies, dog and cat food, toilet paper, feminine products, hay, and other farm feed. And not just Lake Harney Woods. ESF6 is also assisting Stone Island, Osteen, the Independence area near 46 and that's also being done in collaboration with the Emergency Management Division and the Community Services Departments.

We are in collaboration with them and this email was just from yesterday that confirms some of the delivery of those items. So supplies and help our continuing going to be in progress.

JEFF BROWER:

That's how I started off. The response has been tremendous, oftentimes, instantaneous. I know I've talked to the Florida Emergency Response team that Mr Judge is also working with. And I will end with that.

I did go, as was brought up this morning to the Midtown meeting, invited to go talk to the residents about flood, about the after, the results of the hurricane. And I also asked staff if they could resupply somebody just to give information about help that was available. Well, Jim Judge stepped up and said, "I will do it."

And I was surprised because I know how busy he is and Jim, I thanked you that night. He went, met me there and spoke. He brought in a ton of information and spoke, not for too long, but a long time to get the information. And I just want to tell you publicly again, how much I appreciate the effort that you have gone to throughout this whole emergency.

You rise to the occasion and exceed our expectations and, you know, there's a lot of people behind you. I'm not leaving them out. I just want you to know that you were well received there and appreciated and I didn't want that to be tainted by anything else that was said. So, thank you again.

BILLIE WHEELER:

(indiscernible)

JEFF BROWER:

He's already had two times.

GEORGE RECKTENWALD:

Just a quick, and I hate this to be on a somber note but I would just ask for everyone, thoughts and prayers to go out to Dale Harrington and the Arrington family. I mean, during the storm period, Larry Arrington, a former, one of the former managers and there's not many of us, passed away.

That's announced I think in the paper today. So, just our thoughts and prayers went out. Storm related, he was a, he was definitely one of the pioneers in the 70s. He came on in the early portion of this government and really set the tone for a lot of things, great things that happened in the years to come. So I just, thoughts go out to there.



I was fortunate to actually, he hired me back in the day. Thank you.

JEFF BROWER:

Oh man. OK. Thank you for bringing that to our attention and at 3:45, if there's nothing else, we stand adjourned.

(Music plays)