

## Court Order filed by Judge Craig

Judge Dennis Craig has been assigned to the developer's *Petition for Writ of Certiorari* (see last week's [email blast](#) for details). Judge Craig filed a [Court Order](#) on November 15, 2024 informing the City (respondent) they have 30 days to file their response to the developer's petition. Then the developer (petitioner) has 20 days after the court receives the City's response to file their reply.

There is one sure winner in this whole process, and that is the attorney for the developer who receives money regardless of any court outcomes. If the developer gets tired of funding legal challenges, maybe they will reconsider the letter I wrote to them which appears on page 4 of the [August 2023 Tomoka Oaks Times](#).

Perhaps there is a way we can ALL be winners . . .

## Have you ever dreamed of "Being on the Stage?"

You may not know this, but the Planning Board members who sit on the stage and provide advisory (sometimes dogmatic) opinions about how our City should grow and develop are actually appointed by the City Commission as per the city's [Land Development Code](#). The Mayor and each of the four Commissioners get to appoint one Planning Board member. Two more members are appointed "at large." All appointments must be approved by majority vote of the City Commission.

If you would like to be considered for one of the two "at large" Planning Board appointments, or any of the other 12+ advisory boards, you can find information and an application link [here](#). I believe the deadline to apply is the end of November (this week), but you can confirm this with the City Clerk 386-676-3331.

## County Council at war with itself regarding residential development moratorium

I was unable to attend the November 19, 2024 Volusia County Council meeting where the agenda included the council's discussion of a countywide moratorium on residential development. Apparently the item was removed from the agenda after infighting among some council members and the council chair occurred at the beginning of the meeting. Ultimately they agreed to a motion to move the moratorium agenda item to a special county council meeting to occur within 60 days.

I did join the live stream late into the meeting, and what I saw was a chamber full of people frustrated with the council's decision to "kick their discussion" down the road several months. Despite the council's exclusion of their own moratorium discussion from the agenda, the meeting attendees were still allowed 3 minutes each to testify about how flooding and outdated or poorly planned drainage systems have devastated their homes.

You can view the entire **9 hour** meeting / fireworks [here](#).



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## Tomoka Oaks Times

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