



**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

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**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.

The following were some of the issues: oversized flags, solar lights, flowers in excess, sod replacement as well as a scheduled clean-up and fees.

**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 should the city decide to provide 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.

**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

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Roy Tyler, Mayor

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Sharon Lauther, MMC, City Clerk