CITY OF MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

Mount Dora City Hall
510 North Baker Street, Mount Dora, FL 32757
November 18, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Having been duly advertised as required by law, at 6:00 p.m., Mayor James Homich called to order the Regular Session of City Council in the Mount Dora City Hall Council Chamber.

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag were led by Mayor Homich.

ROLL CALL

Members Present
James Homich, Mayor
John Cataldo, Vice-mayor
Cal Rolfson, District 2
Dennis Dawson, District 3
Marc Crail, District 4
Nate Walker, District 5 Doug Bryant, At-large

Also Present
Vince Sandersfeld, City Manager
Patrick Brackins, City Attorney
Jeanann Hand, City Clerk

PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation Recognizing 100 Years Kiwanis Celebration

Mayor Homich read the proclamation into the record. Former Mayor Cathy Hoechst was present to represent the Kiwanis Club of Mount Dora. Councilmembers spoke favorably about the Kiwanis Club of Mount Dora.

2. Proclamation Recognizing Small Business Saturday

Mayor Homich read the proclamation into the record. Mayor Homich spoke briefly about Small Business Saturday.

3. Proclamation Recognizing Native American Heritage Month

Mayor Homich read the proclamation into the record.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Homich opened public comment.

Ben Pauluhn, Optimus Energy, 436 East Fifth Avenue, spoke doing business with the City or within the City.

Al Jamal, Alysha Enterprises, 1380 Burleigh Boulevard, Taveres, representing the Mount Dora Hotel Center, spoke about building permit fee relief.

Mayor Homich closed public comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA; COUNCILMEMBER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A UNIANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Request Approval of Piggyback Agreement with Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc. for Pavement Maintenance and Rehabilitation Services
2. Request Approval for Intent to Award of ITB 25-EL-026 Underground Conduit and Ductline Installation Services
3. Request Approval of Task Authorization with Southeastern Surveying and Mapping Corp. (SSMC) to Perform Utility Asset Inventory, Hydrant Integration, Implement ArcGIS Solutions, Provide ArcGIS Web Support, and Provide Associated Equipment for GIS Field Identification
4. Request Approval of First Amendment of Shelley's Septic Piggyback and Requisition No. 26-3496 with Shelley's Septic Tank, Inc DBA Shelley's Environmental Systems LLC for Sludge Hauling and Removal Services
5. Request Approval of Requisitions 26-3504 and 26-3505 with Allied Universal Corp for Hypochlorite Disinfectant
6. Request Approval of Change Order to Purchase Order 25-01637 with Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc. for the Relocation of Gopher Tortoises for the WWTP 2 Plant Modifications
7. Request Ratification of the Second and Third Extensions of Resolution 2025-45, Local State of Emergency Related to October 26-October 27, 2025 Flood Event
8. Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA; COUNCILMEMBER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A UNIANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES

1. Request Adoption of **Resolution No. 2025-43**, Approving the FY 2024-25 Year End Budget Amendment

Mr. Brackins read Resolution No. 2025-43 by title only.

RESOLUTION 2025-43
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA, PERTAINING TO THE YEAR-END BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT; PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL OF YEAR-END BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS; PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Budget Manager Matt Dodson presented Resolution No. 2025-43 establishing the year-end budget for Fiscal Year 2024–2025, which ended September 30, 2025. Staff explained that Chapter 166, Florida Statutes, authorizes budget amendments within 60 days of the fiscal year end when fund expenditures change and requires such amendments to be adopted in the same manner as the original budget. Staff noted that Exhibits A and B satisfy these requirements and reflect an overall budget increase of $4,501,112, primarily related to Hurricane Milton costs that are expected to be reimbursed.

Mr. Dodson stated that the proposed amendment is primarily related to expenditures and revenues associated with Hurricane Milton, including adjustments based on information received regarding FEMA reimbursements. He noted that the remaining changes consist of routine housekeeping items and minor adjustments across other funds. Mr. Dodson explained that the amendment is procedural in nature and is intended to align the adopted budget with actual revenues and expenditures. He advised that detailed information was provided in the attached materials.

Mayor Homich opened public comment. No one spoke. Mayor Homich closed public comment.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2025-43, APPROVING THE FY 2024-25 YEAR END BUDGET AMENDMENT; COUNCILMEMBER DAWSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A 7-0 ROLL CAL VOTE.

YES	***Dawson***
	Cataldo
	Walker
	Crail
	Homich
	Bryant
	Rolfson
NO	***None***

2. Request Adoption of **Resolution No. 2025-47,** Creating Title VI/Nondiscrimination Policy and Plan and Approving FDOT Title VI/Nondiscrimination Assurance

Mr. Brackins read Resolution No. 2025-47 by title only.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-47

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA, CREATING A TITLE VI NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND PLAN; PROVIDING ASSURANCES; PROVIDING COMPLAINT PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT; PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Sandersfeld presented the proposed Title VI Non-Discrimination Policy and Plan. Staff explained that adoption of the policy is a procedural requirement to support the City's pursuit of current and future federal grants and to facilitate eligibility for federal reimbursements related to emergency contracts, including those associated with the Donnelly Street project. Mr. Brackins noted that the policy largely mirrors standard non-discrimination provisions already included in City contracts and reflects practices commonly adopted by other jurisdictions. Staff further advised that, upon adoption, administrative actions will include posting the policy on the City's website and implementing internal procedures as directed by the City Manager. Staff recommended approval.

Mayor Homich opened public comment. No one spoke. Mayor Homich closed public comment.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER BRYANT TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2025-47, CREATING TITLE VI/NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY AND PLAN AND APPROVING FDOT TITLE VI/NONDISCRIMINATION ASSURANCE; COUNCILMEMBER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A 7-0 ROLL CAL VOTE.

YES ***Cataldo***
Dawson
Homich
Walker
Bryant
Crail
Rolfson
NO ***None***

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Sandersfeld introduced Police Chief Michael Gibson, who provided an update on the School Zone Child Safety Initiative, which is now fully operational. Chief Gibson reported that speed detection cameras have recorded significant speeding activity in school zones during warning periods at Mount Dora Middle School, Triangle Elementary School, and

Round Lake Charter School, with an estimated average of approximately 300 speeding vehicles per day citywide. He noted that most violations occur during flashing school zone periods.

Chief Gibson explained that warnings have been issued during grace periods and that citations are now being issued at some locations for speeds exceeding 10 miles per hour over the posted limit. He emphasized that the program is a civil citation system that does not affect insurance rates or result in license points and that violators may contest citations before a magistrate.

Council and staff discussed the causes of speeding, enforcement efforts, and police presence in school zones. Chief Gibson stated that it is too early to determine long-term changes in driver behavior but expressed confidence that the program will improve safety and reduce speeding over time.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Brackets updated those present on the Witherspoon Lodge. All parties are working on a written agreement. The Lodge is on board and an agreement would be brought to Council.

He then provided an update regarding the Joint Planning Agreement (JPA) and the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) expansion agreement. He advised that Lake County has requested a joint workshop with City Council on December 9 to discuss both items. Mr. Brackett explained that staff from both jurisdictions have been working collaboratively on the JPA and CRA matters and that the workshop is intended to address both topics in a single meeting.

Mr. Brackett stated that he had intended to present a revised draft of the JPA at the meeting but was still finalizing clarifications to address concerns previously raised by the Mayor and Vice Mayor regarding readability and interpretation. He explained that the revisions do not change the substance of the agreement but clarify language to avoid misinterpretation, particularly regarding the applicability of County codes within City limits. He noted that revisions also address issues related to Exhibit A and mapping language.

Mr. Brackett advised that a draft of the revised JPA is expected to be completed by the end of the week and provided to Council prior to the first December meeting. He recommended placing the item on that agenda as a discussion item or under the City Attorney's report to allow Council review and discussion ahead of the joint workshop.

Regarding the CRA expansion agreement, Mr. Brackett stated that staff from both sides, along with legal counsel, have been working on a proposed resolution addressing CRA expansion percentages. He noted that although the statutory mediation window has passed, discussions may continue by mutual agreement.

Mr. Brackett confirmed that the joint workshop is scheduled for December 9 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lake County Agricultural Center. He advised that City staff in attendance will include the

City Attorney, the City Manager, and staff members familiar with CRA tax increment financing data.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Crail spoke positively about the Employee Recognition Luncheon last week.

Councilmember Walker spoke favorably about the progress at the Recreation Center.

Councilmember Bryant expressed appreciation for the new restrooms at the tennis courts. He mentioned the Florida League of Cities (FLC)'s activities, especially as they relate to the proposed abolishment of property tax. He suggested speaking to Cobb and Truenow as to their thoughts.

Councilmember Rolfson spoke about last week's Employee Luncheon, and about the property tax issue.

Councilmember Dawson spoke about the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council meeting he recently attended at NeoCity. He brough up working with the County regarding the Wolf Branch Innovation District attracting more high-tech industry.

Vice-mayor Cataldo spoke about Light Up Mount Dora and road closures. Staff spoke about road closures and public safety.

Mayor Homich spoke about the possibility of a performance by the Orlando Philharmonic. He suggested scheduling the Festival Workshop on February 9th and mentioned placing a bus shelter at the United Methodist Church parking lot.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:21 p.m.

JAMES HOMICH, MAYOR
CITY OF MOUNT DORA

Jeahann Hand, City Clerk