



**CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP HAINES CITY, FLORIDA**

**MINUTES**

**January 16, 2024, 6:00 p.m.**

**City Hall Commission Chambers**

**620 E. Main Street, Haines City, FL 33844**

**Phone: 863-421-9921 Web: hainescity.com**

Commissioners in  
Attendance:

Mayor H.L. Roy Tyler

Vice Mayor Omar Arroyo

Commissioner Morris West

Commissioner Anne Huffman

Commissioner Vernel Smith

Staff in Attendance:

City Manager James Elensky

City Attorney, Fred Reilly

Deputy City Clerk, Erica Sanchez

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the City Commission Workshop to order at 6:04 PM on January 16, 2024, in the City Commission Chambers, located at 620 E Main Street, Haines City, FL.

**2. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

2. A cemetery Discussion

City Clerk Sharon Lauther presented this item and discussed various issues concerning the cemeteries that the City owns and or maintains.

Commissioner Huffam asked if the city is notified when a volt company will arrive and how long before they arrive.

Commissioner West expressed concern about funeral homes charging for sod placement despite the city providing the sod.

Commissioner West said it would be unfair to charge a lifelong resident who recently moved out of the city a higher price for a cemetery plot.

Parks and Rec Director Terrell Griffin explained in depth the importance of enforcing the rules in the ordinance.

Commissioner Huffman asked Director Griffin why we were only talking about Oakland Cemetery.

Parks and Rec Director Terrell Griffin clarified that the issues are present in both cemeteries.

Commissioner West mentioned some headstones that appear to be sinking and asked what process is in place to fix the issue.

Parks and Rec Director Griffin said that we pay a volt company to come out and fix it.

Commissioner West said that we need to get the cemetery up to date being that it will be the final resting place of 90 percent of the residents

Mayor Tylor said they would have to look at the rules and not let this continue.

Mayor Tylor said that we need to reach an agreement concerning the rules of the cemetery.

Commissioner Smith stated that a cemetery cleanup notice is only meant for customers receiving a Haines City water bill and would overlook the majority of customers.

### **3. ADJOURNMENT**

Without any further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:56

---

Roy Tyler, Mayor

---

Sharon Lauther, MMC, City Clerk

---

Fred Reilly, City Attorney