

# TOWN OF WELAKA



# MARCH 2021

### Waste Pro

- March 1<sup>st</sup> – Garbage, Recycle
- March 8<sup>th</sup> – Garbage, Recycle, Yard Trash
- March 15<sup>th</sup> – Garbage, Recycle
- March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Garbage, Recycle, Yard Trash
- March 29<sup>th</sup> – Garbage, Recycle

Please call Waste Pro if you have any questions at 328-5445.

### Public Meetings

- March 9<sup>th</sup>, Tues – Zoning Board at 5:30 p.m.; Code Board at 5:45 p.m., Town Council at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall. For more information call Town Hall at 386-467-9800.
- March 11<sup>th</sup>, Thurs – Fire Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Fire Station.

### March Meter Readings



March meter readings will begin: Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

*PLEASE HELP CONSERVE WATER!*



**Remember:** Water bill payments can be made anytime of the day or night, even on weekends, by using the "Utility Payment" drop box at the top of the stairs at Town Hall.

Clip This



The Town of Welaka Utility Department is available for water and sewer problems 24 hours a day at 467-8677.  
TDD 800/955-8771

*Special days this month:  
Tuesday, March – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Election Day*



*~ Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup> –  
Swearing in Ceremony @  
7:00 p.m. ~*

*Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> –  
Daylight Saving Time*



*Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> –  
St. Patrick's Day*



Spring is Here

Spring is here,  
In the Air,  
You can smell it coming,  
On the trees,  
Leaves are green,  
Caterpillars sunning.

Birds are back,  
Grass is out,  
Busy Bees are humming,  
On the trees,  
Leaves are green,  
Caterpillars sunning.



Pay your Utility Bill  
Online:

<https://logicsolbp.com/TownofWelaka/login.aspx>



**TOWN OF WELAKA  
ZONING BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021  
@ 5:30 P.M.**

**WELAKA TOWN HALL/ZOOM**

1. The meeting was called to order by Kevin Finch at 5:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Kevin Finch – present, Allen Rusek – present, Clint Swartz – absent, Harriet Vanslyke – present, Les Thomas – Present, Attorney Patrick Kennedy – present.
3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of January 12, 2021. Finch asked if any deletions, corrections, or additions – Thomas motioned to approve Minutes of Meeting of January 12, 2021, second by Vanslyke. Motion carried 4-0.
4. 1000 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Parcel Separation – Vanslyke made a motion to split the parcels, second by Rusek. Motion carried 4-0.
5. Request to Speak – none
6. Audience Participation – none
7. Vanslyke motion to adjourn at 5:40 p.m., second by Rusek. Motion carried 4-0.



**TOWN OF WELAKA  
CODE ENFORCEMENT MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021  
@ 5:45 P.M.**

**WELAKA TOWN HALL/ZOOM**

1. The meeting was called to order by Kevin Finch at 5:45 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Kevin Finch – present, Allen Rusek – present, Clint Swartz – absent, Harriet Vanslyke – present, Les Thomas – present, Attorney Patrick Kennedy – present.
3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of January 12, 2021. Finch asked if any deletions, corrections, or additions Thomas to approve Minutes of Meeting of

January 12, 2021, second by Swartz. Motion carried 4-0.

4. Old Business: None
5. New Business: CV21-0002 – 601 Old Welaka Road- Owner Absent CV21-0003 – 516 Mill Street – Owner Absent CV21-0006 – 633 Oak Street – Owner Absent

The above addresses will be notified by mail that they are in Code Violation. If the properties are not cleaned up by next meeting the Council will talk about fining the owners. The property owners will be allowed to be present, one at a time, for availability to speak on behalf of their property.

6. Request to Speak – None
7. Audience Participation – None
8. Vanslyke motioned to adjourn at 6:00 p.m., second by Rusek. Motion carried 4-0.



**TOWN OF WELAKA  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021  
@ 6:30 P.M.**

**WELAKA TOWN HALL/ZOOM  
MEETING**

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sands at 6:30 p.m.
2. Invocation was given by Finch.
3. Pledge of Allegiance led by Washington.
4. Roll Call: Mayor Gordon Sands - present, Councilman Willie Washington - present, Councilman Jamie Watts - present, Councilwoman Jessica Finch - present, Councilwoman Marianne Milledge - present, and Attorney, Patrick Kennedy - present.
5. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of January 12, 2021. Sands asked if any deletions,

corrections, or additions - there were none. Watts motioned to approve Minutes of Meeting of January 12, 2021, second by Finch motion carried 5-0.

6. David Fox: 1033 Elm Street-Change Order #1. Watts made a motion for the Change Order #1, second by Finch. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Request to Speak: Pam Olson – Missing Utility Records and Data Procedures – Olson questioned why the Town needed to recreate the data from the computer? IT Person, Brian Walsh, stated that the data was still there but upon the completion of the contract the Town had with Jack Daniel – he (Jack) took the software needed to retrieve the data. We compiled software to retrieve the requested information.

8. Code and Zoning Recommendations: None

9. Utility Matters: 698 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue- Sewer Adjustment – Watts made a motion to give a credit for the adjustment, second by Finch. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Town Matters:

Mayor Sands: Election Irregularities – Sands is asking for a definition of what type of residency you must have in order to be running for a spot on the Council for the Town of Welaka. Attorney Kennedy provided a memo on the topic and summarizing the memo stated that proving you are a resident of Welaka is determined on a case-by-case basis. Items the courts and the Division of Elections have considered include utility bills, do kids attend school in the district, IRS tax filings; Driver's License registration, etc. Kennedy stated that the Town is not able to make the residency determination of current candidates tonight.

Councilwoman Milledge Report: none

Councilwoman Finch Report: Finch stated that they took in six cats this week.

Councilman Washington Report: none

Councilman Watts Report: Watts stated on May 5, 2012 he was sworn into the Town Council for Welaka. Watts stated that it has been an honor and a privilege to help guide Welaka for all these years. Watts looks forward to seeing all the progress Welaka will make in the future.

11. Audience Participation: none

12. Police Matters: None

13. Attorney Matters: Settlement of Rutkiewicz Petition (Case No: 20-183CA). Kennedy stated regarding our public records lawsuit, that we have not come down to a specific number as of yet, but we are close to it.

14. Watts made a motion to adjourn at 7:07 p.m. second by Washington. Motion carried 5-0.



**TOWN OF WELAKA  
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021  
@ 5:30 P.M.  
WELAKA TOWN HALL**

1. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Jessica Finch at 5:30 p.m.

2. Invocation was given by Finch.

3. Pledge of Allegiance led by Washington.

4. Roll Call: Mayor Gordon Sands - absent, Councilman Willie Washington - present, Councilman Jamie Watts - present, Councilwoman Jessica Finch - present, Councilwoman Marianne Milledge - present, and Attorney, Patrick Kennedy - present.

5. Special Election Discussion of Ballot Format & Election Schedule in light of Mayor Gordon Sands' Withdrawal from the Welaka 2021 Election – Supervisor of Elections, Charles Overturf, stated that Gordon Sands withdrew from the 2021 Welaka Election due to health reasons. Overturf stated there has been 42 ballots turned in by mail. Overturf stated that the Town Council could reschedule the Election and take Sands' name off the ballot, drawing the Election out to May in order to comply with the 45 days prior to getting ballots overseas, or continuing with said Election and that any vote in favor of Mayor Sands would not be counted, including the already submitted ballots. Town Attorney, Patrick Kennedy, stated that the Welaka Charter does not speak to this. Kennedy stated that to cancel the Election would be unprecedented, and his recommendation is to move forward. It may be unfortunate, but to cancel the Election is not legally supported by language in the Charter. Pressing forward is easier to defend and explain, Kennedy stated. Watts asked if there was a conflict of interest for him to vote on this matter. Kennedy stated that he does not see a conflict of interest for Watts or Milledge. Kennedy stated this is a vote on regular Council governing practices. Washington asked Kennedy does the Charter specify that the Town of Welaka Election will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in March. Kennedy stated yes, and that the Charter does not speak to canceling an Election. Watts stated that it is unfortunate that we are here right now, but the State of Florida deals with candidates withdrawing, and Watts thinks that we should deal with it the exact same way because anything else

we are going into uncharted territory. Watts stated that he is opposed to extending the Election. Milledge stated that she does not see any reason for this Election to not go on. Milledge is in not in favor canceling this Election, and she is confident with the instructions stating that if you vote for Mayor Sands that your vote will not count. Finch stated that there is legal precedence for moving forward, and from what has been discussed by Overturf that there is no legal precedence for basically creating a new Election. Finch opened the floor to candidates for discussion on this matter – there were none. Finch opened the floor for audience members for discussion on this matter – there were none. Watts motioned to continue the Welaka Election on March 2, 2021, providing Mr. Overturf the ability to announce it to those that are voting in person that day, and those voting by mail that there has been a drop-out., second by Washington. Motion carried 4-0.

6. Watts made a motion to adjourn at 5:59 p.m. second by Washington. Motion carried 4-0.



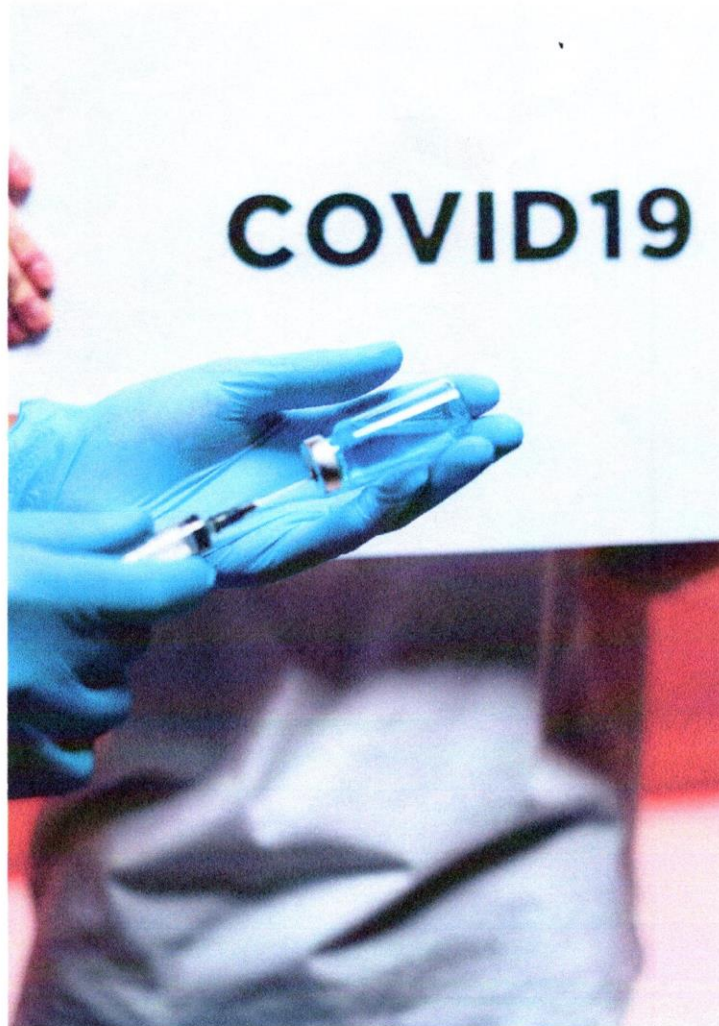


To register for COVID19 vaccine go to Florida State Health Department's website at:

[myvaccine.fl.gov](https://myvaccine.fl.gov)

or call

866-201-7193



Someone in  
your local  
hospital is  
waiting for  
your help.

One pint of blood  
saves three lives.



Visit the **Donor Portal** to find a drive or make an appointment at [lifesouth.org](http://lifesouth.org)

**Give local. Save local.**

# Welaka Women's Club

## Blood Drive

**Tuesday, March 16**

9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

644 County Road 309

Welaka, FL 32193

All donors will receive a recognition item and a free cholesterol screening. Donors must be 16 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and show photo I.D. 16-year-olds require written parental permission.



**LIFESOUTH**  
Community Blood Centers



**Official General Election Ballot  
March 2, 2021  
Town of Welaka  
Putnam County, Florida**

**Balota Oficial de la Elección General  
2 de marzo de 2021  
Pueblo de Welaka  
Condado de Putnam, Florida**

- **Instructions:** To vote, fill in the oval ( ● ) completely next to your choice.
- Use only the marking device provided or a black or blue pen or marker.
- If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot. Do not cross out or your vote may not count.
- **Instrucciones:** Para votar, llene por ( ● ) completo el ovaló que está al lado de su selección.
- Use solamente el dispositivo paramarcas provisto o una pluma o plumón negro o azul.
- Si comete un error, pide una balota nueva. No tache porque su voto podría no contarse.

<b>Mayor</b> (Vote for One)
<b>Alcalde</b> (Vote por Uno)
<input type="radio"/> Pam Olson <input type="radio"/> Gordon L. Sands <input type="radio"/> Jamie D. Watts
<b>Town Council Member</b> (Vote for Two)
<b>miembro del ayuntamiento</b> (Vote por Dos)
<input type="radio"/> Janis Brown-Stallings <input type="radio"/> Tonya F. Long <input type="radio"/> Marianne Milledge

**NOTICE TO THE VOTER**

A candidate in the race for the office of Town of Welaka Mayor has withdrawn such that:

A vote cast for Pam Olson will count.

A vote cast for Gordon L. Sands will not count.

A vote cast for Jamie D. Watts will count.

**AVISO PARA EL VOTANTE**

Un candidato de la carrera para el cargo de Alcalde de pueblo de Welaka se ha retirado, de manera que:

Un voto para Pam Olson contará.

Un voto para Gordon L. Sands no contará.

Un voto para Jamie D. Watts contará.

Precinct 4 - Town of Welaka      Ballot ID: 5001