



City of Pompano Beach

100 West Atlantic Blvd.
Pompano Beach, FL 33060

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

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

6:00 PM

Commission Chamber

City Commission Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable Rex Hardin, Mayor called the Regular City Commission meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION

Due to an unanticipated cancellation, the Invocation was offered by Pastor Miguel Cruz on behalf of Pastor Branden Jones of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Kervin Alfred, City Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[26-193](#) Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2026

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Minutes be APPROVED. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

[26-217](#) Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2026

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Minutes be APPROVED. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Hardin opened the agenda approval section and recognized City Attorney Berman for an update on a particular agenda item. Mr. Berman recommended postponing Agenda Item 8, which dealt with animals, citing several reasons, including suggested changes from Commissioner Lazarow of the City of Hallandale Beach that arrived the previous night. He explained that he and Deputy City Attorney Tracy Lyons had been unavailable all day due to depositions and meetings, preventing them from incorporating the changes. Mr. Berman expressed a desire to meet with Ms. Lazarow, the store owner, and her attorney to address concerns and reach a consensus, rather than debating back and forth during the meeting. He also noted that Senate Bill 1004 had passed the Senate regarding domestic animals and pet store treatment, and House Bill 1521 was positioned to pass in the House Commerce Committee. He recommended postponing the item to allow time for meetings during March, suggesting it could return on the April 28th night meeting.

Comr. Fesik agreed that postponing was a great idea, expressed concern about additional stores potentially opening in the interim, and asked whether anything could be done to prevent this. Mr. Berman responded that development services would treat it as legislation in progress, acknowledging it was another month's delay but emphasizing they were trying to make it acceptable through face-to-face discussions.

Mayor Hardin clarified for the public that Agenda Item 8 concerned animals for sale in Pompano Beach. The Mayor then announced they would also postpone Agenda Item 11 until March 24th, postpone Item 8 until April 28th, and move Item 5 (the Police Services Study presentation) directly before the Consent Agenda. He asked City Manager Harrison about further agenda changes, to which Mr. Harrison replied there were none.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Agenda be APPROVED AS AMENDED. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Finally, Mayor Hardin clarified for the record that the Police Services study would be a presentation-only item with no public input allowed, though commissioners could ask questions, and noted that workshops on that topic were scheduled, which he would discuss after the presentation.

CONSENT AGENDA DISCUSSION

The Commission may pull items from the Consent Agenda. During Audience to be Heard, a person may speak on any item on the Consent Agenda, which has not been pulled.

Mayor Hardin announced that Items 3 and 4 would be pulled for City Commission discussion.

A. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

Mayor Hardin announced that it was time for “Audience To Be Heard”. The following speakers were called to speak before the Commission:

Tamara Taylor stated that she stood before the commission as a hurt mother and described witnessing her son being kicked five times while he was already on the ground on January 13th. She stated that he was not fighting and posed no threat, and she expressed outrage that a gun was drawn on a bystander who verbally objected. She compared the incident to child abuse, asserting that if she had acted similarly, she would have been arrested, while the officer’s actions were labeled “under investigation.” She described replaying the event in her mind for 42 days and 1,008 hours and questioned whether the commissioners would remain calm if it were their own child. She criticized comments made by the BSO Major on February 10th that referenced her son’s clothing, arguing that wearing all black or a hoodie did not justify violence. She stated that the Pompano Beach Police Department had failed her family and accused the department of prioritizing brotherhood over accountability. She questioned why the officers involved were still working and asked what justice would look like if it were the commissioner’s child.

Vickie Glinton stated that she was the grandmother of the young man and described seeing video footage of him being beaten despite being apprehended, soaking wet, and weighing approximately 125 pounds. She stated that an officer walked around to the front of his head and kicked him five times. She asked how the commissioners would feel if it were their children and acknowledged that while he was not perfect, he was loved by his family. She reflected on growing up in a time when children admired police officers and expressed disappointment in the current state of policing. She concluded by stating her opinion that the department’s tagline should be changed, asserting that officers serve but do not protect, and that dishonesty exists.

Terry Taylor, Pompano Beach, FL, stated that he frequently called the police when he needed help and would continue to do so, but he emphasized that, beyond a creed and code of conduct, officers must have a conscience. He stated that the harm had been done and that healing must begin with accountability. He described watching the video and then hearing the Major’s remarks, stating that what he saw did not align with what he heard. He characterized the incident as excessive force and police brutality, asserting that there was no excuse for kicking a man when he was down. He stated that one officer’s actions had damaged the respect of the entire force and questioned which community the major referred to when speaking about community support.

Tiarra Taylor stated that she was Jeremiah Terrell Taylor’s aunt and described him as her firstborn nephew, a father, and someone raised in a family of nurturers and scholars. She described the shock and sorrow she felt upon receiving the call about the January 13th incident and watching the video of him being pushed to the ground and kicked. She reflected on her sister’s efforts to raise her children productively and spoke broadly about youth facing oppression and systemic burdens. She stated that young people questioned systems that older generations sometimes accepted and emphasized the need to protect, invest in, and listen to youth.

Comr. Perkins stated that the family was speaking about the January 13th incident on Northwest 8th Avenue and informed them that she had met with Chief Elwood regarding the matter. She stated that she had requested information from the Chief and that some materials had been sent to the Inspector General. She expressed

hope that she would receive an update soon and that the Chief might contact the family to provide additional information.

George Berlenge, 41 Havenwood Drive, Pompano Beach, FL, expressed appreciation that a study had concluded regarding the viability of stand-alone police services and commended the commission for responsibly researching the issue. He apologized to the previous family speakers for presenting a different perspective and expressed gratitude to Major Ellwood, Sheriff Tony, and BSO deputies for their work, particularly in crisis intervention and homeless outreach. He stated that the homeless outreach team had helped many individuals and that even regular officers demonstrated kindness and willingness to assist. He acknowledged criticism that BSO did not solve crimes effectively and proposed that residents cooperate more with officers by reporting information to improve efficiency.

Ed Phillips, 384 NW 19th Street, Pompano Beach, FL, listed numerous community leaders and historical figures during Black History Month and stated that they had worked to change unjust conditions. He expressed sympathy for the family seeking justice and appreciated Comr. Perkins' outreach. He also recognized several former mayors who had supported the Tiger Trail Festival and efforts to honor Black History Month through action rather than words.

David Hall, Pompano Beach, FL, expressed hope that the spirit of cooperation mentioned at the start of the year would extend to rank-and-file city staff. He stated that staff members felt attacked when commissioners criticized processes or appeared to support allegations of corruption on social media. He asserted that employees were integral to city processes and that unsubstantiated accusations harmed morale. He criticized commissioners for appearing to endorse claims of corruption without evidence and challenged them to make direct statements on the record rather than signaling approval through social media reactions.

Ira Thomas Bush stated that he had previously raised concerns about Broward County School Board Policy 1000, which he summarized as relating to rule development and rule-making. He questioned whether commissioners had reviewed his emails or prior comments and expressed frustration that he believed they were unprepared. He accused board members and officials of failing to perform their duties and made allegations of racism and white supremacy. He warned that current leaders would eventually be replaced and stated that he would not allow his child to be mistreated.

David Miller, District 5 resident, thanked attendees of Northwest community events during Black History Month and noted his role as president of the Jan Moran Collier City Learning Library. He described a Black History Month event focused on the Tuskegee Airmen and aviation, which led to a discussion of Barrington Irving. He stated that the event was well attended and supported library book sales. He highlighted an African American seal and banners created by a local artist and recognized his father, Doctor Reverend Daniel Miller, as a community developer in Pine Tree Park and the Collier City area. He announced upcoming events and expressed appreciation for the month's observances.

David Garcia stated that he represented the Pet Advocacy Network and spoke regarding the retail pet sale ban, which had been moved to April. He stated that his organization opposed retail pet sale bans as a method of regulating animal welfare and believed retail pet stores were important to the human-animal bond. He expressed willingness to assist in drafting the next version of the ordinance.

The allotted 30 minutes for Audience to be Heard had ended, so Mayor Hardin announced that all remaining speakers would be heard after the Regular Agenda.

5. [26-215](#) **Standalone Police Department Strategic Assessment presentation.**

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

(Staff Contact: Earl Bosworth)

Mayor Hardin opened the item by introducing Agenda Item 5, the Standalone Police Department Strategic Assessment presentation. He recognized Sheriff Gregory Tony of Broward County and invited him to speak before the presentation began.

Sheriff Tony addressed the commission and audience, first acknowledging the Taylor family's suffering and directly addressing Mrs. Taylor about an ongoing investigation involving her son. He explained that he had reviewed videos of the incident before the meeting and emphasized his commitment to justice regardless of race, color, or financial status. The Sheriff stated he had terminated over 200 employees during his seven-year tenure and had prioritized the community first, then the agency, and finally his employees. He asked for patience while the investigation proceeded and promised justice would be served. He indicated that Major Ellwood could provide information that wouldn't compromise the investigation. The Sheriff then praised the commission for conducting a thorough study before making decisions that would impact over 100,000 people, stating he had read the report twice and found it professionally done. He committed that BSO would continue supporting the City regardless of their decision.

Comr. Perkins clarified that she had only requested public information about the incident and hadn't intended to interfere with any investigation. She explained that BSO had failed to address the community about the incident, leading to many calls from residents, which prompted her inquiry at the Commission meeting.

Mayor Hardin thanked the Sheriff and introduced Jonathan Ingram from Raftelis as the presenter for the police department assessment study.

Mr. Ingram delivered an extensive presentation covering multiple aspects of creating a standalone police department. He began by introducing his team members, including law enforcement expert Cassandra Deck Brown (former Raleigh Police Chief with 40 years of experience) and Paul O'Connell (local expert with BSO and former Pompano Beach department experience). Mr. Ingram explained that their task was to determine what it would take operationally, financially, and organizationally to stand up a Pompano Beach Police Department while maintaining current service levels with BSO.

He outlined their methodology, which included extensive data collection from BSO, interviews with command staff, community engagement sessions, benchmarking analysis with comparable cities, and vendor research. Mr. Ingram detailed the current BSO services in four categories: direct services (282 full-time equivalent positions), indirect services, countywide services, and special detail services. He noted the contract cost had grown from \$39.1 million in 2016 to \$64 million in 2026.

Regarding community engagement, Mr. Ingram reported that 96 people attended four public sessions in October. The feedback revealed mixed perspectives: many felt generally safe and appreciated BSO's resources, training, and community involvement, while others expressed concerns about response times, patrol visibility, deputy conduct, and transparency issues.

For staffing estimates, Mr. Ingram explained they developed a model requiring 424 full-time equivalent positions (400 police department employees and 24 city staff) to replicate current services. This excluded certain regional services, such as 911 dispatch, crime lab, helicopter patrol, and jail services, which they assumed BSO would continue to provide.

The cost analysis revealed significant financial implications: \$89.1 million in annual personnel costs, \$10.7 million in operating costs, and \$107 million for a new facility (which could be financed at \$8.1 million annually over 30 years). Total one-time costs were estimated at \$145.6 million, with ongoing annual operating costs of \$99.8 million, compared to BSO's projected \$75 million, resulting in a \$24.8 million annual difference.

Mr. Ingram outlined implementation risks, including staffing challenges requiring lateral recruitment, the need to enter the Florida Retirement System, \$15,000 signing bonuses, and a complex 2.5-year transition period. He emphasized the need for cost discipline to achieve potential long-term savings, noting that cities historically struggled to maintain the required budget constraints.

The presentation concluded with four alternative approaches: a standalone department (highest control, highest cost), a hybrid approach (balanced control with some contracted services), a regional partnership (moderate benefits but complex governance), and a renegotiated BSO contract (lowest cost, lowest control). Mr. Ingram emphasized this was a policy decision for the commission and community, not a recommendation from his team.

Comr. Smith asked for clarification about whether the \$89.1 million personnel costs included signing bonuses, which Mr. Ingram confirmed.

Comr. Sigerson-Eaton praised the thorough and complex report, expressing concern about the ultimate cost to taxpayers. She highlighted uncertainty regarding potential legislative changes to property taxes that could eliminate certain revenue sources while mandating maintenance of police and fire funding levels. She emphasized that taxpayers would bear the cost of any decision and characterized the financial impact as astronomical.

Vice Mayor Fournier framed the study as the first step in making informed decisions about law enforcement options. She noted the dramatic changes in policing since Pompano Beach had its own department in 1999, including school shootings and 9/11. The Vice Mayor emphasized the need to understand all alternatives, including future BSO contract costs and regional approaches, and mentioned that Pompano Beach taxpayers also pay approximately \$65 million annually to BSO through county taxes. She requested a comparison with Deerfield Beach's different conclusion from their similar study.

Comr. Fesik thanked the presenter and noted substantial public interest based on audience attendance. She

requested an opportunity for public input during commission meetings rather than only at separate community meetings. Comr. Fesik expressed interest in detailed review of staffing comparisons, particularly the increase from 282 direct BSO staff to 424 proposed positions. She noted concern about the low community participation (96 people) in the engagement sessions and advocated for broader public involvement, including surveys and workshop participation, to ensure comprehensive community input.

Comr. Perkins apologized to audience members who expected speaking opportunities and questioned contract cost figures, specifically asking about a \$72.8 million amount for 2026 including 28 new positions. When Mr. Ingram indicated he didn't have information about that request, Comr. Perkins expressed desire for an independent third-party study, sharing her historical opposition to BSO's arrival in 1989 but acknowledging former Sheriff Ken Jennings had fulfilled his promises. She emphasized the need for community-police connectivity and expressed concerns about taxpayer burden while supporting the need for adequate policing services.

Mr. Ingram responded to Comr. Perkins' concerns by clarifying that his team was independent with no relationships to either the City or BSO, emphasizing their commitment to providing dispassionate analysis to inform the commission's decision-making process.

Mayor Hardin asked about BSO's willingness to negotiate contract terms, and City Manager Harrison confirmed that BSO had been open, considerate, and cooperative in past negotiations.

The Mayor concluded by outlining the next steps: community meetings on February 26 and March 12, individual commission meetings with staff, and a future workshop. He emphasized the importance of thoroughly understanding the implications before making decisions and noted the information was available on the City's website for public review.

The Presentation was READ AND PRESENTED INTO THE RECORD.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Hardin requested a motion to Approve/Adopt Items 1 and 2 under the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

1. [26-195](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE CITY'S FISCAL YEAR 2026 ANNUAL PUBLIC ART PLAN AND DIRECTING STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECTS INCLUDED THEREIN; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
(Fiscal Impact: \$182,900.00)



(Staff Contact: Ty Tabing)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Enactment No: RES. No. 2026-73

2. [26-205](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE A FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE LICENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH AND FEDERAL LEAGUE, INC. TO UTILIZE ATHLETIC FIELDS IN COMMUNITY PARK TO CONDUCT AN ADULT BASEBALL LEAGUE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

(Staff Contact: Scott Moore)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Enactment No: RES. No. 2026-74

3. [26-208](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, APPOINTING DODIE KEITH-LAZOWICK TO THE POMPANO BEACH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, AS APPOINTEE OF COMMISSIONER RHONDA SIGERSON-EATON, FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS; SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 23, 2029; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

(Staff Contact: Kervin Alfred)

Comr. Perkins stated she pulled the item for a resident.

Michael Skversky came forward and expressed strong opposition to appointing people to boards whose businesses profit significantly from the City. He argued that while small businesses making modest amounts from the City might be acceptable, he objected to businesses that had profited millions of dollars from taxpayers being represented on boards. He insisted that board appointees should be civilians or small business owners rather than those making substantial money from the City. Mr. Skversky also raised concerns about the appointee's name not being listed properly on the application, claiming "Dodie" was not her correct legal name and arguing that proper names must be used on official forms. He engaged in a back-and-forth with City

Attorney Berman about name requirements and insisted that the rules must be followed, maintaining that anyone else with an improperly listed name would not be approved.

Mr. Berman responded to Mr. Skversky's concerns by stating that Dodie was the correct legal name as far as he knew and that he had no reason to believe otherwise. He clarified that since this was an appointment to a board rather than an elected office, the name she was known by would be adequate. Mr. Berman dismissed the name issue as not something that would keep him awake at night and emphasized that many other things were more important.

Mayor Hardin sought further public input on the item and, receiving none, he moved on to Commission discussion.

Comr. Fesik explained that she had originally planned to pull together items three and four, not because of name issues, but to make a governance point. She emphasized that her concerns were not personal criticisms of any appointees, whom she respected for stepping up to serve. Comr. Fesik explained that the Economic Development Council was a joint body whose members were often involved in strategic discussions about economic development priorities and redevelopment issues before proposals ever reached the Commission or Planning and Zoning. She argued that when members had business relationships with the City or CRA, clear guardrails needed to be established. While acknowledging that it was a joint board between the Chamber of Commerce and the City, she requested conversations about guardrails for conflict disclosures, recusals, and limitations on leadership roles. Comr. Fesik proposed asking the city attorney and city manager to bring back, within 30 days, a written public recommendation on Economic Development Council governance standards, including conflict disclosures, recusals, officer eligibility, and sunshine-related practices for appointees or firms doing business with the City or the CRA.

Mr. Berman responded that, based on his recollection, the Economic Development Council was a private entity that the City helped create and to which it appointed members, but it set its own rules and regulations because it wasn't a city board. He expressed uncertainty about the purpose of such a review but indicated his willingness to do whatever the Commission directed.

Comr. Fesik clarified her understanding that it was a joint board, noting that the Economic Development Council had web pages on the City's website and that they hosted joint events with the Chamber. She pointed out that the board shaped decisions through recommendation letters to Planning and Zoning and Commission meetings, making it important to have proper benchmarks in place. She mentioned having to ask staff for meeting minutes and information, suggesting that if it was truly a joint board, such information should be readily available to residents.

Mayor Hardin questioned what specifically Comr. Fesik was seeking, wondering if she wanted to see their bylaws, which he indicated he had a copy of. He expressed confusion about whether the request was about the Council as an independent organization.

Comr. Fesik explained that the confusion itself demonstrated the need for clarity, suggesting that the city manager and city attorney should bring back information within 30 days outlining the framework and parameters, along with any recommendations.

Mr. Berman clarified that he could provide the bylaws and the original formation articles, noting that the board was private and that the City was permitted to appoint its members. He explained that the City Commission could set requirements or standards for its own appointments, and that traditionally each commissioner appointed someone from the business community who could benefit the board through their experience, whether from large or small businesses.

Comr. Fesik reiterated her request for a written recommendation within 30 days regarding the Economic Development Council's governance standards, including conflict disclosures, recusals, officer eligibility, and sunshine-related practices for appointees or firms doing business with the City or the CRA, along with an explanation of the bylaws.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Resolution / Consent Agenda be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Fesik

Perkins

Sigerson-Eaton

Smith

Fournier

Hardin

Enactment No: RES. No. 2026-75

4. [26-213](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, APPOINTING JAY GHANEM TO THE POMPANO BEACH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, AS APPOINTEE OF COMMISSIONER BEVERLY PERKINS, FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS; SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 23, 2029; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

(Staff Contact: Kervin Alfred)

Mayor Hardin mentioned that Comr. Fesik had pulled this item for discussion.

Comr. Fesik briefly stated that she had already said her piece and was satisfied.

Mayor Hardin then sought public input on the item.

Michael Skversky, 1630 SW 5th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL, spoke in support of the appointment, characterizing the appointee as the type of person desired for board service - someone who was good,

honorable, honest, trustworthy, and not profiting from the City.

There being no further speakers, Mayor Hardin concluded public input and moved on to Commission discussion; however, no one commented further on the item.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Resolution / Consent Agenda be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Fesik
Perkins
Sigerson-Eaton
Smith
Fournier
Hardin

Enactment No: RES. No. 2026-76

C. REGULAR AGENDA

6. [26-214](#) Approving and authorizing the award of ITB26-025 for SE 6th Terrace New Bridge Replacement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, General Asphalt Co. LLC in the amount of \$8,530,065.20, and authorizing the proper city officials to execute the contract as provided in ITB26-025.
(Fiscal Impact: \$8,530,065.20)

(Staff Contact: Dr. Tammy Good/John Sfiropoulos)

John Sfiropoulos, City Engineer, stated that the project had been bid late the prior year and received only one bid at about \$14 million, which staff rejected with the intent to rebid. He explained that staff expected more competition and more reasonable pricing by removing the requirement for an accelerated construction schedule that had been tied to the timing of the McNab Bridge project. He stated the project was rebid in January, with bids opened on February 9, and three bids were received: General Asphalt at \$8.53 million, HA Contracting at \$14.03 million, and Kiewit at \$14.17 million. He stated General Asphalt was the lowest qualified and responsive bidder and that staff verified their references and experience. He stated the bid aligned with the consultant's construction estimate and with the staff's evaluation of recently completed bridges in the tri-county area. He added that if the Commission approved the item and the City entered a contract before March 14, the Army Corps permit would not expire. He recommended an award to General Asphalt for \$8.53 million with a 19-month construction schedule and offered to answer questions.

Mayor Hardin sought public input on the item.

Paul Peterson, 301 SE 3rd Court, Pompano Beach, FL, stated he was glad the project was moving forward and asked questions about General Asphalt's qualifications, noting his quick research suggested the company

emphasized asphalt and paving rather than bridge construction. He stated the company appeared established and trustworthy, but he did not see clear bridge project details on its website. He also questioned whether the \$8.5 million bid was a lowball bid, given that larger contractors submitted bids around \$14 million even with a slower schedule, and he asked how staff concluded General Asphalt was qualified.

Mayor Hardin stated staff had reviewed the issue and directed the question to Mr. Sfiropoulos.

Mr. Sfiropoulos responded that while the bid disparity might look concerning from the outside, staff viewed the two \$14 million bids as exorbitant and considered General Asphalt's bid reasonable and fair compared to recent bridge projects and engineers' cost estimates. He stated staff believed the price was in line with expectations.

Mayor Hardin asked whether staff had checked the company's qualifications. Mr. Sfiropoulos stated that the staff checked references and said the company had completed several bridge projects. He cited a reference involving six bridges along a 10-mile stretch of Tamiami Trail and stated he personally called and spoke with FDOT representatives to verify the references, concluding staff were comfortable with the firm.

Mike Skversky, 1630 SW 5th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL, stated he had also checked and believed the company was good.

Mayor Hardin closed public input and opened Commission discussion.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated the bridge was important to the district and the City had promised it for decades, and she said she wanted the project to move forward. She noted the permitting work and engineering challenges had been difficult and said it was not easy to raise concerns given the time pressure, but residents deserved the project to be done correctly. She stated procurement had two mandatory steps-responsiveness and responsibility-and referenced a backup memo indicating all three bidders were responsive and two were responsible. She stated she had looked into the matter and wanted clear answers on the record. She asked whether there was a formal checklist used at bid opening for responsiveness. Mr. Sfiropoulos stated that procurement checked responsiveness and engineering checked responsibility.

Vice Mayor Fournier pointed out that the engineering memo stated engineering deemed the bidders both responsive and responsible, and said she would go through issues in the General Asphalt submittal. She stated General Asphalt did not answer a question about what equipment it owned for the work and claimed the response was essentially blank. She stated General Asphalt did not respond to a question about who would perform the work and asked who would build the bridge and what equipment would be used, including whether a bridge-building partner was involved. Mr. Sfiropoulos stated the company was self-performing except for pavement marking and striping, which had a listed subcontractor.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated additional qualification items were left blank, including whether the bidder had inspected the work and had a plan, and a request to list three similar projects completed in the past ten years as a prime contractor. She stated General Asphalt did not list three projects, and that other bidders did. She acknowledged an attached FDOT list but characterized it as primarily paving projects. She questioned whether follow-up was allowed if materials were missing at bid opening and emphasized that responsiveness meant

providing everything at the time of opening. She then challenged the accuracy of the Seaview Bridge reference listed as a completed project, stating it was not completed.

Mayor Hardin instructed Vice Mayor Fournier to allow staff to answer questions and stated she had a time limit, explaining she could ask further questions in additional time blocks and should focus on questions rather than extended commentary. He stated he would provide an extra minute.

Comr. Perkins stated that Mayor Hardin did not need to raise his voice and characterized his tone as abusive toward Vice Mayor Fournier. She stated she would pass and began to address colleagues while criticizing how Vice Mayor Fournier was being treated.

Mr. Sfiropoulos stated that regarding Duck Key, the representative he spoke with indicated the project was substantially complete, and he stated two other references provided were fully complete.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated the form asked for the last project completed and argued that “substantially complete” did not satisfy “completed,” and she asserted the qualification form was materially lacking and inaccurate. She then asked who determined responsibility, stating it was engineering. Mr. Sfiropoulos stated he called the three references provided by General Asphalt.

Vice Mayor Fournier cited ITB language requiring licensure documentation, including GC licenses and an ATSSA traffic control supervisor, and she stated the bid did not include one of those items. She questioned how the bid was not disqualified despite bold language stating failure to demonstrate licensure would result in disqualification, and she asked who overruled that requirement.

City Attorney Berman stated he did not participate in procurement, did not rule anything out, and did not alter any requirements, adding that the information was in the backup.

Tammy Good, CIP Manager, stated the ITB included language allowing the procurement director to request additional information from bidders, and she stated the procurement director exercised that authority. She stated the procurement director requested additional information not only from General Asphalt but also from the other two bidders.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated she disagreed with that interpretation and returned to the requirement for three similar completed bridge projects as prime contractor, stating General Asphalt did not include that in the initial submission. She asked who called references for Kiewit and stated she believed no one did, while also questioning how Kiewit could be deemed responsible without reference verification.

Mr. Sfiropoulos stated he did not call Kiewit's references and indicated staff focused responsibility review on the lowest bidder. He stated HA was not called because staff deemed HA non-responsible.

Vice Mayor Fournier asked why HA was deemed non-responsible. Mr. Sfiropoulos stated HA did not meet the required qualifications because they were not the prime contractor on three completed bridge replacements within ten years, and that the submitted work reflected repairs rather than replacements.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated that HA at least listed three bridges, even if they were repairs, and again questioned how General Asphalt qualified when they initially listed nothing. Mr. Sfiropoulos stated that procurement followed up to request additional information, and staff then verified three projects for General Asphalt.

Vice Mayor Fournier asked about American Empire Builders (AEB) and whether AEB was General Asphalt's partner on the Seaview Bridge project. Mr. Sfiropoulos acknowledged AEB came up and stated he understood General Asphalt had acquired them, and he characterized the work as self-performing.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated she had distributed documents to other commissioners and described a timeline in which Monroe County awarded the Seaview Bridge contract to AEB for \$5.2 million, the project was delayed, payments were diverted to a surety, liquidated damages were discussed, and AEB was declared in default and terminated after stating it could not complete the work. She asserted this raised serious concerns about relying on the Seaview Bridge as a qualification reference.

Mayor Hardin cut Vice Mayor Fournier off, stated she was out of order, and recessed the meeting for 10 minutes. He then called the meeting back to order and stated the next speakers would be Comr. Sigerson-Eaton, followed by Comr. Fesik.

Comr. Sigerson-Eaton stated she was pleased the low bid was about \$6 million lower than the prior \$14 million figure and said she had not supported the \$14 million bid tied to an accelerated schedule. She stated she had read an online blurb claiming the bridge affected 4,000 residents in Garden Isles, but said her understanding was that it affected about 3,000 residents upstream. She stated she requested and received a report indicating the bridge was in good to fair condition and was not in poor condition or a safety hazard, so she believed it did not urgently need replacement. She raised broader fiscal uncertainty related to potential state-level property tax changes and said the city could face significant general fund impacts, noting concerns about proposals like raising sales tax, which she described as regressive. She stated she did not believe it was fiscally responsible to spend \$8.5 million on a bridge she said did not need replacement, and she argued funds might be better used for other infrastructure, such as road paving and drainage projects. She characterized the bridge replacement as benefiting a smaller group and said she could not support the expenditure under current uncertainty.

Comr. Fesik stated she appreciated a colleague raising fiscal responsibility and the state-level budget uncertainty and said she hoped that lens would be applied to all spending decisions. She stated she had done some background research and thanked Vice Mayor Fournier for providing information during the break. She acknowledged the bridge was important to the community and noted Vice Mayor Fournier had pushed for the project to go back through procurement. She stated that, given the new information being raised, she did not think it was appropriate that the Vice Mayor had been cut off while seeking clarifying answers. She stated she had also found information suggesting serious problems with the Seaview Drive Bridge project, including potential litigation and disputes involving Monroe County and a surety company. She stated she wanted to make a motion before continuing and said that for a project involving \$8.5 million to \$14 million, she was not comfortable moving forward without addressing concerns and allowing the Vice Mayor's questions to be answered.

Comr. Fesik made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Fournier, to allow the Vice Mayor additional time to speak on the item. The motion failed with a 3-3 vote (Yes vote: Fesik, Perkins, and Fournier; No vote: Sigerson-Eaton, Smith, and Hardin).

Comr. Fesik stated that the commission was discussing an \$8.5 million bridge project with known legal issues related to the lowest bidder and emphasized that the city faced a deadline to avoid losing prior work. She asked whether it was true that only the lowest bidder's references were checked, and the other bidders' references were not. Mr. Sfiropoulos confirmed that references were not checked for HA because they were deemed non-responsible, and he stated he did not check references for Kiewit because General Asphalt was the low bid and satisfied qualification requirements. He explained this was a low-bid ITB process where staff evaluated the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, not an RFP where all proposals were ranked. He stated that staff did not check references for every bidder when there could be many bids.

Comr. Fesik stated she understood not calling every reference, but she argued that since three bids were brought forward and commissioners had concerns about major infrastructure spending and safety, she expected basic due diligence calls for all three companies.

Mr. Sfiropoulos stated that he disagreed and reiterated that General Asphalt was the low bid, met the qualifications, had references checked, and had a bid amount staff believed was fair and reasonable, so staff did not need to review the other bids.

Comr. Fesik asked about roles and process, stating that engineering took over after procurement, and she wanted clarity about who handled what. She also referenced prior instances where bidders were disqualified for incomplete forms and asked whether similar disqualification practices applied here. Mr. Sfiropoulos stated that disqualifications for incomplete forms occurred during the responsiveness review handled by procurement. He stated all three bidders were deemed responsive, and after that, engineering collaborated with procurement on responsibility clarifications, which he said were sought after the fact from all three bidders. He noted that he called the three references General Asphalt provided and spoke directly with FDOT representatives managing those projects, and he stated he could only rely on the information he was given.

Comr. Fesik stated her concern was that red flags were apparent from basic research, and she questioned how the lowest bidder could be trusted, saying she worried they lacked bridge-building experience and that one cited bridge project was not completed and had problems. Mr. Sfiropoulos stated the bidder did have bridge experience and again cited the Tamiami Trail project involving six bridges as a reference he reviewed.

Comr. Fesik asked whether documentation of that reference was in the backup and stated she wanted to see qualifications supporting that claim. She also stated she was concerned about reports suggesting a Miami-based contractor defaulted on multiple local projects and said that when a bid came in far below others, it raised concerns about quality and future problems. She pressed Mr. Sfiropoulos on whether he was confident the project would not return with major change orders or abandonment. Mr. Sfiropoulos responded that the "betting people's lives" hypothetical was not appropriate, but stated he wanted to reassure her.

Mayor Hardin warned the audience to stop yelling and stated he would remove someone from the chambers if disruptions continued. He issued additional warnings and directed that an individual be removed with BSO

assistance. He then stated he would extend Comr. Fesik's time by two minutes.

Comr. Fesik stated that with multi-million-dollar projects, commissioners kept being silenced for asking basic questions the public wanted answered. Mr. Sfiropoulos explained that change orders were authorized under three conditions-design errors, unforeseen conditions, or additional work requested by the owner-and stated those conditions applied regardless of whether the project was awarded at \$8 million or \$14 million. He stated that if an unforeseen condition warranted a legitimate change order, it would exist regardless of the original bid amount.

Comr. Fesik asked whether it was the City's best practice to engage contractors involved in litigation for not completing similar projects and asked whether active litigation was a disqualifying factor.

Mr. Berman stated it was a procurement issue rather than a legal issue. He stated he could answer whether something was lawful, but did not discuss the City's practices, and he stated that litigation disclosure was typically part of the procurement process, where bidders might be required to disclose litigation.

Comr. Fesik asked whether litigation was disclosed in this process. Dr. Good stated that because this was an ITB, the city did not request litigation information. She stated the issue being referenced related to AEB rather than General Asphalt, and she stated General Asphalt's qualifications and performance history checked out with exceptional results.

Comr. Fesik disagreed with the characterization of "exceptional" based on her research and said she would return with additional questions.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated that she was returning to the Seaview Bridge, referencing that General Asphalt was listed as the last project completed. She stated AEB had been found in default and terminated, and that General Asphalt then received a \$5 million contract, while the bridge remained incomplete past an expected January 2026 completion. She stated General Asphalt did not disclose partnering with AEB and argued that residents in that community were frustrated because the project remained unfinished after years. She noted that the bidder qualification form was inaccurate, including listing Seaview as completed when it was not, and she argued that if AEB were their partner, the answer to whether they had ever failed to complete work should have been "yes." She described additional allegations about AEB's performance on other bridge projects, stating AEB had been terminated on multiple bridge contracts in Pinellas County, left unsafe conditions and debris, and faced litigation and taxpayer cost overruns. She cited examples where AEB allegedly defaulted mid-project, leading to delays and additional costs when a new contractor had to be hired. She noted that the recommendation felt like it was forced toward the lowest-cost option without proper vetting, despite serious concerns about the bridge-building partner's recent defaults and terminations. She believed this risked taxpayers paying twice through delays, litigation, and re-procurement. She asserted that the only truly responsive and responsible bidder appeared to be Kiewit and noted Kiewit had built the 5th Avenue Bridge, which she presented as a credible local comparison. She asked procurement to explain how General Asphalt was deemed responsive when, in her view, the qualification form contained multiple blanks, missing attachments, and claims she believed were inaccurate. She stated that she no longer trusted the recommendation process, referenced prior discussions where low bids were expected to rise through change orders in other projects, and stated she found it unprecedented that simple research raised such significant

concerns about the recommended contractor for an important public project.

Vice Mayor Fournier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Fesik, for the legal department to provide a written memo in two weeks assessing the responsiveness and responsibility of a bid. She also requested a recommendation for the next agenda regarding which bidder meets these criteria, along with a memo from legal and procurement detailing the process and a reevaluation of the bids based on the legal review findings.

Mayor Hardin stated that staff had already determined the bidder to be responsive and responsible, but Vice Mayor Fournier stated she disagreed and wanted a legal review of that determination.

Mr. Berman asked whether the Vice Mayor would share the materials she referenced so he would not need to research them independently. Vice Mayor Fournier confirmed the packet she distributed included the documents, including the Monroe County termination letter.

Comr. Smith stated that while online searches showed negative information about American Empire Builders, General Asphalt was a separate company and active on SunBiz. She stated General Asphalt was the entity the city would contract with, not AEB, and that there was no confirmation that AEB would be used as a subcontractor.

Dr. Good stated that AEB was not the entity under contract and that General Asphalt would self-perform the bridge. She stated General Asphalt was a billion-dollar company that performed bridges as part of larger projects and was highly qualified. She stated the price was consistent with comparable recent bridges and that delaying the award risked the Army Corps permit expiring.

Comr. Sigerson-Eaton asked about the cost of the 5th Avenue Bridge used as a comparison. Mr. Sfiropoulos stated it was approximately \$2.5 to \$3.5 million and had been constructed several years ago.

Comr. Fesik returned to the responsiveness and responsibility terminology in the ITB recommendation tabulation. She asked what “responsibility” meant in this context. Mr. Sfiropoulos replied that it involved checking references, qualifications, and experience.

Comr. Fesik noted that Mr. Sfiropoulos previously stated that only the lowest bidder’s references were checked. Mr. Sfiropoulos confirmed that HA was not checked because it was deemed nonresponsive, and that Kiewit was not initially checked because General Asphalt was the lowest bidder meeting qualifications.

Vice Mayor Fournier stated that her questions were related to the motion and emphasized the importance of obtaining a legal opinion to ensure the process was correct. She stated this was not the first time concerns arose about the procurement process and silos between departments.

Mary Rivero, Procurement and Contracts Director, explained that procurement normally handled both responsiveness and responsibility, but in this city, engineering reviewed responsibility because they were the subject matter experts. She stated procurement checked responsiveness, and engineering checked responsibility. She acknowledged the memo stated that all three were checked for responsibility, but clarified

that procurement ultimately had references checked for Kiewit after requesting them, and that Kiewit met the reference requirements.

Comr. Fesik thanked her and confirmed that Kiewit was found responsible and responsive.

Mayor Hardin restated the motion as directing legal to review the matter and return with a determination whether the bidder was responsive and responsible.

Mr. Berman clarified that the motion would evaluate whether the current bid met the responsiveness and responsibility requirements. He cited Florida Statute 255.201, stating that when a contract is awarded based on price, it must go to the lowest qualified and responsive bidder in accordance with municipal ordinance. He stated the statute explained why other bidders were not fully evaluated when a lowest qualified bidder existed, but he agreed to review responsiveness if directed.

Comr. Sigerson-Eaton asked Vice Mayor Fournier whether she was alleging that staff failed to follow rules or statutes.

Vice Mayor Fournier responded that she was requesting a legal opinion on responsiveness and responsibility, and objected to having words put in her mouth.

City Manager Harrison warned that waiting until the regular March 10 meeting might risk the Army Corps permit expiring on March 14 and suggested a special meeting if the matter were delayed.

Vice Mayor Fournier agreed that a special meeting before March 10 was appropriate.

Comr. Fesik asked how long Mr. Berman would need to prepare the opinion. Mr. Berman replied that he needed about a week, but could expedite if required. After discussion of availability, commissioners agreed on March 3 as the date for a special meeting.

The motion was later amended to specify March 3, 2026, as the scheduled date for a Special Meeting to discuss the legal findings.

The final motion passed 5-1 (Yes vote: Fesik, Perkins, Smith, Fournier, and Hardin; No vote: Sigerson-Eaton).

7. [26-185](#) Approval of the members of the auditor selection committee to evaluate proposals for independent auditing services for an audit of the City of Pompano Beach financial statements.
(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

(Staff Contact: Allison Feurtado)

Allison Feurtado, Finance Director, requested approval of the audit committee members as originally

recommended at the February 10, 2026 Commission meeting. She explained that Florida Statute requires the governing body to establish a committee of at least three members, including a governing body member serving as chair, to oversee the auditor selection process. She emphasized that timely approval was necessary to proceed lawfully and avoid delays that could jeopardize the audit timeline.

Mayor Hardin sought public input on the item.

Michael Skversky, 1630 SW 5th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL, provided public input, initially requesting clarification on the committee's purpose. After learning it was to select auditors rather than conduct audits, he spoke extensively about the Vice Mayor's qualifications, mentioning her education at Princeton, Harvard, and the University of Washington, her MBA, and her work experience at Boeing, Goldman Sachs, and EVR. Despite personal reservations, he argued she would be the best choice for the committee based on her qualifications and work ethic.

David Hall offered public comment, first congratulating the Vice Mayor's educational achievements. He questioned whether the auditing committee actually performed any auditing, and after confirmation that they only selected auditors, he argued that the process was simply about tallying scores on a matrix. He contended that extensive qualifications were unnecessary for what amounted to checking boxes and counting marks, referencing the successful audit selection five years prior, when the mayor chaired the committee.

Anne Bosworth, a resident of Palm Aire, provided public input arguing that if the process required financial expertise and business perspective, there was no reason to oppose having someone with that background on the committee rather than someone from a different profession.

Thomas Jerry Thebo, Jr. offered brief public comments about energy and time in thought processes, addressing those who had lost fathers.

There being no further speakers, Mayor Hardin concluded public input and moved on to Commission discussion.

Mayor Hardin made a motion to appoint the entire City Commission to the audit review committee, allowing any commissioners who wish to participate, which opens the committee to as many commissioners as want to serve, along with subject matter experts, which was seconded by Comr. Sigerson-Eaton.

Comr. Sigerson-Eaton asked questions about the RFP process, learning that the previous audit firm was Keefe McCullough (now Citrin Cooperman) based in Fort Lauderdale, and that approximately five or six firms typically respond to RFPs. She confirmed that the committee would score firms based on qualifications rather than pricing.

City Attorney Berman provided legal clarification that city commissioners could serve on this selection committee without violating county ethics codes, as the exemption for committees established under section 218.391 applies.

Comr. Fesik thanked Ms. Feurtado for providing alternative recommendations but expressed concerns about Mayor Hardin chairing the committee, given the previous meeting's conduct. She argued that Vice Mayor Fournier was the most qualified member of the governing body due to her engineering, finance, and investment banking background, and stated that she would only support a structure with the Vice Mayor as chair.

Mayor Hardin clarified that his motion was optional participation and suggested the committee could select its own chair once constituted.

Mr. Berman clarified that committee members were voting members, not alternates, and that the chair had no greater voting power than other members.

Ms. Feurtado confirmed that all committee members have equal voting rights, with the chair overseeing the process and running meetings.

The motion failed with a 3-3 vote (No vote: Fesik, Perkins, and Fournier; Yes vote: Sigerson-Eaton, Smith, and Hardin).

Mayor Hardin then made a second motion to draw names from a hat to determine committee membership, which was seconded by Comr. Sigerson-Eaton.

Comr. Fesik strongly objected to the random selection method, calling it ridiculous and inappropriate for an audit selection committee. She emphasized the importance of selecting the most qualified person for the job.

Vice Mayor Fournier criticized the hat-drawing motion as defeating its purpose and revealing that the Mayor didn't care about serving, as long as she wasn't selected, even if it was random.

Comr. Sigerson-Eaton defended the democratic process and her right to disagree, arguing that it was disrespectful to remove the mayor from his traditional role as chair, noting his 20+ years of experience on the Commission.

Comr. Fesik responded that fiscal responsibility and fiduciary duty required choosing the right person for the job, arguing that most people would select the vice mayor based purely on qualifications.

Mayor Hardin expressed being taken aback by the discussion and questioned why his original motion to include everyone was rejected if the goal was to get Vice Mayor Fournier on the committee.

Vice Mayor Fournier explained she had concerns about other commissioners potentially serving on the committee. She then expanded the discussion, suggesting that the Commission should more often assign responsibilities to the most appropriate person, using the example of proclamation readings and suggesting that Comr. Perkins should read Black History Month proclamations.

Comr. Perkins noted that names on proclamations were printed too small to read and requested that the mayor consider allowing commissioners to help choose Housing Authority board members rather than making all selections himself.

The hat-drawing motion failed 4-2 (No vote: Fesik, Perkins, Smith, and Fournier; Yes vote: Sigerson-Eaton and Hardin).

A motion was made by Commissioner Fesik, seconded by Vice Mayor Fournier, to have Vice Mayor Fournier serve as voting chair, with qualified external professionals as voting members, and for any additional elected officials to serve in non-voting advisory roles.

Yes: Fesik
Perkins
Fournier
Hardin

No: Sigerson-Eaton
Smith

Comr. Smith attempted to make a motion for both the Mayor and Vice Mayor to serve, but this was ruled out of order since the previous motion had already been decided.

8. [26-119](#) **P.H. 2025-69: (PUBLIC HEARING 2ND READING)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 90, "ANIMALS," BY AMENDING SECTION 90.39, "RETAIL SALE OF DOGS AND CATS," TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS FOR THE RETAIL SALE OF DOGS AND CATS WITHIN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

POSTPONED FROM FEBRUARY 10, 2026

FIRST READING: JANUARY 27, 2026

(Staff Contact: Mark E. Berman/Rob McCaughan)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Ordinance / Regular Agenda be POSTPONED to the April 28, 2026 City Commission Meeting. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

9. [26-186](#) **P.H. 2026-27: (PUBLIC HEARING 2ND READING)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 155, "ZONING CODE," OF THE POMPANO BEACH CODE OF ORDINANCES, BY AMENDING SECTION 155.2432., "REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION," AND SECTION 155.2434., "COMMUNITY RESIDENCE AND RECOVERY COMMUNITY CERTIFICATE," TO COMPLY WITH FLORIDA CHAPTER 2025-182, LAWS OF FLORIDA, RELATING TO CERTIFIED RECOVERY RESIDENCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

FIRST READING: FEBRUARY 10, 2026

(Staff Contact: Scott Reale/David Recor)

Scott Reale, Principal Planner, introduced the item and explained it was the second reading of an ordinance amending the zoning code to ensure compliance with state statutory requirements regarding review timelines and procedures for certified community residences, noting there had been no changes since the first reading.

Mayor Hardin sought public input on the item and invited further Commission discussion. However, no one commented on the item.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Ordinance / Regular Agenda be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Fesik
Perkins
Sigerson-Eaton
Smith
Fournier
Hardin

Enactment No: ORD. No. 2026-22

10. [26-189](#) **P.H. 2026-25: (PUBLIC HEARING 2ND READING)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 91, "BOATS AND WATER RECREATION," OF THE POMPANO BEACH CODE OF ORDINANCES BY CREATING SECTION 91.17, "POMPANO BEACH OVERNIGHT ANCHORING LIMITATION AREA," TO ESTABLISH AN ANCHORING LIMITATION AREA WITHIN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

FIRST READING: FEBRUARY 10, 2026

(Staff Contact: Mark E. Berman/John Sfiropoulos)

John Sfiropoulos, City Engineer, presented the ordinance and stated there were no changes from the first reading.

Mayor Hardin sought public input on the item and invited further Commission discussion. However, no one commented on the item.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Ordinance / Regular Agenda be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Fesik
Perkins
Sigerson-Eaton
Smith
Fournier
Hardin

Enactment No: ORD. No. 2026-23**11. [25-586](#) P.H. 2026-01: (PUBLIC HEARING 2ND READING)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE II, SECTION 6 TO CHAPTER 57-174, LAWS OF FLORIDA SPECIAL ACTS OF 1957 AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, IMPOSING LIMITATIONS ON THE LENGTH OF TERMS OF THE OFFICES OF THE MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS, WHILE EXPANDING FUTURE TERMS OF OFFICE OF CITY COMMISSIONERS AND STAGGERING SAID TERMS; PROVIDING THAT IF THE AMENDMENT IS APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE VOTERS AT THE GENERAL ELECTION OF NOVEMBER, 2026, THEN SUCH AMENDMENT SHALL BECOME A PART OF THE CITY'S CHARTER UPON CERTIFICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE ELECTION RESULTS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

POSTPONED FROM DECEMBER 9, 2025

FIRST READING: NOVEMBER 13, 2025

(Staff Contact: Mark E. Berman)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Ordinance / Regular Agenda be POSTPONED to the March 24, 2026 City Commission Meeting. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

- 12. [26-209](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, APPOINTING_____TO THE PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, AS PRIVATE CITIZEN, FOR A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS; SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 26, 2028; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

<u>Applicants</u>	<u>Other Board Memberships</u>
Donna M. Schorr, Incumbent - District 1	0
David Swain - District 5	0

(Staff Contact: Kervin Alfred)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Resolution / Regular Agenda be ADOPTED. Mayor Hardin nominated Donna M. Schorr. The motion to appoint Donna M. Schorr carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Enactment No: RES. No. 2026-77

- 13. [26-210](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, APPOINTING_____TO THE PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, AS ARCHITECT, FOR A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS; SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 26, 2028; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

<u>Applicants</u>	<u>Other Board Memberships</u>
Tobi Aycock, Incumbent - District 3	2

(Staff Contact: Kervin Alfred)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by

Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Resolution / Regular Agenda be ADOPTED. Mayor Hardin nominated Tobi Aycock. The motion to appoint Tobi Aycock carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Enactment No: RES. No. 2026-78

- 14. [26-211](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, APPOINTING _____ TO THE PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, AS CURATOR, FOR A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS; SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 26, 2028; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

Applicants

Mary Lou Hamilton, **Incumbent** - District 1

Other Board Memberships

0

(Staff Contact: Kervin Alfred)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Resolution / Regular Agenda be ADOPTED. Mayor Hardin nominated Mary Lou Hamilton. The motion to appoint Mary Lou Hamilton carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Enactment No: RES. No. 2026-79

- 15. [26-212](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA, APPOINTING _____ TO THE PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF POMPANO BEACH, AS ART PROFESSOR, FOR A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS; SAID TERM TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 26, 2028; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

Applicants

Mimi Botscheller, **Incumbent** - District 1

Other Board Memberships

0

(Staff Contact: Kervin Alfred)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Fournier, seconded by Commissioner Sigerson-Eaton, that the Resolution / Regular Agenda be ADOPTED. Mayor Hardin nominated Mimi Botscheller. The motion to appoint Mimi Botscheller carried by a unanimous voice

vote.

Enactment No: RES. No. 2026-80

D. ADDITIONAL AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

City Clerk Alfred attempted to call various speakers who had signed up to speak, but many had left the meeting. However, Thomas Jerry Thebo Jr. was called and came forward.

Mr. Thebo spoke on the importance of respecting the planet as our home and criticized the wasteful disposal of biodegradable items. He advocated for better recycling practices, suggesting that all waste, including food waste, could be recycled, creating jobs and reducing the need for chemical fertilizers in food. Mr. Thebo also proposed using food waste to extract methane for fuel, highlighting the environmental and nutritional benefits of such practices.

E. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Mayor Hardin announced that the next scheduled meetings are as follows:

March 3, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. - Special City Commission Meeting
March 10, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. - Regular City Commission Meeting
March 24, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. - Regular City Commission Meeting

F. REPORTS

City Manager's Report:

City Manager Harrison called George Buenaventura, the Facilities Maintenance Operations Director, forward to present something from Manta, Ecuador, related to a previous fire equipment donation.

Mr. Buenaventura addressed the Commission, sharing that in December 2024, the City had donated 18 service uniforms from the fire department to their friend City in Manta, Ecuador. He explained that he had attended a wonderful event in Miami organized by the City of Manta, where Pompano Beach was honored with a beautifully crafted yellow fence, a tuna, and a letter from the Mayor of Manta. Mr. Buenaventura then translated and read the letter, which recognized the City's act of solidarity, cooperation, and brotherhood, acknowledging how the donation consolidated a bridge of cooperation between both municipalities and reflected commitment to citizens' welfare as an example of effective international cooperation between local governments.

Mayor Hardin thanked Mr. Buenaventura and acknowledged the gesture as very nice. Mr. Harrison then concluded his report portion.

City Attorney's Report:

City Attorney Berman reported that there had been earlier discussion about an incident with the Sheriff's office involving a young gentleman, and informed the Commission that his office had received a notice of intent to sue that day, advising commissioners to be aware of pending litigation before making comments on the matter. He also thanked officials and staff who had reached out with messages of condolence during his difficult time.

Mayor Hardin expressed sympathy for Mr. Berman's loss.

City Clerk's Report:

No report.

Comr. Fesik's Report:

Comr. Fesik began by expressing condolences to Mr. Berman for his loss. She thanked Fernand Thony for coming in to give a presentation on the A1A and FDOT project at the request of new residents and asked Mr. Harrison to share the PowerPoint with the rest of the Commission, as it contained valuable timeline information. She then discussed beach accessibility, explaining that after recent conversations about accessibility, she had researched the City's floating water wheelchairs and discovered that while they had Mobi-mats at various beach entrances, none extended to the water's edge. She presented visual materials showing examples from Sarasota and Siesta Key, proposing that approximately 300 feet of Mobi-mat costing around \$10,000 would provide wheelchair accessibility directly to the water's edge. She suggested the ideal placement would be near the Fire Rescue ocean rescue station and recommended adding more handicapped parking spots in that area.

Vice Mayor Fournier supported the idea, mentioning that she had received similar requests from residents in the past that had been sent to Parks and Recreation but hadn't progressed, and noted that other Florida beaches had successfully implemented similar accessibility features.

Comr. Smith explained that Anne Bosworth and Caryl Iseman had discussed this with her, and she had planned to bring it up during budget discussion, but would defer to the District 1 Commissioner since Comr. Fesik was already addressing it.

Comr. Fesik responded that, given the low cost, she preferred not to use budget funds for what she considered a valuable discretionary spending item and asked Mr. Harrison to follow up on the appropriate way to proceed to obtain actual costs and implementation details.

Mr. Harrison clarified that they already had mats and chairs at Ocean Rescue, though the mat didn't extend all the way to the water, and promised to investigate the current situation further.

Comr. Fesik continued by thanking Brian Donovan and Mr. Harrison for working on crosswalk issues and temporary solutions while FDOT projects were delayed, requesting Mr. Harrison's assistance in expediting temporary traffic crosswalk approvals through FDOT. She concluded by expressing excitement about increased citizen engagement and shared a quote about political neutrality being a gift of power to those who are very interested.

Comr. Perkins' Report:

Comr. Perkins requested updates on the Ultimate Sports Park near Apollo Park and the Boys and Girls Club, which she had been waiting for since 2018, and also asked for an update on the NW 6th Avenue project regarding completed roundabout removal and requested staff to look into visibility issues with garbage cans,

bus benches, and bus shelters. She invited everyone to attend Community Court on Thursday at 1:30 PM at the E. Pat Larkins Center, where a judge helps homeless people and people in need, noting that walk-ins were welcome at the end for those needing help with food, housing, or other resources.

Comr. Sigerson-Eaton's Report:

No report.

Comr. Smith's Report:

Comr. Smith praised the City's public art plan, thanking Ty Tabing and his team for creating public art throughout the city. Next, she highlighted notable events, such as Rhythms of Legacy at the Hive, artist sound panels at the Senior Activity Center, and the One Fish Two Fish installation. She announced a safety meeting on March 4th from 6:00 to 9:00 PM at the Skolnick Center, where the Fire Department would teach stop-the-bleed techniques, hands-on CPR, AED operation, fire extinguisher use, and post-fire procedures. She celebrated the wonderful Black History Month events, thanking volunteers, the City's Parks and Recreation, and BSO for their contributions, and concluded with a quote from Jesse Jackson about never looking down on anybody unless helping them up.

Vice Mayor Fournier's Report:

Vice Mayor Fournier shared that Broward County had approved converting the flashing lights at the intersections of Northeast 1st Street and Northeast 2nd Avenue to an all-way stop with flasher removal, which she believed would improve safety and traffic flow. She announced her community meeting for the following night at 7:00 PM at the American Legion, where they would discuss the BSO study and other community concerns. She then concluded with a quote about integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching.

Mayor Hardin's Report:

Mayor Hardin reiterated praise for Black History Month celebrations, acknowledging the group effort involving volunteers, Tiger Trail, Collier City, the City's Parks and Recreation, BSO, the Fire Department, and everyone who participated in making it a great multi-event community celebration. He reminded everyone about the special meeting scheduled for March 3rd at 1:00 PM and urged the Commission to put it on their calendars.

G. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:49 PM.

Rex Hardin, Mayor

Kervin Alfred, City Clerk