

## Detailed Minutes - Final

### City Commission

*Rex Hardin, Mayor*

*Alison Fournier, Vice Mayor*

*Audrey Fesik, Commissioner*

*Beverly Perkins, Commissioner*

*Rhonda Sigerson-Eaton, Commissioner*

*Darlene Smith, Commissioner*

*Gregory P. Harrison, City Manager*

*Mark Berman, City Attorney*

*Kervin Alfred, City Clerk*

---

Monday, July 14, 2025

9:00 AM

Commission Chamber

---

### City Commission Budget Workshop

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable Rex Hardin, Mayor called the City Commission Budget Workshop to order at 9:00 AM.

#### ROLL CALL

**Present:** Commissioner Audrey Fesik  
Commissioner Beverly Perkins  
Commissioner Rhonda Sigerson-Eaton  
Commissioner Darlene Smith  
Vice Mayor Alison Fournier  
Mayor Rex Hardin

#### INVOCATION

Mayor Hardin offered the invocation.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Kervin Alfred, City Clerk

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Hardin inquired with City Manager Harrison whether there had been any changes to the Agenda. Mr. Harrison confirmed that there were none.

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Fesik, that the be APPROVED. The motion carried unanimously.**

**A. PRESENTATION**

[25-437](#) Presentation of the Citywide Fiscal Year 2026 Recommended Operating Budget to the City Commission.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

**(Staff Contact: Joshua Watters)**

Mayor Hardin introduced the item, stating that this is a presentation of the Fiscal Year 2026 Estimated General Fund Budget. He then turned the floor over to Joshua Watters, Budget Director, to proceed with the presentation.

Mr. Watters began by thanking staff for their collaboration during the budget process, with a special thank you to his Budget office team. Mr. Watters gave a presentation on the budget, which included details of recommended budget highlights, all fund expenses and revenues, General Fund expenses and non-ad valorem revenues, Fire Assessment Program, Ad-Valorem revenues, and proposed millage rates. Mr. Watters then explained the next steps in the budget process. A copy of the full presentation is available upon request in the City Clerk's office.

Mayor Hardin opened the floor to the Commission for any questions on the presentation. Vice Mayor Fournier asked if the second portion of the meeting would be live streamed for the public. Kervin Alfred, City Clerk, informed that it would not be live-streamed.

Mayor Hardin recessed the workshop at 9:25 AM. Note: The workshop would reconvene in the Cultural Center Conference Room on the 1st floor, located at 50 West Atlantic Boulevard, for discussions on the FY 2026 recommended Millage Rates, capital improvement projects, Fire Assessment Fees, and budgets.

**B. REGULAR AGENDA**

Mayor Hardin reconvened the workshop at 9:57 AM.

1. [25-488](#) Discussion and consideration of the Recommended Five-year Capital Improvement Plan for fiscal years 2026 - 2030.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

**(Staff Contact: Joshua Watters/Tammy Good)**

Mr. Watters explained that he would be going over the Five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project by project, and any questions regarding the individual projects would be addressed as they go. He began by going over the revenues from the General CIP, the interfund transfers, and the surtax interfund transfer. After reviewing each project, Mr. Watters stated that the total cost of General Fund CIP projects in fiscal year 2026 would equal \$10.58 million. Moving on, Mr. Watters discussed the Utilities Fund CIP projects, followed by the Stormwater CIP and the Airpark CIP. A copy of the full CIP spreadsheet is available upon request in the

City Clerk's office. Mr. Watters completed his overview of the CIP, and Mayor Hardin opened the floor for Commission discussion.

Comr. Perkins pointed out an error indicating the wrong district number on a project, which Mr. Watters said would be corrected.

Mayor Hardin asked if the current construction work being done now will be coordinated with the McNab Road Utility CIP project, to which Dr. Tammy Good, CIP Manager, replied it would be.

Vice Mayor Fournier expressed her concern with fiscal years 2027 and 2028 having significantly higher expenses than FY 2026 and asked if projects were being pushed back or if that is just when these projects happen to hit. Dr. Good said it is a combination of both, stating that some projects do get pushed in order to fit the budget, but also some of the projects in upcoming fiscal years will be subsidized by grants, and that will bring the cost down; however, it needs to be reflected in the budget until those grants are executed.

Vice Mayor Fournier asked if there was an updated road resurfacing map to show what would be done in the upcoming fiscal year. Dr. Good stated that she is working closely with public works and utilities in order to best capitalize on repaving roads when utilities projects are being done at the same location in order to spend money in a smart way. Furthermore, they will look at all road conditions and create a master plan with road paving and utilities combined. Vice Mayor Fournier inquired about how the Commission's input will be taken into account during the creation of this master plan. Dr. Good explained that they would get a full overview of each district's needs and try to split it as equitably as possible. Vice Mayor Fournier then asked if the current map that was being used is no longer valid. Robert McCaughan, Public Works Director, said the map still has three years left on it, as it was a 5-year plan; however, they are aware of some utility project conflicts on that map, and adjustments will be made for that, but that is the map they will be moving forward with until a new map is created. Additionally, Mr. McCaughan informed that the repaving work will need to be put out to bid, so once the bids are in, they will better be able to tell what exactly can get done each fiscal year. Dr. Good added that the current map will act as a base guide until a new plan is created and bids are received.

Vice Mayor Fournier moved on to the City Sidewalk Improvement project and asked if the surveys that were previously done are still being taken into account when prioritizing which areas are done first, as some residents in certain areas did not want sidewalks. Mr. McCaughan stated that previously they surveyed select streets, and there was one area that did not want sidewalks. Continuing, he said the next step will be going into the affected neighborhoods and seeing if they want the sidewalks or not.

Vice Mayor Fournier inquired if a location for the substation had been selected. Greg Harrison, City Manager, responded that a location has not officially been selected, but they were looking at a particular site. Vice Mayor Fournier questioned if the money that would be needed to acquire it was included in the budget for the project, to which Mr. Harrison responded that it was.

Vice Mayor Fournier asked for clarity on what was being done in FY 2026 regarding the restroom and concessions line item. Dr. Good clarified that the restrooms at McNair Park and Michell Moore Park would be redone in FY 2026.

Vice Mayor Fournier inquired about a building being proposed for Golf, to which Dr. Good explained that

there is an existing slab in place that was previously used to house golf course maintenance equipment and would now be used for office space with a restroom and breakroom for the grounds and maintenance workers.

Vice Mayor Fournier then asked for an explanation as to what utility work was being done near McNab Road. Nathaniel Watson, acting Utilities Director, broke down that at lift station #44 they would be updating the force main, as there was a force main break near Federal Hwy., and the McNab work is separate but related to lift stations #44 and #61, as they will be changing the direction of flow going to lift station #61 to take some of the stress off that station and diverting it to #44. Additionally, Vice Mayor Fournier asked Mr. Watson how many swales could be installed with the \$25,000 budgeted in the Stormwater Capital Projects. Mr. Watson informed that normally 4-5 locations can be completed with the \$25,000. He added that the Stormwater Master Plan is upcoming in 2027, so many of the trouble areas in the City that see flooding will be looked at in detail for that.

Moving on, Vice Mayor Fournier inquired if the Air Park capital projects were mandated by the FAA. Dr. Good responded that they are and will mostly be funded by grants.

Comr. Smith asked if the swales would just be city swales or residential as well. Mr. Watson said only on public property.

Comr. Smith revisited the road resurfacing plan and wanted to know if it was a 10-year plan. Mr. McCaughan stated that it is a 5-year plan and that the assessment that was used for the current plan was done in 2016; however, with current technology, cameras can be mounted to the bottom of City vehicles, which can assess the road conditions, and a new plan would be based on real-time data.

Comr. Smith inquired what area the wayfinding signage would be for. Dr. Good informed that there is a city-wide master plan that determines entryway signs, facility signs, and wayfinding signs. There are areas identified in every district for entryway signs that are currently in the design phase. Dr. Good noted that this project is reoccurring and funded every year.

Comr. Smith then asked about the FP&L light fixture conversions and wanted to make sure the ones that were budgeted for FY 2025 were still going to happen, as they haven't been completed yet. John Sfiropoulos, City Engineer, stated that they were finishing design and would be completed shortly. Continuing, Comr. Smith wanted to know if there is a map for the canal dredging similar to the one used for road resurfacing. Dr. Good stated that there is a map that is currently utilized.

Vice Mayor Fournier inquired about the Senior Center expansion project. Dr. Good explained that the multipurpose space would be expanded to about twice the size that it is currently, but it is currently in the conceptual stage.

Vice Mayor Fournier pivoted to ask if the license plate reader project that was just added was completely brand new or left off accidentally. Brian Donovan, Assistant City Manager, informed that it was an oversight and should have been included in the draft.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated that she asks every year for a capital item to be added for the light at Lyons Park to be fixed, but it never shows up, and wanted to know why. Mr. Sfiropoulos informed that it has not shown up

because the City has not received justification from the County for it. Vice Mayor Fournier questioned if the justification from the County is really needed if the City is willing to pay for it. Mr. Sfiropoulos explained that the City could not bypass the County and do the work anyway, and that justification is needed per the traffic agreement.

Comr. Fesik also wanted to speak on road resurfacing and wanted clarity on whether it was \$4 million that was needed to complete all of the roads. Mr. McCaughan stated that \$3 million is needed to complete the current plan, but an additional \$1 million is needed to complete the roads between Federal Highway and 26th Avenue, because those are not currently in the plan. Comr. Fesik stated that she didn't believe the City should push off road resurfacing anymore, and they should look at how to get this additional funding to complete it all now. Mr. Watters informed that they have spoken to the utilities director and that they have some funding set aside for road resurfacing within their budget. Mr. Watson stated that the money they have budgeted is specifically targeted for the areas where they are going to be making utility improvements.

Comr. Fesik moved on to the Air Park and questioned the expansion of the Air Park and if this would increase air traffic and allow for larger planes. Dr. Good stated that this project was not an expansion of the runway; it is a replacement of pavement and a reduction in the taxiway to help assist the pilots on the airfield. Comr. Fesik suggested reevaluating the Air Park Master Plan.

Comr. Perkins requested a breakdown by district of the parks and recreation capital projects, lighting installations, and road resurfacing. Continuing, Comr. Perkins inquired about whether MLK was funded. Dr. Good stated that it was approved by the County and was currently in the design phase.

Comr. Perkins asked for clarification on whether the presented budget included anything related to the new downtown or the McNab house. Dr. Good and Mr. Donovan stated that the proposed budget did not include anything related to those items.

Mayor Hardin returned to the topic of road resurfacing and needing to go out to bid to utilize the \$2 million in surtax funds, and inquired of Mr. McCaughan if he had a feel for current pricing. Mr. McCaughan stated that the current contract was awarded three years ago, and asphalt is a petroleum-based product, so he would expect it to be potentially 20 percent higher. Mayor Hardin then asked if it was a fair statement to say that Mr. McCaughan did not have a number for what it would cost to fix all the ugly roads within the City. Mr. McCaughan responded that it was accurate since the numbers being stated now are based on the current contract, which has pricing from 3 years ago, and he expects it to be more than \$4 million. Mayor Hardin stated that if there was an additional \$1.5 million, they would be able to take care of at least most of the roads, to which Mr. McCaughan replied that he believed so. Mayor Hardin then asked how they could find an additional \$1.5 million in this budget to make that happen. Dr. Good informed that engineering, public works, and utilities are working very closely together to make the best resurfacing plan that utilizes the funds as best as possible, and allows for a shared cost between those departments. This way it is not a complete burden on the General Fund. Mayor Hardin expressed that what he was looking for is what the Commission would need to decide on if they wanted all the ugly roads paved, asking if they would need to raise the millage or reduce funding in another department. Mr. Donovan stated that either taxes are raised or expenses are cut. Mr. Watters added that each half percent increase in the millage rate equals \$575,000 of generated revenue. Additionally, he added that the Fire Assessment charge could be increased, with each \$10 increase yielding

approximately \$900,000 in revenue; in turn, this would reduce the General Fund allocation to the Fire Department.

Vice Mayor Fournier expressed her hesitancy in raising the millage rate and advised that the Commission get creative before making an increase. Dr. Good asked Mr. McCaughan if they found all the money needed to resurface all the roads, would it be completed within the fiscal year, or would it overlap into the following year? Mr. McCaughan stated it would likely spill into the following fiscal year. Dr. Good then affirmed that even if the funding was found, they would not physically have the resources to complete all the work in one fiscal year, as well as the burden that would place on residents to have all that construction taking place at one time. Dr. Good believes it is best to spread the resurfacing out over the next two fiscal years. Vice Mayor Fournier acknowledged that she would be fine with that plan so long as the Commission was consulted on which areas get paved, as she doesn't agree with the current plan. Dr. Good stated the Commission would be consulted.

Comr. Fesik inquired about specific operating expenses to include other professional working capital reserve, project admin fees. Mr. Watters explained what each of these accounts entailed. Comr. Fesik asked if it is possible for the CRA to pay for certain projects regarding city parks. Mr. Berman, City Attorney, informed that the CRA is for redevelopment purposes only, and those projects are not considered redevelopment and are not an allowable cost for the CRA. He advised her to speak with CRA staff at the CRA meeting to determine what specific costs are allowable. Comr. Fesik then suggested that the City and CRA consider a TIF split of 70%-30%. Mr. Berman explained that a detailed financial analysis would need to be done before that could be considered. He continued that a bigger issue would be the bond obligations, and you cannot change how bonds will be funded without rewriting the bonds and getting authorization from every bondholder.

Vice Mayor pushed back regarding the bond covenants, stating she believes the City would be in excess and believes the Commission should discuss the possibility of a shift in the TIF split. Mr. Berman reiterated that a detailed financial analysis needs to be done prior to any policy change regarding TIF funding. Mr. Harrison strongly disagreed with the idea of altering the TIF funds and changing bond obligations, and stated that he did not believe that the majority of the Commission would direct staff to look into this issue. Vice Mayor Fournier expressed that she believes it is a good idea and is worth considering. She believes that road paving would be an allowable cost for the CRA to pay for, and asked for clarification on how normal repaving is different from the streetscape projects the CRA has done previously. Mayor Hardin stated that the CRA cannot fund paving. Mayor Hardin and Vice Mayor Fournier had a brief back-and-forth regarding whether the CRA should be discussed during the City budget workshop.

Comr. Perkins expressed her disappointment about the Braggs-Cristwell BSO substation funding being pushed out another year.

At this time, Mayor Hardin opened the floor for input from the public.

Edward Phillips, 3840 NW 19th St., Pompano Beach, FL, thanked Comr. Perkins for her work on the light at 18th and MLK. Additionally, Mr. Phillips stated that he believes road resurfacing would be an allowable CRA cost. Lastly, he thanked the Commission for their attention to road resurfacing and hopes they can speed up the resurfacing process.

Anne Bosworth (no address provided) asked for clarification on whether she heard mention of purchasing The Palms golf course. Mayor Hardin and Vice Mayor Fournier corrected her that The Palms was mentioned, but not to purchase it.

Tundra King (no address provided) asked if other measures would be taken to assist with crime prevention due to the substation being pushed out another year.

Vicente Thrower (no address provided) inquired about making Pompano Beach a smarter City, such as adding Wi-Fi throughout.

Comr. Fesik asked for the CRA bylaws so they could better understand what is an allowable cost. She continued by suggesting that workshops be conducted more frequently to allow for a more open conversation with each commissioner about what is important to them.

Mayor Hardin, along with Commissioners Sigerson-Eaton and Smith, supports the CIP Plan, while the remaining commissioners did not respond.

Mayor Hardin called a brief recess for 5 minutes before quickly reconvening the workshop shortly thereafter.

2. [25-489](#) Discussion and consideration of the Recommended Operating Budget for fiscal year 2026, including the proposed Millage Rates and the Fire Assessment Fees.  
(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

**(Staff Contact: Joshua Watters)**

Mr. Watters introduced the item and explained that it covers what was presented earlier in the morning at the first session of this budget meeting. He was open to any questions the Commission had regarding individual line items, the proposed millage rate, and the fire assessment fee proposal.

Mayor Hardin opened the floor for Commission discussion.

Comr. Fesik asked if the City could retroactively charge Lauderdale-by-the-Sea for the cost of overtime. Mr. Watters said that there will be a revenue increase for fire and EMS services in the upcoming fiscal year as they will now be charged the cost for all services. Comr. Fesik inquired if there was one line item for all professional consulting services. Mr. Watters explained that each department has their own line items for consulting services, and usually consulting contracts would be budgeted from the “other professionals” account within each department. Mr. Watters clarified that not everything budgeted in the “other professionals” account is for consultants.

Vice Mayor Fournier began discussing the Lauderdale-by-the-Sea contract and expressed her concern about the residents of Pompano Beach subsidizing Lauderdale-by-the-Sea. She asked how the City is ensuring that this no longer happens. Peter McGinnis, Fire Chief, informed that they are billing the monthly fee for the total cost of services rendered. This includes personnel, gas used, and equipment maintenance.

Vice Mayor Fournier wanted to discuss the capital items list and see what each item is and why it is needed. She proceeded to go through line items with staff, requesting an explanation of what these items are and why the departments need them. Some of these items were a new fire engine, a new showmobile, a security system at the public works compound, a generator at the Skolnick Center, a ride-along power washer, and a digital marquee outside the E. Pat Larkins Center. The full recording is available by request in the City Clerk's office.

Comr. Perkins asked if there is a backup generator at all City facilities. George Buenaventura, Facilities Operations Director, replied that there is a generator at the City facilities; the one being purchased for the Skolnick Center is replacing an old, obsolete generator currently there.

Comr. Perkins inquired if the line item for the Houston-Sworn Aquatic Center covered the installation of a new PA system. Mark Beaudreau, Recreation Director, stated that they were currently looking at pricing for the PA system.

Comr. Perkins asked Gene Zamoski, Chief Information Officer, if there were plans to place a camera at the Patricia Davis Community Garden. Mr. Zamoski replied that there was not, to which Comr. Perkins stated she gave a list of areas in need of cameras to the City Manager and asked that he review that list to get cameras in those locations. Continuing, Comr. Perkins provided a list of things that need to be completed at Michell Moore, and asked Dr. Good if that would be completed. She explained that this was discussed previously when Vice Mayor Fournier was going over line items in the CIP. Comr. Perkins asked to discuss this with Dr. Good at a later time.

Mayor Hardin opened the floor to the Commission for general discussion.

Vice Mayor Fournier wanted clarification on the strategy of how it was determined to cut positions, how it was decided which would be cut, and which positions would not be filled. Mr. Donovan stated that the frozen positions were just a snapshot and don't include all the frozen positions. They targeted a certain number of positions to freeze in order to balance the budget. The positions that were eliminated were determined not to be needed. Vice Mayor Fournier inquired if positions are looked at every year for elimination or just this year. Mr. Donovan explained that it is looked at every year, but this year, new departments were placed under him, and he evaluated those departments and positions.

Vice Mayor Fournier expressed how she wants to see a slight reduction in the millage rate whenever there is a double-digit increase in the tax base, like there is this year. Mr. Harrison asked if the decrease in the millage rate was in addition to wanting the City to find the additional money for road resurfacing. Vice Mayor Fournier clarified that she agreed with Dr. Good on spreading the road resurfacing out over two fiscal years so the additional funding didn't need to be found this budget cycle. She also indicated that she would like to give back what they can to the residents, and since 2021, the Fire Assessment fee has increased \$141, and she would like to not further burden the residents. She reiterated that she would like to see the millage rate decreased by half a percent this year.

Comr. Smith inquired about EV charging stations. Dr. Good explained that they try to incorporate them into capital projects when they can and that there are currently some at the beach. They aren't a standalone project but are always considered when doing capital projects. Additionally, Comr. Smith asked if the size of the bulk



pickup can be increased or if the clean streets event can happen more frequently.

Comr. Fesik asked for a list of operations budget line items that increased over 10 percent from the previous year. Mr. Watters said he could provide that, but wanted to state that during the budgeting process, the Budget Office looked at where any possible cuts could be made within department operation costs and made those cuts. Comr. Fesik also asked for a list of all active consultants and the total cost of each contract for the past two years. Lastly, Comr. Fesik asked what the responsible percentage debt load a City should carry. Allison Feurtado, Finance Director, stated that Pompano Beach aims to have under 10 percent, but the City is well below that, currently around 5 percent.

Vice Mayor Fournier inquired about the reductions in the City Manager's budget. Mr. Watters replied that there was a position eliminated, and there were also certain personnel costs that were shifted to enterprise funds.

Vice Mayor Fournier asked why Tourism was over budget. Rita Wells, Tourism Manager, explained that they really weren't over budget, because half was done in the previous fiscal year and the other half in the current fiscal year, but going forward, it will all be billed in one fiscal year.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated that it appears Old Town Untapped is going to be over budget this year and inquired if more needs to be budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year. Ty Tabing, Cultural Affairs Director, explained that a grant was received for the remaining 3 Old Town Untapped events, so it should not be overbudget.

Vice Mayor Fournier asked Kervin Alfred, City Clerk, why elections were budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year. Mr. Alfred explained that there was a proposal to potentially have a charter amendment that could result in a special election in March, which would increase the cost during normal election time. The Vice Mayor inquired when the deadline is for holding a special election in March. Mr. Alfred stated the deadline is in January.

Vice Mayor Fournier asked why there was an increase in the Tennis and Aquatics line items. Liliana Alvarez, Senior Budget Analyst, responded that previously, instructors were paid out of the same account as the revenues that came in. Now, instructors are paid out of one account, and the revenues are in a separate account.

Comr. Fesik asked how much the City pays for Sand and Spurs. Mr. Harrison clarified that the City does not pay the FAA anything; the agreement with the FAA is that the City pays into the Air Park Enterprise Fund for Sand and Spurs, and due to its non-aviation use.

Comr. Perkins inquired about the BSO contract and asked what would happen if we do not give the increase BSO is asking for. Mr. Berman said the City would be violating the agreement with BSO and would not have police services. Comr. Perkins expressed that she is not in agreement with this increase. She then asked who the money goes to when someone receives a traffic ticket in Pompano Beach. Mr. Berman stated that there is a bad formula for determining who gets what, but only a small amount of each ticket comes back to the City. Comr. Perkins and Mr. Harrison briefly discussed the different options BSO presented for the contract.

Vice Mayor Fournier suggested not adding anything additional for the BSO contract, given that the City will be doing a feasibility study of a stand-alone police department, and she would recommend what is currently in the budget. Furthermore, Vice Mayor Fournier asked what a fund balance entails and how much is usually in it. Suzette Sibble, Assistant City Manager, gave a brief explanation of how a fund balance works.

Vice Mayor Fournier asked if there was an update on the financial impact of the Fire Department negotiations. Mr. Donovan informed that they were only anticipating a cost-of-living increase, although Fire was asking for more than that, but that is all that can currently be budgeted for.

Comr. Sigerson-Eaton expressed how helpful the real-time crime center has been with crime prevention in the City, and that she hates to see that BSO is not being paid equivalent to other cities. Additionally, Comr. Sigerson-Eaton pointed out that regardless if the City starts their own police department or still utilize BSO, the City still needs to pay what the rate is of surrounding entities. Lastly, she thanked BSO for their work in the City as well as City staff for their efforts to prepare the budget.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Hardin thanked Mr. Harrison and staff and adjourned the workshop.

### **C. ADJOURNMENT**

The workshop adjourned at 1:21 PM.

---

Rex Hardin, Mayor

---

Kervin Alfred, City Clerk