

23718 W US HWY 27
High Springs, Florida 32643



Telephone: (386) 454-1416
Facsimile: (386) 454-2126
Web: highsprings.gov

**CITY COMMISSION MEETING
AGENDA
OLD SCHOOL HOUSE
23760 NW 187TH AVE
HIGH SPRINGS, FL 32643**

MARCH 14, 2024

6:30 PM

**MAYOR KATHERINE WEITZ
VICE MAYOR TRISTAN GRUNDER
COMMISSIONER ANDREW MILLER
COMMISSIONER BYRAN WILLIAMS**

- (A) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- (B) INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- (C) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
- (D) APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - 1. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 22, 2024 COMMISSION WORKSHOP**
 - 2. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 22, 2024 COMMISSION MEETING**
- (E) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - 1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 2024 AS PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH**
- (F) UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - 1. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON RANKING OF CITY MANAGER CANDIDATES.**
- (G) CITIZEN REQUESTS AND COMMENTS – FOR ISSUES NOT ON AGENDA (PLEASE STATE NAME FOR THE RECORD – LIMIT COMMENTS TO 5 MINUTES)**

COMMISSIONER RESPONSE
- (H) NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION FROM HIGH SPRINGS BREWING COMPANY FOR A ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENT.**
 - 2. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON PLACEMENT OF A MONUMENT AT WALTER HOWARD PARK**
 - 3. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON RESOLUTION 2024-B, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA APPOINTING ANTOINE SHEPPARD, ANGELA STONE, AND THOMAS HENRY AS INTERIM CO-CITY MANAGERS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**
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- (I) CITY ATTORNEY REPORT/UPDATE**
 - (J) CITY MANAGER REPORT/UPDATE**
 - (K) COMMISSION COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**
 - (L) MOTION TO ADJOURN.**

PLEASE NOTE: PURSUANT TO SECTION 286.015, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE CITY COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED DURING THIS MEETING, HE OR SHE WILL NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT, A PERSON TH DISABILITIES NEEDING ANY SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK 23718 W US HWY 27, TELEPHONE (386) 454-1416.

Consent Agenda

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**HIGH SPRINGS
CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 22, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Weitz called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL CITY COMMISSION:

Mayor Katherine Weitz – Present
Vice Mayor Tristan Grunder – Present
Commissioner Andrew Miller- Present
Commissioner Byran Williams- Present

STAFF PRESENT:

Angela Stone, City Clerk
Ashley Mauldin, Executive Assistant
Antoine Sheppard, Police Chief
Kevin Mangan, PIO
Alan Alligood, Building Official
Thomas Henry, Public Works Director
Kristyn Adkins, Planning Technician

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation by: Pastor Jacob Newton

Pledge of Allegiance

BUSINESS ITEMS:

SPECIAL PRESENTATION FROM ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT

Jean Bordes Fleet Synopsis Presentation.

DISCUSSION ON CITY OWNED AND LEASED VEHICLES

Jean Bordes discusses how Enterprise operates and what they will offer the city.

Vice Mayor Grunder asks what the difference in what they offer compared to what we have.

Jean Bordes explains that the city is currently in charge of figuring out what vehicles need to be sold or traded in where Enterprise has a team that analyzes the vehicles and informs you of when it is time for the vehicle to be cycled and replaced.

Mayor Weitz wanting to know the total number of vehicles that would end up being leased.

Vice Mayor Grunder ten vehicles would be leased. Shares concerns of leasing vehicles. Would need to take time and look over the information.

Jean Bordes is willing to answer any questions that come up.

Police Chief Antoine Sheppard there are 12 vehicles that are being leased at the Police Department.

Mayor Weitz wants to keep police vehicles separate. Asked about possible profit from returning the current leased vehicles.

Public Works Director Thomas Henry says yes, he believes the city would make a profit.

Public Works Director Thomas Henry explains that the enterprise keeps track of all leased vehicles and if there are issues the company will inform staff that the vehicle needs to be replaced.

Jean Bordes explains how useful and cost-efficient enterprise can be when needing repairs.

Public Works Director Thomas Henry discusses how badly his department is in need of a new fleet.

Vice Mayor Grunder brings up the budget and the city currently not being in a place to be able to move forward at this time.

Jean Bordes informs the Commission that Enterprise is willing to work with the city through the process and budget discussions if choosing to move forward. He is here to help with

Motion to adjourn.

Mayor Weitz adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

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**HIGH SPRINGS
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2024
CITY HALL**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Weitz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL CITY COMMISSION:

Mayor Katherine Weitz – Present
Vice Mayor Tristan Grunder – Present
Commissioner Andrew Miller- Present
Commissioner Byran Williams – Present

STAFF PRESENT:

Angela Stone, City Clerk
Scott Walker, City Attorney
Ashley Mauldin, Executive Assistant
Kevin Mangan, PIO
Antoine Sheppard, Chief of Police
Kristyn Adkins, Planning Technician
Thomas Henry, Public Works Director
Allan Alligood, Building Official

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation by Mr. Ronnie Munson

Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Williams motioned to approve the agenda.
Grunder Seconded.
Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 8, 2024, COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Miller Motioned to approve the Minutes of the February 8, 2024, Commission Meeting.

Grunder Seconded.

Motioned carried 4-0

(E) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

NONE

(F) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DISCUSS, CONSIDER, AND ACT ON RANKING CITY MANAGER APPLICANTS

Mayor Weitz thanks staff for set up and participation in the interview process for City Manager applicants.

Vice Mayor Tristan Grunder votes - 1. David Weisner 2. Timothy Day 3. Jeremy Marshall 4. Fred Ventresco 5. Jeff Shooobridge

Mayor Katherine Weitz votes - 1. Fred Ventresco 2. Jeremy Marshall 3. David Weisner 4. Timothy Day 5. Jeff Shooobridge

Commissioner Andrew Miller votes - 1. Jeff Shooobridge 2. Jeremy Marshall 3. Timothy Day 4. David Weisner 5. Fred Ventresco

City Clerk Angela Stone reads Commissioner Byran Williams votes - 1. Jeff Shooobridge 2. Jeremy Marshall 3. Fred Ventresco 4. Timothy Day 5. David Weisner

City Clerk Angela Stone adds up totals. 3 people tied, Jeremy Marshall has the most at 15 points and Jeff Shooobridge has 12 points. Everyone else has 11 points.

Attorney Clay Martin provides directions for the Commission to move forward with the top two applicants.

Weitz asking to include staff Directors in the hiring process for the new City Manager.

Attorney Clay Martin says they can be included but not make final decisions comments only.

Grunder agrees on including staff and wants to move forward with the final two applicants.

The board discusses how to set up a tour plus meet and greet with directors and have a special meeting. The board agrees on 2 nights for applicants.

(G) CITIZEN REQUESTS AND COMMENTS – FOR ISSUES NOT ON AGENDA (PLEASE STATE NAME FOR THE RECORD – LIMIT COMMENTS TO 5 MINUTES)

Donald Alderman school traffic concern. Vehicle safety issues.

David Lynch High Springs brewing concerns and doesn't want growth in the city.

Jonathan Blankenship asking how the city does business for bidding process. Wants to know if residents can get a percentage on city purchases.

Attorney Clay Martin states other local municipalities have ordinances in place with restrictions to be qualified.

Vice Mayor Grunder requests drafts to be reviewed.

Ava Verner vehicle and pedestrian safety concern on 441. Electronic vehicle station spaces. Suggests Winn-Dixie parking lot.

Michael Morris is curious why there is no city limit sign on CR236. Nobody knows where the city ends/begins. Wants a sign.

COMMISSIONER RESPONSE:

(H) NEW BUSINESS

1. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON DECLARING K-9 SURPLUS AND CONVEYING OWNERSHIP TO K-9 HANDLER SGT. JASON TAYLOR.

Police Chief Antoine Sheppard discusses police dog Justice and her years served as well as her role.

Mayor Weitz discusses her familiar experiences as well as the kids experiences from the school and the positive impact she has had.

Vice Mayor Grunder motions to surplus K-9 Justice.
Commissioner Miller seconded.

Motion carried 4-0

2. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD

Mayor Weitz discusses the Charter Review Board's purpose. The board applicants are Christy Swilley, Linda Jones, Regina Weller, Jacob Newton, John Manley, Julie Tapia-Ruano, Ross Ambrose, Steve Tapanes, and Lynn Jamison. Must choose 5 applicants.

Commissioner Williams asks if previous/current employees/board members are eligible.

Mayor Weitz states all applicants would serve the city well. For her Christy Swilley, Linda Jones, Jacob Newton, Julie Tapio-Ruano stand out in her opinion.

Commissioner Miller votes for Christy Swilley for the first seat.
Grunder seconded.
Motion carried 4-0

Commissioner Williams motions to appoint Regina Weller for the second seat.
Grunder seconded.
Motion carried 3-1
Miller opposed.

Vice Mayor Grunder motions to appoint Lynn Jamison for seat number three.
Williams seconded.
Motion carried 4-0

Commissioner Miller makes motion to appoint Jacon Newton for seat number four.
Grunder seconded.
Motion carried 4-0

Mayor Weitz asks to pass the gavel to the Vice Mayor Grunder to nominate the last seat.

Weitz nominates Julia Tapio-Ruano for seat five.
Commissioner Miller seconded.
Motion carried 4-0

3. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON THE APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO THE VACANT PLAN BOARD SEAT.

Mayor Weitz thanking Alderman for his work on the plan board. Four applicants are Steve Tapanes, Alan Bates, Ross Ambrose, and Ava Verner. Mayor Weitz discusses current board members and what they bring to the board.

Vice Mayor Grunder motions to bring Steve Tapanes back to the plan board.
Commissioner Miller seconded.

Donald Alderman recommends Tapanes be appointed on the plan board.

Mayor Weitz says it has been properly moved and seconded for Steve Tapanes to be appointed to the plan board.

Motion carried 4-0

4. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON PURCHASING SEWER LIFT STATION PUMPS.

Public Works Director Thomas Henry discusses issues with lift stations and explains the need for 9 pumps priced at \$189,000.00 total to bring the city up to code. Asking how to proceed.

Mayor Weitz discusses surtax monies from county.

Thomas Henry was not sure how much the city has for infrastructure funding.

Vice Mayor Grunder thinks splitting funds to cover costs is the way to proceed.

The Board discusses funding options.

Brad Riddle discusses in detail how the lift stations work and the issues they have and conditions they are in.

Steve Tapanes agrees and states that what Thomas and Brad are saying is true and he has seen it.

Donald Alderman suggests option for a number to call when alarm sounds.

Commission tables item for further discussion.

5. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON PURCHASING A SEWER BYPASS PUMP.

Thomas Henry discusses the purpose and use of a Bypass Pump at the cost of \$47,180.00.

Commission tables Item for further discussion.

6. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON DESIGNATING AN INTERIM CITY MANAGER.

Mayor Weitz discusses the need for Interim until new City Manager is appointed.

Vice Mayor Grunder thinks Thomas for civilian side, and Antoine for sworn side.

Mayor Weitz asking the City Clerk to take signature authority, hire/fire, spending responsibilities.

Vice Mayor Grunder asks if staff can be appointed sooner.

Attorney Clay Martin doesn't advise to prevent issues.

Vice Mayor Grunder makes a motion to appoint Thomas Henry on civilian side, Antoine Sheppard police and fire, and Angela Stone spending authority, signature authority, and hire/fire.

Commissioner Miller seconded.

Mayor Weitz properly moved and seconded.

Motion carried 4-0

7. DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON GRANT WG110-WASTEWATER SERVICE TO 175/CR236 INTERCHAGE.

Mayor Weitz discusses the Grant as well as previous discussions.

Vice Mayor Grunder states he was in favor before but with the current status of the city he is no longer a fan, and he is no longer in favor of moving forward.

Commissioner Miller agrees with Vice Mayor Grunder that this is the wrong time for this type of project.

Mayor Weitz states she has been opposed to this project from the beginning and there is no question where she stands.

Vice Mayor Grunder makes a motion to return the grant.

Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT/UPDATE:

Clay Martin A pleasure to join his friends in High Springs and good to be here.

CITY MANAGER REPORT/UPDATE:

Thomas Henry discusses Douglas Center update, AMI project, Chamber Sign.

STAFF UPDATE:

COMMISSIONERS:

Andrew Miller wanting to Honor Mrs. Tammy by putting a plaque on the wall at the Douglas Center. Thanks everyone for being present.

VICE MAYOR:

No comments

MAYOR:

Thanks Angela, Jami, and Kevin for assisting with the City Manager Interviews
Discusses the Priest Theatre Funding moving forward. Asks about a check/contract for Jennifer Applebee. Thomas explains 1099 employee helping for 3 months. Ask about another check for the purchase of a shed/building. Discusses the Fish Fry on Fridays.
Wants to further discuss the Wastepro Contract for commercial businesses.

MOTION TO ADJOURN.

motioned to adjourn.

Mayor Weitz adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Special Presentation



**PROCLAMATION
CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS
STATE OF FLORIDA**

WHEREAS, problem gambling is a serious public health issue affecting one to three percent of the general adult population and often results in personal, financial, familial, legal, and other costs, including a high risk of suicide; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 200,000 Florida adults of diverse age, race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status suffer from past-year gambling problems, and 700,000 more are at risk of developing such difficulties, constituting 4.7% of the adult population ages 18 and older; and

WHEREAS, it is further important to note that these statistics do not account for youth, who are now actively engaged in diverse forms of gambling and are at an increased risk for developing gambling-related problems; and

WHEREAS, problem gambling is treatable for those who seek help, which minimizes the harm to Floridians and to the State as a whole; and

WHEREAS, it is also essential to recognize problem gambling as a societal issue, with 8 – 10 additional people adversely impacted by every problem gambler, increasing the affected population by an estimated additional 1.5 million individuals, with conservative projected social costs amounting to more than \$9 billion nationally each year; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling's (FCCG's) public awareness campaign provides an opportunity to educate the public, policymakers, educators, businesses, mental health and criminal justice professionals, and others, about the potential adverse effects of gambling, as well as social, legal, financial, and emotional impacts and available supports; and

WHEREAS free referrals to problem gambling resources and supports, including to licensed and certified treatment providers, self-help support groups, the FCCG's Online Program for Problem Gamblers (OPPG), the FCCG's Peer Connect Program, financial supports, legal resources, and many more are readily available to all Floridians by calling or texting the 888-ADMIT-IT Helpline; and

WHEREAS, individual, professional, or other organization dedicated to assisting those in need can participate in raising awareness and treating problem gambling by promoting the statewide confidential, toll-free, and 24-hour Problem Gambling Helpline, 888-ADMIT-IT; and

WHEREAS, the City of High Springs can demonstrate its support in addressing problem gambling by raising public awareness through declaration of proclamation of the month of March 2024 as Problem Gambling Month in the City of High Springs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katherine Weitz, Mayor of the City of High Springs Florida, do hereby proclaim March 2024 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month.

Katherine Weitz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela N. Stone, City Clerk

Unfinished Business Item #1



Commission Agenda Item Request Form

MEETING DATE: MARCH 14, 2024- REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

SUBJECT: DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON RANKING OF TOP TWO CITY MANAGER APPLICANTS

AGENDA SECTION: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DEPARTMENT: CITY COMMISSION

PREPARED BY: ANGELA N. STONE

RECOMMENDED ACTION: HOW TO MOVE FORWARD IN THE CITY MANAGER HIRING PROCESS.

Summary

THE COMMISSION HAS NOW COMPLETED THE SECOND ROUND OF INTERVIEWS FOR THE CITY MANAGER POSITION, WITH THE TOP TWO CANDIDATES.

THE COMMISSION HAS RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEADS ON THEIR INTERVIEW WITH THE CITY MANAGER CANDIDATES, THEY HAVE HAD ONE ON ONE INTERVIEWS WITH THEM, AND A PUBLIC FORUM INTERVIEW.

AT THIS TIME THE COMMISSION CAN DISCUSS HOW THEY WOULD LIKE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE TOP TWO CANDIDATES FOR THE CITY MANAGER POSITION.

ATTACHMENTS:

REVIEWED BY CITY MANAGER:

New Business Item #1



Commission Agenda Item Request Form

MEETING DATE: MARCH 14, 2024

SUBJECT:

DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT FOR FROM HIGH SPRINGS BREWING FOR A ST. PARTICK'S DAY EVENT

AGENDA SECTION: NEW BUSINESS

DEPARTMENT: CITY COMMISSION

PREPARED BY:

RECOMMENDED ACTION: APPROVE OR DENY THE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION

Summary

THIS IS A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION FROM THE HIGH SPRINGS BREWING COMPANY TO HOLD A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION ON MARCH 17, 2024, FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

THIS IS COMING BEFORE THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF CITY STAFF AND THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. ACCORDING TO OUR ALCOHOL ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE 2015-03) THERE IS NO PROVISION IN THIS ORDINANCE FOR SALES, ON SUNDAY, FOR ON-PERMISES CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN ANY BUSINESS HOLDING A BEVERAGE LICENSE, WHICH BUSINESS DERIVES LESS THAN 51 PERCENT OF ITS GROSS REVENUE FROM THE SALE OF FOOD AND NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

THIS EVENT PERMIT FOR THE BREWERY HAS INDICATED THAT ALCOHOL WILL BE SERVED, SOLD OR CONSUMED, AND SINCE THIS IS SET BY ORDINANCE THIS IS NOT SOMETHING STAFF FEELS THAT WE CAN APPROVE AND SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE CITY COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL.

THE BREWERY DID ASK IF THERE COULD BE A CHANGE TO THE CURRENT ORDINANCE (SEE ATTACHED), THEY WERE ADVISED THAT THIS WOULD NEED TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE COMMISSION, AT A FUTURE DATE.

ATTACHMENTS: SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION, ALCOHOL ORDINANCE,
PROPOSED CHANGE TO ALCOHOL ORDINANCE.

REVIEWED BY CITY MANAGER: N/A



SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION

Deadline for Application _____ (if known or no less than 60 days prior to event)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name Ken Davies Email Ken@highspringsbrewing.com
Company/Organization High Springs Brewing Co.
Address/City/State/Zip 18562 NW 237th Street
Telephone Numbers Day 786-546-7880 Evening _____
Cell _____ Fax _____

EVENT ORGANIZER (If different than Applicant)

Name _____ Email _____
Company/Organization _____
Address/City/State/Zip _____
Telephone Numbers Day _____ Evening _____
Cell _____ Fax _____

EVENT INFORMATION

Event Name St. Patricks Day Event Date(s) 03/17/2024
Event Summary Holiday celebration
Event Location/Park Business address
Do you plan to charge an admission? Yes _____ No X please specify: _____
Expected Attendance (including event crew, participants & spectators): 300
Set-up Date(s) _____ Day(s) _____ Time _____
Event Date(s) _____ Day(s) _____ Time _____
Clean-up Date(s) _____ Day(s) _____ Time _____

Does the registered organization that owns and operates the event hold a current not-for-profit registration? Or are they partnering with a not-for-profit? Yes X No _____
If yes, **please provide a copy of registration and copy of DR-13 and DR-14, as applicable** and please explain relationship and partnership purpose in detail:

Has this event taken place previously? Yes _____ No X If yes, when _____
Where _____ Attendance _____
How many times has event taken place previously and provide a brief history _____

EVENT LOGISTICS

1. Planned event activities (face painting, bounce houses, etc.)

N/A

2. Vendors and/or concessions provided

Food Truck: 29:11 BBQ

3. Entertainment (detail type of entertainment; bands, DJ, dancers, magicians etc...)

Wally Germany Live

4. Event equipment to be used (including dimensions, staging/platforms, canopies, tents, booths, scaffolding, trucks, etc...)

5. Sound system and hours of amplified sound. Describe equipment to be used (i.e. PA systems, microphone, speakers, amps)

Standard band equipment provided by the artists.

6. How will you handle emergency vehicle access to your event?

Vehicle and persons gates will be unlocked and open.

7. Will your event provide portable toilet facilities? Yes ___ No X

If yes, number to be provided:

8. Will your event provide dumpsters? Yes ___ No X

If yes, number & size to be provided:

9. Please describe electrical requirements. Note that electricity may not be available and that you may need to provide your own generators for electrical support. (In some parks, generators will not be allowed.)

N/A

10. Describe all signage that will be used and their locations.

N/A

11. City Support:

Police Department Required?	Yes	No	If yes, there may be a cost
Fire Department Required?	Yes	No	If yes, there may be a cost
Fire Inspection Required?	Yes	No	If yes, there may be a cost
Public Works Required?	Yes	No	If yes, there may be a cost
Liability insurance required?	Yes	No	If yes, there may be a cost

Alcohol served, sold or consumed?	Yes	No	If yes, then City Commission Approval is required.
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Food cooked or served on site?	Yes	No	If yes, then Fire Inspection is required.
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Please describe _____

City Commission Approval Required?	Yes	No
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If any costs are to be requested waived or if there is alcohol served, City Commission approval is required.

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

Name of
Carrier _____

Address/City/State/Zip

Agent Name _____ Phone _____
Fax _____

Attach Certificate of Insurance. The City of High Springs, A municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida must be named Additional insured under certificate holder and special provisions.

PROOF OF AGENCY

On agency letterhead, **please attach proof of agency or letter of authorization** showing his/her authority to represent the organization names herein prior to approval of this application.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

As the applicant, I hereby accept and understand the responsibility to oversee all contractors, vendors or parties affiliated with the event to ensure compliance with all policies, rules, regulations and guidelines of the City of High Springs and the regulations listed below. I understand that falsification of any aspect of this application or any other violation may result in immediate cancellation and/or revocation of the permit. I understand that the permit is non-transferable and non-refundable. Failure to submit for approval in a timely manner will result in automatic denial. Without approval, the special event cannot be held.

- A completed special event application must be submitted a minimum of 21 days prior to the event
- If any section does not apply, mark N/A or cross out that section
- The City Managers office will determine if event requires a Certificate of Insurance
- A Certificate of Insurance for the event must be submitted (10) days prior to the beginning of the event and should also name The City of High Springs, A municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida, additional insured

- **Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on park property**
- Absolutely no staking allowed when setting up tents on athletic fields - weighted bucket drops are permissible
- The applicant is responsible for the collection and proper disposal of all trash generated during the event
- **The volume level from public address or sound systems must remain at an acceptable level and should not be audible from a distance of more than 50 feet. Please refer to the attached noise ordinance. In the event that the ordinance is violated, the special event may be shut down.**
- All non-essential production and personal vehicles must be parked in public parking areas
- No overnight parking
- Uniformed law enforcement may be required to provide traffic and crowd control at the event organizer's expense.
- A user fee may be charged for each facility /open space used and special support needed
- In addition to the permit and facility fees , one or more of the following charges shall apply, where applicable
- The city may require the presence of a park supervisor during event. This additional cost may be included in the permit fee.
- A damage deposit may be required upon approval of the permit; the deposit will be returned after it has been determined by parks staff that the event area has been left free of debris and in good condition. Please allow time for processing
- Event organizers may be asked to present a copy of their permit to local Law Enforcement during the event. Please have it available. Event organizers must be present during event.

I have read and understand the above stipulations.

Ken Davies

Applicant's Name

03/04/2024

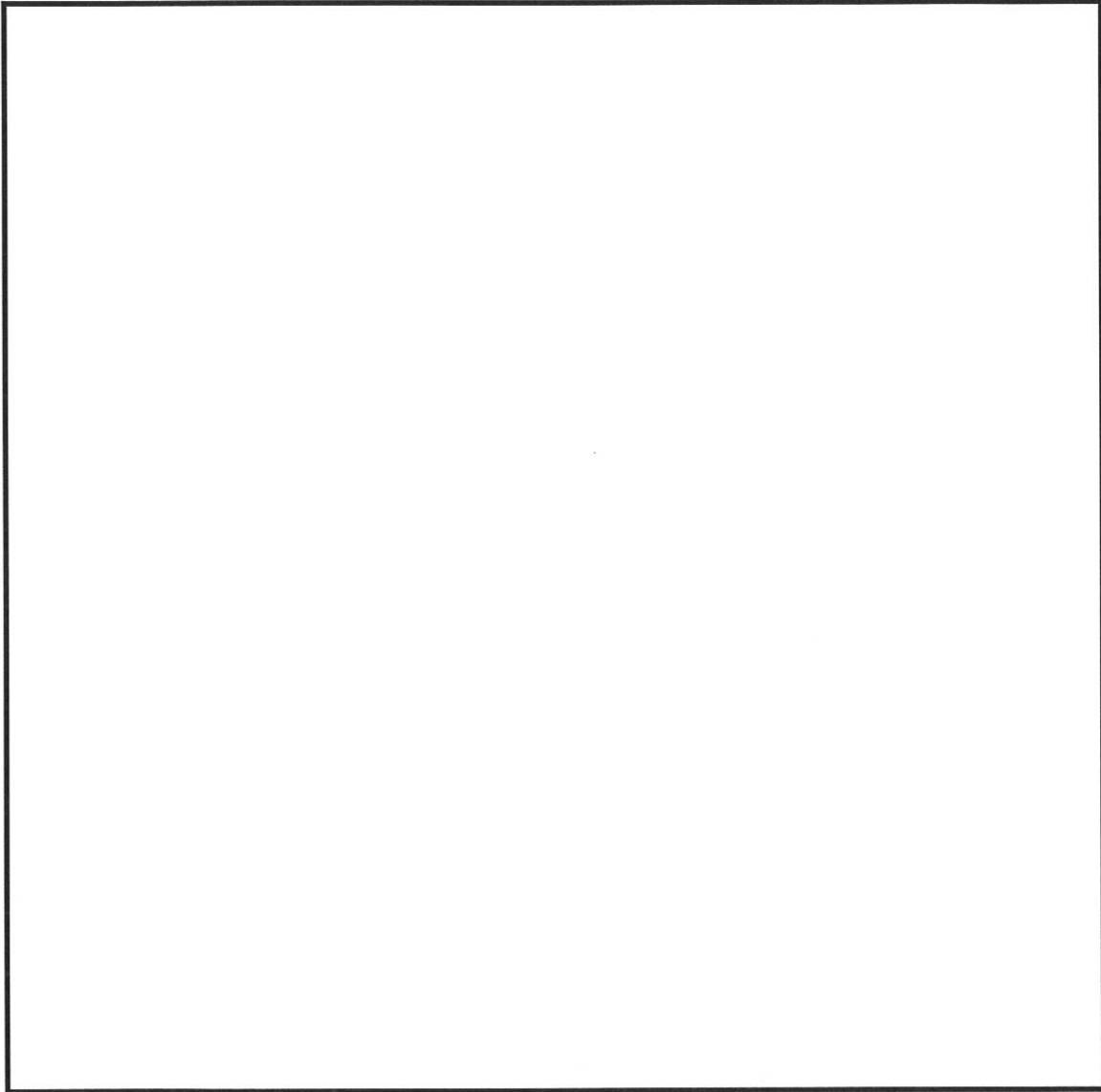
Date

Please mail or submit completed packet to:

The City of High Springs.
110 NW 1st Avenue
High Springs, Florida 32643

SITE PLAN

If event attendance is more than 300 persons or event involves a race, walk, parade etc... Please attach a site map or use the space provided below. Please provide a drawing of the boundaries and details of the proposed Special Event including locations of all intended activities with reference points such as streets, buildings, barricades, emergency access points, race or parade routes, tents, vendors etc. Site map for smaller events, security, traffic or clean-up plans may also be requested.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a site plan drawing. It occupies the lower half of the page.

OFFICE USE ONLY – DEPOSIT AND APPROVAL INFORMATION

Approved by the City Manager _____ Date _____

Conditions for Approval _____

Comments by the Fire Chief _____ Date _____

Conditions for Approval _____

Assessed Fees \$ _____

Comments by the Police Chief _____ Date _____

Conditions for Approval _____

Assessed Fees \$ _____

Comments by the Building Department _____ Date _____

Conditions for Approval _____

Assessed Fees \$ _____

Comments by the PW/Recreation _____ Date _____

Any additional Assessed Fees: \$ _____ Explanation _____

Staff Point-Of-Contact Assigned to this event (day of event) _____

Copy of Certificate of Insurance Received _____ (attach as applicable)

Amount of Total Fees assessed \$ _____ Received on _____ Received By _____

Form of Payment ☐ Cash ☐ Check # _____

Other Notes:

ORDINANCE 2015-03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10 "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" OF THE HIGH SPRINGS CODE OF ORDINANCES; LIFTING RESTRICTION ON TYPE OF ALCOHOL FOR SUNDAY ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION

WHEREAS, Chapter 10 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances regulates the sale of alcoholic beverages within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission previously amended Chapter 10 in Ordinance 2008-34 to allow for the sale of alcohol during specific hours on Sunday for malt beverages and unfortified beverages; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission held a public workshop on January 13, 2015, to discuss and hear public comment on revising Chapter 10 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that removing regulatory barriers to business, such as restrictions on the sale of alcoholic beverages for the purpose of attracting new business will encourage growth and development of the City, enhance economic prosperity, diversity, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, after proper notice and public hearing, the City Commission has determined that it is prudent to amend the High Springs Code of Ordinances relating to the sale of alcoholic beverage; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of High Springs has determined that it is desirable to amend Section 10-2 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances to allow liquor to be sold during certain hours on Sunday.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS:

Section 1: Section 10-2 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances entitled "Hours of Sale" is hereby amended to read as follows (words ~~struck through~~ have been deleted, and words underlined have been added):

- (a) Packaged sales for off-premises consumption of malt beverages and unfortified wine shall be permitted on Monday through Saturday, inclusive, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, and on Sunday between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- (b) Packaged sales for off-premises consumption of all alcoholic beverages except malt beverages and unfortified wine shall be permitted on Monday through Saturday, inclusive, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight.
- (c) Sales for on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages in any business holding a beverage license, which business derives at least 51 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages, shall be permitted on Monday through Thursday, inclusive, and Saturday

between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, and on Friday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. immediately following, and Sunday between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. ~~In addition, sales for on-premises consumption of malt beverages and unfortified wine in any business holding a beverage license, which business derives at least 51 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages, shall be permitted on Sunday between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.~~ When December 31 occurs on a Saturday through Thursday, sales of all alcoholic beverages on those days shall be permitted to continue until 2:00 a.m. immediately following.

- (d) Sales for on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages in any business holding a beverage license, which business derives less than 51 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages, shall be permitted on Monday through Thursday, inclusive, and Saturday, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, and on Friday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. immediately following. When December 31 occurs on a Monday through Thursday or Saturday, such sales of alcoholic beverages on those days shall be permitted to continue until 2:00 a.m. immediately following. When December 31 occurs on a Sunday, such sales of alcoholic beverages shall be permitted from 6:00 p.m. of the Sunday until 2:00 a.m. immediately following.

Section 2: EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage at second and final reading.

Section 3: PRESERVATION OF RIGHTS AND DUTIES. The repealing provisions of this Ordinance do not affect the rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before the effective date of the repeal.

Section 4: INCLUSION IN THE CODE, SCRIVENER'S ERROR. It is the intention of the City Commission of the City of High Springs, Florida, and it is hereby provided that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and made part of the Code of Ordinances of the City of High Springs, Florida; that the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish such intention; and that the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or other appropriate designation. The correction of typographical errors which do not affect the intent of the ordinance may be authorized by the City Manager or designee without public hearing, by filing a corrected or re-codified cop of the same with the City.

Section 5: CONFLICT. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 6: SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance or any part of the material adopted herein by reference is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

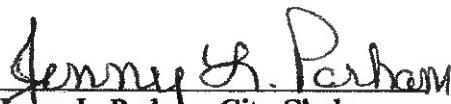
First reading was held on the 26th day of March, 2015.

DONE THE SECOND READING, AND ADOPTED ON FINAL PASSAGE, by an affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum present of the City Commission of the City of High Springs, Florida, at a regular meeting, this 9th day of April, 2015.

BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA


Sue Weller, Mayor

ATTEST, BY THE CLERK OF THE
CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA:


Jenny L. Parham, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGALITY:


S. Scott Walker, City Attorney

ORDINANCE 2015-03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10 "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" OF THE HIGH SPRINGS CODE OF ORDINANCES; LIFTING RESTRICTION ON TYPE OF ALCOHOL FOR SUNDAY ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION

WHEREAS, Chapter 10 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances regulates the sale of alcoholic beverages within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission previously amended Chapter 10 in Ordinance 2008-34 to allow for the sale of alcohol during specific hours on Sunday for malt beverages and unfortified beverages; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission held a public workshop on January 13, 2015, to discuss and hear public comment on revising Chapter 10 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that removing regulatory barriers to business, such as restrictions on the sale of alcoholic beverages for the purpose of attracting new business will encourage growth and development of the City, enhance economic prosperity, diversity, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, after proper notice and public hearing, the City Commission has determined that it is prudent to amend the High Springs Code of Ordinances relating to the sale of alcoholic beverage; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of High Springs has determined that it is desirable to amend Section 10-2 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances to allow liquor to be sold during certain hours on Sunday.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS:

Section 1: Section 10-2 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances entitled "Hours of Sale" is hereby amended to read as follows (words ~~struck through~~ have been deleted, and words underlined have been added):

- (a) Packaged sales for off-premises consumption of malt beverages and unfortified wine shall be permitted on Monday through Saturday, inclusive, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, and on Sunday between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- (b) Packaged sales for off-premises consumption of all alcoholic beverages except malt beverages and unfortified wine shall be permitted on Monday through Saturday, inclusive, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight.
- (c) Sales for on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages in any business holding a beverage license, which business derives at least 51 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages, shall be permitted on Monday through Thursday, inclusive, and Saturday

between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, and on Friday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. immediately following, and Sunday between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. ~~In addition, sales for on-premises consumption of malt beverages and unfortified wine in any business holding a beverage license, which business derives at least 51 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages, shall be permitted on Sunday between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.~~ When December 31 occurs on a Saturday through Thursday, sales of all alcoholic beverages on those days shall be permitted to continue until 2:00 a.m. immediately following.

- (d) Sales for on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages in any business holding a beverage license, which business derives less than 51 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages, shall be permitted on Monday through Thursday, inclusive, and Saturday, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, and on Friday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. immediately following. When December 31 occurs on a Monday through Thursday or Saturday, such sales of alcoholic beverages on those days shall be permitted to continue until 2:00 a.m. immediately following. When December 31 occurs on a Sunday, such sales of alcoholic beverages shall be permitted from 6:00 p.m. of the Sunday until 2:00 a.m. immediately following.

Section 2: EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage at second and final reading.

Section 3: PRESERVATION OF RIGHTS AND DUTIES. The repealing provisions of this Ordinance do not affect the rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before the effective date of the repeal.

Section 4: INCLUSION IN THE CODE, SCRIVENER'S ERROR. It is the intention of the City Commission of the City of High Springs, Florida, and it is hereby provided that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and made part of the Code of Ordinances of the City of High Springs, Florida; that the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish such intention; and that the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or other appropriate designation. The correction of typographical errors which do not affect the intent of the ordinance may be authorized by the City Manager or designee without public hearing, by filing a corrected or re-codified cop of the same with the City.

Section 5: CONFLICT. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 6: SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance or any part of the material adopted herein by reference is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

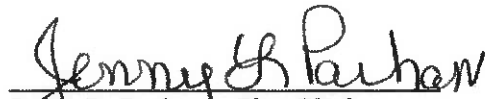
First reading was held on the 26th day of March, 2015.

DONE THE SECOND READING, AND ADOPTED ON FINAL PASSAGE, by an affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum present of the City Commission of the City of High Springs, Florida, at a regular meeting, this 9th day of April, 2015.

BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA


Sue Weller, Mayor

ATTEST, BY THE CLERK OF THE
CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA:


Jenny L. Parham, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGALITY:


S. Scott Walker, City Attorney

RE: Sunday Ordinance

Ashley Stathatos <astathatos@highsprings.gov>

Wed 2/28/2024 8:07 PM

To: HSBC.com <kiffin@highspringsbrewing.com>

Cc: Tristan Grunder <tgrunder@highsprings.gov>

 1 attachments (50 KB)

Proposed Changes to Alcohol Ordinance at the Request of the Brewery.docx;

Hello, Shane,

I apologize for the late turnaround but the changes you requested to the ordinance have been made. I sent it to our City Attorney to review and copied Tristan on the email. If you want the ordinance on the agenda, it needs to go through a charter officer or a City Commissioner. The charter officers are the City Attorney, the City Clerk and the City Manager. Any Commissioner that request an item be placed on the agenda may do so as well. If you agree with these changes, then, I would suggest asking one of them to get the ordinance on the agenda since my last day is tomorrow.

Good luck with the ordinance. I wish you all the best!

Take Care,
Ashley



ASHLEY STATHATOS
City Manager

phone: 386-454-1416

email: astathatos@highsprings.us

23718 W US Hwy 27
High Springs, FL 32643



From: HSBC.com <kiffin@highspringsbrewing.com>

Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 6:28 PM

To: Ashley Stathatos <astathatos@highsprings.gov>

Subject: Re: Sunday Ordinance

You don't often get email from kiffin@highspringsbrewing.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

You're awesome! I appreciate you getting back to me, and we look forward to getting together.

Thanks & Enjoy,

ORDINANCE _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10 "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" OF THE HIGH SPRINGS CODE OF ORDINANCES; LIFTING RESTRICTION ON ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION

WHEREAS, Chapter 10 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances regulates the sale of alcoholic beverages within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2008, the City Commission amended Chapter 10 in Ordinance 2008-34 to allow for the sale of alcohol during specific hours on Sunday for malt beverages and unfortified beverages; and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2015, the City Commission amended Chapter 10 in Ordinance 2015-03 lifting restriction on type of alcohol for Sunday on-premises consumption; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission held a public workshop on _____, to discuss and hear public comment on revising Chapter 10 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that removing regulatory barriers to business, such as restrictions on the sale of alcoholic beverages for the purpose of attracting new business will encourage growth and development of the City, enhance economic prosperity, diversity, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, after proper notice and public hearing, the City Commission has determined that it is prudent to amend the High Springs Code of Ordinances relating to the sale of alcoholic beverage; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of High Springs has determined that it is desirable to amend Section 10-2 (d) of the High Springs Code of Ordinances to lifting restrictions on, on-premise consumption of alcoholic beverages to allow alcohol to be sold for extended hours;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS:

Section 1: Section 10-2 of the High Springs Code of Ordinances entitled "Hours of Sale" is hereby amended to read as follows (words ~~struck through~~ have been deleted, and words underlined have been added):

- (c) Sales for on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages in any business holding a beverage license, ~~which business derives at least 51 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages~~, shall be permitted on Monday through Thursday, inclusive, and Saturday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, on Friday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. immediately following, and Sunday between the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 pm. 1:00 pm. And 11:00 p.m. When December 31 occurs on a Saturday through Thursday, sales of all alcoholic beverages on those days shall be permitted to continue until 2:00 a.m. immediately following.

- (d) ~~Sales for on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages in any business holding a beverage license, which business derives less than 51 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages, shall be permitted on Monday through Thursday, inclusive, and Saturday, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, and on Friday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. immediately following. When December 31 occurs on a Monday through Thursday or Saturday, such sales of alcoholic beverages on those days shall be permitted to continue until 2:00 a.m. immediately following. When December 31 occurs on a Sunday, such sales of alcoholic beverages shall be permitted from 6:00 p.m. of the Sunday until 2:00 a.m. immediately following.~~

Section 2. Severability. If any provision or portion of this ordinance is declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be void, unconstitutional or unenforceable, then all remaining provisions and portions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. Conflict. All ordinances or portions of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Section 5. Codifier. All text shown in ~~bold and strike through~~ is to be deleted. All text shown in **bold and underline** is adopted.

PASSED UPON FIRST READING on the _____ day of _____.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED UPON SECOND AND FINAL READING, in regular session with a quorum present and voting, by the City Commission this _____ day of _____ 2024.

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Angela Stone, City Clerk

Katherine Weitz, Mayor

APPROVAL AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Scott Walker, City Attorney

New Business Item #2



Commission Agenda Item Request Form

MEETING DATE: MARCH 14, 2024

SUBJECT: DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON PLACEMENT OF A HISTORICAL MARKER IN WALTER HOWARD PARK BY THE HIGH SPRINGS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE ALACHUA COUNTY COMMUNITY REMEMBRANCE PROJECT.

AGENDA SECTION: NEW BUSINESS

DEPARTMENT: PARKS AND RECREATION

PREPARED BY: ANGELA N. STONE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Summary

THE HIGH SPRINGS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE ALACHUA COUNTY COMMUNITY REMEMBRANCE PROJECT HAS REACHED OUT TO THE CITY REQUESTING PERMISSION TO PLACE A HISTORICAL MARKER AT WALTER HOWARD PARK. THE HISTORICAL MARKER WILL EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE HISTORY OF RACIAL VIOLENCE AND LYNCHING.

ATTACHMENTS: LETTER OF REQUEST FROM ACCRP HIGH SPRINGS SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR VELORIA A. KELLY

REVIEWED BY CITY MANAGER:



March 6, 2024

High Springs City Commission
23718 W. US Highway 27
High Springs, FL 32643
citymanager@highsprings.gov

The High Springs Subcommittee of the Alachua County Community Remembrance Project is requesting permission to place a historical marker in Walter Howard Park, 18651 NW 250th Street, High Springs, Florida 32643. The historical marker will educate our community about our history of racial violence and lynching.

By way of, background and reminder of the work completed to date, attached is a news article detailing Alachua County's journey. The link below will allow you to read the article and view the videos online.

[Alachua County's Journey to Truth and Reconciliation \(adobe.com\)](#)

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Veloria A. Kelly'.

Veloria A. Kelly
Chair, High Springs Subcommittee



ALACHUA COUNTY'S JOURNEY TO TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

FEATURE STORY

“Our goal is to educate the public about our history and the legacy it has left in our disparities. It is not about placing blame,” said Jackie Davis, EJI liaison and steering committee member for the Alachua County Community Remembrance Project.

Beginning in 2018 and continuing over the past six years, Alachua County and hundreds of community members have embarked on a Truth and Reconciliation project in partnership with the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) in Montgomery, Alabama. The project shines a light on the dark side of our county’s history and looks for healing.

The result of that work has led to the creation of a unique county-wide effort unlike anywhere else in Florida – and arguably the nation – at a time when talking about race relations and slavery has been considered controversial by some.

Talks of truth and reconciliation, particularly commemorating those who lost their lives locally through racial terror, were sparked by a debate over the removal of a Confederate statue that was prominently displayed outside the Alachua County Administration Building on the corner of South Main Street and West University Avenue.

Inscribed on the 113-year-old statue’s base were the words, “In the cause of right, they died a martyr’s death.” For many, those words were even more problematic than the structure itself.

Alachua County officials had been conversing with concerned residents for more than a year to discuss the disposition and replacement of the

controversial figure, nicknamed “Old Joe,” which remained throughout the Jim Crow era.

In the end, the Kirby Smith chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, which unveiled the statue on Robert E. Lee's birthday in 1904, volunteered in 2017 to pay to have it moved to a local cemetery where Confederate soldiers were buried.

For many local residents, it was the first step toward healing.

During the statue discussions, then-County Commissioner Robert Hutchinson suggested the county should honor lynching victims with a statue or markers at the sites of these atrocities.

Alachua County Confederate statue removal. Story from the Gainesville St



Alachua County Community Remembrance Project

In January 2020, the [Alachua County Community Remembrance Project](#) (ACCRP) was launched after county officials and community members first visited the site of EJI's [Legacy Museum and its National Memorial to Peace and Justice](#), which show visitors the harsh realities of life for Black residents living through the Jim Crow era.

“The site, dedicated to lynching victims, is stunning,” said Diedre Houchen, the county’s equity and community outreach manager, who organized a follow-up trip to the memorial in 2022. “It’s a very solemn experience. The artwork conveys a profound message of freedom and pain.”



Sam
Ellis
Al, AL
November 12, 1898

Henry
Williams
Excel, AL
November 2, 1897

George
Fuller
Al Grove, AL
November 28, 1900

Stephen
Pope
Union, AL
November 28, 1900

Jars on display at the Equal Justice Initiative's National Memorial for Peace and Justice hold soil collected from sites where lynchings occurred.

Through open dialogue and the help of historians and eight subcommittees, residents have recognized those who lost their lives unjustly while also exploring how racism played a role in our history and its effects in the present day.

The process was encouraged by EJI, which called on communities across the country to research local lynchings. Lynching is defined as a racially motivated, extrajudicial killing carried out by more than one person who didn't face legal consequences for their actions.

The Alachua County Historical Commission found 46 lynchings occurring between 1867 and 1926, the most of any county in Florida. Though many more are still unaccounted for, EJI requires two forms of confirmation to prove the lynching occurred.

Commissioner Chuck Chestnut IV said he was shocked to learn about the extent of the atrocities. He believes sharing the history has brought the community together, despite criticism that it would further divide people.

In February of 2020, the county held its first major event, "The Memorial to Honor the Victims of Lynching" at Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church.

"We need to recognize that our history is not great in terms of how African Americans were treated, and having diversity in these discussions is key," Chestnut said. "It's about understanding, not blaming or shaming anyone."

Memorial and Candle Lighting for Victims of Lynching in Alachua County



Acknowledging the past, looking to the future

The era of racial terrorism and racist policies has left a persistent mark on Alachua County. An example is how zoning laws were constructed to concentrate Black residents and poverty. Only through acknowledging and talking about the remaining challenges can true healing continue.

[Read the report, "Understanding Racial Inequity in Alachua County."](#)

“There is a misconception that talking about the history somehow deepens animosity, but I think it’s the converse of that,” said Dr. Jacque Micieli-Voutsinas, an assistant professor of Museum Studies at the University of Florida. “It doesn’t mean it’s easy work or that it’s not uncomfortable at times, but it’s necessary work to move forward.”

Equal Justice Initiative activities

Part of the initiative called for a series of community events: Soil collection ceremonies, essay contests, historical markers and community quilts. Each one pays tribute to lynching victims and is critical to EJI’s Truth and Reconciliation model.

Alachua County has hosted soil collection events with jars provided by EJI. Soil from the site where someone was lynched is placed in two separate jars. One is kept for the community, while the other is sent to the Legacy Museum to join others from across the country to preserve and protect the memory of those lost.



Alachua County and community leaders unveil a “Lynching in America” historical marker at the county’s administration building in Gainesville, Florida on Oct. 23, 2021.

Historical markers also serve as a prominent presence to educate communities, while community quilts are made to memorialize each lynching victim individually.

To educate the younger generation, high schools hold essay contests where students are challenged to write about historical events and connect them to present-day issues.

Cities step up

ACCRP established subcommittees for each municipality to identify each community's history and the enduring legacies they face today.

In Alachua, for example, community leaders and researchers discovered the storied life of Matthew Lewey, who served in various roles during a time of oppression. Lewey not only served in the Civil War but went on to become the mayor of Newnansville (Alachua), was elected to the House of Representatives and was Florida's first Black newspaper editor (Gainesville Sentinel).

The County Commission declared Dec. 18, 2023 as Matthew Lewey Day in Alachua County.

The City of Newberry's effort included adding the lynching victims known as the "Newberry Six" into the high school curriculum after extensive research from the late historian Patricia Hilliard-Nunn. On Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 2018, the town held a community picnic, shared stories, and heard a presentation from students at Newberry High School about the town's history of racial terror.

"It ended up being the most positive, loving moment that it could have possibly been," said Newberry Mayor Jordan Marlowe, who admittedly didn't know how the community would handle the conversations.

[Learn more about the soil collection ceremonies.](#)

When Jianna Williams was elected the first Black female mayor in Micanopy history, she made the Truth and Reconciliation project a priority. She [held a ceremony](#) at the Willie Mae Stokes Community Center, where dozens of community members showed up to participate.

"This has given our town healing with sensitivity," Williams said. "It's about finding ways to heal from that trauma and conscious ways to grow from it. It's about a diverse group of people with a common goal to unify and educate. I think it's great the county has made this a priority."

The site of the Confederate statue comes full circle

In addition to those efforts, on June 19, 2023, the county unveiled the Sankofa bird statue to honor [Hilliard-Nunn](#), who dedicated years of her life to informing others about the county's history of racism, slavery and lynchings.

The mythical creature, which sits in the same site where the Confederate monument once stood, is an adinkra symbol from the Akan people of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana and serves as a reminder to bring the past forward to remember, amend, and understand and indicates the pursuit of knowledge.

Alachua County Sankofa Statue Honors Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Nunn



Digital Heritage Trail Map

The digital heritage map is the most recent project to emerge from the community. Subcommittees and a host of community partners have helped identify 141 locations that have historical significance for Black residents.

Among the locations are churches, historical Black-owned businesses, cemeteries, lynching sites and schools. The map pushes back against the systematic, century-long effort to erase Black history.

The map shows Gainesville has the most identified locations with 31, while the smaller cities have dozens more that residents can take a small tour to view. Some historical markers have been placed at the sites, with many more planned for the future.

The map is still in its first phase and will be periodically updated as more locations are available.

[View the map and learn more about each location.](#)

The work continues

There is still much to do to fulfill the challenges the Equal Justice Initiative laid out. The Alachua County community and the people involved in this effort are devoted to seeing it through to completion.

“We continue to move forward despite how polarizing these topics can be. Truth is the cornerstone of any meaningful reconciliation and the idea of reconciliation is what drives us,” said Deputy County Manager Carl Smart. “It’s such a difficult issue to talk about for a lot of folks, almost like it’s an unwritten rule or a blemish on the community. But without talking about it, there is no healing.”

Among the dozens of local events Alachua County and its Community Remembrance Project have hosted since 2018 include:

- Soil collection ceremonies in Gainesville, Newberry, High Springs, Micanopy, Hawthorne-Waldo, Alachua-Newnansville and Monteccha-Gordon-Lacrosse
- Held panel discussions and remembrance ceremonies with historians to discuss lynchings, victims, renaming Confederate memorials, racial terror and relevant books.
- High School essay contests throughout Gainesville, Newberry High School and for students in High Springs, Alachua-Newnansville and Monteccha-Gordon-Lacrosse, Micanopy and Hawthorne-Waldo.
- Placed historical markers in Newberry, Alachua-Newnansville, at the Alachua County Administration Building and the Martin Luther King Jr. Multi-purpose Center in Gainesville.
- Candlelight vigils and memorial services for victims of lynchings.
- The Sankofa bird memorial dedication and launching of the ACCRP website.

See the [full event calendar](#) and links to each event.

Story by Andrew Caplan, Alachua County public information officer. Caplan is a former investigative reporter and editor with 10 years of experience covering state and local governments.

New Business Item #3



Commission Agenda Item Request Form

MEETING DATE: MARCH 14, 2024

SUBJECT:

DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON RESOLUTION 2024-B

AGENDA SECTION: NEW BUSINESS

DEPARTMENT: CITY COMMISSION

PREPARED BY: CITY CLERK

RECOMMENDED ACTION: APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-B

Summary

THE COMMISSION DISCUSSED AT THE FEBRUARY 22, 2024 MEETING THE DESIGNATION OF THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER ROLE. THE COMMISSION DIRECTED THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE TO BRING BACK A RESOLUTION DEFINING THE ROLES OF THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER.

ATTACHMENTS: RESOLUTION 2024-B

REVIEWED BY CITY MANAGER: _____ N/A _____

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-B

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA APPOINTING ANTOINE SHEPPARD, ANGELA STONE, AND THOMAS HENRY AS INTERIM CO-CITY MANAGERS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission have an immediate need for Interim City Manager services to assist in implementing municipal government in the City of High Springs; and

WHEREAS, the City Charter of the City of High Springs enumerates Powers and Duties of the City Manager (Section 3.04), which this Commission endorses and supports; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to maintain an orderly transition to a new City Manager and thereby desires to appoint Antoine Sheppard, Angela Stone, and Thomas Henry as interim Co-City Managers subject to certain terms and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined it is in the best interest of the City to appoint Antoine Sheppard, Angela Stone, and Thomas Henry as interim Co-City Managers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The above recitals are all true and accurate and are incorporated herein and made a part of this resolution.

Section 2. That Antoine Sheppard, Angela Stone, and Thomas Henry are appointed as interim Co-City Managers. Each Co-City Manager shall have the following authority: Antoine Sheppard shall oversee all sworn officers, Angela Stone shall oversee the City Clerk's office, shall have the spending authority of the City Manager, and shall have ultimate decision-making authority on all appointments and dismissals of employees, regardless of department, and Thomas Henry shall oversee all powers and responsibilities enumerated in Section 3.04 of the Charter that

are not delegated to Antoine Sheppard or Angela Stone herein.

Section 3. Upon appointment of a permanent City Manager, Antoine Sheppard, Angela Stone, and Thomas Henry shall return to and resume their previous positions as Chief of Police, City Clerk, and Public Works Director, respectively.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a meeting of the City Commission this 14th day of March 2024.

CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA

By: _____
Katherine Weitz, Mayor

ATTEST

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

By: _____
Angela Stone, City Clerk

By: _____
S. Scott Walker, Esq.
City Attorney