

**LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 6, 2025 - 5:30 P.M.
DESTIN CITY HALL ANNEX CHAMBERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:

Chairman Wood called the Local Planning Agency Meeting to order on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in the Destin City Annex Chambers; with the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

James T. Wood, Jr.
Todd Buhr
Jay Purut
Marcie Bell
Ken Wampler
Tammy Weidenhamer

Members Absent

Staff Members Present

Kimberly Montgomery Deputy City Clerk
Daniel Butler Principal Planner
Noelle Bell Building Official

3. AGENDA APPROVAL:

Motion to amend the order of the day by removing Article 4, Item 6A Discussion from the agenda was made by Agency member Bell with Agency member Wampler providing the second. The motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 6, 2025

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2025 meeting was made by Agency member Wampler with Agency member Bell providing the second. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Sunshine Laws/Public Records Act Presentation – Council member Sandy Trammell

- Discussion of the Sunshine Laws and its implications for LPA members.
- Explanation of communication restrictions between committee members outside of a public meeting.
- Emphasis on avoiding any informal discussions regarding committee matters outside of public meetings.
- Provided guidance on Public Records Act compliance, including maintaining emails, text messages, and social media interactions.

- Cautionary examples were provided, highlighting past violations and their consequences, including having all personal devices confiscated and possible removal from office with legal repercussions.
- Discussion on ethics standards and avoiding conflicts of interest and how meetings generally follow Robert's Rules of Order.
 - Members were reminded not to use their positions for personal advantage and once and once a motion has passed, even if they are not in agreement and voted against the motion, they need to support it, when it goes forward to City Council.
 - Clarification on interactions with applicants and public officials to ensure unbiased decision-making.

A. Ordinance 25-01-LC – Remove Contractor regulations from LDC

- The purpose of the ordinances is to remove contractor regulations from the Land Development Code (LDC) and relocate them to the Code of Ordinances for consistency.
- The Liability Insurance language is being removed in its entirety, since those requirements are set forth by the Florida Statutes.

Chairman Wood opened the public portion of the meeting, with no one coming forward, he closed the public and turned the discussion over to the members for comment or a motion.

Motion by Agency member Wampler seconded by Agency member Bell to recommend City Council approve Ordinance 25-01-LC. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

B. Ordinance 25-02-CC – Adding Contractor regulations to the Code of Ordinance

- The ordinance moves contractor regulations from the LDC into Chapter 13 of the Code of Ordinances to align with existing contractor policies.

Chairman Wood opened the public portion of the meeting, with no one coming forward, he closed the public and turned the discussion over to the members for comment or a motion.

Motion by Agency member Bell, seconded by Agency member Buhr to recommend City Council approve Ordinance 25-02-CC. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Agency member Briana Uptigrove entered the meeting at 6:00 PM

Chairman Wood welcomed Ms. Uptigrove, provided some background information pertaining to the Local Planning Agency and noted the meetings start at 5:30 PM and not 6:00 as the City Council meetings do.

C. Property Maintenance Code – Noell Bell

The Building Official, Noell Bell thanked the members for individually meeting with her so that she could review this chapter with them and answer their questions. She noted that she is in the process of compiling their comments, proposed edits, and suggestions, and making her own edits accordingly.

The following items were discussed:

- Concerns over clarity, length of the document and scope.
- Adjustments were proposed to incorporate relevant elements from existing codes of the Unsafe Abatement Code and adding to the Administration section for property maintenance, while reducing redundancy and adding new updated language.
- Removing property maintenance language regarding certain landscaping issues from the LDC and implementing it to this code.
- Removing Conservation & Neighborhoods out of the LDC and implementing it into this code.
 - Ensuring Destin maintains high safety and maintenance standards.
 - Clarifying the balance between property rights and community aesthetics.
 - The importance of giving members adequate time to review changes was discussed.
- A revised version will be presented at the April 17 meeting, with a draft available for review by March 24.
- A decision was made to distribute the revised document early to allow sufficient review time before discussion and potential adoption.

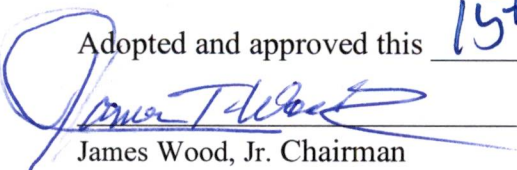
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

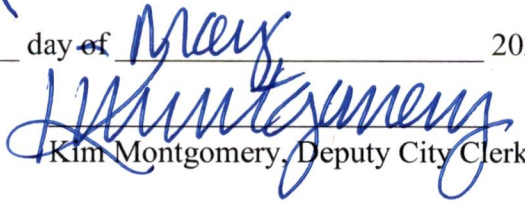
Chairman Wood opened the public for comment, but with no one present, he closed the public portion of the meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further discussion at this time, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Adopted and approved this 15th day of May 2025.


James Wood, Jr. Chairman


Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk