



## Meeting Minutes – April 2024

Date: 04/24/2024

Time: 3:00 PM

### Opening

- Welcome
- Call to Order
- Full membership gave the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag.
- Pastor Jack Martin led the opening prayer.

### Roll Call

- President Joe Wolff – Present
- Vice-President Mark Cioffi - Present
- Recording Secretary Sandra Apone – Present
- Treasurer Julie Karpovich – Present
- Sergeant-at-Arms Charlie De Cosa Jr – Present

### Elected Officials/Invited Guests Recognized

- Jason Marques - Wellington Master BOD President
- Mark Johnson – School Board
- Shannon Rodriguez – School Board
- Shirley Anderson – Supervisor of Elections
- Jeff Rogers – County Administrator

### Club Business

- Treasurer Report – given by Treasurer, Julie Karpovich
  - Opening Balance – \$1,549.45
  - Debits/Expenses - \$261.04
  - Memberships, New/Renewal – \$30.00
  - Petty Cash - \$40.00
  - Ending Balance - \$1,358.41
  - Motion to accept – Charles De Cosa Jr.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept – Mark Cioffi
- Recording Secretary Report – March Meeting Minutes were emailed and can be viewed on Wellingtonrc.com. Members are asked to read them and be ready to approve the Minutes at the April Meeting. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

### President's Report – given by President Joe Wolff

- Joe again reminded members of the Wellness sub-committee introduced Jamie Wells and Denise Marques, members. They will alert us to the wellbeing and news of our RC Membership. Highlighted this month are James & Carol Hammer, life-long Republicans that have been married for 53 years. Jim, a cancer survivor, and Carol live happily in the Wellington community and regularly attend Club meetings.



- WellingtonRC.com – Website Traffic Report – There were 1679 visits to the website – over 180 views in the last 30 days.
- The Hernando County Victory Office is now open. The address is 6175 Deltona Blvd., Building #3, Suite #103, Spring Hill. (see WRC Website for photos and directions)
- The Lincoln Day Dinner held at Silverthorn Country Club was well attended by 230 people including many elected officials and our Republican Club Members. (Also see WRC Website for photos of event)
- Joe gave a presentation on Fossil Fuels. **Gas and Oil have little if any relation to fossils. They are a renewal energy source created by a geothermal reaction between the solid mantle & liquid core. Oil wells drill to depths of 10 thousand feet... the deepest a fossil has ever been found is 1,000 feet.** A diagram of the layers of the earth indicating the source of oil and gas can be viewed on the WellingtonRC.com website – go to the MORE category located on the top of the home page. Information on the following related topics can also be found there.
  - Fossil Fuels Benefits and Negatives
  - The Medium on Fossil Fuels
  - The Road to Hell for America
  - How Green is Wind Power
  - The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels

**Guest Speaker – Jeffrey Rogers, P.E., Hernando County Administrator** - gave an in-depth presentation, highlights of which are listed here:

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

- PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT – Fertilizer Ordinance, Springs Protection Zone.
- CAPITAL PROJECTS – Judicial Center, Fire Station Upgrades, New Tax Collector's Office, Rotary Splash Park, Landfill, Cell4.
- (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES) - Review of House and Subdivision Zoning, Efficient Organization of Staff in the Call Center

## GROWTH IN THE COUNTY

- PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE - MASTER PLANS – include new buildings or improvement in Sheriff & Jail facilities, Parks, Boat Ramps, and Water.
- DIVERSIFICATION OF REVENUE – Impact Fee Increase – Fees increased in single-family, multi-family, Fast Food Restaurants. The single-family increase is 126.75%. All increases to take place as of October 1, 2024.
- FUTURE DEVELOPMENT - Wawa on County Line, Chipotle on County Line - Under Review, Wendy's on County Line - Under Review, TJ Maxx on US 19, SoFresh, Panda Express, Outback Steakhouse, Olive Garden, Miller's Ale House, Rooms to Go, BJ Wholesale Club, Sprouts Farmers Market, Chick-fil-A, Assisted Living in front of Glen Lakes.
- GROWTH MANAGEMENT – County Commissioners guide is the 2040 Hernando County Comprehensive Plan. It ensures proper growth, controls lot size, limits the number of Comprehensive Plan changes and protects existing developments.



- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Industrial Land Studies and Improvements, including the Airport. Also Work Force Training.
- HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES – Mental Health and Affordable Housing
- WHOLE CENT FOR HERNANDO COUNTY SALES TAX REFERENDUM – The increase in sales tax is needed for Law Enforcement facilities, Infrastructure improvements, and Public Safety Capital improvements. Exemptions from the tax increase are groceries, medical services, medication, and fuel.

The presentation concluded with a question-and-answer period from the audience.

**Candidates for Office – Each has 3 minutes to address the audience.**

- Marvin – Baynham – BOCC
- Kevin Johnston- Property Appraiser
- Mark Cioffi – School Board
- Amy Blackburn – Tax Collector
- Kayce Hawkins – School Board

**Door Prize**

- Mike Freshour is the Door Prize winner – a \$25.00 gift certificate for the Wellington Bar & Grill.

**Next Meeting date is May 22<sup>nd</sup>– Law Enforcement Appreciation Month**

- The Club will recognize Detective George Loydgren, Retired NYPD Detective and Senior Detective in the Hernando County Sheriff's office. He will be recognized for his efforts in solving a 12-year-old Homicide Case Jenifer Odem

**Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn - Joe Wolff
- 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting adjournment – Mark Cioffi
- Meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM

**Signatures**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Wolff  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra Apone  
Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date