



**MEETING AGENDA
SESSION OF THE SPECIAL MEETING: ELECTION RESULTS AND
SWEARING IN CEREMONIES
CITY OF KISSIMMEE
CITY HALL, COMMISSION CHAMBERS
101 CHURCH STREET, KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA 34741-5054
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024 AT 5:30 PM**

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2.A Acceptance of the November 5, 2024 Election Returns for Commission Seats #1, #3 and #5

3. PRESENTATIONS

- 3.A Swearing in Ceremony for City Commission Seats #1, #3 and #5
3.B City Commission Code of Conduct Resolution Addendum 2024/2026
3.C Recognition of outgoing Commissioners - Mayor Olga Gonzalez and Vice-Mayor Olga Castaño

4. ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with Florida Statutes 286.105: Any person wishing to appeal any decision made by the Special Meeting: Election Results and Swearing In Ceremonies with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing will need to ensure that verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is made.

In accordance with Florida State 286.26, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the Office of the City Clerk, 101 Church Street, Kissimmee, Florida, (407) 518-2309.

ITEM 2.A

Acceptance of the November 5, 2024 Election Returns for Commission Seats #1, #3 and #5

Request

Commission acceptance and approval of the November 5, 2024, City of Kissimmee Run-Off Election Returns for Commission Seat #1, #3 and #5 (Mayor).

Explanation

On November 5, 2024, the City of Kissimmee held a Run-Off Election for Commission Seat #1, Seat #3 and Seat #5 (Mayor). The Osceola County Canvassing Board met on November 15, 2024, to review the final counts. The results attached are the "Official" Results received from the Supervisor of Elections and Canvassing Board.

In accordance with Article II, Chapter 2, Section 8 of the City Code, the Commission is the sole judge of the election of its members, and therefore acceptance of the returns requires Commission action.

Department: City Manager

Presenter: Mike Steigerwald

Attachment(s):

1. Official Results (November 5, 2024 Run-Off Election)

OFFICIAL RESULTS

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

STATE OF FLORIDA

City of Kissimmee, Osceola County

We, the undersigned, County Judge Stefania Jancewicz; Canvassing Board Member Chuck Dunnick, and Supervisor of Elections Representative Bob Hansell; constituting the Board of County Canvassers in and for said County, do hereby certify that we met on the 15 day of November 2024, and proceeded publicly to canvass the votes given for the several offices, persons herein specified at the **Municipal Run-Off Election for the City of Kissimmee held on the 5th day of November 2024.** We do hereby certify from the returns on file in the office of the Supervisor of Elections as follows:

FOR CITY COMMISSIONER, SEAT # 1 the whole number of votes cast was 20,569 of which number:

<u>Noel Ortiz</u>	Received <u>11,045</u>	votes
<u>Lisandra Roman</u>	Received <u>9,524</u>	votes

FOR CITY COMMISSIONER, SEAT # 3 the whole number of votes cast was 20,023 of which number:

<u>Carlos Alvarez III</u>	Received <u>11,962</u>	votes
<u>Nichole Wagoner de Arguello</u>	Received <u>8,061</u>	votes

FOR CITY MAYOR-COMMISSIONER, SEAT # 5 the whole number of votes cast was 20,201 of which number:

<u>John Cortes</u>	Received <u>8,005</u>	votes
<u>Jackie Espinosa</u>	Received <u>12,196</u>	votes


COUNTY JUDGE, Stefania Jancewicz


CANVASSING BOARD MEMBER, Chuck Dunnick


CANVASSING BOARD MEMBER, Bob Hansell

Total ballots cast in the City of Kissimmee were 20,569 for 58.3 percent.

ITEM 3.A

Swearing in Ceremony for City Commission Seats #1, #3 and #5

Request

Commissioner-Elect Seat #1 Noel Ortiz, Commissioner-Elect Seat #3 Carlos Alvarez III and Mayor-Commissioner Elect Seat #5 Jackie Espinoza, will be sworn in following the acceptance of the Official Election Results certified by the Osceola County Canvassing Board.

Explanation

Commissioner-Elect Noel Ortiz, Seat #1, will be sworn in by Minister Angel Ramos.

Commissioner-Elect Carlos Alvarez III, Seat #3, will be sworn in by the honorable Judge Christine E. Arendas.

Mayor-Commissioner Elect Jackie Espinosa, Seat #5, will be sworn in by Pastor Wade Mumm.

Department: City Manager

Presenter: Mike Steigerwald

Attachment(s):

1. City Commission_OATH OF OFFICE_NOEL ORTIZ
2. City Commission_OATH OF OFFICE_CARLOS ALVAREZ III
3. City Commission_OATH OF OFFICE_JACKIE ESPINOSA



OFFICE OF THE CITY COMMISSION

101 CHURCH STREET, SUITE 500 - KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA 34741 - 407.518.1234

OATH OF OFFICE

I, _____, a citizen of the State of Florida and of the United States of America, and being employed by or an officer of the City of Kissimmee and a recipient of public funds as such employee or officer, do hereby solemnly swear or affirm that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and the State of Florida against all enemies, domestic or foreign, and that I will bear true faith, loyalty and allegiance to the same; and I am entitled to hold office under the Constitution; and I will faithfully perform all the duties of the Office of City Commissioner of the City of Kissimmee, on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

NOEL ORTIZ

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024.

MINISTER ANGEL RAMOS





OFFICE OF THE CITY COMMISSION

101 CHURCH STREET, SUITE 500 - KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA 34741 - 407.518.1234

OATH OF OFFICE

I, _____, a citizen of the State of Florida and of the United States of America, and being employed by or an officer of the City of Kissimmee and a recipient of public funds as such employee or officer, do hereby solemnly swear or affirm that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and the State of Florida against all enemies, domestic or foreign, and that I will bear true faith, loyalty and allegiance to the same; and I am entitled to hold office under the Constitution; and I will faithfully perform all the duties of the Office of City Commissioner of the City of Kissimmee, on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

CARLOS ALVAREZ III

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024.

THE HONORABLE JUDGE
CHRISTINE E. ARENDAS





OFFICE OF THE CITY COMMISSION

101 CHURCH STREET, SUITE 500 - KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA 34741 - 407.518.1234

OATH OF OFFICE

I, _____, a citizen of the State of Florida and of the United States of America, and being employed by or an officer of the City of Kissimmee and a recipient of public funds as such employee or officer, do hereby solemnly swear or affirm that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and the State of Florida against all enemies, domestic or foreign, and that I will bear true faith, loyalty and allegiance to the same; and I am entitled to hold office under the Constitution; and I will faithfully perform all the duties of the Office of City Commissioner of the City of Kissimmee, on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

JACKIE ESPINOSA

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024.

PASTOR WADE MUMM



ITEM 3.B

City Commission Code of Conduct Resolution Addendum 2024/2026

Request

Commission acceptance of the City Commission Code of Conduct Resolution Addendum for 2024/2026.

Explanation

City Commission Resolution 15-2020 adopted the Code of Conduct as a public declaration of the ethical standards and behavior expected from Commission members. The Resolution mandates that all future City Commission members pledge to uphold the code tenets outlined in the Resolution by signing this addendum upon taking the Oath of Office as a City Commission Member.

Recommendation

Acceptance of the City Commission Code of Conduct Resolution Addendum for 2024/2026.

REQUESTED CITY COMMISSION ACTION:

Accept

Department: City Attorney

Presenter: Olga Sanchez de Fuentes

Attachment(s):

1. RESOLUTION 15-2020 _ CITY COMMISSION CODE OF CONDUCT
2. (S) CITY COMMISSION CODE OF CONDUCT 2024_2026

RESOLUTION NO. 15-2020

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KISSIMMEE, ESTABLISHING A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS; ESTABLISHING A MEDIA POLICY; PROVIDING FOR PENALITIES; PROVIDING FOR PLEDGE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT RESOLUTIONS, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the performance of duties and responsibilities of an elected City Commission and the manner in which such duties are performed have a direct impact on the quality of service afforded to the citizens of Kissimmee; the morale and job performance of the City employees, contractors, and the other City Commission Members, and the City's accountability to the citizens of Kissimmee, and

WHEREAS, City of Kissimmee, Code of Ordinances §2-2-1 provides the City Commission the authority to regulate themselves, and to make such bylaws and rules for its own guidance and government as it may deem expedient, and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Kissimmee desires to adopt a Code of Conduct for its members for purposes of enhancing professionalism, performance, productivity, morale, accountability, and integrity of the City Commission and all facets of City governments; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that this Resolution is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Kissimmee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Commission of the City of Kissimmee, Florida, as follows:

SECTION 1. Code of Conduct. The following Code of Conduct is hereby adopted for the City Commission and the members thereof as a public statement of expected City Commission conduct and ethics, and that members of the Commission shall evidence their pledge to uphold the following code tenets by affixing their signatures to this Resolution as set forth in Section 3 herein:

- A I affirm that the proper statutory and City Charter role of a City Commission Member, as with any elected member of a legislative body, is to **act collectively, not individually, to set and/or revise the City of Kissimmee's governing policies** and that the City Manager and staff administer such policies
- B. I understand that a City Commission member **does not** manage the affairs of the City (a) by intruding into daily operations or spheres of responsibility designated by Florida Statutes and the City Charter to the City Manager as the chief executive officer or to administrator acting as City Manager designees, or (b) by undermining the City Manager's lawful authority.
- C I will **represent the interests of the entire City** when making decisions and will reply

upon available facts and my independent judgement. In my capacity as an elected City Commission member, I will avoid all legal conflicts of interest and avoid using my official position for personal, professional or partisan gain.

- D. I will **demonstrate dignity, respect, and courtesy** towards those with whom I am in contact in my capacity as a City Commission Member. I will refrain from intimidation and ridicule of fellow Commission Members, City Manager, staff, and other stake-holders in the City of Kissimmee.
- E I will **refrain from inappropriate language** including statements that are malicious, threatening, disparaging, mean-spirited, vulgar, or abusive. All disagreement, concerns, or criticisms shall be framed in language that is in keeping with the dignity and professionalism of an elected official and the honor of the City Commission.
- F I will **focus on solving problems**. I will maintain appropriate decorum and professional demeanor in the conduct of City business and work cooperatively and conscientiously with others as I request or receive information, examine data or weigh alternatives in the decision-making process.
- G I will **demonstrate patience** and refrain from demanding interruptive access to staff or immediate responses or services when requesting information that requires significant staff time in research, preparation or analysis that will result in staff neglect of more urgent duties. Such requests will be made through the City Manager for scheduling and prioritizing or through consensus of City Commission.
- H I will **devote sufficient time for adequate preparation** prior to City Commission meetings and be in attendance, insofar as possible, at those meetings and all other scheduled events at which Commission member's participation is required I will prepare myself through study, inquiry and thought so as to be informed thoroughly about issues to be discussed in public meetings
- I. I will **respect diversity and encourage the open expression of divergent ideas and opinions** from my fellow City Commission members, staff, citizens of Kissimmee, and utility customers. I will listen actively and objectively to others' concerns or constructive criticism.
- J I will **refrain from any individual action that could compromise the integrity** of the City, the City Commission, or my fellow City Commission Members I will delineate clearly for any audience whether I am acting or speaking as an individual citizen or I am acting or speaking in my capacity as a representative of the City Commission.
- K I will **maintain confidentiality of privileged information and will abide by the *Government in the Sunshine Law*, the *Florida Code of Ethics for Public Officers*, and the *City Commission Rules of Procedure*** in both its spirit and its intent.
- L. I will **promote constructive relations in a positive climate** with all employees, consistent

with my role as a Commission member, as a means to enhancement of productivity and morale. I will recognize the achievements of staff, business partners, and others sharing the City of Kissimmee's mission

- M I will **update and improve my knowledge, contributions, and value to the City** by keeping abreast of current issues and trends through reading, continuing education and training. I will study policies and issues affecting the City of Kissimmee, and attend training programs such as those offered through the Florida League of Cities. My continuing goal will be to improve my performance as an elected City Commission Member.
- N. I will **value and assist my fellow City Commission Members** by exchanging ideas, concerns and knowledge gleaned from my research or training. I will help build positive community support for the City of Kissimmee's mission and the policies establish by the City Commission
- O. I will take **a stand for my beliefs but will remain flexible enough to understand others' views** I recognize that I share in the responsibility for all City Commission decisions and will accept the will of the majority
- P I will **remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the citizens of Kissimmee** and the public health, safety, and welfare. I will seek to provide appropriate leadership that nurtures and motivates the citizens of Kissimmee to be stakeholders in the affairs and achievements of the City
- Q. I will be **accountable to the City Commission for violations of the Code of Conduct** set forth in this Resolution.

SECTION 2. Media Protocol.

- A *Communication with Media* When a Commission member receives an inquiry (phone call, personal visit, or email) from the media regarding City business, the Commission Member should contact the Communications and Public Affairs Officer for coordination of a response to the media's inquiry, and scheduling of any interviews. In speaking to the media as an individual citizen Commission Members will delineate clearly for any audience that they are acting or speaking in their individual capacity and not as a representative of the City Commission. City Commission members are to use good judgment and remember they are public servants who are held to a "higher standard" by the community and should not engage in speech or behavior that is unbecoming of an elected official.
- B. *Social Media.* The City Commission endorses the use of secure social media to further its mission by enhancing communication and information exchange Publicly posted information will be professional and reflect positively on the City of Kissimmee, its employees, volunteers, programs, policies, and services Commission members are expected to demonstrate prompt, professional, courteous, respectful, fair, and honest treatment to all citizens during all social media usage.

SECTION 3. Penalties. Based upon the gravity and frequency of the violation, the City Commission by 4/5 vote of Commission may impose any and all of the following penalties for a violation of this Resolution by any member of the City Commission:

- A. Required public apology;
- B. Censure of City Commission (Verbal Reprimand);
- C. Written Reprimand to be included within the minutes of the City Commission;
- D. If the violation occurs during a City Commission meeting and unduly disrupts the Commission from conducting City business:
 - 1. Temporary recess of Commission Meeting to regain control;
 - 2. Upon return and a second such violation by the Commission Member, the temporary ouster of the Commission Member from that meeting in order to regain control of the meeting (discouraged except from the absolute necessity of conducting Commission business).
- E. Removal from office for nonfeasance, misfeasance, or malfeasance pursuant to Chapter 2, Section 18, City of Kissimmee, Florida, Code of Ordinances.

SECTION 4. Execution by Commission Members. The current Members of the City Commission pledge to uphold the code tenets set forth herein by affixing their signature to this Resolution. Commission Members appointed or elected subsequent to the effective date of this Resolution shall be required to affix their signature to this Resolution or an addendum hereto upon taking the Oath of a City Commission Member.

SECTION 5. Severability. In the event that any word, phrase, clause, sentence or paragraph hereof shall be held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect any other word, clause, sentence or paragraph hereof.

SECTION 6. Repealing Clause. All Resolutions or other actions of the City which are in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.

SECTION 7. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effective immediately upon its adoption.

DONE AND RESOLVED this 18th day of August, 2020.

CITY OF KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA

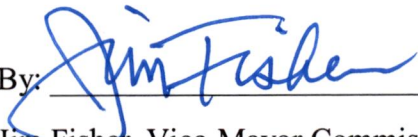
By: _____

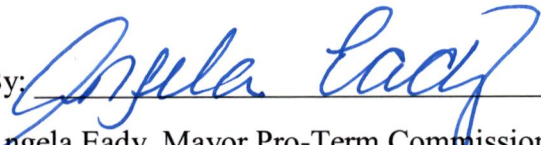
Jose Alvarez, Mayor-Commissioner

Attest:

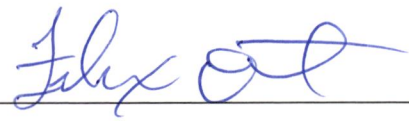
By: Linda S. Hansell

Linda Hansell, City Clerk

By: 
Jim Fisher, Vice-Mayor Commission

By: 
Angela Eady, Mayor Pro-Term Commissioner

By: 
Olga Gonzalez, Commissioner

By: 
Felix Ortiz, Commissioner

Approved as to form and legality:


Olga Sanchez de Fuentes, City Attorney

CITY COMMISSION CODE OF CONDUCT

WHEREAS, City Commission Resolution 15-2020 adopted the Code of Conduct as a public statement of the expected conduct and ethics members of the Commission are expected to uphold; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution required the pledge of all future City Commission members to uphold the following code tenets by affixing their signatures to this addendum upon taking the Oath of a City Commission Member; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of 2024/2026 pledges to uphold the following:

1. I affirm that the proper statutory and City Charter role of a City Commission Member, as with any elected member of a legislative body, is to **act collectively, not individually, to set and/or revise the City of Kissimmee's governing policies** and that the City Manager and staff administer such policies.
2. I understand that a City Commission member **does not** manage the affairs of the City (a) by intruding into daily operations or spheres of responsibility designated by Florida Statutes and the City Charter to the City Manager as the chief executive officer or to administrator acting as City Manager designees, or (b) by undermining the City Manager's lawful authority.
3. I will **represent the interests of the entire City** when making decisions and will reply upon available facts and my independent judgement. In my capacity as an elected City Commission member, I will avoid all legal conflicts of interest and avoid using my official position for personal, professional, or partisan gain.
4. I will **demonstrate dignity, respect, and courtesy** toward those with whom I am in contact in my capacity as a City Commission Member. I will refrain from intimidation and ridicule of fellow Commission Members, the City Manager, staff, and other stakeholders in the City of Kissimmee.
5. I will **refrain from inappropriate language**, including statements that are malicious, threatening, disparaging, mean-spirited, vulgar, or abusive. All disagreements, concerns, or criticisms shall be framed in language that is in keeping with the dignity and professionalism of an elected official and the honor of the City Commission.
6. I will **focus on solving problems**. I will maintain appropriate decorum and professional demeanor in the conduct of City business and work cooperatively and conscientiously with others as I request or receive information, examine data, or weigh alternatives in the decision-making process.
7. I will **demonstrate patience** and refrain from demanding interruptive access to staff or immediate responses or services when requesting information that requires significant staff

time in research, preparation or analysis that will result in staff neglect of more urgent duties. Such requests will be made through the City Manager for scheduling and prioritizing or through consensus of the City Commission.

8. I will **devote sufficient time for adequate preparation** prior to City Commission meetings and be in attendance, insofar as possible, at those meetings and all other scheduled events at which Commission member's participation is required. I will prepare myself through study, inquiry and thought to be informed thoroughly about issues to be discussed in public meetings.
9. I will **respect diversity and encourage the open expression of divergent ideas and opinions** from my fellow City Commission members, staff, citizens of Kissimmee, and utility customers. I will listen actively and objectively to others' concerns or constructive criticism.
10. I will **refrain from any individual action that could compromise the integrity** of the City, the City Commission, or my fellow City Commission Members. I will clearly delineate for any audience whether I am acting or speaking as an individual citizen or in my capacity as a representative of the City Commission.
11. I will **maintain confidentiality of privileged information and will abide by the *Government in the Sunshine Law*, the *Florida Code of Ethics for Public Officers*, and the *City Commission Rules of Procedure*** in both its spirit and its intent.
12. I will **promote constructive relations in a positive climate** with all employees, consistent with my role as a Commission member, to enhance productivity and morale. I will also recognize the achievements of staff, business partners, and others who share the City of Kissimmee's mission.
13. I will **update and improve my knowledge, contributions, and value to the City** by keeping abreast of current issues and trends through reading, continuing education, and training. I will study policies and issues affecting the City of Kissimmee and attend training programs such as those offered through the Florida League of Cities. My goal will be to improve my performance as an elected City Commission Member.
14. I will **value and assist my fellow City Commission Members** by exchanging ideas, concerns, and knowledge gleaned from my research or training. I will help build positive community support for the City of Kissimmee's mission and the policies established by the City Commission.
15. I will take **a stand for my beliefs but will remain flexible enough to understand others' views**. I recognize that I share the responsibility for all City Commission decisions and will accept the will of the majority.

16. I will **always remember that my first and greatest concern must be the citizens of Kissimmee** and the public health, safety, and welfare. I will seek to provide appropriate leadership that nurtures and motivates the citizens of Kissimmee to be stakeholders in the affairs and achievements of the City.
17. I will be **accountable to the City Commission for violations of this Code of Conduct.**

CITY OF KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA

By: _____
_____, Mayor-Commissioner

Attest:

By: _____
Tameara Crespo, City Clerk

By: _____
_____, Commissioner, Seat 1

By: _____
_____, Commissioner Seat 2

By: _____
_____, Commissioner Seat 3

By: _____
_____, Commissioner Seat 4

ITEM 3.C

Recognition of outgoing Commissioners - Mayor Olga Gonzalez and Vice-Mayor Olga Castaño

Request

Recognition of outgoing Mayor Olga Gonzalez and Vice-Mayor Olga Castaño for their dedicated service to the City Commission and the citizens of Kissimmee by presenting them with tokens of appreciation for their years of service.

Explanation

The City requests acknowledgment of the service of City Commissioner Olga Castano and Mayor Olga Gonzalez.

Commissioner Castano has served as a City Commissioner and Vice-Mayor in Seat #1 since November 2020 for one (1) four-year term.

Mayor Gonzalez has served as the City of Kissimmee Mayor in Seat #5 since November 2020. She originally joined the City Commission in 2016 and has served two (2) four-year terms.

Department: City Manager
Presenter: Mike Steigerwald

Attachment(s):

None