



**CITY OF MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
MEETING MINUTES
August 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Mount Dora City Hall
510 N. Baker St., Mount Dora, FL 32757**

CALL TO ORDER

Having been duly advertised as required by law, at 6:00 p.m., Vice-mayor Marc Crail called to order the Regular Session of Mount Dora City Council in the City Hall Council Chamber.

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Councilmember Cataldo.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Marc Crail, Vice-mayor
John Cataldo, District 1
Cal Rolfson, District 2
Dennis Dawson, District 3
Nate Walker, District 5
Doug Bryant, At-large

Also Present

Vince Sandersfeld, City Manager
Patrick Brackins, City Attorney
Jeanann Hand, City Clerk

Members Not Present

Crissy Stile, Mayor

PRESENTATIONS

1. Mount Dora Fun Fact

Vice-mayor Crail shared information about the Dora Canal and its role in cinema history including its use as a b-roll location for the famous film African Queen.

2. School Zone Speed Cameras

Mount Dora Police Chief Michael Gibson presented information about the School Zone Speed Camera Program. Chief Gibson's PowerPoint presentation is included with these minutes as Exhibit A. Chief Gibson requested the Council's approval to move forward with this program. The first step, after approval, would be an ordinance establishing the program.

Councilmember Rolfson spoke in support of the program. He mentioned seeing it at the recent Florida League of Cities Conference and.

Councilmember Walker asked about the timeframe for the study. He asked whether the program is revenue-driven. Chief Gibson explained it is not. His aim is 100% reduction in speeding. The system is 100% accurate. The police department may exercise discretion regarding citations progressing to become Uniform Traffic Citations. Eustis and Leesburg are using the program, although Leesburg is still in the process of its initial implementation.

Chief Gibson told Council the police department would like to have the program in place when students return to school after Christmas break. Council would like to see reports illustrating the results of using this program. The goal is behavior change.

Citations will be issued by the City of Mount Dora and City personnel will review the camera footage.

Council and staff discussed what conditions might qualify for waiving a citation fee.

All present Councilmembers expressed a consensus in favor of permitting the City to move forward with this program.

3. City Insurance Program

Budget Officer Matthew Dodson introduced Brown & Brown representatives Matt Hall and Scott Hindman and actuary Jay Miniati, who presented information about the City's insurance program, including cost and conditions affecting cost.

Councilmember Rolfson asked the presenters to work with the City to consider alternative changes that may not require as much from the insured.

Council expressed a consensus in favor of researching additional options for employees and their families in the face of rate increases, and that there should be some proposals brought back to Council so that the City can work on solutions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice-mayor Crail opened public comment.

Jim Gunderson, 100 North Alexander Street, suggested the City reevaluate how it promotes itself as a destination.

Councilmember Rolfson mentioned instances of hearing about the Lakeside Inn when he was at the Florida league of Cities conference in south Florida last week.

Jennifer Leroy, 3236 Bethpage Loop, spoke about the need for a shelter at the medium-sized dog park. She explained the history of the park's users making this request since 2021. Ms. Leroy provided her contact information to the City Manager so that staff could follow up on this issue.

Vice-mayor Crail closed public comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

***MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER TO APPROVE THE AGENDA;
COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED
WITH A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.***

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Request Approval of Piggyback Agreement with Precision Contracting Services
2. Request Approval of Task Authorization with Faden Builders, Inc. for Installation of a Diesel Generator at WWTP#1
3. Request Approval to Apply for and Accept the Florida Department of State Small-Matching Grant to Revise the Mount Dora Historic Design Guidelines
4. Request Approval to Apply for the Florida Forest Stewardship Grant for Forest Preserve and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Application when Complete
5. Request Approval to Apply for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant and Request Authorization for the Mayor to Sign the Application Once Complete
6. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
 - June 4, 2024 City Council Regular Session Minutes
 - June 18, 2024 City Council Regular Session Minutes
 - August 3, 2024 City Council Emergency Meeting

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA; COUNCILMEMBER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Request Approval of Piggyback Agreement with Redzone Robotics Inc. for Manhole and Sanitary Main Inspections**

Utility Director Andrew Marsian spoke about the item, explaining the purpose of the agreement, which will provide robotics to detect infrastructure problems. Mr. Marsian recounted a recent detection in the area of the Yacht Club.

Councilmembers spoke in support of properly maintaining the City. City staff would follow up on complaints from members of the community. A rough estimate of the cost to replace all of the sewer mains in the City is 6-7 million dollars.

Vice-mayor Crail opened public comment. No one spoke. Vice-mayor Crail closed public comment.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON TO APPROVE THE PIGGYBACK AGREEMENT WITH REDZONE ROBOTICS INC. FOR MANHOLE AND SANITARY MAIN INSPECTIONS; COUNCILMEMBER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A 6-0 ROLL CALL VOTE.

***YES Rolfson
Walker
Cataldo
Dawson
Bryant
Crail***

NO None

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Brackins reported the charter amendment ballot questions had been transmitted to the Supervisor of Elections.

Regarding a current lawsuit involving the City, a case-management conference will take place on October 11th. This will be an organizational meeting between the parties and the court. On October 18th, motions will be heard.

Mr. Brackins will be out of the country on September 3rd. Ryan Knight will be substituting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. City Manager Evaluation Process

Mr. Sandersfeld spoke about the City Manager performance evaluation process, and referenced the forms that were distributed to Council. The Vice-mayor read the steps of the process as documented in the agenda packet.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Dawson spoke about Florida League of Cities Conference he attended the prior week. He will serve on a committee again this year.

Councilmember Walker requested the City move forward with raising the City Manager's spending authority. Council agreed with this initiative. Council, staff and Mr. Brackins discussed the details of the process moving forward.

Councilmember Bryant expressed appreciation for the camaraderie evident at the meeting.

Councilmember Cataldo thanked Mr. Gunderson for his comment this evening.

Councilmember Rolfson spoke about the Florida League of Cities policy committees.

Vice-mayor Crail thanked Mr. Marek for providing one-on-one tours to the area being considered for traffic-calming, and thanked staff for their job performance.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON TO ADJOURN. MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:36 p.m.



CRISSY STILE, MAYOR
City of Mount Dora



JEANANN HAND, CITY CLERK
City of Mount Dora

EXHIBIT A

MOUNT DORA POLICE

*"Committed to excellence and dedicated
to the citizens, traditions, and diversity of
our city."*



School Zone Child Safety Initiative



School Zone Child Safety Initiative

What is the School Zone Safety Initiative?

The introduction of an automated speed detection system in school zones



School Zone Child Safety Initiative

Why is the initiative important?

TRAFFIC STUDY

Location	Average Daily Speed Violations
Mount Dora Middle School-Lincoln Ave	116
Mount Dora Middle School-Grant Ave	9
Mount Dora High School-Highland St	1
Mount Dora High School-Clayton St	37
Round Lake Charter School	450
Triangle Elementary School	450



School Zone Child Safety Initiative

There is a clear need to slow vehicles in our school zones.

The State Legislature has authorized the use of speed measuring devices and cameras to enforce the speed limits in our school zones.

With the City Council's approval, the Police Department will begin the process of creating Mount Dora's School Zone Child Safety Initiative.



BACKGROUND

CS/CS/HB 657 – Enforcement of School Zone Speed Limits was signed into law by Governor DeSantis on July 1, 2023.

The law permits municipalities to utilize speed detection systems, similar to red light cameras, to enforce school zone speed limits.

This applies to violations exceeding 11 miles per hour over the speed limit when children are traveling to or from school and throughout the school day; including times when school zone lights are not flashing.

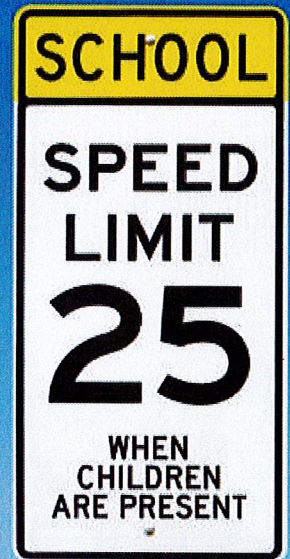


PURPOSE

School zone speed cameras enhance student safety by enforcing speed limits!

Will reduce vehicle crashes, and promote driver vigilance around schools.

They prioritize the security of students and faculty, fostering an overall safer school environment.





PROGRAM COSTS

No upfront costs for equipment.

The initiative will be 100% violator funded.

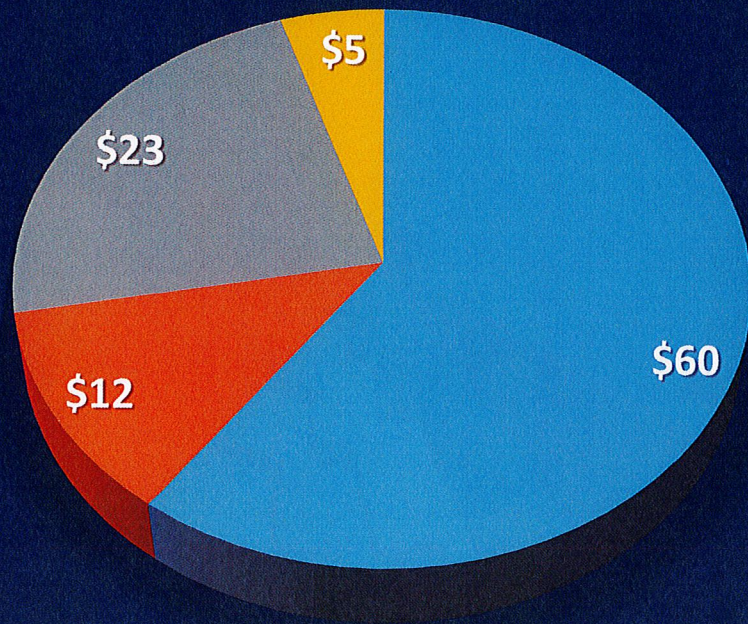
One part-time Police Department civilian Records Technician will be reclassified to fulltime with an increase in salary and added benefits costs. These costs can be offset by the increased revenue.

A city ordinance will be created establishing the school zone speed initiative, along with the statutory fine of \$100.





ALLOCATION OF FINES



- City of Mount Dora and vendor deduction
- School District for Security and Transportation Fund
- State General Revenue and FDLE Training Trust Fund
- Fund School Crossing Guards



IMPLEMENTATION

City Ordinance creating the School Zone Child Safety Initiative.

Select a vendor to manage the system

A social media and public education campaign prior to program implementation.

Notifications will be sent out to all student's parents to inform them of the program.

Warnings will be issued to violators for the first 30 days.





VIOLATION PROCESSING

Step 1 – The selected vendor reviews all violations to ensure quality of video and confirmation of violation.

Step 2 – Violations are digitally uploaded into a queue for review and approved by the designated police department Records Technician.

Step 3 – The vendor is notified for citation issuance.



VIOLATION PROCESSING

Step 4 – Vendor mails the citation.

Step 5 – If the citation is not paid in the established timeframe; violations are once again reviewed, and a State of Florida Uniform Traffic Citation is issued.

Note: Videos are retained by the vendor if citation is contested and required for court.



VIOLATION PROCESSING

Reviewing of video can be conducted by either sworn or non-sworn personnel. For our initiative, we will train our Records Technicians to perform the review.

Non-Sworn personnel are required to complete the FDLE Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) prior to video review and citation approval.



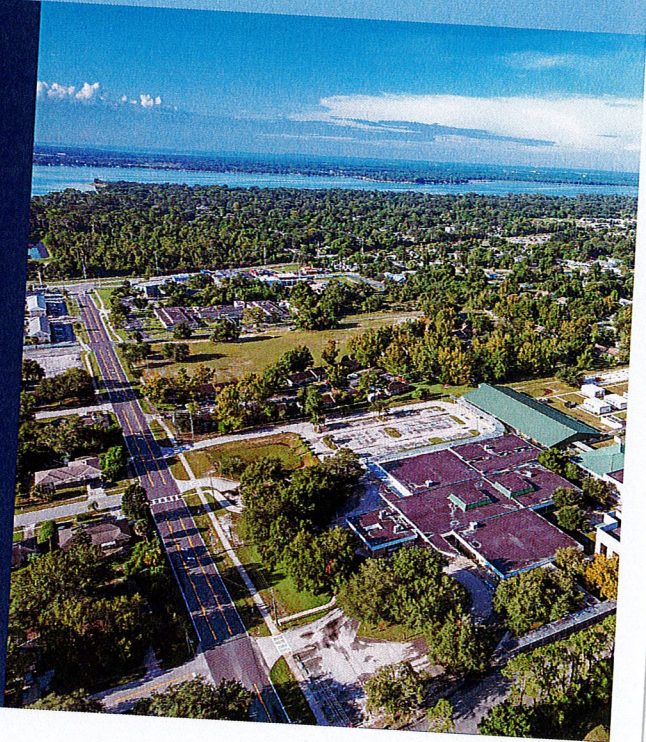


PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT AREAS

Round Lake Charter School

Triangle Elementary School

Mount Dora Middle School





School Zone Child Safety Initiative

Goals & Outcomes

- Reduce speeding in school zones by 100%
- Create a safe environment for our children to safely walk or ride their bicycles to school
- Accomplish with no added costs to the taxpayer



School Zone Child Safety Initiative

Respectfully request the City Council's approval to
move forward with the development of Mount
Dora's School Zone Child Safety Initiative



School Zone Child Safety Initiative

Questions?