



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

Thursday, March 19, 2026

6:00 PM

Cultural Center

City Commission Workshop

CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable Rex Hardin, Mayor called the City Commission workshop to order at 6:05 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 Assistant City Manager Earl Bosworth whether there were any changes to the Agenda. Mr. Bosworth confirmed that there were none.

A. REGULAR AGENDA

[26-261](#) Discussion on the standalone Police Department study and the City’s strategic evaluation of law enforcement services.

(**Staff Contact:** Earl Bosworth)

Earl Bosworth, Assistant City Manager, introduced Jonathan Ingram, Vice President of Raftelis, who shared his industry experience and the role he plays in helping Pompano Beach navigate this process.

Jonathan Ingram, consultant from Raftelis, gave an overview of the presentation he presented at both the public outreach meetings and the February 24th City Commission meeting. The presentation provided an overview of the current law enforcement service model and contractual elements, community and stakeholder engagement themes, and law enforcement staffing model. The presentation also detailed operating, capital, and start-up cost assumptions and the impact, implementation pathway and risks, and a summary of service alternatives and police choices. A complete copy of the presentation is available by request from the Clerk's Office.

Mayor Hardin sought public input on the item.

Lauren Holliday, 1615 NE 28th Court, Pompano Beach, FL, shared her concern about BSO spending and budgeting practices. She encouraged the City to think creatively to find solutions to save money and move forward with a stand-alone police department. Ms. Holliday gave insight into negative personal experiences she had with BSO and her desire to feel safe.

Linda Dana, 2621 NE 18th Street, Pompano Beach, FL, expressed her support of the service BSO currently provides, and her desire for the City to continue with BSO. Ms. Dana shared her previous experience working for the former Pompano Beach Police Department but feels the growth of the city warrants continuing with a large, established police department.

James Lesertano, 3010 N. Ocean Drive, Pompano Beach, FL, gave his support of BSO and shared that he feels safe in the community with BSO officers.

Tom House, 1265 S. Flagler Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL, inquired how current political and global issues factor into the cost assumptions provided in the presentation. Mayor Hardin explained that whatever happens in the world will impact Pompano Beach; so with a stand-alone department, the City will directly take on any increases in cost, and with a BSO contract, they would take on that risk.

Mark Kurly (no address given) stated his opposition to a stand-alone police department. Mr. Kurly stated that he is a retired law enforcement officer and that he has difficulty finding young police officers willing to take a position with the Pompano Beach Police Department that would not offer the same career growth opportunities. Continuing, he expressed concern about the cost to taxpayers of establishing a new police department.

Debra Campbell, 1950 NW 4th Court, Pompano Beach, FL, spoke in favor of continuing a contract with BSO due to the high cost that would be incurred to create a new department, and feels that the funds that would be allocated to a new department would be better utilized enhancing the services currently received from BSO.

Vicente Thrower, Pompano Beach, FL, expressed the need for the City to have control over who the Police Chief is, and currently, the City does not have the authority to make that decision. Mr. Thrower inquired about how long it would take to hit \$100 million paid to BSO at the current rate the City is being charged. Mr. Ingram said it would take approximately 10 years to reach that amount. Continuing, Mr. Thrower stated his dissatisfaction with the current Sheriff. He urged the Commission to explore all available options that provide

greater control.

Anne Bosworth, 4015 W. Palm Aire Drive, Pompano Beach, FL, spoke on everyone having their own experiences with BSO, both positive and negative, and that the City should negotiate with BSO for needs of all the residents, as different areas of the City require a different approach to policing. Ms. Bosworth asked Mr. Ingram if there were any talking points that could be provided to City management to use in the negotiation process. Mr. Ingram informed that several areas identified should be targeted in negotiations with BSO, including public participation in the development of a community-wide law enforcement strategic plan.

Jocelyn Jackson, Pompano Beach, FL, spoke about the incident on 8th Avenue and explained that the frustration in the Northwest community with BSO is that they over-police and antagonize residents, which breeds distrust. Furthermore, Ms. Jackson stated that she does not believe Pompano Beach is receiving all the services paid for under the contract, that other cities are benefiting from the money paid to BSO, and that she wants a report given to the City showing where all the money is going. Lastly, Ms. Jackson asked that the community be included in the BSO contract negotiation.

Gary McLamore, 1751 NW 6th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL, inquired where the money paid to BSO for Pompano Beach services was actually being spent and asked to see a report showing those figures.

Patricia Williams, 1565 NW 7th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL, stated that the City should not be starting at zero if it were to start its own police department and asked how taxpayers could double-pay, since they have already invested tax dollars in County police services. Mr. Ingram explained how the residents benefit from county tax dollars versus what is paid for in the contract, and that if the City were to have its own police department, it would still be provided those county-wide services.

Evencia Janvier, President of the Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce, shared her support of BSO and cautioned the Commission to consider the economic impact it would have to no longer have BSO, as businesses are coming into Pompano Beach, they are looking at the safety in the community, and they consider BSO a positive for them to choose to do business here.

Lauren Holliday, 1615 NE 28th Court, Pompano Beach, FL, felt a step in the process is being missed by not having an independent audit done on BSO. Ms. Holliday expressed her concern with the lack of transparency from BSO, and the difficulty she encountered trying to obtain records from them.

Ashley User, Pompano Beach, FL, gave support for keeping a contract with BSO and explained that there will be good and bad experiences, no matter who is doing the policing. Ms. User shared her concern about the cost of creating a new department and about spending money on one that had already failed, which is why the City is currently with BSO.

Kevin Eason, 2010 NW 5th Terrace, Pompano Beach, FL, explained that, given the City's significant growth, it would be detrimental to the City to make this major change now.

Sheryle Reising, 1341 SE 10th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL, echoed support for BSO but does feel community meetings with BSO could help improve the community's relationship with BSO. Ms. Reising

inquired if the residents would vote on this issue. Mayor Hardin stated that, currently, it is a Commission decision, and they could choose at a later time whether to bring it to the residents for a vote.

Teresa Black-Duncan, 4581 W. McNab Road, Pompano Beach, FL, shared a negative experience she had with the police in another city and expressed support for staying with BSO.

Luciene Alexandre, 401 SW 1St Court, Pompano Beach, FL, stated that if the City were to hire personnel for a new police department, the City would recruit from BSO; essentially, the City would still have BSO personnel policing the City, and therefore might as well stick with BSO.

Terry Williams, 757 NW 15th Street, Pompano Beach, FL, supported keeping BSO in the City due to its greater cost-effectiveness for residents, as well as the accountability BSO provides that is not seen with smaller police departments in the area.

There being no further public input, Mayor Hardin invited Commission discussion.

Comr. Smith stated her belief that the best thing for Pompano Beach is to renegotiate the contract with BSO. She stated that the best way to move forward would be to eliminate the divide in the city. Comr. Smith expressed a desire to include in the contract more meetings with residents across various communities in Pompano Beach. Continuing, she emphasized the possibilities that can be negotiated with BSO, and that a contract should be continued for at least another year.

Mayor Hardin read into the record a letter from City Manager, Greg Harrison, which gave his endorsement of a one-year contract with BSO, given the uncertainties with current State legislation. A copy of the full letter can be requested from the Clerk's Office.

Vice Mayor Fournier expressed her disappointment in the city manager's absence from the meeting. She echoed Comr. Smith's concern with the divide in the city, and that the structure of BSO in the city should be reevaluated. She emphasized that she isn't ready to make a determination one way or the other yet and that the City needs to pursue parallel paths, including creating a strong negotiation team for the BSO contract. Vice Mayor also stated the need to obtain reports showing how all the money is being spent and to ensure that the City is receiving all the resources paid for.

Comr. Sigerson-Eaton voiced that her number one responsibility to the residents is their safety, and that this is an extremely important decision. She spoke about the significant hit the City's budget could take if property tax revenue ends due to the legislation under consideration. Comr. Sigerson-Eaton expressed concern about the tax burden that would be placed on residents to create a new police department. She stated that if this study showed cost savings, she would consider a stand-alone department, but it does not. She urged the commission to wait until at least November to see the outcome of the property tax legislation and move forward with a contract extension with BSO. Furthermore, she touched on crime rates decreasing across the city, and the large growth the City has seen, and will continue to see.

Comr. Fesik asked whether, if a public safety bond were issued, it would need to be a referendum. Mark Berman, City Attorney, informed that it depends on how the bond is financed.

Comr. Fesik stated that she is nowhere near ready to make a decision on this matter. She agrees with exploring options for negotiating with BSO. She informed that she had conversations with Sheriff Tony herself, and he seemed very open and willing to participate in more public meetings and provide any information that is requested. Comr. Fesik agreed with the Vice Mayor about pursuing parallel paths, and figuring out what the city's non-negotiables are.

Major Ellwood explained what "span of patrol" is, which explains why Pompano Beach is divided into two areas as it currently is.

Comr. Fesik then spoke about the poor condition of the current building BSO is working out of and said that, no matter what decision the City makes, that building will need to be fixed. She stated she was happy to hear that her fellow commissioners were concerned about the pending legislation and hopes they can continue to monitor City spending overall. Lastly, Comr. Fesik stated her desire to have these types of meetings and workshops held in the Commission Chamber and televised, with an option to participate online.

Comr. Perkins asked when the next meeting on this topic would be held. Mayor Hardin responded that it is up to the Commission.

Comr. Perkins believes there needs to be further discussion and posed the question of how they got here in the first place and what caused the conversation to start about a stand-alone police department. She voiced her concern about the study, stating it did not feel balanced. Comr. Perkins informed that the stats she has are different from those BSO provides, and is concerned about the disconnect between BSO and the community. She referenced another incident on NW 8th Avenue and expressed concern about BSO's relationship with the Northwest community. She finished with her strong belief in community policing and her desire to see the improvements firsthand, rather than just hear about ways BSO will improve in her community.

Mayor Hardin reminded the public that no action can be taken at a workshop and thanked them for coming out and being engaged. In closing, he thanked BSO for all that they do.

INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. NO ACTION TAKEN AT THIS WORKSHOP.

B. ADJOURNMENT

The workshop adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Rex Hardin, Mayor

Kervin Alfred, City Clerk