

**TOWN OF WELAKA**  
**REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

June 13, 2023, at 6:00 PM  
Honorable Willie Washington, Jr. Town Council Room  
400 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Welaka, FL 32193

*(This meeting will be broadcasted, for view only, on the Town of Welaka's Facebook Page)*

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION**
- 3. ROLL CALL BY UTILITY CLERK, Emma Sledge**
- 4. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: May 9, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 5. APPROVAL OF CURRENT AGENDA**
- 6. RECOGNITIONS**
  1. \$500 Donation Check to the Friends of Welaka from the NEFLC
  2. Tree City USA Recognition Plaque
- 7. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS TO TOWN COUNCIL**
  1. Les Sims, Vice Chairman - Education Foundation of Putnam County
  2. Mark Litten, VP - Putnam County's Economic Development for the Chamber of Commerce
  3. Citizens Advisory Committee Update
  4. Events Committee Update

*Presentations are scheduled by individuals or businesses to inform the Town Council of issues, projects, etc. The Council shall not take formal action upon issues or matters presented under presentations at the same meeting. If formal action is desired, such matters shall be deferred and scheduled for a subsequent or future Council Meeting for consideration. Council may, however, by a majority vote, act on items they deem necessary and appropriate. Items not requiring Council action shall be directed to the mayor for consideration and further action.*

- 8. PUBLIC HEARINGS**
  - 1. ORDINANCE 2023-02 - Prohibiting the Establishment of Unlisted Uses (SECOND READING)**
  - 2. ORDINANCE 2023-03 - Animal Control (SECOND READING)**
  - 3. ORDINANCE 2023-04 - Architectural Standards (SECOND READING)**

**9. RESOLUTIONS**

**1. RESOLUTION 2023-04 - Citizens Advisory Committee Establishment**

**2. RESOLUTION 2023-05 - Community Events Committee Establishment**

**10. PROCLAMATIONS - None.**

**11. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*A 'Request To Speak Form' shall be completed and submitted to the Town Clerk to officially address the Town Council. There will be no response to the speaker by Council or Town Staff, except the Council Members desiring to address a comment made during this part of the meeting may do so under Section 13 of this section. One specific issue per Form may be submitted, and you will have up to 3 minutes to address the Council.*

**12. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Sewer Credits for Welaka Utility Bills**

**13. NON-CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. TOWN MATTERS**

**a. 2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

**2. ZONING RECOMMENDATIONS**

**a. None.**

**3. UTILITY MATTERS**

**a. None.**

**14. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**1. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT: John Stuart, Supervisor**

**a. Report on overall Maintenance of the Town**

**2. UTILITY DEPARTMENT REPORT: Tyler Buford, Supervisor**

**a. Report on Town Utility System**

**3. POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL PORATH REPORT**

4. **TOWN ATTORNEY PATRICK KENNEDY REPORT**

5. **TOWN CLERK MEGHAN ALLMON REPORT**

**15. MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL REPORTS**

1. **MAYOR WATTS**

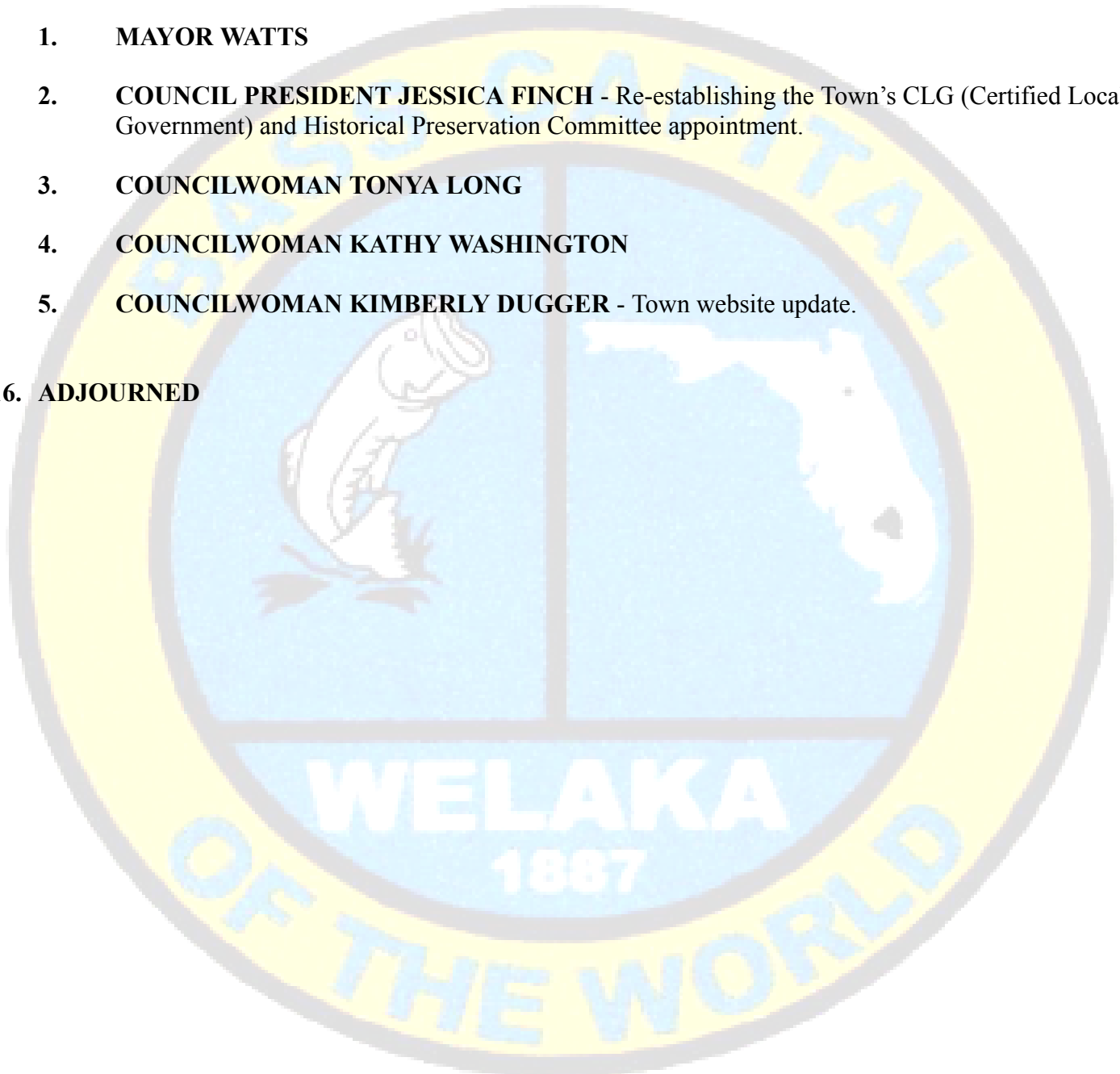
2. **COUNCIL PRESIDENT JESSICA FINCH** - Re-establishing the Town's CLG (Certified Local Government) and Historical Preservation Committee appointment.

3. **COUNCILWOMAN TONYA LONG**

4. **COUNCILWOMAN KATHY WASHINGTON**

5. **COUNCILWOMAN KIMBERLY DUGGER** - Town website update.

**16. ADJOURNED**



**TOWN OF WELAKA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**May 9, 2023, 6:00 PM**  
**Honorable Willie Washington, Jr. Council Room**  
**400 4th Ave., Welaka FL 32193**

**MINUTES**

*(This meeting was broadcasted for view only on the Town of Welaka's Facebook page)*

1. Mayor called Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2.1. Everyone stood and said the pledge of allegiance. Council President Finch gave the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL – all present: Mayor Jamie Watts, Council President Jessica Finch, Councilwoman Kimberly Dugger, Councilwoman Kathy Washington, Councilwoman Tonya Long, Town Attorney Patrick Kennedy. Five Council Members are present. We have a quorum, Mayor.

4. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES -

Washington – asked for Pg. 9. 15. 5. RES 2021-07 wording to be corrected and should read as Citizens Advisory Task Force.

Mayor and Town Attorney – edit not needed, that CATF was done for the CDBG back then.

Dugger - Page 4.10. Public Comment Section - Last name Trevor, not “Shiler.” His name is Robert Trevor.

Motion to adopt 4/11/2023 Town Council Meeting Minutes with corrections made by Finch and seconded by Washington. Passed 5/0.

5. APPROVAL OF CURRENT AGENDA - Motion for approval to accept current 5/9/2023 Town Council Meeting Agenda made by Finch and seconded by Dugger. Passed 5/0.

6. RECOGNITIONS

1. Pauline Kinney - Passed her Water Treatment Plant Class C Test on April 21, 2023. She is a Dual C Licensed Operator now and is working on her hours. Mayor congratulated her in her absence.

2. Desmond Anderson - Community Service Volunteer Award. Friends of Welaka welcomed his family and presented him with an award certificate to him. Finch read his FOW letter aloud and the Mayor and FOW all congratulated Desmond and took pictures.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. ORDINANCE 2023-04 - Architectural Standards (FIRST READING)

Kennedy – Citizens Advisory Committee brought this up a while ago regarding the architectural standards for the Town due to the hut that was erected across from the Town Hall.

Kennedy read the ORD 2023-04 header aloud.

Kennedy – as they did this in Crescent City, we need this here also. It can be enforced in the commercial zoning district, and it can be used as a guiding document in the residential areas. People can go to the Planning & Zoning Board, PZB, and request a review, if needed.

Kennedy - Section 5. a. - h. – it needs to have a consistent approach with the standards or can go in front of the

PZB.

Kennedy went through all section in the ORD.

Mayor – asked David Jeltos to come up and speak.

Jeltos – welcomes people to come to the PZB and was excited to get this ORD started to have a standard to stem from.

Mayor – this is our effort to protect our small-Town charm and we can have a guidance now.

Long- square footage?

Kennedy – it's a standard dimensional requirements and can vary based on your zoning location in Town.

Finch – Section 9.b. if you have enough room, you prefer your garage be not facing the road? You would be blocking the front of your house with the garage. She's seen that you can face your garage perpendicular to your house.

Kennedy – it's not saying this.

Jeltos – you can come in to the PZB for a Variance. If not approved, it must be architecturally pleasing.

Kennedy – if your garage is behind your home, it's ok to be facing the road. He will go look at Council President Finch's house to look, as she was referencing it.

Washington – the business district is what this ORD is for? Not the residential?

Jeltos – for residential, it's not mandatory, just a recommendation.

Washington – the shed that on the road when heading to Pomona Park, are you not allowing something like this to be lived in? What's wrong with them? Even if you own the property?

Mayor – it's not architecturally pleasing.

Washington – the Town is dictation what you can put on your property?

Mayor and Town Attorney – yes. What you put on your property effects the value of the surrounding homes.

Washington – painting my house orange would be ok?

Kennedy – you can paint whatever color you wish. The Quonset hut is what prompted this ORD.

Washington – the homes in the ORD are mandatory?

Mayor – read section from ORD that the residential district standards are just a suggestion from the Town.

Washington – a home does not want a mobile home next to it. Is that where we're going with this?

Kennedy – no. Exactly the opposite.

Finch – we're being subjective and can allow for an appealing home. The Quonset hut across from Town Hall raised an uproar from the public in the Citizens Advisory Meetings.

Jeltos – the PZB Variance right will not be taken away from anyone.

Dugger – signage about advertising. Where will this be address in the Land Development Code?

Kennedy – we have a signage ORD. This ORD here just prohibits that you cannot use your home as a sign. It's unconstitutional and a few years ago, a large lawsuit was filed somewhere also.

Kennedy – wanted to get through the docs to be uniform and clear so that everyone understands it and we can hire a Zoning Technician instead of Kennedy doing it.

Finch – there's only actually 2 things prohibited. Quonset hut and mobile homes in certain areas. The rest of the ORD appears to be guidance.

Micshell Turner – she's lost and doesn't understand the residential property.

Toole – that's not what we're saying.

Turner – then why don't you explain it to me Kiwi, if the Mayor can't!

Toole – we're happy to hear you in front of the PZB. If you want a house on your property, you can put a home on it. This is a rural area and we're just concerned with regulating the commercial zones. Some lots in the Harbor, a lot of the lots there, the mobile homes must go in sideways.

Mayor read the ORD 2023-04 header aloud.

Finch made a motion to accept first reading of 2023-04 and seconded by Long. Passed 5/0.

Town Clerk called the roll again. All said yes. Passed 5/0.

## 2. ORDINANCE 2023-03 - Animal Control (SECOND READING - DRAFT STATUS)

Kennedy spoke of the edits that were made to the Draft ORD 2023-03.

Dugger – how do we define existing cat homes list on Page 2 of 4/11/23 Minutes on the bottom.

Finch – residents should make a list of the homes that already have adopted cats and feeding stations will attract cats and are centralized locations. She rescued and caught 7 feral cats and kittens yesterday and are at her home.

Kennedy – should we allow feeding stations?

Finch – they are popular for the feral cats and are a positive impact.

Toole – she’s feeding 20 feral cats and they’re all spayed and neutered. We cannot have them fixed and then euthanized.

Mayor – feeding stations attract more cats?

Desouza – are people dropping cats off here because of the feeding station advertising?

Finch – surrounding communities are dropping off cats here and they are trapping and helping try to minimize this issue.

Toole – we thought we’d be proud to help and started off with 100 cats and now there’s over 500 cats because of the advertising.

Finch – male cats will travel for miles to an un-fixed female cat.

Kennedy – we can have an exception for registered cat feeding stations put into the Draft ORD.

Finch – cats will also help with excessive birds and squirrels.

Kennedy – homes can have up to 6 cats and also do registered feeding stations.

Long – if the ear is clipped, then you know it’s a feral cat and they keep coming back because you’re feeding them. This time next year, it will be worse, and this cannot continue.

Finch – trapped cats are typically 75% of the clipped ear cats.

Mayor – Section 8.a. keep the language? Maybe make section b. about the feral cats.

Kennedy – most cats dropped off are probably not feral.

Mayor – asked Finch to work with Kennedy in writing these edits in the ORD.

Kennedy – noted that Section 4.a. is a violation if it’s a nuisance animal.

Mayor – will bring this back to Council in the June Meeting.

## 3. ORDINANCE 2022-07A - Revision of Fee Schedule Ordinance 2022-07 (SECOND READING)

Mayor - Park Fee section was removed.

Mayor read the ORD 2022-07A header aloud.

Long made a motion to accept second reading of 2022-07 and seconded by Finch. Passed 5/0.

Town Clerk called the roll again. All said yes. Passed 5/0.

## 8. RESOLUTIONS – None.

## 9. PROCLAMATIONS

1. PROC 2023-05 - Family Abduction Awareness Day was 4/25/2023

2. PROC 2023-06 - Parental Alienation Awareness Day was 4/25/2023

Finch made a motion to accept PROC 2023-04 and Washington seconded. Passed 5/0.

## 10. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Rachel Minion - Promoting local business & website designer.

She spoke at the podium and has been touched by this community. She and her husband love living in River Hill. She explained the love for this small-Town charm and runs a marketing company for free because she loves to help businesses.

Minion said that Washington said, nope it's word of mouth around here.

Minion – with 700 or a little more residents, marketing is important. We don't want the big box companies to come here. Small businesses expand and earn money for the Town. They're facing challenges here and are asking to implement procedures for the Town. See the 2004-13 Purchasing Power ORD. An Amendment of the ORD increased the minimal purchasing threshold.

The new FOW and Visit Welaka Page was launched by Minion.

Minion spoke with Dugger and Dugger didn't return her calls or emails. Dugger went to a single service vendor. Minion is upset and says it's unacceptable that we do not use the local businesses as our resources to work for the Town. If the Council isn't supporting local businesses, who should they support?

Dugger – she has not received 1 phone call from her. She said she was excited until Minion said what she said.

Mayor – we love to support our local businesses for catering and helping in any way. He thanked Minion for her offer.

2. Tim Houghtaling - Save the St. Johns River - Eel Grass Concerns & Informational Flyers.

Mayor – we talked about this in a past Meeting. He knows a lot about eel grass in the river and how essential it is.

Houghtaling – the Town logo says the Bass Capital of the World. He spoke about the Fish & Wildlife population studies. They said in the past few years, they've given up trying to find eel grass to fish.

He has picture and flyers also.

There's a lot of people that will tell you why there's no eel grass. Hurricanes with high water and no sunlight underwater to keep it alive.

He lives on the river in San Mateo. People can in with cages/screens and within 1 month, there was eel grass growing. That way the grazers cannot eat the grass and let it grow. A flower was growing from the eel grass, and it was pollinating. That's great news! We have little grass here in Welaka and need this.

The grass is a breeding ground and a home for the fish also. It's a place to hide and is where the beds are in the spring. Only because of the cage, he had a few freshwater sponges. The Riverfront Museum in Palatka has a big picture of the underwater garden. The garden is not there anymore. It can be with the cages to grow the grass.

The river water is being treated like a tea bag and the grass filters the water and provides oxygen.

He and his neighbor have cages and are growing the grass in spots as large as this Council Room.

He uses ½" square to 1" squares on the fencing that are rubberized so it won't rust. Uses fence post and put PVC over it.

By walking on it helps spread the seeds to grow more grass.

Dugger – wants to hear more.

Mayor – Welaka has taken the lead in this county. He'd like to see this done and put on the Citizens Advisory Committee Agenda to identify areas in the river to put the fence up.

Houghtaling – showed the Council the permits from Fish & Wildlife.

Mayor – Finch heads the Citizens Advisory Committee and she can help Houghtaling in moving forward.

Houghtaling – the fencing is very expensive and the Legislative session is over and they don't have any money to provide for the SJR. If you buy in bulk, it's cheaper.

Houghtaling – business owners here may be willing to help pay for this.

He said 13,000 fee, takes care of up to 65 residents, it costs \$55,000. Divided by 65 residents, that's not that bad.

Finch – absolutely would like to address it with the Citizens Advisory Committee.

He showed Dugger his website and email address since she said she's like to see more.

Houghtaling – March of 2024 would be best to start this project since it's the breeding season.

## 11. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS TO TOWN COUNCIL -

### 1. Pieter Craig - Instream - Town Hall Records Digitization Proposal

Spoke about digitizing the docs for Welaka. There's a lot of docs that could be lost with a tornado or storm. The digital copy is your official copy. His company has been doing this for 25 years. They did Putnam County Sheriff's Office and Chief Porath contacted him. He wants to teach us how to keep our records and free up storage room areas.

It is very tough to find things when they're not in the correct filing drawer or box. Digitizing also includes searching and retention ease.

Mayor – we have Munidocs now and we can scan in our docs. We took the Retrieval Network docs and put them on Munidocs to be easily accessible and searchable.

Wants the Council to review this and see if it's in the budget. We purchased a lot of large items this year.

Washington – only the financials are here?

Kennedy – do they provide the records retention service and destroy the docs that are ok to be removed?

Craig – yes, we do all that. We go along the guidelines and keep and destroy for you.

Washington – our staff scans then?

Craig – no, my staff picks up and brings to his secure location to scan.

Finch – we're so far behind, this would be nice to have it quickly digital.

Town Clerk – we're running out of room and since I started, everything is online and digital.

Mayor – Munidocs is accessible by the public, this is not. It must be requested from the Clerk.

Finch – where are we with our ARPA Fund dollars?

Mayor – we have to go through that.

Finch – are we looking at our next budget cycle for this project possibly?

Mayor – yes, we don't have this in the budget right now and the Council can review.

Washington – this is needed and we will look into it. We live in FL with the weather and storms, this would be a good idea to have it digital.

Craig – Can help with the pricing and payments.

Dugger – agrees with Washington. It's needed.

Kennedy – what is the other paper here? What's the benefit of this rather than iCloud?

Craig – it's a secured cloud-based program. We can help you with the retention periods and can retrieve within 30 days if accidentally deleted.

Washington – how long will this take?

Craig – a few months or a year.

Kennedy – you send us the destroyed documents list also?

Craig – yes. He gets our approval first.

Washington – can the staff here add into the site as they are working on it also?

Craig – yes.

Mayor – the cloud-based server they use that are mandated by State Statutes and has to be located in the USA.

Craig – yes, they are U.S. based and is out of Nashville, TN.

Kennedy – after 3 years, if we decide not to use them anymore, is it

Mayor - Pioneer Records – didn't do destroying or records retention and price was not easily given.

Audience – Justification Memos are available also.

Kennedy – yes, we can do that.

### 2. Events Committee Update

Courtney Desouza - welcomed Rachel Minion to the Events Committee with her new Membership application.



ORD 2000-07 allows to have beer and wine during an event with the Council's blessing. She's seeking approval from the Vendor with proper licensing/insurance requirements.

Mayor – beer and wine is ok with him but no liquor. A lot of people come to the FTF events with their plastic cups.

Washington – she's hesitant because children are at these events and sometimes people can't handle their alcohol and she's looking out for the children that are there.

Finch – someone who is permitted to served, tips training and additional insurance would be required.

Desouza – some vendors have done this before and are familiar with the insurance process.

Finish – something can be in place so that if they serve someone excessively, their license can be taken from them.

Dugger – a lot of us drink. She agrees with what Washington says. FTF are kid-oriented and maybe at the Jazz Festival would be better as it's geared towards adults.

Long – she's stepping back and said this is a competition for her against her business. She would vote fairly if needed but would rather not answer.

Chief – you're on Town property, the event is only a few long, should be a secured beer garden, and more Officers need to be hired and it cuts into the budget. Do we want the liability on the Town and let people leave the beer garden and have Officers watch people?

Mayor – like Blue Crab.

Scott Turnbull – people that sneak their drinks in are typically only filling it one time and not drinking too much.

Desouza – if Council gives the OK, possibly just in the Jazz Event and FTF events. People have reached out to her asking for this.

Greg Clemons – do the Park Grants allow this?

Mayor – not sure, some are expiring soon.

Kennedy – when we do a Park event, it's up to us.

Clemons – if people can't drink at a Park cook-out, he doesn't want this at the event either.

Toole – it's just a few hours a month at FTF, let's keep it clean and have no alcohol.

Desouza – bounce houses and other walking inflatable devices allowed?

Kennedy – no water slides are allowed. Bounce Houses can be allowed if insured correctly. Best Party Rentals can add Town of Welaka to their \$1,000,000 liability policy.

Washington – an adult must be present.

Chief – told Kennedy that we need an amount for the liability insurance certifications.

Finch – don't we have a standard minimum for this?

Kennedy – yes, he thinks it's in the Parks ORD.

Clemons – they had the bounce house a few months ago. They had the insurance and all.

Mayor said we need to be listed as the Additionally Insured and the bounce house company will know how to do this.

Micshell Turner – can they pay a deposit for the water for the bounce house waterslide?

Mayor and Town Attorney – no. Water activities is not allowed in our parks.

### 3. Citizens Advisory Committee Update

#### Road Repairs

Mayor talked with PSA this morning as they started the road repairs. He's been dealing with a lot here behind the scenes. Mayor will turn the phone number over to Turnbull so he can contact a rep in Jacksonville.

#### Dog Park

Mayor – we created the Dog Park area and did the concrete and fence, and grants must be looked into also.

Mayor – Bill Melcher brought in a map of the new pickleball courts. If the grant comes though, we're not

displacing people.

Dugger – status of Dog Park?

Mayor – waiting for the fencing company and we're putting in water soon.

Washington – how can we find out the expiration date for the grants for our Parks?

Mayor – 40-acre park is in discussions now because it backs up to the Sewer Plant. He asked Fred Fox for the grant that was done in 2001 and he had no records on this and it's the same with DEP too, he thinks.

Finch – it's more of a Sewer Plant for this issue?

Mayor – yes, the Park was dedicated as a Park with the FRDAP grant.

Toole – the state can still take this Park back?

Mayor – we're working on this now and it expires in May of 2026.

Mayor – ARPA can be spent on supplementing on this also. We must get a running total on this, and the Town Clerk will work on this.

Welaka Tree Board

Mayor – wasn't sure why this Tree Board is not established anymore. We will look into this and get it re-established.

Scott Turnbull – if they don't enforce this from 2015, there's been changes and it needs to be enforced because property is being cleared in Town right now.

Kennedy – no strict prohibition again this but a tree has to be replaced with ones that are removed. No heritage trees can be removed either.

Mayor – Code Enforcement can help deal with this also before they cut trees down.

Kennedy – also agrees that this is a Code Enforcement issue, and they can help.

Finch – trees should be replaced with the trees that are taken down.

Kennedy – some people ask for forgiveness rather than permission about the Code Boards can help.

Kenny Pagano – he tried extremely hard to get in touch with the Tree Board and he decided on his own what he needed to keep and not keep. He put tape around the trees to keep. The ORD is the evasive Tree ORD, and it should be the Invasive Tree ORD. Looks like a spelling error.

Turnbull - ARPA Expenditures – Town Clerk will get this together.

Turnbull - RFP process needed for Jefferson Smith Park Basketball Court resurfacing.

Turnbull - Asked to get \$1,000 for clay on the Jefferson Smith Park ball field. It's not that much money.

Turnbull – asked for Assistant Town Clerk to take minutes for Citizens Advisory Meetings.

Town Clerk – not a fan of them taking my Assistant that I really need right now because their meetings are 5-6 hours long sometimes. I can ask Ellen if she'd clerk the Meetings, as long as they are only approx. 2 hours long, if possible. Plus, she is part-time and doesn't work on Fridays.

Finch – people want their voice and opinions heard, so some Meetings go longer.

11.4. NEFRC representative showed their Welaka Downtown Vision Project as a PowerPoint Presentation on the television and explained each slide and section.

He said that this can be approved with a Resolution but not needed. Just the Council's approval is needed.

Mayor – we need to do our historical survey and the NEFRC wants to get paid, and we can accept it as a roadmap so far.

NEFRC – individual items need to be accepted on the next step.

Finch – she listed some parts of the Visionary Project and we're accepting items that are important to the community.

Kennedy – for grant purposes, does the NEFRC need a RES?

NEFRC – just a vote is needed tonight as Welaka using this as a roadmap and we can do a RES later.

Washington – we're just accepting this as a roadmap now and can change our minds later?

Mayor – yes, correct. We've identified what we need to do and now we can search for the grant to fund our

project(s).

Finch made a motion to accept the Vision for Downtown Welaka work-product roadmap created by NEFRC and seconded by Long. Passed 5/0.

NEFRC – loved our level of public involvement. Wish this was like more Towns and cities.

## 12. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Sewer Credits – Finch made a motion to accept the monthly sewer credits and seconded by Dugger. Passed 5/0.

## 13.1. NON-CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor – with rising costs, we have to look at all or nothing with the secondary project, the Lift Station 6, with the funds we have, or we have to wait 5 years and go back.

a. Welaka Engineering RFQ 2023-01 - Scoring & Recommendation (Saltus Engineering, Inc.)

Mayor - read the Score Sheet aloud.

Long – the expertise in the area were used to score these Packets.

Finch made a motion to accept the RFQ 2023-01 Recommendation of Saltus Engineering, Inc. and seconded by Long. Passed 5/0.

Katherine VanZant – they look forward to working with us and we have excellent staff here.

b. Welaka Engineering RFQ 2023-01 - Scoring (Mittauer & Associates, Inc.)

Mayor - read the Score Sheet aloud.

c. Welaka Engineering RFP 2023-02 - Scoring & Recommendation (Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc.)

Mayor – Fred Fox Ent. was the only company to submit a package for this project so they were awarded the RFP 2023-02 job.

Finch made a motion to accept the RFP 2023-02 Recommendation of Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc. and seconded by Dugger. Passed 5/0.

d. Reappointment of all Town Boards

Mayor – Sandra Walker filled in a sheet and wants to be added to the Town’s Citizens Advisory Committee.

Mayor – Rachel Minion also handed in an Events Committee volunteer application form.

Finch – she checked with all of the current Citizens Advisory Committee Members and they said they would like to be re-appointed.

Erin Jelte – do the Members just stay on the Board automatically?

Mayor – each person may be re-appointed if they wish to stay on Board or Committee

Washington – should we re-visit the Resolutions to change the wording and put in the Resolutions?

2021-08 Number 2, Members should serve a 2-Year Term.

Kennedy - Should this wording say that the Board Members can be re-appointed, and we can recruit more volunteers also.

Kennedy – May have to remove someone off the Citizens Advisory Committee to add a new Member.

Toole – Charter Committee, Mayor stepped down because it’s a conflict of interest. Why is Finch allowed to be

the Chairwoman of the Citizens Advisory Board and the Council President?

Mayor – he’s writing a Charter in the Town and will be running in the future, and it addresses elections. He’s on the Charter Review Committee, but he’s not the Chairman any longer. Out of all 5 Members of the Board, each Member appointed someone.

Washington – can we re-do the RES in the June Meeting?

Finch – what do we need to change?

Washington - we need to make some changes. There’s 6 Members on the Citizens Advisory Committee and the RES only says that 5 are allowed.

Mayor – we need to table this and deal with the appointments from the Council Members.

Erin Jelte – we should advertise it more and have the Council vote for who they appoint. They need to contact a Council Member.

Mayor – Council gives their blessing for who is brought to the slate.

Finch made motion to table the re-appointment of all Town Committees and Boards and Long seconded. Passed 5/0.

#### e. Discussion of Sewer Credits per ORD 2011-10

Mayor – Sewer Credit are only supposed to be given to certain residents per the ORD 2011-10. The prior Mayor made adjustments for commercial.

Washington – we’ll charge \$20 for our workers to check this for the sewer credit?

Mayor – yes. That’s for our Utility Crew to go to resident homes before and after to verify the water meter usage.

Finch – are people still getting the sewer credits?

Town Clerk – yes, residents are mostly ok with the \$20 fee and the commercial accounts that are receiving random sewer credits should not be as it’s not in the ORD. We use the ORD as our manual and stick to it. Some commercial accounts receive it and some do not. We’ve invited a specific business owner here to the Meeting a few months in a row to voice his concern, but he does not show up. He wishes to just continue receiving he sewer credit. The calculations now do not match up to the previous year’s credit and we’re losing thousands and thousands of dollars, as pointed out by FL Rural Water also.

Town Attorney – accounts should not be receiving sewer credit, it’s not in the ORD and it’s unheard of.

Long – she spends over \$300 a month and has never expected a sewer credit. It’s worth it if you’re filling a pool or hot tubs, then it’s worth a call to assess the \$20 fee and receive a sewer credit. Finch agreed.

Mayor – the old sewer credits that have been given and are not explained or listed in the ORD 2011-10 will be abolished as of now.

Town Clerk – if you’re having a waterslide party or pressure washing at your home, it’s worth it to give Town Hall a call and we can send our Utility Crew out to check your meter before and after and bill your account the \$20 to adjust the sewer credit at the time of billing.

Finch – do we need a motion?

Mayor – No. It’s not even in the ORD. We’re pulling this off the Consent Agenda and it will come off. We’re going to follow the ORD 2011-10.

Kennedy – proposed for in the next meeting that an Annexation Agreement can be provided for requested utility services outside of the Town if they become continuous, we can required they become annexed into the Town.

Kennedy – he scheduled an appointment with FGUA to speak with them about them some Welaka residents that want to use our utilities.

#### f. Councilwoman Dugger - Town Website Upgrade (please visit the [www.naplesgov.com](http://www.naplesgov.com) and [www.highsprings.gov](http://www.highsprings.gov) websites for a visual reference)

Dugger - It's a \$2,200 Increase to upgrade our website per year.

Mayor – someone her knows can be

Mayor – someone in Town should be able to develop and maintain the Town's website.

Rachel Minion – she wants to see our goal of the website. If it's easy to update and use, we can formalize a process to start with. \$3,800 a year is astronomical. We are spending too much time and money on the newsletters. These should be digital.

Mayor – meeting management services and searchable meeting/agenda content is helpful. We have some good ideas. Asked Dugger to put together a scope for the Council and Rachel.

Washington – what does the \$2,200 extra pay for?

Dugger – updating and upgrading our website. Lots of features they'd be adding to it.

Desouza – upgrade makes it more user friendly and we're using the baseline model and will be more user friendly to stay within governmental regulations. Her concern is making sure the shared information is staying safe and confidential.

Dugger will work on a scope for the Council.

### 3.2. ZONING RECOMMENDATIONS

#### a. Zoning Map Updates & Corrections

Town Attorney – explained the edits to the Zoning Map to the Council

### 13.3. UTILITY MATTERS

a. None.

### 14. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

#### 1. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT: JOHN STUART, Supervisor

a. Report on overall Maintenance of the Town

b. Parks and Playground Equipment - Q1, 2023 Quarterly Inspection Report

#### 2. UTILITY DEPARTMENT REPORT: TYLER BUFORD, Supervisor a. Report on Town Utility System

#### 3. POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL PORATH REPORTS

##### a. Rural County Days/Legislative Appropriations Update - Tallahassee Trip

Great time in Tallahassee. Some people that didn't know Welaka, now they do. Now his goal is to get the message out to the state reps.

People up there say that we are prime picking for expansion and he's still trying to hire another Officer.

Mid-June he's trying to create a meeting here in Welaka with State reps. In Town.

Mayor – also trying to get State Reps here for a tour and meeting.

b. Movie Night in Jefferson Smith Park - May 26 – 8:30-10:30 PM.

Code Enforcement – wants to make it more user friendly and we have rules in place and approach issues more professionally. Next Code Board Meeting – plans to revamp the ORD language and Code Enforcement Officer

training and SOPs.

Work Comp Study – will try to get a Special Meeting in June so she can present the employee rates prior to budget season. Mid-day or late afternoon Special Meeting will be scheduled with Yolanda to explain.

Will coordinate with John for road closures for the upcoming Come Together, bigger block party on May 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. It's from 4 PM-10 PM and 7 AM – 10 PM. He met with the party organizers.

He discussed that gates and roads will be open/closed. They expect around 200 people to be at this event and is expected to be relaxed. He gave them a copy of the ORD. No drugs or alcohol allowed. He confirmed with Ms. McCoy also. They'll do their own clean-up. Our Events Application is not ready yet, so it was a face-to-face meeting with the Chief and party organizers. Chief asked the Sheriff's Office to stop by and drive through also to check on the party.

4. TOWN ATTORNEY PATRICK KENNEDY REPORTS – None.

5. TOWN CLERK MEGHAN ALLMON REPORTS - None.

#### 15. MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL REPORTS

##### 1. MAYOR WATTS

Mayor - please be mindful on the Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> in the Sportsman's Harbor – new pipe repairs being done in Pump Station – Door Hangers were hung today. It will not be shut off, just repaired for a few hours.

Tallahassee trip was very informative and plentiful with Chief.

2. COUNCIL PRESIDENT JESSICA FINCH – NEFRC asked her to sit in on 2 phone calls. Historic survey grant potential to do a tree survey grant.

3. COUNCILWOMAN TONYA LONG – None.

4. COUNCILWOMAN KATHY WASHINGTON – Saying no to cannabis dispensaries last month inspired her to do some research. She visited a few dispensaries. She talked to 3 other municipalities, and they were very professional. She spoke to the managers and customers at locations and watched people go in and out with no loitering. She asked if they do education courses for the public. They said no.

[www.FloridaStateCannabis.com](http://www.FloridaStateCannabis.com) and also [www.muvfl.com](http://www.muvfl.com) are both good websites. She did her footwork and was impressed with the procedures. You must have your DL and they take your information when you go into the locations. They follow the strict laws with the government also. Why not have the business here with our residents, rather than they go out of town to buy from dispensaries?

Mayor – learned in Tallahassee that for big cities to have more dispensaries, rural areas must have some also.

Washington – maybe we can have an ORD that limits it to one location in the Town and limit how they advertise it.

Kennedy – this is how we want to regulate it also. We want to regulate the anesthetics of businesses so we can allow them here, but they must be professional, like a medical prescription shop.

Finch – where would these be located? A lot of commercial areas butt up to residential properties. Residents are concerned to have as dispensary as their neighbor.

5. COUNCILWOMAN KIMBERLY DUGGER – Glad that Jefferson Park will be updated and maintained. Co-ed softball team will be formed, and the Park be used.

Maybe we can recruit a volunteer recreation person to maintain the equipment.

16. Adjourned 10:02 PM

# NORTHEAST FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

POST OFFICE BOX 262  
PALATKA, FL 32178-0282  
386-546-2993  
[neflc.exdir@gmail.com](mailto:neflc.exdir@gmail.com)

Tax I.D. # 59-2560639

May 1, 2023

Friends of Welaka, Inc.  
ATTN: Courtney DeSouza  
500 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Welaka, FL 32193

**RE: Charitable Donation** for the benefit of Youth and Senior Outreach Programs

Dear Ms. DeSouza,

The Northeast Florida League of Cities Board of Directors is pleased to enclose its check in the amount of \$500.00 made payable to Friends of Welaka, Inc. This is a **Charitable Donation** for your organization's benefit and use.

The application for this donation was submitted by Jamie Watts, Mayor, on behalf of the Town of Welaka.

Sincerely,



Betsy Jordan, Executive Director  
**NORTHEAST FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES**

BJ/S

Enclosure: Check # 3190





**Arbor Day Foundation®**

211 N. 12th St. • Lincoln, NE 68508 • 888-448-7337 • [arborday.org](http://arborday.org)

*We inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees.*

MAYOR JAMIE WATTS  
400 4TH AVE  
WELAKA, FL 32193

Dear Tree City USA Community Member,

On behalf of the Arbor Day Foundation, I'm thrilled to congratulate Town of Welaka on earning recognition as a 2022 Tree City USA. Residents of Town of Welaka should be proud to live in a community that makes the planting and care of trees a priority.

Founded in 1976, Tree City USA is a partnership between the Arbor Day Foundation, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Association of State Foresters. Town of Welaka is part of an incredible network of more than 3,600 Tree City USA communities nationwide, with a combined population of 155 million.

Over the last few years, the value and importance of trees has become increasingly clear. Cities and towns across the globe are facing issues with air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, and energy use. Town of Welaka has taken steps to create to a brighter, greener future.

We hope you are as excited as we are to share this accomplishment with your local media and your residents. Enclosed in this packet is a press release for you to distribute at your convenience.

We're excited to celebrate your commitment to the people and trees of Town of Welaka. Thank you, again, for your efforts.

Best Regards,

Dan Lambe  
Arbor Day Foundation Chief Executive

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Jasmine Putney

Arbor Day Foundation

402-216-9307

[jputney@arborday.org](mailto:jputney@arborday.org)

## Arbor Day Foundation Names Town of Welaka a 2022 Tree City USA<sup>®</sup>

LINCOLN, Nebraska (4/3/2023) – Town of Welaka was named a 2022 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to effective urban forest management.

Town of Welaka achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: maintaining a tree board or department, having a tree care ordinance, dedicating an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and hosting an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

“Tree City USA communities see the positive effects of an urban forest firsthand,” said Dan Lambe, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “The trees being planted and cared for by Town of Welaka are ensuring that generations to come will enjoy to a better quality of life. Additionally, participation in this program brings residents together and creates a sense of civic pride, whether it’s through volunteer engagement or public education.”

If ever there was a time for trees, now is that time. Communities worldwide are facing issues with air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, energy use, and extreme heat and flooding. Town of Welaka is doing its part to address these challenges for residents both now and in the future.

More information on the program is available at [arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://arborday.org/TreeCityUSA).

### **About the Arbor Day Foundation**

Founded in 1972, the Arbor Day Foundation has grown to become the largest nonprofit membership organization dedicated to planting trees, with more than one million members, supporters and valued partners. Since 1972, almost 500 million Arbor Day Foundation trees have been planted in neighborhoods, communities, cities and forests throughout the world. Our vision is to lead toward a world where trees are used to solve issues critical to survival.

As one of the world's largest operating conservation foundations, the Arbor Day Foundation, through its members, partners and programs, educates and engages stakeholders and communities across the globe to involve themselves in its mission of planting, nurturing and celebrating trees. More information is available at [arborday.org](http://arborday.org).



Email Us  
Info@TEFPC.Com

Learn More at [TEFPC.COM](http://TEFPC.COM)

Palatka, FL



***The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc.*** is comprised of engaged citizens who understand the importance of education to the future of Putnam County. The members of our organization realize that by providing education opportunities which allow our students to reach their full potential Putnam County will become the vibrant, productive community it is meant to be.

Our mission is to fill “gaps” in education, to identify worthy programs and initiatives that are not funded, or funded adequately, and to help further the goals of the Putnam County School District. While we work closely with the School District to identify areas where we can be of assistance, we are an independent entity. We make our own decisions about what we take on and how we can best serve the interests of Putnam County students.

Putnam County has motivated students who just need the tools to succeed. We can provide those tools. Support The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc. by making a donation today.

### ***Frequently Asked Questions:***

**Does the School District, county commission, or any other governmental agency control funds donated, or granted, to The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc.?”** No. Our education foundation is an independent local education foundation (LEF).

**What kinds of programs and initiatives does The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc. sponsor?** Our organization was founded in early education, and we continue to seek opportunities which benefit our young students such as early literacy programs. We have begun to expand our mission to include Vocational/technical programs which will help prepare students interested in learning a trade. The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc. awards classroom grants that benefit both students and teachers. We also award scholarships to Putnam County students. The only thing that constrains us is funding so please consider making a donation today.

**Are any governmental agencies involved with The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc.?** We are designated by the IRS as a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit. Our organization is independent of any government agencies. We do, however, receive input from the Putnam County School District which helps us to identify programs and initiatives where we can assist Putnam County students and teachers. The Putnam County Board of County Commissioners and the Palatka City Commission are supportive of our education foundation.

**Has The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc. been successful?** Yes, it has. Our mission statement is “To fund the immediate needs of our District school children and to be an advocate for positive change in the delivery of education in Putnam County”. We have lived up to our mission by successfully providing funds for financially disadvantaged students to attend Pre-K, supporting other early learning initiatives, vocational/technical programs, implementing classroom grant programs for our students and teachers, and funding scholarships for our students. There are, however, many other areas of need exist where our education foundation can successfully provide assistance.

**How does The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc. utilize donated funds?** All funds donated to our organization are spent to benefit students and teachers in Putnam County. If there is a specific education area you would like to support your donation can be used for that purpose. Also, please remember that The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit. Any donation of \$250.00, or more, is tax deductible and we will be happy to provide documentation of your donation for the IRS or your tax professional.

**How is The Education Foundation of Putnam County, Inc. governed?** Our organization is governed by a fifteen (15) member Board of directors in accordance with our Bylaws, Strategic Plan, and Financial Controls. The Board of Directors is responsible for approving funding decisions as well as identifying programs/initiatives and funding sources. Day-to-day operations are the responsibility of our Executive Director.

**How many children benefit from The Education Foundation of Putnam County?** All of them. Even if your child doesn't receive financial assistance, they, and all of us, will benefit from this “extra” year of school, better classroom behavior, better-prepared students, and better overall school results.

## **HOW CAN I HELP?**

Donate or volunteer. To get more information about The Education Foundation of Putnam County Inc., View our website at [TEFPC.COM](http://TEFPC.COM), Email us at [Info@TEFPC.COM](mailto:Info@TEFPC.COM)



## **Les Sims**

### **Vice Chairman of the Board**

Les Sims is the President of Armstrong Roofing, Inc. and a Navy veteran, 1994-1998. He has been a Putnam County resident since 2000. Les enjoys spending time with his family and participating in community board and philanthropic events.





## **About**

Experienced Economic Development Professional and fundraising consultant. Strong focus on regionalization of activities at the local level to collaborate on project activity and share resources in tight economies. Extensive experience in attracting new industries and the retention & expansion of existing industries. Led multiple organizations through ultra-successful capital fundraising campaigns for public-private partnerships, that exceeded their goals.

Specialties: Strong interpersonal & relationship building skills, problem-solving and facilitation of economic development strategic planning/revenue enhancement projects.

**Mark Litten**  
Vice President Economic Development  
[mark@chamberpc.com](mailto:mark@chamberpc.com)  
(386) 328-1503 Ext: 109



ORDINANCE NO. 2023-02

1  
2  
3 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WELAKA,**  
4 **FLORIDA, REGARDING UNLISTED USES WITHIN THE LAND DEVELOPMENT**  
5 **REGULATIONS; PROHIBITS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UNLISTED USES,**  
6 **EXCEPT PURSUANT TO FINDINGS, AS DESCRIBED HEREIN; SPECIFICALLY**  
7 **ADDRESSING THE PROHIBITION OF THE SALE OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA**  
8 **AND THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA**  
9 **DISPENSING ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE TOWN OF WELAKA, FLORIDA;**  
10 **PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR DURATION; PROVIDING**  
11 **FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

12  
13 **WHEREAS,** the Florida Legislature in enacted a medical marijuana law, the  
14 codified in Section 381.986, Florida Statutes, regulating the cultivation, processing, and  
15 delivery of marijuana by medical marijuana treatment centers in the state of Florida; and  
16

17 **WHEREAS,** on November 8, 2016, Florida voters approved a constitutional  
18 amendment (Use of Marijuana for Debilitating Medical Conditions - Amendment 2) to  
19 allow for broad medical use of any kind of marijuana within the State; and  
20

21 **WHEREAS,** despite the approval of Amendment 2 and the passage of Section  
22 381.986, the activities it permits remain illegal under Federal law; and  
23

24 **WHEREAS,** Section 381.986(11)(b)(1), Florida Statutes, provides that a  
25 municipality may, by ordinance, ban medical marijuana treatment center dispensing  
26 facilities from being located within the boundaries of that municipality; and  
27

28 **WHEREAS,** Section 381.986(11)(b)(2), Florida Statutes, further provides that a  
29 municipality may choose to allow medical marijuana treatment center dispensing facilities  
30 within its boundaries and may determine by ordinance the criteria for the location of, and  
31 other permitting requirements that do not conflict with state law or department rule for  
32 medical marijuana treatment center dispensing facilities located within the boundaries of  
33 that municipality; and  
34

35 **WHEREAS,** the potential for adverse secondary effects associated with Medical  
36 Marijuana Dispensary Organizations exist within the Town of Welaka; and  
37

38 **WHEREAS,** the Town is in the process of revising and updating its land  
39 development regulations, which currently do not allow a number of land uses that are not  
40 listed within a specific zoning district or policy of the Town's comprehensive plan; and  
41

42 **WHEREAS,** Section 166, Florida Statutes, authorizes the Town Council of Welaka,  
43 Florida (the "Town Council"), to prepare and enforce comprehensive plans for the  
44 development of the Town, and to establish, coordinate, and enforce zoning regulations for  
45 the protection of the public; and  
46

47 **WHEREAS,** Section 163.3167, Florida Statutes, authorizes the Town to adopt and  
48 amend comprehensive plans to guide future development and growth, and to implement  
49 adopted or amended comprehensive plans by the adoption of appropriate land development  
50 regulations; and

51  
52           **WHEREAS**, Section 163.3194, Florida Statutes, requires all land development  
53 regulations to be consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan; and

54  
55           **WHEREAS**, Section 163.3202, Florida Statutes, requires the Town to adopt or  
56 amend and enforce land development regulations that are consistent with and implement the  
57 adopted comprehensive plan, including, but not limited to, provisions regulating the use of  
58 land to ensure the compatibility of adjacent uses among other matters; and

59  
60           **WHEREAS**, the Town has adopted a Comprehensive Plan in Ordinance 91-16,  
61 which has been subsequently updated and amended, with the most recent update currently  
62 pending before the Department of Economic Opportunity; and

63  
64           **WHEREAS**, the Town has adopted a regulations governing land uses 1983 (Ord.  
65 83-02), which have been amended (i.e. Ord. 91-11 and Ord. 93-04) but no substantial  
66 amendments have occurred since 1993; and

67  
68           **WHEREAS**, the Town has authorized the Town Attorney to review and revise the  
69 Town’s land development regulations as necessary to insure consistency with the most  
70 current version of the comprehensive plan and to insure the regulations reflect the current  
71 desires of the community; and

72  
73           **WHEREAS**, there are no current regulations governing the use of real property for  
74 purposes of selling marijuana or related activities, and such uses are neither lawfully  
75 existing or permissible with the Town; and

76  
77           **WHEREAS**, with the adoption of state laws and constitutional amendments  
78 regarding cultivation, distribution and dispensing of medical marijuana, the Town Council  
79 believes it is in the best interests of the citizens of Welaka to have the opportunity to  
80 determine whether to allow such activity within the Town, and if allowed, under what  
81 conditions, if any; and

82  
83           **WHEREAS**, significant safety and security issues exist for establishments involved  
84 in the dispensing of medical marijuana because these operations maintain large marijuana  
85 inventories and are compelled to conduct their business in cash because their activities have  
86 not been permitted under Federal law; and

87  
88           **WHEREAS**, in order to promote effective land use planning as it relates to medical  
89 marijuana treatment center dispensing facilities and several other land uses not considered  
90 within its land development regulations, the Town Council wishes to preserve the status quo  
91 of prohibiting such uses while researching, studying and analyzing the potential impact of  
92 medical marijuana treatment center and dispensing facilities and such other uses not  
93 considered within its land use regulations; and

94  
95           **WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds that an express prohibition of medical  
96 marijuana treatment center dispensing facilities or of the sale or distribution of medical  
97 marijuana as authorized under section 381.986(11)(b)(1), Florida Statutes is the most  
98 appropriate course of action until such time as the Town has reviewed, studied, held public  
99 hearings on the matter; and

100

101           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Town Council of the  
102 Town of Welaka, Florida:

103  
104 **SECTION 1. Purpose and Intent.**

105  
106 This Ordinance is enacted to carry out the purpose, intent and authority established in the  
107 Community Planning Act, as codified in the applicable portions of Chapter 163, Part II, and  
108 Chapter 166, Florida Statutes, as amended; and to and exercise the authority set out in  
109 Section 381.986(11)(b)(1) and (2), Florida Statutes.

110  
111 **SECTION 2. Findings.**

112  
113 The recitals set forth in the "Whereas" clauses above are true and correct and are hereby  
114 adopted as findings by the Town Council for the adoption of this ordinance.

115  
116 **SECTION 3. Unlisted Uses Not Allowed.**

117  
118 **a. Generally.** Uses not expressly listed as allowed under a specific zoning district shall not be  
119 permitted to be established within the Town of Welaka boundaries unless and until the Town  
120 allows for said uses through the revision of the land development regulations by ordinance or the  
121 Town Council, upon the recommendation of the Zoning Board, shall determine after a public  
122 hearing that proposed use is substantially similar to a listed use that it was clearly the intent of  
123 the governing ordinance to allow the proposed use.

124  
125 **b. Medical Marijuana, specifically.** Based on the findings set forth herein and due the manner  
126 in which a municipality it permitted to regulate the use of medical marijuana treatment centers  
127 dispensing facilities within its boundaries, the Town expressly finds that this use is not  
128 substantially similar to any other use currently listed in the Town's land develop regulations,  
129 and a ban is hereby imposed on the establishment and operation of medical marijuana  
130 treatment centers and dispensing facilities (as referenced in Section 381.986, Florida  
131 Statutes and Constitutional Amendment 2 respectively) including the sale or distribution of  
132 medical marijuana within the Town limits of the Town of Welaka, Florida. Until such time  
133 as the Town repeals this ban by Ordinance, the Town shall not accept, process or approve,  
134 any application relating to the establishment or operation of a medical marijuana treatment  
135 center dispensing facility or any application which seeks authorization for a facility to sell  
136 medical marijuana. Nothing in this ban shall be construed to prohibit the permitted use of  
137 medical marijuana or low THC marijuana by a qualified or eligible patient, as determined by  
138 a licensed Florida physician pursuant to Amendment 2, Section 381.986, Florida Statutes or  
139 other Florida law as applicable.

140  
141 **SECTION 4. Violations and Penalties.**

142  
143 Any person establishing a use in violation of this Ordinance without the express shall be  
144 punishable by any enforcement action or legal remedy permitted by law including, but not  
145 limited, to (i) prosecution as a misdemeanor with imposition of a fine not to exceed \$500.00,  
146 imprisonment for a term not to exceed 60 days, or by both fine and imprisonment; (ii)  
147 imposition of civil fines or penalties pursuant to Chapter 162, Florida Statutes or otherwise;  
148 and (iii) pursuit of injunctive relief or declaratory relief from a court of competent  
149 jurisdiction. Nothing stated in this paragraph shall prevent the Town from taking any lawful  
150 action that may be necessary for it to enforce or to remedy any violation of this Ordinance.



152 **SECTION 5. Direction to Review Retail Medical Marijuana Dispensing Facilities**

153  
154 The Town Council hereby directs the Town Attorney and the Town’s Zoning Board, as part  
155 of the land development code revision process, include a zoning review of retail medical  
156 marijuana dispensing facilities and to prepare a recommendations as to whether to allow  
157 such as use in the Town boundaries, and if recommending allowance of such a use, include  
158 a report indicating the appropriate amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, if necessary, and  
159 the Land Development Code and other Town Code of Ordinances to address regulating such  
160 a use within applicable law.

161  
162 **SECTION 6. Severability.**

163  
164 If any section, clause, sentence or phrase of the Ordinance is held to be invalid or  
165 unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way  
166 effect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance.

167  
168 **SECTION 7. Duration.**

169  
170 The ban shall remain in effect unless and until the Town Council rescinds or modifies this  
171 ordinance by subsequent ordinance as described herein.

172  
173 **SECTION 8. Effective Date.**

174  
175 This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption at second reading.

176  
177 **APPROVED ON FIRST READING** by the Town Council for the Town of Welaka at its Town  
178 Council Meeting assembled this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

179  
180 **DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED ON ITS SECOND READING** by the Town Council  
181 for the Town of Welaka at its Town Council Meeting assembled this 13th day of June 2023.

182  
183 **ATTEST:**

**SIGNED:**

184  
185  
186 \_\_\_\_\_  
187 Meghan E. Allmon, Town Clerk

184  
185  
186 \_\_\_\_\_  
187 Jamie D. Watts, Mayor

188  
189  
190  
191 **APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:**

192  
193  
194 \_\_\_\_\_  
195 Patrick Kennedy, Town Attorney

192  
193  
194 \_\_\_\_\_  
195 Jessica Finch, Town Council President

ORDINANCE 2023-03

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ANIMAL CONTROL IN THE TOWN OF WELAKA PROVIDING THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORITY TO MAKE RULES AND REGULATION ON ANIMAL CONTROL TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE CITIZENS OF WELAKA, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR SHORT TITLE; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; AND PROVIDING PROCEDURES OFFOR HANDLING PUBLIC NUISANCE ANIMALS; PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN PROHIBITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES CONCERNING THE TREATMENT OR CARE OF DOMESTIC AND WILD ANIMALS; AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR ANIMAL DUMPING; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL PRIOR TOWN ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, INCLUDING ORDINANCE 94-9, 97-4 AND 2012-10; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Welaka recognizes that the public health and safety of the citizens of Welaka will be served by enacting animal control legislation, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Welaka recognizes the right of the public to own and properly maintain domestic animals, and

WHEREAS, effective animal control includes the administration of rabies vaccination programs, (2) licensing of certain animals, (3) impoundment of strays, (4) operation of animal pound, (5) disposition of impounded animals, (6) confinement of certain animals (7) general provision for the safety and public welfare of the citizens and residents of the Town of Welaka; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE Town Council of Welaka, Florida:

SHORT TITLE. This Ordinance shall be referred to as the “Animal Control Ordinance”.

**SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS**

- A. **ANIMAL:** Shall mean any a living thing, other than a human, that can move and eat and react to the world through its senses, especially sight and hearing, including but not limited to mammals, birds, ~~flow,~~ reptiles, fish, insects, spiders and the like monkey, chimpanzee, bee or other dumb creature including but not limited to horses, cows, goats, sheep, pigs, mules, geese, dogs, cats, calves, rabbits, hamsters and mice.
- B. **ANIMAL POUND:** Any premises designated by action of the County for the purpose of impounding and caring for all animals found running at large in violation of this Ordinance, or other animals having or suspected of having rabies.
- C. **DIRECT CONTROL:** Immediate, continuous physical control of an animal at all times such as by means of leash, cord or chain of sufficient strength to restrain the same; or, in the case of specially trained animals which immediately respond to commands.

50 **D. DOMESTIC or DOMESTICATED ANIMAL:** Shall means any animal domesticated to  
51 live and breed in tame conditions alongside humans.

52  
53 **E. EXOTIC ANIMAL:** Shall means any animal that might otherwise live outside of captivity  
54 and that does not historically occur in Florida but have been brought to Florida by humans.

55  
56 **F. FERAL:** Shall means an animal that descended from domesticated animals but lives in a  
57 wild state generally avoiding direct human contact, typically after escape from domestication  
58 or abandonment.

59  
60 **D.G. NEUTERED MALE:** Any male animal which has been operated on  
61 for the removal of gonads to prevent procreation.

62  
63 **E.H. PUBLIC-NUISANCE ANIMALS:** Shall mean any domesticated animal ~~or animals~~  
64 ~~which~~that causes an unreasonable disturbance to the peace, including but not limited to the  
65 following actions:

- 66
- 67 1. ~~damage~~damaging public or private property;
- 68 2. ~~are~~vicious behavior towards other persons or domestic animals;
- 69 3. habitual chasing or molestation of passers~~by persons~~ -or vehicles passing by;
- 70 4. attacking other animals;
- 71 ~~4.5.~~emitting or making continuous and uninterrupted barking, howling, screeching,
- 72 squawking or other animal sounds in violation of section 13 of this ordinance or the
- 73 Town's noise ordinance; or
- 74 ~~5.6.~~cause causing an annoyance in the neighborhood by acts such as
- 75 overturning garbage cans, defecating or urinating on another's property,
- 76 or digging holes on property other than its owner's property, or such other
- 77 acts as are generally regarded to create a public nuisance.
- 78

79 **F.I. OWNER:** Shall mean any persons, firm or corporation possessing, harboring, keeping  
80 or having custody or control of an animal, or who permits or encourages an animal  
81 to remain on or about any premises occupied or controlled by him or her by  
82 feeding or caring for said animals. If the animal owner is under the age of 18, that  
83 person's parent or guardian will be deemed to be the owner.

84  
85 **G.J. RABIES EXPOSURE:** An animal has been exposed to rabies if it has been bitten or in  
86 direct contact with any animal known to be infected with rabies.

87  
88 **H.K. RESTRAINT:** An animal is under restraint if it is controlled by a leash under control of  
89 a competent person and obedient to that person's command, or within a vehicle being driven  
90 or parked on the street, or within the property limits of its owner or keeper.

91  
92 **I.L. SPAYED FEMALE:** Any female animal which has been operated on for the removal of  
93 ovaries to prevent conception and "heat" manifestations.

94  
95 **J.M. STRAY ANIMALS:** Shall mean any animal at large without identifying  
96 tags or without appearance of an owner. Stray shall not mean a hunting dog  
97 while hunting on public or private property unless it becomes a public nuisance  
98 as described below.

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**K.N. VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES:** Shall mean the injection of an animal with anti-rabies vaccine approved by and administered in an amount and manner approved by the consistent with the guidelines established by Florida Department of Health (DOH) State Board of Health.

**L.O. VICIOUS AND/OR DANGEROUS ANIMALS:** Shall mean an animal that:

- 1. Has aggressively bitten, attacked, or endangered or has inflicted severe injury on a human being on public or private property; or
- 2. Has more than once severely injured or killed a domestic animal while off the owner's property; or
- 4.3. Has, when unprovoked, chased or approached a person upon the streets, sidewalks, or any public grounds in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, provided that such actions are attested to in a sworn statement by one or more persons and dutifully investigated by animal control officer. ~~which habitually attacks other dogs or animals or which has once bitten or otherwise physically attacked, without reasonable provocation, a human being, or an animal which has destroyed any public or private property.~~

**M.P. WILD ANIMAL:** Shall mean wild or non-domestic birds, mammals, fur-bearing animals, reptiles and amphibians.

**SECTION 2. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER**

The Town Council ~~recognizes expressly authorizes the~~ Putnam County's Animal Control Officer(s) ~~to have full authority~~ to pick up, catch or procure any unlicensed dog/cat roaming at large, any Nuisance Animal as determined by a finding of the Special Magistrate, or any animal believed to be a stray and cause such dog/cat to be impounded in ~~the pound provided by the Court~~ accordance with this ordinance or Putnam County's Animal Control Ordinance (Chapter 6 of Putnam County Code of Ordinances). Nothing herein shall prohibit or prevent the Town from employing or contracting with a person or entity other than Putnam County's Animal Control to serve as the Animal Control Officer for the Town and carry out the enforcement of all or part of this ordinance.

**SECTION 3. ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IMMUNE FROM PROSECUTION**

Any enforcement officer or any other person authorized by the enforcement agency, and the enforcement agency itself, shall be immune from prosecution, civil or criminal, for trespass on private property for discharging the duties of this Ordinance, or violation for other authorized duties, when the violation is committed in his or her presence or upon a sworn affidavit by such officer that such an act has occurred, or for as long as the enforcement officer(s) acts in good faith.

Any dog(s) used by Enforcement Officer(s) for enforcement duties are exempt from this Ordinance.

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**SECTION 4. RULES AND REGULATIONS GENERALLY**

**A. Nuisance Animals Prohibited.** Owning, harboring or caring for a Nuisance Animal is prohibited in the Town.

**B. Impoundment.** The Welaka Town Council accepts Putnam County's establishment of reasonable impounding fees and per diem rates for board while keeping animals so impounded which shall be paid by the owner of the animal so impounded before it is released, and to make rules and regulation relating to the subject hereof which, in the opinion of the Welaka Town Council, will further guarantee and protect the health and safety of the citizens of Welaka.

**SECTION 5. ANIMAL TRAPS**

The Animal Control Officer may place animal traps on any public or private property within the Town, with the consent of the private property owner, or with the Mayor's consent to placing of such traps on public right-of-way or property owned by the Town. Any animal confined in an animal trap shall be in the custody of the Animal Control Officer and it shall be unlawful for any person to release any such trapped animals to anyone other than the County Animal Control. It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, move, damage or destroy any animal trap placed by the Animal Control Officer on private or public property.

**SECTION 6. INTERFERENCE WITH ENFORCEMENT**

No person shall interfere with, hinder or molest the Animal Control Officer, any deputy animal control officer, or any other agent, in the performance of any duties prescribed in this Ordinance, or seeks to release any animal in the custody of the officer except as herein provided.

**SECTION 7. KEEPING OF LIVESTOCK OR FOWL**

Except as otherwise provided by the Zoning Ordinance, it shall be unlawful for any person to keep any cattle, calves, horses, mules, donkeys, pigs, goats, chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys or any other animals or fowl which will cause an unsanitary or offensive condition to arise within one hundred fifty (150) feet of any residence other than that resident of the owner.

**SECTION 8. DOGS AND CATS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

**A.** Except as provided for in paragraph B and C below, ~~It~~ shall be unlawful for any family-person residing in the Town to keep on the premises located in any residential area more than three (3) dogs and three (3) cats, provided that for a period of not more than three (3) months after the birth of a litter of puppies or kittens, such animals may be kept on the premises, if the same are kept enclosed in sanitary pens.

**B.** A person may care for up to 6 cats at their property, whether considered feral or tame, if they have shown up to their property voluntarily or due to the actions of

197 another person abandoning said cats without permission of the property owner,  
198 provided the person shall notify the Town that they are caring for the abandoned or  
199 feral cats, and the person:

- 201 1. Makes certain that the cats are spayed or neutered within 14 days of commencing  
202 care of the cats; and
- 203 2. Cares for the cats in a manner that insures they do not create an unsanitary or  
204 offensive condition; and
- 205 3. Understands and agrees that by feeding the cats, he or she is deemed to be an  
206 owner of said cats and responsible for care of said cats under all other provisions  
207 of this Animal Control Ordinance, including but not limited to the pet nuisance  
208 provisions, regardless of whether the cat is considered feral or tame.

209  
210 C. The Town Council may, in its sole discretion, approve designated feeding stations  
211 within the Town for the express purpose of providing water and food to abandoned or  
212 feral cats so that such cats can be trapped for purposes of spay and neutering and the cat  
213 populations can be more easily monitored and managed. Such stations may be placed on  
214 public property, including rights-of-way, or on private property with the express written  
215 permission of the property owner(s). Such feeding stations must be maintained so as to  
216 not create an unsanitary, offensive condition, and shall not result in attracting nuisance  
217 animals of any type. Should the Town Council determine that the approved feeding  
218 station is no longer necessary, for any reason, the Town Council may revoke the feeding  
219 station designation and prohibit the harboring, feeding or otherwise caring for cats at the  
220 location except in accordance with the other provisions of this Ordinance.

221  
222 D. It shall be considered a violation of this Ordinance to feed or harbor feral animals  
223 at any location and in any number except as provided for in subsection 8.B and C, above.

## 224 225 **SECTION 9. PICKETING ANIMALS**

226  
227 It shall be unlawful for any person to tie or picket any animal in any public street,  
228 public square, public park, public lot, or any other public place in the Town, or to  
229 pasture any animal in any such place without the permission of the person lawfully  
230 in charge thereof.

## 231 232 **SECTION 10. RUNNING AT LARGE GENERALLY**

233  
234 It shall be unlawful for any person who owns, or ~~have~~has the care, custody, or  
235 control of any animal, to permit the animal to run at large within the corporate  
236 limits of the Town.

237  
238 At large shall mean off the premises of the owner or custodian of the animal and not  
239 under control by leash, cord, or chain.

240  
241 Any animal found running at large within the Town limits is declared to be a public  
242 nuisance; and the owner of any animal found running at large shall be guilty of  
243 violating this Ordinance. For any citations or impoundment of any animal under this  
244 section it shall not be necessary for the Town to allege or prove knowledge or  
245 neglect on the part of any accused person.



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**SECTION 11. DAMAGING PROPERTY OF ANOTHER**

It shall be unlawful for any person who shall own or be in control or change of any animal to allow or permit an animal to enter upon the property of another and damage that property.

Property of another shall include private property and any abutting publicly owned property, easement, rights-of-way, cemetery, church, or any other property set apart for public use of held for benevolent or charitable purposes which the owner of the abutting private property maintains; by planting, mowing, watering, fertilizing, or similar care of grass, shrubbery, trees, and the like, planted thereon. The intent of this section is to include all abutting property regardless of ownership except the property owned by the owner of the animal, or the property of those who have consented to allow the animal ~~to~~ do damage ~~on~~to their property.

Damage to property shall include, but not be limited to, urinating, or defecating by any animal upon any property as contemplated herein.

In the event any animal shall enter upon the property of another within the corporate limits of the Town and shall cause damage thereon, proof that it is the property of another and of the damage and the identity of the animal shall be sufficient to convict a person owning or having charge or control of the animal of violating the terms and provision of this section. The consent of the owner of the property shall be a defense to the violation.

In the specific instance of defecation by an animal outside the confines of its owner's property, it shall be the specific and immediate duty of the owner of such animal to clean up, bag or otherwise contain all such fecal material and provide for the sanitary removal and disposal of same by such means as the owner shall have on his or her own property for such purpose. The failure or refusal of any owner to comply with this requirement immediately following defecation by his animal shall constitute a violation of this ordinance subject to disposition by the Code Enforcement Board of the Town of Welaka. Any person observing a violation of this section shall be entitled to file a written complaint with the Code Enforcement Officer of the Town of Welaka who shall thereupon serve notice upon the alleged offending owner to appear at the next Code Enforcement Board hearing to answer to such charge(s). Upon the evidence received at any such hearing, the Code Enforcement Board may impose a fine or take any other such action against the owner as may be proper pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 162, Florida Statutes.

**SECTION 12. FEMALE DOGS/CATS IN SEASON**

All female dogs/cats, regardless of license tags and rabies tags, shall be kept on the owner's premises or under leash or otherwise contained during the breeding season, and shall not be permitted roam.

**SECTION 13. NOISY ANIMALS**

295 It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep any animal, confined or  
296 unconfined, in the Town, which by repeated or continual barking, whining, howling  
297 or other objectionable noise, shall disturb the comfort, peace, quiet or repose of a  
298 neighboring resident or interfere with the reasonable use and enjoyment of the  
299 property, or to otherwise be offensive as to create a nuisance during any hour of the  
300 day or night.

301  
302 **SECTION 14. SHOOTING AT ANIMALS**

303  
304 No person shall shoot or shoot at any animal or fowl in the Town, with either a  
305 firearm or other weapon utilizing the principle of compressed air, or any type of  
306 weapon commonly referred to as an air rifle, or any type of bow and arrow. This  
307 provision does not apply when a person reasonably believes that the action is to  
308 protect himself or another person from harm.

309  
310 **SECTION 15. ALLOWING TRESPASS BY ANIMALS**

311  
312 No person while in control of any animal, whether by leash or other means, shall  
313 allow such animal to trespass upon the property of another.

314  
315 **SECTION 16. KEEPING OF CERTAIN ANIMALS PROHIBITED**

316  
317 No ~~animals, and in particular an~~ animal which by its nature is wild and untamed, ~~–~~  
318 shall be kept, harbored, raised, or ~~permitted to run at large~~ intentionally contained  
319 on any property either public or private within the Town limits by any person. This prohibition shall include feral animals, unless authorized under Section 8.B  
320 and C, above.

321  
322  
323 **SECTION 17. RELEASING OR ABANDONING CERTAIN ANIMALS**  
324 **PROHIBITED.**

325  
326 1. Releasing or abandoning domesticated animals into the wild, onto public  
327 property, or onto private property without the consent of the property  
328 owner is prohibited. If a domesticated animal is released onto private  
329 property with consent of the property owner, this property owner giving  
330 such consent shall be considered responsible for the care and management  
331 of the animal in accordance with this ordinance.

332  
333 1.2. Consent cannot be given for the release of exotic animals, and releasing or  
334 abandoning exotic animals shall be strictly prohibited.

335  
336 **SECTION 17.18. RABIES VACCINATION REQUIRED**

337  
338 Every owner of a dog, ~~or~~ cat, ferret or other domestic mammal capable of  
339 contracting or spreading rabies over four (4) months of age shall cause same to be  
340 vaccinated against rabies every twelve (12) months by a veterinarian licensed by the  
341 State, and purchase the licenses shall said vaccination updated as required by the  
342 accepted standards of veterinary medicine. Evidence of an up-to-date  
343 vaccination shall consist of a certificate signed by the person administering the



vaccine or a tag on the animal's collar ~~and~~ containing pertinent date of the vaccination and identifying the ~~dog or cat~~ animal. ~~One (1) copy of the certificate shall be given to the owner, two (2) copies filed with the County Animal Control Office, and one (1) copy retained by the person administering the vaccine.~~

~~Consistent with the issuance of the certificate, or of the inoculation as herein prescribed, the person administering the vaccine shall deliver to the owner a metal serially numbered tag to be attached to the collar or harness of the dog or cat immediately and which must be worn at all times.~~ Certificates and tags shall be furnished by the County Animal Control Office to those within Putnam County designated as qualified to administer rabies vaccine under this act. No other certificate or tag shall be valid under this Ordinance and is in line with the Putnam County regulations.

#### **SECTION 1819. OFFICER SAFETY IN SUSPECTED RABIES CASES**

Should the Animal Enforcement Officer, or anyone acting under this authority, have reasonable grounds to believe that any unlicensed ~~dog or cat~~ animal running at large in Welaka is infected with rabies or such ~~dog or cat~~ animal presents a danger to persons or property but cannot safely be caught or impounded, such animal may be killed by the Animal Enforcement Officer or other law enforcement officer without recourse.

#### **SECTION 1920. DUTY TO SURRENDER ANIMALS TO ANIMAL CONTROL**

No person shall fail or refuse to surrender any animal for quarantine or destruction as required herein when demand is made pursuant to this Ordinance by the Animal Control Officer.

#### **SECTION 2021. REPORTS OF PERSONS BITTEN BY ANIMALS**

It shall be the duty of every physician or other medical practitioner to report the Animal Control Officer the names and addresses of persons treated for bites inflicted by animals, together with such other information as will be helpful in rabies control.

#### **SECTION 2122. INHUMANE AND CRUEL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS**

It shall be unlawful to maliciously kill, disfigure, tease, poison, molest, overload, torture, or cruelly beat any animal. All animals must be provided with proper food, water, ~~shelters~~ shelter, and medical attention.

#### **SECTION 2223. OTHER AGENCIES**

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be held to limit the authorities, duties, and responsibilities of the ~~State Division of Florida Department of Health, the County Health Officer,~~ the Putnam County Sheriff or other ~~law enforcement, and other~~ duly qualified state or federal agencies ~~as defined by statute.~~

#### **SECTION 2324. VIOLATIONS. PENALTY**

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It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to hinder or prevent the performance of any impounding officer, agent or employee of any act or duty authorized or required by this Ordinance, or to violate any provision of this Ordinance. Violation of any provision of this Ordinance is a civil infraction with a maximum civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00). This shall not be construed, however, to limit any other violation provided by law with respect to interference with law enforcement officers and/or others in the course of lawful activities intended to prevent damage, injuries or destruction being caused, or likely to be caused by unrestrained animals within the jurisdiction of the Town of Welaka.

Any law enforcement officer or animal control officer finding probable cause that a person has committed an act in violation of a provision of this Ordinance, may take such action as may be necessary to capture or otherwise restrain an animal reasonably believed to be in violation of this Ordinance, and may issue the owner(s) of the offending animal and/or persons responsible for such animal a citation in the form of a notice to appear before ~~the Code Enforcement Board of the Town of Welaka, Florida~~ a special magistrate appointed by the County or the Town, to answer to the charges of violation made.

If the person receiving the citation and notice to appear is found by the special magistrate to have violated this ordinance or said person does not wish to contest the citation, he or she ~~may~~ shall pay a fine levied by the ~~Code Enforcement Board~~ special magistrate of the Town of Welaka, Florida, in an amount not to exceed the sum of Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars per violation, ~~as may be assessed by the Board in its discretion.~~ The minimum fine for any single violation of this ordinance shall be \$50.00.

In the event that the offender(s) shall fail ~~to appear before the Code Enforcement Board of the Town of Welaka, Florida, or shall fail~~ and/or refuse to timely pay any ~~fine thereby~~ civil penalty imposed hereunder, the Town may institute proceedings in a court of competent jurisdiction to obtain a judgment to compel payment of such penalties ~~such offender(s) shall be issued a formal citation by the Chief of Police of Welaka, Florida, for violation of the provisions of Chapter 767, Florida Statutes, thereby requiring formal appearance before the County Court of Putnam County, Florida, to answer to the charges made under Chapter 767, Florida Statutes.~~

~~If the person(s) receiving the notice to appear wishes to contest the citation, a personal appearance may be made before the County Court on the date specified on the notice or summons to appear so issued. In such event, the matter shall be dealt with and disposed of by the County Court of Putnam County, Florida, in accordance with the provisions of the said Chapter 767, Florida Statutes.~~

~~This Ordinance hereby adopts and makes a part hereof Florida Statutes Chapter 767.12(7), wherein any person violating any provisions of this Ordinance is guilty of a non-criminal infraction and may be punishable by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Nothing herein contained shall be construed as a limitation upon to limit or waive any potential civil liability of a person or persons~~

442 for failure to properly maintain and/or control their animals.

443

444 **SECTION 2425. ORDINANCE VALIDITY SEVERABILITY**

445

446 If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance be  
447 held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such  
448 portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and shall  
449 not affect the validity of the remaining portion.

450

451 **SECTION 2526. REPEALER**

452

453 All Ordinances and Resolutions, or parts of Ordinances and Resolutions in conflict  
454 herewith, are hereby repealed, including but not limited to Ordinance 94-9, 97-4 and  
455 2012-10.

456

457 **SECTION 27. INCORPORATION.**

458

459 The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to incorporate this ordinance into the Town's  
460 Code of Ordinances.

461

462 **SECTION 2628. EFFECTIVE DATE**

463

464 This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage.

465

466 **PASSED** by the Town Council of the Town of Welaka, Florida, on ~~First~~  
467 ~~Reading~~ **FIRST READING** this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

468

469 **PASSED and Adopted** by the Town Council of the Town of Welaka, Florida, on  
470 ~~Second Reading~~ **SECOND READING** this 13<sup>th</sup> day of ~~April~~ June 2023.

471

472

473 **ATTEST:**

474

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476

477 \_\_\_\_\_  
478 Meghan E. Allmon, Town Clerk

479

480

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484

485 **APPROVAL AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:**

486

487

488

489

\_\_\_\_\_   
Patrick Kennedy, Town Attorney

**SIGNED:**

\_\_\_\_\_   
Jamie D. Watts, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_   
Jessica Finch, Town Council President

1  
2  
3 **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-0204**

4 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF WELAKA**  
5 **FLORIDA, ADOPTING ARCHITECTURAL STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL,**  
6 **COMMERCIAL, AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOWN OF WELAKA;**  
7 **PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF PRIOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN**  
8 **CONFLICT, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION**  
9 **INTO THE TOWN’S UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR**  
10 **AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11 **WHEREAS,** the Town Council for the Town of Welaka Florida, is authorized under  
12 Section 166.021 Florida Statutes and the Town Charter for the Town of Welaka to adopt certain  
13 regulations necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Town; and  
14

15 **WHEREAS,** the Town Council recognizes that reasonable architectural standards to guide  
16 development in the Town of Welaka will provide an invaluable contribution to the health and  
17 general welfare of the citizens of Welaka; and  
18

19 **WHEREAS,** the Town Council recognizes that improper design and location of certain  
20 structure types can and does have a detrimental impact on the general welfare of the community;  
21 and  
22

23 **WHEREAS,** the Town Council desires to establish reasonable regulations and guidelines  
24 to promote quality development and redevelopment in the Town of Welaka; and  
25

26 **WHEREAS,** the Planning Commission/Zoning Board for the Town of Welaka met to on  
27 January 19, 2023, and February 16, 2023 to consider certain reasonable architectural standards for  
28 new development within the Town boundaries and has recommended approval of such standards  
29 as presented on first reading to the Town Council;  
30

31 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Welaka,  
32 Florida, in a meeting assembled on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023;  
33

34 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE**

35  
36 This Ordinance shall be known as and may be cited by the short title of “Town of Welaka  
37 Architectural Standards”.

38  
39 **SECTION 2. REGULATIONS**

40  
41 The regulations established by this ordinance are set forth in attached Exhibit A, which is  
42 hereby incorporated and adopted.  
43

44 **SECTION 3. CONFLICT AND REPEAL OF PRIOR FEE ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**  
45

46 This Ordinance shall serve to repeal and supersede all prior fee ordinance and resolutions,  
47 or portions thereof, in conflict with this Ordinance.

48  
49 **SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY**

50  
51 If any portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any  
52 court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed separate and such holdings shall not  
53 affect the validity of the remaining portions.

54  
55 **SECTION 5. INCORPORATION**

56  
57 The Town Clerk or Town Attorney are hereby authorized and directed to incorporate the  
58 provisions of this Ordinance into the Town’s unified Land Development Code, renumbering and  
59 formatting as needed to be consistent with the numbering and formatting of the Land  
60 Development Code.

61  
62 **SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE**

63  
64 This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

65  
66 **PASSED** by the Town Council for the Town of Welaka on FIRST READING on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of  
67 May, 2023.

68  
69  
70 **DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED** by the Town Council for the Town of Welaka on  
71 SECOND READING on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

72  
73  
74  
75 **ATTEST:**

**SIGNED:**

76  
77  
78 \_\_\_\_\_  
79 Meghan E. Allmon, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_

Jamie D. Watts, Mayor

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84 \_\_\_\_\_  
85 Jessica Finch, Town Council President

86  
87 **APPROVAL AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:**

88  
89 \_\_\_\_\_  
90 Patrick Kennedy, Town Attorney

91

92 **EXHIBIT A - ORDINANCE 2023-0204**

93  
94 **Town of Welaka Architectural Standards**

95  
96 **1. Purpose and Intent.** It is the purpose of this section to provide general guidelines relating to  
97 the architectural design of development and redevelopment for primary and accessory commercial  
98 buildings or structures, regardless of how they are used, located in the Town of Welaka’s C-1 and  
99 C-2 zoning districts, unless otherwise stated herein. However, in order to create a more  
100 harmonious built environment, all development, including development in residential zoning,  
101 should use the following standards as guidelines for community compatibility.  
102

103 **2. Applicability.** These architectural standards shall apply to new development or to the erection  
104 of any building or structure on land within the Town of Welaka town limits after the effective date  
105 of this Ordinance, as well as the redevelopment or renovation of an existing building or structure,  
106 including accessory buildings or structures, that changes more than fifty (50) percent of a primary  
107 or secondary facade. The fifty (50) percent facade remodeling or renovation standard only applies  
108 to that building facade undergoing renovation or redevelopment. New development or building  
109 expansion greater than fifty (50) percent in gross floor area, shall require full structure compliance.  
110

111 **a. Exception.** Where an unexpired town-approved development order or unexpired town-  
112 approved development agreement issued prior to the effective date of this Ordinance, court  
113 order, or other legally binding document which authorizes development applies to the site,  
114 the standards in the legally binding document shall apply, provided the work on the  
115 building or structure commences and has its first meaningful inspection of the vertical  
116 elements of the structure within 180 days from the date of permit issuance.  
117

118 **b. Variance.** A variance from these architectural standards may be granted by the Planning  
119 and Zoning Board provided the proposed development will otherwise conform to the  
120 general guidelines contained herein and Planning and Zoning Board determines, after a  
121 public hearing, that the proposed development meets all the criteria for a variance to the  
122 Town’s land development code.  
123

124 **3. Enforceability.** The Planning and Zoning Board shall review plans for any buildings or  
125 structures which apply to the architectural guidelines.  
126

127 **4. Submittals.** To ensure compliance with these architectural standards, the applicant shall submit  
128 as part of the appropriate development approval application (i.e., a building permit application),  
129 elevation drawings with enough detail to ensure that the proposed building or structure meets the  
130 intent of this section.  
131

132 **5. Architectural Standards.**

133  
134 **a. Buildings or structures which are part of a present or future group or complex shall have a**  
135 **unity of character and design. The relationship of forms and the use, texture and color of**  
136 **materials shall be such as to create a harmonious whole. When the area involved forms an**  
137 **integral part of, is immediately adjacent to, or otherwise clearly affects the future of any**

138 established section of the Town, the design, scale and location on-site shall enhance rather  
139 than detract from the character, value and attractiveness of the surroundings.

- 140
- 141 **b.** Buildings or structures located along strips of land or on single sites and not a part of a  
142 unified multi-building complex shall strive to achieve visual harmony with the surrounding  
143 development. If the buildings are in undeveloped areas, three primary requirements must  
144 be met: proper design concepts, honest design construction and appropriateness to  
145 surroundings.
- 146
- 147 **c.** All facades visible to public or adjacent property shall be designed to create a harmonious  
148 whole. Materials shall express their function clearly and not appear as a material foreign to  
149 the rest of the building.
- 150
- 151 **d.** It is not to be inferred that buildings must look alike to be of the same style or to be  
152 harmonious. Harmony can be achieved through the proper consideration of scale,  
153 proportions, site planning, materials, and color.
- 154
- 155 **e.** Buildings which are of symbolic design for reasons of advertising, unless consistent with  
156 the requirements of this section, and buildings which are not compatible to the  
157 surroundings will not be approved. Symbols attached to buildings will not be allowed  
158 unless they are secondary in appearance to the building and landscape and are an aesthetic  
159 asset to the building project and neighborhood.
- 160
- 161 **f.** Exterior lighting may be used to illuminate a building and its grounds for safety purposes  
162 but in an aesthetic manner. Lighting is not to be used as a form of advertising in a manner  
163 that is not compatible to the neighborhood or in a manner that draws considerably more  
164 attention to the building or grounds at night than in the day. Lighting following the form  
165 of the building or part of the building will not be allowed if the overall effect will be garish  
166 or detrimental to the environment. All fixtures used in exterior lighting are to be selected  
167 for functional and aesthetic value and shall be installed in a manner that shields them from  
168 direct illumination of neighboring properties.
- 169
- 170 **g.** All exterior forms, attached or not attached to buildings, shall be in conformity to and  
171 secondary to the building. They shall be an asset both to the aesthetics of the site and the  
172 neighborhood.
- 173
- 174 **h.** Metal Buildings. Subject to the prohibitions outlined in Section 8, below, metal buildings  
175 are permitted buildings or structures provided they comply with the Architectural  
176 Standards outlined in Section 5, above; and provided they are only used as accessory  
177 structures in residential and neighborhood commercial zoning districts. Upon application,  
178 the Planning and Zoning Board may approve a metal building as a primary structure in the  
179 general commercial and light industrial zoning districts if the applicant can demonstrate  
180 that all of the criteria referenced in Section 5 above can be met and variances are not  
181 otherwise required to the dimensional requirements of the zoning district.
- 182
- 183



184 **6. Compliant Architectural Elements.** The following architectural elements are considered  
185 consistent with the Town’s architectural standards:

- 186
- 187 **a.** Open air front porches or wrap around porches;
- 188
- 189 **b.** Gable, hipped or mansard type roofs;
- 190
- 191 **c.** Second story balconies;
- 192
- 193 **d.** Decorative roof treatments, including but not limited to, pediments, dormers, ridge  
194 cresting, entablature, decorative bridgeboard, decorative shingles, etc.;
- 195
- 196 **e.** Decorative window treatments, including but not limited to, louvered shutters, double-  
197 hung windows, arched windows, transoms, stained glass, etc.
- 198
- 199 **f.** The elements described in paragraphs a. – f. above are prime examples but not an  
200 exhaustive list of elements that may be considered consistent with the Town’s architectural  
201 standards.
- 202

203 **7. Guidance.** The following examples of architectural design are provided from examples present  
204 in the Town today. These styles should not be considered as mandatory designs, rather as general  
205 indications of the types of styles considered by the Town to be consistent with historical  
206 development trends. Specific architectural attributes or characteristics may be mixed between the  
207 period structures shown to produce an aesthetically pleasing design.

- 208
- 209 **a.** Colonial. This classic American style of architecture  
210 has been an architectural mainstay since the 1600s.  
211 Over the years, it has evolved into many variations,  
212 each inspired by the settlers who built it and the  
213 region it was built in. However, the common  
214 characteristics include a rectangular shape and  
215 symmetrical construction, two to three stories tall,  
216 double-hung windows with shutters, and a pitched  
217 roof. Commonly constructed with unpainted or  
218 painted brick veneer, but clapboard siding is not a-  
219 typical.



- 220
- 221
- 222 **b.** Craftsman. These cozy bungalows came out of the  
223 Arts and Crafts movement of the early 20th century.  
224 Rustic and streamlined, they emphasize simple  
225 forms and natural material. They have open floor  
226 plans, wide covered porches, exposed beams and  
227 gabled roofs, natural colors, simple unadorned  
228 forms, and clapboard or lap siding.
- 229





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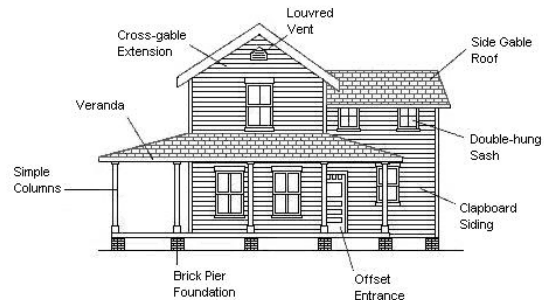
c. Victorian. The Victorian style broadly refers to anything that was built during the reign of Queen Victoria of England from 1837 to 1901. The elaborate homes of the period include the popular Queen Anne style as well as what we refer to as "Victorian." It is typically a complicated shape that extends up two or three levels, with a steep pitch roof, multiple paint colors, elaborate details (i.e. dentil molding, cornices, and wooden brackets), and clapboard siding.



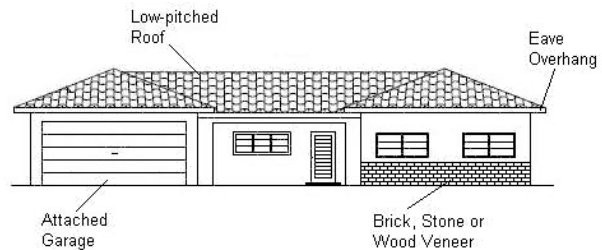
d. Italianate. The Italianate style is typically 2 or 3 stories, rarely 1 story; with a low-pitched roof, widely overhanging eaves; large, decorative brackets under an ornamental cornice; tall, two over two double-hung windows (most often narrower on commercial buildings), commonly arched or curved above; an occasionally a square cupola or tower (campanile). Residential may include an elaborate wrap-around porch (or smaller entry porch) with decorative Italianate double columns.



e. Frame or Masonry Vernacular. Vernacular architecture circa 1900 to 1950 refers to the style of construction related to the environmental contexts and available resources available to the early settlers of the Town. They were customarily owner-built, utilizing traditional technologies. The term 'vernacular' refers to a structure that is not of a pure design style but is loosely based on the features of other architectural styles.

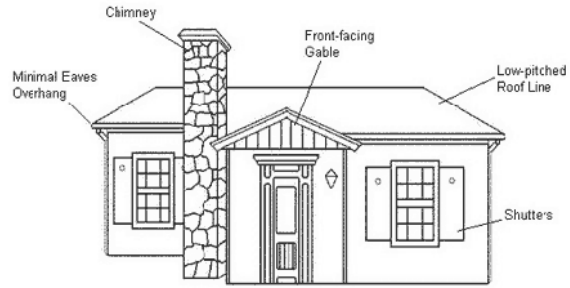


f. Ranch. The one-story structure normally has low-pitched roofs surfaced with concrete tiles or asphalt shingles. The roof may be hipped or gabled and will usually have a moderate or wide eave overhang that may be boxed or open to expose the rafters. Cladding may be of brick, stone or wood and may sometimes be a combination of materials. Ribbon windows and large picture windows are common in the



275 living areas. Modest detailing may include decorative iron or wooden porch supports and  
276 decorative shutters.

277  
278 **g. Minimal Traditional.** Structures are one  
279 story in height and construction is of  
280 frame and clapboard, or masonry and  
281 stucco. Roofs consist of a low-pitched  
282 gable with minimal eaves overhang.  
283 There is normally a front-facing gable  
284 and a chimney. Windows may be wood  
285 frame sash, metal awning or fixed metal.  
286 Some examples have a small portico at  
287 the front entrance, and some include a  
288 single car garage or car port which may be attached or detached. Decorative detailing is  
289 limited; however, it may include shutters, gable vents, quoins, and masonry veneers.



290  
291  
292 **8. Prohibited Architecture.** The provisions of this paragraph 8 shall apply to all zoning districts,  
293 except as noted herein.

- 294  
295 **a.** A building made of corrugated metal and having a semicircular cross section, commonly  
296 referred to as a Quonset hut, is a prohibited structure in all zoning districts, except in  
297 Agriculture and Light Industrial zoning districts and then only as an accessory structure  
298 that is subordinate in size and use to the primary structure or use on the property.  
299  
300 **b.** Mobile Homes, as defined by Florida Statutes section 320.01(2), are prohibited structures  
301 in all zoning districts, except in the SR-1 district or when expressly approved under a  
302 Planned Unit Development or other overlay district.  
303  
304 **c.** Accessory structures or buildings that are larger than the primary structure or building are  
305 prohibited in all zoning districts unless constructed in a manner that is clearly consistent  
306 with the guidance provided herein, as determined by the Planning and Zoning Board,  
307 without need of any variance to any other provision this Ordinance or any other provision  
308 of the Town's land development regulations.

309  
310 **9. Building Orientation.** The provisions of this paragraph 9 shall apply to all zoning districts.

- 311  
312 **a.** The intent of this section is to orient buildings toward the public right-of-way or roadway  
313 or to private internal collector type/roadways.  
314  
315 **b.** Generally. All primary structures or buildings, and detached accessory structures located  
316 in the side yard and visible from the right-of-way or roadway shall be oriented to face the  
317 right-of-way/roadway such that the front façade is parallel to the right-of-way or roadway,  
318 unless it can be shown that there are compelling site conditions that necessitate a different  
319 orientation, as determined by the Planning and Zoning Board.

320

321 c. Corner lot structures or buildings shall be oriented as provided in section 9.b above so that  
322 the front façade will face the right-of-way/roadway that serves as the street for the 911-  
323 address for the property on which it is located. ~~unless it can be shown that there are~~  
324 ~~compelling site conditions that necessitate a different orientation.~~

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-04**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF WELAKA, FLORIDA ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

*WHEREAS*, the mayor and the Town Council believe that active participation from the citizenry, the business owners, the civic groups and religious organizations is a vital element for maintaining and growing a strong sense of community for the Town of Welaka; and

*WHEREAS*, the elected officials and the staff at Town Hall comprise an equally important element to developing a strong sense of community; and

*WHEREAS*, the mayor and the Town Council have determined that creation of a Community Advisory Committee will facilitate direct and active involvement from the citizens, business owners, civic leaders, and church leaders with Town Hall; and

*WHEREAS*, the direct and transparent communication with all these stakeholders will ensure that Town Hall is a participant in the community, not just the governing body; and

*WHEREAS*, establishing the Community Advisory Committee will ensure that the community is informed about what is taking place at Town Hall and that Town Hall will stay in touch with what is happening in the community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF WELAKA, FLORIDA THAT,**

1. The Town hereby establishes a Community Advisory Committee, which shall consist of five (5) members appointed by the Town Council in the following manner:
  - a. Every effort shall be made to select at least one member from each of the stakeholder groups discussed above and those members shall be appointed by the Town Council to serve on the Citizens Advisory Committee. The mayor shall serve as the representative of the Town Hall.
  - b. All members shall be residents of the Town of Welaka. Each Member shall be a resident or a vested stakeholder in a business, civic group, or religious organization within the Town limits.
  - c. Each Town Council member shall have the opportunity to present a prospective candidate, but in the event a council member is unable to present a candidate, the mayor shall present the candidates necessary to properly complete the makeup of the Community Advisory Committee.
2. Members shall serve two (2) year terms.
3. The express mission of the Community Advisory Committee is to oversee all Town updates, upgrades and current/future projects, issues, and improvements.

4. Members must attend regularly scheduled Meetings of the Citizens Advisory Committee and be willing and prepared to report any community events, activities, issues, and concerns that are relevant to the above stated mission.

***APPROVED AND ADOPTED*** by the Town Council for the Town of Welaka at its Town Council Meeting assembled this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.

**Town of Welaka, Florida**

---

Jamie D. Watts, Mayor

**Attest:**

---

Meghan E. Allmon, Town Clerk

**Approved as to form and legality:**

---

Patrick Kennedy, Town Attorney

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-05**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF WELAKA, FLORIDA ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE.**

*WHEREAS*, the Town Council believes that special events help to build community and commerce for the Town of Welaka; and

*WHEREAS*, the Town Hall can provide resources and support for special events, but the success of such special events is dependent on the involvement of the citizens and business owners in the Town; and

*WHEREAS*, the mayor and the Town Council have determined that creation of a Community Events Committee will facilitate active involvement from the citizens and business owners of the Town;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF WELAKA, FLORIDA THAT,**

1. The Town hereby establishes a Community Events Committee, which shall consist of five (5) members appointed by the Town Council in the following manner:
  - a. Membership of the committee should be made up of a diverse group of citizens and business owners who will not only bring ideas to the table but will be actively involved in the development, organization, and the running of such special events.
  - b. The Town Clerk shall serve as the contact representative from Town Hall for this committee.
  - c. All members shall be residents of the Town.
  - d. Each Town Council member shall have the opportunity to present a prospective candidate, but in the event a council member is unable to present a candidate, the mayor shall present the candidates necessary to properly complete the makeup of the Community Events Committee.
2. Members shall serve two (2) year terms.
3. The express mission of the Community Events Committee is to manage and plan events in the Town, as well as develop and implement other event ideas.
4. Members must attend regularly scheduled meetings of the committee and participate in the planning and implementation of the events.

***APPROVED AND ADOPTED*** by the Town Council for the Town of Welaka at its Meeting assembled this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.

**Town of Welaka, Florida**

---

Jamie D. Watts, Mayor

**Attest:**

---

Meghan E. Allmon, Town Clerk

**Approved as to form and legality:**

---

Patrick Kennedy, Town Attorney



**2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report  
for the Town of Welaka  
2544392**

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is ground water from wells which are chlorinated and aerated for disinfection purposes and draw from the Floridan Aquifer.

In 2022, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination near our wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP SWAPP website at <https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the Town of Welaka at (386) 467-9800. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall, located at 400 Fourth Avenue.

The Town of Welaka routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2022. Data obtained before January 1, 2022 and presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.  
**Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ ):** one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter ( $\text{mg}/\text{l}$ ):** one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

## Water Quality Results

**Inorganic Contaminants-** Results in the Level Detected column for inorganic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic (ppb)	3/2021	N	0.4	N/A	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	3/2021	N	0.0064	N/A	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	3/2021	N	110	N/A	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

**Stage 1 Disinfectants-** For chlorine, the level detected is the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. The range of results is the range of results of all the individual samples collected during the past year.

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	1/2022 – 12/2022	N	1.2	0.3 – 1.3	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

## Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation (Y/N)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	9/2022	N	4.30	N/A	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	9/2022	N	17.66	N/A	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

The Annual Disinfection Byproduct were due to be sampled in in the month of September according to the Annual Monitoring Plan, but they were collected early in June. Results from the June sampling were in compliance. Future sampling events will be collected in the correct month.

## Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	AL Exceeded (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	6/2020	N	0.0057	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Welaka is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems,

agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

We at the Town of Welaka would like you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.