

## 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*

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Tuesday, June 23, 2026

5:00 PM

Commission Chamber

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### Budget Workshop

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable Rex Hardin, Mayor called the City Commission Budget Workshop to order at 5:00 PM.

#### ROLL CALL

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

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Kervin Alfred, City Clerk

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

#### A. REGULAR AGENDA

1. [26-381](#) Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2027 Preliminary Estimated General Fund Budget.  
(Fiscal Impact: N/A)

**(Staff Contact: Joshua Watters)**

Greg Harrison, City Manager, introduced the item, stating that the presentation would provide an overview of the projected General Fund revenues and expenditures, along with the key assumptions and priorities reflected in the proposed budget. He then turned the floor over to Joshua Watters, Budget Director.

Mr. Watters began his presentation by thanking department directors and staff for their assistance during the budget process, as well as the City Manager, assistant city managers, and City Attorney for their guidance. He concluded by thanking his team in the Budget department.

During the presentation, Mr. Watters reviewed the General Fund expenditure and revenue projections, key budget pressures and cost drivers, as well as General Fund expenditure reductions. The presentation addressed taxable value trends, millage rate considerations, and Fire Assessment Fee considerations. Mr. Watters concluded his presentation by discussing the proposed property tax reform amendment and the potential fiscal impacts that it could bring to the City's budget. The full presentation is available upon request from the City Clerk's Office.

Mayor Hardin opened the floor to Commission discussion.

Vice Mayor Fournier shared that the last slide in the presentation, pertaining to discretionary community programs and events that could be cut, resonated with her, and she suggested that the Commission make a list, during their one-on-one meetings, of other potential revenue opportunities and areas of compromise that are not just community events. Vice Mayor Fournier stated her belief that all consulting contracts should be eliminated, and should the need for a consultant arise, a contract could be added back, but she believes it is time to clean house. She concluded by thanking Mr. Watters and staff for their work on the budget.

Comr. Fesik inquired if the Fire Assessment Fee was increased last year, to which Mr. Watters responded that it was raised by \$30. She asked if there would be more opportunities to hear from the newly created budget task force, or to have more workshops, to provide further input on the budget process, as she feels there should be more opportunity for public discussion about the budget. Comr. Fesik agreed with Vice Mayor Fournier regarding the need to look elsewhere for budget cuts, not just at community events.

Comr. Perkins asked Mr. Watters to expound upon the Nonprofit Partnership Program shown on the last slide of the presentation. Mr. Watters explained that it is a \$300,000 program where nonprofit organizations can apply each year for a portion of those funds. Comr. Perkins then inquired about the Grant-in-Aid programs, to which Mr. Watters shared that there are other organizations that the City assists with grants, such as the Historical Society, Tiger Trail, BSO Summer Camp, and the Summer Youth Employment Program. Comr. Perkins asked if there was a breakdown of all items listed on that slide for elimination. Mr. Watters clarified that none of those items were currently being recommended for elimination, they are just examples of the types of things that can be eliminated, if necessary, due to them not being core programs and events. Comr. Perkins requested a list of all the consultants in the city and the cost of each contract.

Vice Mayor Fournier requested a list of belt-tightening opportunities of 5-10% from each department for their 1-on-1 meetings. She stated that if a list of community programs cuts were proposed, then a list of department

expenditure cuts should be made too. Mr. Watters clarified again that no program cuts are being proposed to balance the 2027 budget, this list was to consider for possibility in the future, for future budgets, if it were deemed necessary.

Vice Mayor Fournier suggested the reinstitution of the Budget Review Committee.

Mayor Hardin invited public input; however, no one came forward.

Mayor Hardin thanked Mr. Harrison for putting everything together. He stated it was necessary to be prepared for what could happen with the possibility of the Tax Reform Proposal being approved, and to understand all the possible options.

**INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. NO ACTION TAKEN AT THIS WORKSHOP.**

**B. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further comment, Mayor Hardin adjourned the meeting at 5:36 PM.

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Rex Hardin, Mayor

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Kervin Alfred, City Clerk