

In case you missed it, the following are highlights from the December 11, 2024, Cape Coral City Council meeting.

## **Community Recognition Award: Future Forestry**

City Council and the City Manager recognize the exemplary achievements of Cape Coral residents. Future Forestry is a nonprofit organization based in Southwest Florida with a mission to rebuild the forest canopy in areas of need. For over 15 years, this organization has led the effort in creating ecosystems for native plants and animals to thrive.

### **Council Selects Mayor Pro Tem**

City Council voted to appoint District 4 Councilmember Jennifer Nelson-Lastra as Mayor Pro Tem. The Mayor Pro Tem acts as the temporary mayor in the absence of the elected mayor, ensuring continuity in city governance and presiding over council meetings.

# **Council Approves Emergency Purchase for Stop Sign Replacement**

Council approved Resolution 383-24, approving funds for the replacement of stop signs damaged during Hurricane Milton. Any emergency purchase in excess of \$100,000 must be approved by the City Council either before or as soon as practicable after the purchase.

#### Council Approves Economic Development Reimbursement Agreement

Council approved Resolution 400-24, allowing for an economic development reimbursement agreement with New York Towers for up to \$250,000. This development, which will be located in a 40,000-square-foot commercial space, is expected to generate 52 part-time jobs and 226 full-time jobs.

#### **Council Approves Support Request for I-75 Interchange**

Council approved Resolution 406-24, requesting support from Lee and Charlotte County to prioritize state and federal funding for the I-75 Interchange at Slater Road. The improvement could reduce evacuation times by 30 percent and was endorsed by the Mayor and City Council in Resolution 318-24 as a critical legislative priority.

## **Upcoming Public Meetings**

A Regular Meeting of the Cape Coral City Council is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8, 2025, beginning at 5 p.m. in Council Chambers.