

From the Desk of Jim Cameron..... Jim Cameron Consulting LLC

June, 2021

Jim Cameron Consulting LLC brings 38 years of working with local governments and is now available to serve on a clientele basis...be it new land development projects, bids, campaign assistance.

For more information, go to my website, www.jimcameronconsulting.com Call my cell 566-2140 day, night or weekends if you'd like to discuss further. And my guarantee still stands that if I miss your call and don't return it in eight business hours, I will pay you \$1000 cash.

New City Manager Deric Feacher began June 1...

Feacher, 44, has 20 years of senior level executive experience managing local government. He was previously employed as city manager of Haines City.

During his tenure as city manager of Winter Haven, the city experienced major residential and commercial growth, and received an increase in grant funding; Winter Haven received its first audit with no findings or management concerns in more than 10 years under his leadership; he instituted an affordable housing program to assist nonprofits, individuals and groups

Strengths:

- Evaluating operations and identifying the strengths and skills of employees
- Revitalizing downtown neighborhoods
- Working with local entities to build affordable workforce housing



Education:

- BA degree in political science from Bethune-Cookman University
- Completion of Harvard University's senior executive in state and local government executive education program



Congratulations to Jim Chisholm on his Retirement

On June 1, Jim Chisholm completed a 17 year career as Daytona Beach City Manager. During this time, the City went through some difficult financial times during the 2008 recession and they have now progressed to a vibrant economy local economy.

Not many people realize that a lot of hard work took place behind

the scenes bring these new businesses to fruition. Some of the decisions made by the City Manager June not have been popular but they were necessary.

A good leader takes people not just where they want to go but where they need to be.

Jim Chisholm was not a 9 to 5 City Manager. He often was out past midnight for Bike Week, and other events. Most notable that he was on Ridgewood Avenue in January 2017 when getting homeless individuals into motels when 250 North Beach St. was cleared.

Thank you Jim for a job well done!

Daytona Beach City Commission.....

At their June 19 meeting, the City Commission voted 7-0 to award a **\$619,076** contract to Parker Mynchenberg & Associates (PMA) for the Beach St, Streetscape Phase II project. The Design Contract provides for design, permitting, bidding and construction phase services for the proposed Beach St Streetscape Phase II project. The project is a continuation of the recently constructed Beach St Streetscape project (Bay St. to Fairview Ave) It will include new sidewalks, traffic signals, lane reductions, paving, lighting, parking, landscaping, hardscaping, irrigation and utility improvements.

Legislative News.....

The House has set the Fall Interim Committee Meeting schedule. Meetings will run M-F for the following six weeks:

September 20 - 24

October 11 - 15

October 18 - 22

November 1 - 5

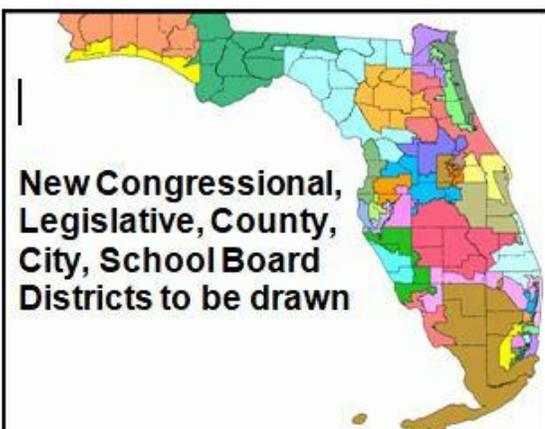
November 15 - 19

November 29 - December 3

The 2022 Regular Session begins Tuesday, January 11.



Redistricting....



During next year's session, the legislature shall adopt a joint resolution apportioning the state into senate and house districts. This redistricting plan is then sent to the Supreme Court which has 30 days, to declare their plan valid or invalid. If invalid, the Governor must immediately reconvene legislature in 15-day extraordinary apportionment session.

However, based on recent Supreme Court rulings after DeSantis' recent Court appointments, they have tended to "give great deference to the Legislature".

So what does this means when the Legislature redraws congressional and legislative districts lines and the "Fair Districts" constitutional amendment prohibit political gerrymandering comes into play? Time will tell....

Volusia is fortunate that Rep [Tom Leek](#) is chairing the House redistricting committee.

Congressional lines are adopted as regular legislation and subject to gubernatorial veto. State House/Senate lines are passed via joint resolution and not subject to gubernatorial veto but require Florida Supreme Court approval. If the court rejects the lines, the legislature must draft another plan. If the legislature cannot agree upon a plan, the state supreme court will draft a plan. No such procedures for congressional districts.

The recent Census Bureau shows Florida gaining one new congressional seat it'll most likely appear along the I-4 corridor.

There could be court battles similar to the last redistricting process based on the legal requirements under Fair Districts, a law that requires legislators to draw new districts without favoring either political party or incumbents.

First Step Shelter Update....

Since last August, FSS has placed 52 people in housing with another 30 placed earlier by Catholic Charities. Although 8 residents went into housing last month, we have even more folks here who are ready to go into housing but they haven't found an affordable place yet due to the moratorium on evictions; landlords who accepted housing vouchers before seem more reluctant to make repairs when a unit fails inspection and therefore the voucher cannot be used; and increasing rents based on the price of housing.



Of those 52 people placed into housing, the majority have stayed there! 37 are still in housing, 2 have died, 2 are in jail, 3 people are in the street again, and for 8 people we were unable to contact by phone, so we aren't sure about them.

FSS has about 45 people per day with an average of 7 daily in the safe zone. Today we have 42 residents, and of these, 33 have income; 18 (43%) are working and 15 (36%) are unable to work but are receiving SSI or SSDI. Only 9 are unemployed but most are recent arrivals and are so still looking for work.

Many of the residents here have fragile health; recently another one of their residents died due to a number of chronic illnesses. This individual had only been at FFS for a few months vs her last few months of life lived out on the street.

FSS is having a virtual Walkathon! To register and donate, click <https://firststepshelter.networkforgood.com/events/28805-walk-a-mile-for-another-for-first-step-homeless-shelter>

Area Staff Visits Volusia.....

On June 3, **Tom Self (Sen Marco Rubio’s office) Amanda Thorpe (Gov Ron DeSantis’ office) Zane Ertel (CFO Jimmy Petronas’ office)** came to Volusia for a “staff visit day”. They met with **County Chair Jeff Brower and Councilman Danny Robins** to discuss future road and bridge needs as well as water resources.



Jeff Brower Amanda Thorpe Zane Ertel Tom Self



Danny Robins Amanda Thorpe Zane Ertel Tom Self

Next meeting was with **First Step Shelter Exec Victoria Fahlberg** to discuss their latest count and grants requirements. See article below.

Next meeting was with **Volusia Economic Development Director Helga Van Eckert** to discuss their relationship with Team Volusia, CEO Business Alliance, Daytona Regional Chamber as other local Chambers to assist existing businesses e.g. **Relaunch Volusia Business Grants** to assist eligible businesses during the pandemic.



Amanda Thorpe Victoria Fahlberg Zane Ertel Tom Self



Amanda Thorpe Tom Self Helga van Eckert

Other staff visits will be held in the future in order to build our relationship between local entities and elected officials in Washington and Tallahassee.

County Council Workshop

On June 1, the Volusia County Council held a Workshop on Infrastructure. Staff members focused on broadband potential, as well as road and bridge needs as well as potential revenue sources.

The idea of a sales tax referendum in which revenue would be applied to infrastructure was also discussed. Consensus was that if it is brought back, then it must be better communicated to the voters. The 2019 referendum had mixed messages which led voters to oppose it. If it's brought back, it must be led by a citizens' coalition.



Council members & staff address infrastructure

In regards to County Road Bonds, Volusia County is in a very healthy financial situation and if the current bonds need to be wrapped into a new bond, that could easily be done.

It was also mentioned that Volusia has enough impact fee money right now to pay the bond off today instead of FY 23-24 which means savings on the interest.

Tadd Kasbeer, Director of Construction/Engineering stated, "With regard to the 2019 sales tax referendum, a large portion of those priorities were geared towards ADDING road. We currently have money under local option gas tax to earmark for capacity projects. We have other road projects that are safety projects or road upgrading projects that need attention and those projects don't receive any set funding. We could apply sales tax revenue to safety or upgrade projects (old Mission Rd, Pioneer Trail, LPGA east of Nova Rd). We could take the worst roads each year and bring them up to safety standards and they wouldn't be tied to new development. The cycle we're on now we're just going to get further and further behind

As for federal dollars, nothing has yet been approved for federal dollars to come to Volusia.

[Click here](#) for more details.

Volusia Elected Officials Roundtable

Monday, June 28, 12 noon

Daytona Beach Intl Airport (Dennis McGee Rm)

Includes one elected official from each of Volusia's cities, county government and school system to discuss countywide issues and concerns. The Volusia County Council hosts the meetings. Open to the public and bring your own lunch.

For information, call Kevin Captain at 822-5062.



Click the link for Local Government info

<u>Volusia County Council</u>	June 1 / 15, 10 am County Adm Bldg
<u>Daytona Beach City Commission</u>	June 2 / 16, 6 pm City Hall
<u>Ormond Beach City Commission</u>	June 1 / 15, 7 pm City Hall
<u>Port Orange City Council</u>	June 1 / 15, 6:30 pm City Hall
<u>Holly Hill City Commission</u>	June 8 / 22, 6 pm City Hall
<u>South Daytona City Council</u>	June 8 / 22, 6 pm City Hall
<u>Daytona Beach Shores City Council</u>	June 8 / 22, 6 pm City Hall
<u>DeBary City Council</u>	June 16 / 30 6:30pm City Hall
<u>Deland City Council</u>	June 7 / 21, 7 pm City Hall
<u>Deltona City Commission</u>	June 7 / 21, 6:30 pm City Hall
<u>Edgewater City Council</u>	June 7, 6:30 pm City Hall
<u>Lake Helen City Commission</u>	June 10, 7:00 pm City Hall
<u>New Smyrna Bch City Commission</u>	June 8 / 22, 6:30 pm City Hall
<u>Oak Hill City Commission</u>	June 14 / 28, 6 pm City Hall
<u>Orange City City Council</u>	June 8 / 22, 6:30 pm City Hall
<u>Ponce Inlet Town Council</u>	
<u>School Board of Volusia</u>	June 7, 3:30 pm District Office Deland
<u>River to Sea TPO</u>	June 23, 9 am TPO Office

Get Ready for Elections 2022 !!!!!

Click the link for more info....

Current Filed Candidates

August 23 (Primary) November 8 (General)

Congressional District 6

[Joe Hannoush](#) (LPF)

[Gerry Nolan](#) (NPA)

Florida Senate District 7

[Travis Hutson](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Florida Senate District 9

[Jason Brodeur](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Florida Senate District 14

[Tom Wright](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Florida House District 24

[Paul Renner](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Florida House District 25

[Tom Leek](#) (REP) *Incumbent

Florida House District 26

[Elizabeth Fetterhoff](#) (REP) *Incumbent

[Jacob Johnson](#) (DEM)

Florida House District 27

[Webster Barnaby](#) (REP) *Incumbent

County Council Member, District 2

[Chase Tramont](#)

School Board Member, District 5

[Ruben Colon](#)

[Ronald Jungk](#)

City Filed Candidates

August 30 (Primary) November 8 (General)

DeLand Mayor

[Christopher Cloudman](#)

Port Orange Council District 2

[Cathleen \(Kat\) Atwood](#)

[Click here](#) to see status of ACTIVE (PROPOSED) CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Registered Voters as of May 28, 2021 (Includes Active and Inactive Voters)					
	Democrats	Republicans	NPA	Other	Total
Active	132,441	152,675	114,820	7,890	407,826
Inactive	7,802	6,127	8,575	185	22,689
Totals	140,243	158,802	123,395	8,075	430,516