

**CITY OF FLORIDA CITY
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

TUESDAY, JUNE 9th, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER /ROLL CALL

The City Commission of the City of Florida City, Florida, met in regular session June 9, 2026, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Commission Chambers, 404 West Palm Drive, Florida City, FL 33034.

The following members of the City Commission were present: Mayor Charlotte Thompson, Vice Mayor Ronda Cobb, Commissioner James Gold, Commissioner Trina Wilborn, Commissioner Richard Brown, Jr.

2. INVOCATION

Pamela McLean delivered the invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Commission Minutes of May 26, 2026.

Motion offered by Commissioner Gold, seconded by Commissioner Brown to approve the minutes passed and carried by a 5 to 0 vote of the City Commissioners.

5. ORDER OF BUSINESS - (NONE)

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

6.1 *PROPOSED 2036 FLORIDA CITY TRANSPORTATION PLAN*

Memo from Dr. James Poag titled Proposed 2036 Florida City Transportation Plan and dated June 1, 2026, is on file for the record.

The City Manager introduced the agenda item regarding the development of a comprehensive transportation Plan for Florida City. He stated that the Commission had previously expressed concerns regarding traffic and

transportation issues throughout the City and explained that the proposed plan would provide a strategic framework to address current and future transportation needs. Dr. Poag advised that staff would return to the Commission with additional details, including project costs and a proposed scope of work for future consideration and approval.

City Planner, Henry Iler presented an overview of the proposed Transportation Plan and introduced the project team, including Dr. Juan Ortega, Traffic Engineer and a representative from Inspire Placemaking Collective, Lakisha Smith.

Mr. Iler explained that Florida City has not updated its transportation planning efforts since the 1990s and currently relies primarily on traffic studies conducted for individual development projects. He noted that the proposed Transportation Plan would serve as a comprehensive 10- year roadmap addressing all ode of transportation, including roadways, transit, bicycles, pedestrians, sidewalks and traffic operations.

The presentation outlined that the plan would include:

- Traffic counts and roadway analyses throughout the city;
- Evaluation of vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle safety;
- Review of crash and injury data at major intersections;
- Recommendations for roadways, sidewalk, bicycle, transit and bus shelter improvements; and
- Public engagement through workshops, charrettes and community meetings

Dr. Ortega discussed the data collection and technical analysis components of the project. He explained that the Transportation Plan would provide the city with a unified strategy for mobility improvements over both the short-term and long-term horizons while evaluating transportation options available to residents, including automobile, public transit, bicycling and pedestrian travel.

Advised that the study would analyze existing and projected traffic conditions based on approved development projects over the next ten years. The analysis would identify heavily congested corridors and recommend appropriate transportation improvements.

Ms. Lakeisha Smith of Inspire Placemaking Collective discussed the urban design component of the project. She explained that the plan would focus on three major corridors within the city and would include detailed design concepts addressing streetscape improvements, landscaping, pedestrian amenities, shade tree, crosswalks, safety enhancements, and other placemaking features.

Ms. Smith emphasized the importance of community participation throughout the

planning process.

Henry Iler, City Planner further explained that one of the primary goals of the Transportation Plan is implementation. He stated that the plan would identify grant funding opportunities and provide the data and supporting analysis necessary to strengthen future grant applications. He noted that the plan would also assist private developers by identifying transportation needs and potential improvements associated with future growth.

The project team emphasized that the Transportation Plan would be designed as an implementable plan focused on achievable improvements, including roadway enhancements, bus shelters, sidewalks, bicycle facilities and intersection safety improvements.

The presentation concluded with an over of the project team's qualifications and experience in transportation planning, engineering, urban design, community engagement and landscape architecture. Staff advised that they would return to the Commission at a future date with a more detailed scope of services, project costs and recommendations for consideration.

A few more questions ensued after which the Mayor and Commissioners received the presentation regarding the proposed Florida City Transportation Plan.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

***Pamela McLean: 766 NW 3rd Terr:

Ms. McLean addressed the Mayor and Commission regarding concerns about loud music originating from events held at a city park and a neighboring venue. The speaker stated that during a recent weekend event, music from a nearby city facility was excessively loud and interfered with activities taking place at the park. The speaker noted that the noise continued beyond 10:00 PM and inquired about the individual or department responsible for enforcing the City's noise ordinance and ensuring compliance with regulations governing amplified sound.

Ms. McLean further expressed concern regarding roadside vendors operating along Palm Drive and questioned how the city ensures that vendors are properly licensed and paying applicable taxes and fees, similar to local business owners.

*** Girl Scout Troop 2311

Representatives of Girl Scout Troop 2311, including Savannah, McKenzie and Amber appeared before the Mayor and Commission to present their Bronze Award community service project focused on assisting stray animals.

The troop members explained that they are partnering with a local nonprofit organization, “This is the Dog” to support homeless cats and dogs by helping socialize animals, assist with adoptions and collect pet food and supplies for animals in need.

The scouts requested permission to place a pet food donation collection box at a city facility, such as City Hall or another suitable location, to allow residents to donate pet food and supplies. They explained that collected donations would be distributed through the nonprofit organization to families in need to help keep pets in their homes and reduce the number of animals surrendered or abandoned.

Jennifer Messemer, Troop Leader for Troop 2311, addressed the Commission and advised that the troop is seeking support from neighboring municipalities for the project. She requested the City’s consideration in allowing placement of a donation box at a city facility and asked whether the city could assist in promoting the initiative through its communication and social media platforms.

The Mayor and Commissioners thanked the scouts and their troop leader for their presentation and community service efforts.

8. ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING (NONE)

9. ORDINANCE(S) FOR SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING(S)

9.1: SECOND & FINAL READING: ORDINANCE NO: 26-04:AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FLORIDA CITY, FLORIDA, APPROVING A SMALL SCALE LAND USE AMENDMENT FROM THE MEDIUM-HIGH MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL LAND USE CATEGORY TO THE COMMERCIAL CATEGORY, A ZONING DISTRICT BOUNDARY CHANGE FROM THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT TO THE C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT AND THREE (3) ZONING VARIANCES FOR THE 12.7-ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED SOUTHWEST OF THE INTERSECTION SOUTH KROME AVENUE AND U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 1; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SPONSORED BY THE CITY MANAGER)

Memo dated May 6, 2026, from the Administrative Services Director and Staff Report from City Planner dated April 27, 2026, with attachments are on file for the record.

Motion offered by Commissioner Brown for approval of Ordinance No: 26-04 on Second and Final Reading. Seconded by Commissioner Gold. Passed and carried by a 5 to 0 roll call vote of the City Commission.

Mayor Charlotte Thompson Yes

Vice Mayor Ronda Cobb	Yes
Commissioner James Gold	Yes
Commissioner Trina Wilborn	Yes
Commissioner Richard Brown, Jr.	Yes

10. CONSENT AGENDA (NONE)

11. RESOLUTIONS/PUBLIC HEARING (S) NONE

12. RESOLUTIONS

12A) 26-46: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FLORIDA CITY, FLORIDA, MAKING IT MANDATORY FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS IN YOUTH SPORTS LEAGUE PROGRAMS OPERATING AT CITY FACILITIES, WHOSE GRADES FALL BELOW A 2.0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE, TO PARTICIPATE IN A HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE AND/OR TUTORING PROGRAM, AND REQUIRING THAT ALL YOUTH LEAGUE PARTICIPANTS MAINTAIN A 2.5 CONDUCT RATING; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SPONSORED BY VICE MAYOR FERGUSON COBB)

Motion offered by Commissioner Wilborn for approval of Resolution No: 26-46. Seconded by Commissioner Gold. Passed and carried by a 5 to 0 roll call vote of the City Commission.

Mayor Charlotte Thompson	Yes
Vice Mayor Ronda Cobb	Yes
Commissioner James Gold	Yes
Commissioner Trina Wilborn	Yes
Commissioner Richard Brown, Jr.	Yes

12B) 26:48: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FLORIDA CITY, FLORIDA, RATIFYING AND APPROVING THE EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT OF SIDEWALK AND ROADWAY REPAIR SERVICES FROM COAST TO COAST CONCRETE IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FIFTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$52,000.00) FOR REPAIRS NEAR FLORIDA CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MAAGER TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Motion offered by Commissioner Gold for approval of Resolution No: 26-48. Seconded by Commissioner Brown. Passed and carried by a 5 to 0 roll call vote of the City Commission.

Mayor Charlotte Thompson	Yes
Vice Mayor Ronda Cobb	Yes
Commissioner James Gold	Yes
Commissioner Trina Wilborn	Yes
Commissioner Richard Brown, Jr.	Yes

12C) 26-50: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FLORIDA CITY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, FOR THE FY25 JUSTICE REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE: STRENGTHENING STATE AND LOCAL OPERATIONS TO REDUCE CRIME AND RECIDIVISM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,564,711.00; AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS IF AWARDED; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE GRANT AGREEMENT AND ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Memo from the Chief of Police dated June 8, 2026, with attachments on file for the record.

Motion offered by Commissioner Wilborn for approval of Resolution No: 26-50. Seconded by Vice Mayor Cobb. Passed and carried by a 5 to 0 roll call vote of the City Commission.

Mayor Charlotte Thompson	Yes
Vice Mayor Ronda Cobb	Yes
Commissioner James Gold	Yes
Commissioner Trina Wilborn	Yes
Commissioner Richard Brown, Jr.	Yes

13) QUASI-JUDICIAL ZONING MATTERS (NONE)

14) REPORTS OF MAYOR AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

*** Commissioner Wilborn reported that she is a member of the City of Homestead's CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) which responds to emergency situations within the city of homestead, and when necessary, throughout the county, state and nation.

She advised that the CERT Director recently requested assistance in preparing the community for Hurricane season. As part of those efforts, the City of Homestead hosted a Hurricane Preparedness Giveaway providing residents with hurricane readiness kits, water and other emergency supplies.

Commissioner Wilborn stated that she had the opportunity to speak with David regarding implementing a similar hurricane preparedness initiative in Florida City. She noted that discussions are ongoing and that David had expressed interest in bringing the program to Florida City. The Commissioner emphasized, that, if implemented, the program should be available to all residents and not limited to residents of a particular municipality. She shared that some Florida City residents who attended the Homestead event were unable to receive supplies because the program was restricted to Homestead residents only.

The Commissioner stated that she would like to ensure that any future events hosted in Florida City serve all individuals seeking assistance.

***City Manager, Dr. James Poag advised that staff has also been working on hurricane preparedness efforts over the past two weeks and has been coordinating with Global Empowerment Mission and other agencies. He stated that staff will evaluate available resources and collaborate with partner organizations to provide a comprehensive offering of services and supplies to residents, subject to availability.

***Vice Mayor Cobb thanked everyone who participated in the recent Law Enforcement Basketball Tournament. She specifically recognized Lt. Butts, Officer Brody, Officer Castro, Officer Tesson, Officer Rivera, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Dewberry, Ms. Josephine Smith, Det. Moore and all Florida City Police officers who participated and assisted with the event. Vice Mayor stated that the tournament was successful, well attended and enjoyed by participants.

Vice Mayor advised that there is interest in making the tournament an annual event and noted that several participating agencies have expressed interest in returning for another tournament in October. She requested the Commission's continued support for future events.

Vice Mayor further stated that positive relationships between law enforcement and the community are essential. She encouraged continued efforts to strengthen those relationships, emphasizing that both law enforcement officers and residents play important roles in creating a safer and stronger community.

***Vice Mayor Cobb reported that staff is continuing to work on the Midnight Basketball Program. She stated that information regarding the program will be distributed to the community once finalized. She encouraged parents to have young people between the ages of 12 and 18 participate. The program will provide a safe environment with basketball activities, music, food, games and opportunities for social interaction. The Vice Mayor noted that the initiative is intended to provide positive recreational opportunities for youth during the summer months and help reduce exposure to crime and other negative influences.

*** Commissioner Gold reminded the public of the upcoming Breast Cancer Awareness Walk scheduled for October 17 and encouraged community participation.

He commended the City Manager and staff for their continued efforts on behalf of Florida City residents and noted that participation in community events continues to grow.

***Mayor Charlotte Thompson announced that a 5-on-5 youth flag football tournament, in partnership with former Miami Dolphins player Arandel Gaston, would be held over the weekend. She invited families to attend and advised that food and refreshments would be available.

Mayor Thompson thanked the Commissioners for supporting community events and encouraged residents to continue sharing ideas and suggestions for future programs and initiatives, particularly those benefiting the youth of Florida City.

The Mayor concluded her report.

15) REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY/CITY CLERK

***The City Manager advised that the Florida Legislature recently adopted significant property tax legislation that could have a substantial impact on municipalities throughout the state. He explained that, if approved by voters, the proposed constitutional amendment would increase the Homestead Exemption from the current \$50,000 to \$150,000 beginning January 1, 2027, with a subsequent increase to \$250,000 beginning January 1, 2028. Thereafter, the exemption would continue to increase based on inflation. He noted that school district taxes would not be affected by the proposed changes.

The City Attorney explained that the proposed exemption increases could significantly reduce property tax revenues available to municipalities, potentially affecting the funding of local government services. She further advised that municipalities are prohibited from advocating for or against the proposed amendment and may not expend public funds to influence the outcome. However, municipalities may provide factual and neutral educational information regarding the proposal and its potential impacts.

*** Mayor Charlotte Thompson emphasized the importance of educating residents on the potential effects of the proposed legislation and encouraged the city to utilize various communication platforms, including the City's website, newsletters and other outreach methods, to ensure residents are informed and engaged in the process.

***The City Manager advised that the City would continue to provide factual information to residents regarding the proposed legislation while complying with all legal requirements governing public education efforts.

Dr. Poag also advised the Commission that appointments to the Planning & Zoning Board would need to be revisited in advance of an upcoming hearing. He requested direction from the Commission regarding whether current appointments would remain in place or whether new appointments should be considered.

The City Manager further reported that, during a previous strategic planning session, residents expressed several concerns regarding community issues. Staff has compiled those concerns and developed preliminary strategies to address them. He advised that the items would be discussed during an upcoming Agenda Review Meeting to obtain Commission input and direction. Following Commission review, staff will refine the proposed action plan and return the matter to a future Commission meeting for further discussion.


***The City Manager announced that the city will host a Community Cleanup Event on June 27th from 9AM to 11:00AM. Residents interested in volunteering are encouraged to contact the Code Compliance Department through City Hall.

Dr. Poag then introduced new members of the city team including a new Parks Manager, Michelle and Ms. Shelly Williams (Administrative Strategic Manager). He stated that both individuals would play important roles in supporting City operations, policies, procedures, budgeting and emergency management functions.

Lastly, the City Manager announced the upcoming retirement of Jon Ward, CRA Director. He expressed appreciation for Mr. Ward's years of dedicated service to the City and acknowledged his significant contributions to municipal operations. Dr. Poag thanked Mr. Ward for his commitment, professionalism, and support throughout his tenure with the city.

16) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss before this body, the meeting adjourned without objection at 7:50 PM.


JENNIFER A. EVELYN, CITY CLERK


CHARLOTTE THOMPSON, MAYOR