

**MINUTES**  
**CITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**JUNE 16, 2025**  
**7:00 P.M.**

This Commission Meeting was conducted utilizing Communications Media Technology. Some Staff members were present in the Commission Chambers while others were present via the Zoom application.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT IN CHAMBERS:**

Dan West, Mayor  
Brian Williams, Vice-Mayor/ Commissioner Ward 3  
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2 (Present via ZOOM)  
Sunshine Joiner, Commissioner, Ward 2  
Harold Smith, Commissioner Ward 1  
Scott Whitaker, Commissioner-at-Large 1

**STAFF PRESENT IN CHAMBERS:**

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney  
Jim Freeman, City Clerk (Present via ZOOM)  
Marisa Powers, City Attorney  
Mohammed Rayan, Public Works Director (Present via ZOOM)  
Lorenzo Waiters, Interim Chief of Police  
Rowena Young-Gopie, CRA Director  
Cassi Bailey, Assistant City Clerk  
Cheryl Miller, Finance Director

**STAFF PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY:**

Todd Williams, Information Technology (IT) Consultant

1. Mayor West called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Joiner gave the prayer for tonight's meeting.

All persons intending to address the City Commission were duly sworn.

2. CITY COMMISSION AGENDA APPROVAL

**MOTION:**                    **Commissioner Joiner moved, Commissioner Whitaker seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the June 16, 2025 City Commission Agenda.**

3. 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY EVENT UPDATE FROM LEAH BROWN

Ms. Leah Brown gave an update through PowerPoint, which was included in the Minutes. She also passed out a joint press release for the event from the City of Palmetto and the City of Bradenton.

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Commissioner Williams questioned if she would send out maps for parking. Yes, it will mirror the parking plan from last year. They are updating the graphics and will have that available. It is also reflected in their special function permit that was included in the agenda on May 5, 2025.

Everyone agreed that it looks like it will be a great event, and they appreciate all the detail she is putting into the planning.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes: 05/05/2025 & 05/19/2025
- b. Special Function Permit-Beer Garden at 4<sup>th</sup> of July Event
- c. Resolution 2025-09: FDLE- Byrne Rifle Plate Grant
- d. Resolution 2025-10: FDLE Drone Replacement Grant

**MOTION:**                      **Commissioner Joiner moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as presented by staff.**

6. TEFRA PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 2025-07 CONDUIT BORROWER MSFTA

**MOTION:**                      **Commissioner Joiner moved, Commissioner Whitaker seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to hold a TEFRA Public Hearing concerning Renaissance Arts and Education, Inc. (the "Borrower")**

*Mayor West opened the Public Hearing at 7:21 pm.*

Mr. Ritesh Patel read the TEFRA Public Hearing verbiage into the record. A copy of his comments were made part of the minutes.

*Mayor West closed the Public Hearing at 7:26 pm.*

**MOTION:**                    **Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Joiner seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve Resolution No. 2025-07 approving the issuance of City of Palmetto, Florida Educational Facilities Revenue Bonds (Renaissance Arts and Education, Inc. Project) in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$32,000,000 (the "Bonds").**

7.     MAY 2025 CHECK REGISTER (INFORMATIONAL ONLY)

COMMENTS:

8.     DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

Ms. Bailey shared the proposed upcoming budget workshop dates, along with the need to move our final budget hearing date due to the County scheduling their final budget hearing for September 22<sup>nd</sup>, our normally scheduled second meeting in September. The Commissioners said they would look at their calendars and vote to move the date at the next meeting on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Barnebey shared that they need to submit their Form 1 by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The CRA is hosting their first quarterly community workshop on June 26<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 pm at the Palmetto Youth Center. It will be advertised, and everyone is welcome to attend.

9.     MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor West shared that he had a great time going to the opening day of the summer program for the Boys and Girls Club. He also attended a flag day ceremony and a celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the United States Army.

10.    COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Cornwell will not be attending the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event as she is recovering from surgery.

Commissioner Joiner loved being part of the FreeBee photoshoot.

Commissioner Williams thinks they should call the Commissioners before canceling a workshop to see if they have any items that they want to discuss. He asked if the county can pressure wash the boat ramp or if the City can because it is slippery.

Commissioner Whitaker also wants to look into the pressure washing of the boat ramp so it is not as slick.

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Mayor West adjourned the meeting at 7:36 pm.

MINUTES APPROVED: JULY 21, 2025

***JAMES R. FREEMAN***

JAMES R. FREEMAN  
CITY CLERK