



**CITY OF MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

Mount Dora City Hall
510 North Baker Street, Mount Dora, FL 32757
May 19, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Having been duly advertised as required by law, Mayor Homich called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Members Present

James Homich, Mayor
John Cataldo, District 1, 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. Certificate of Recognition-Edson and Carla Pereira, Piglet's Pantry

The City Council recognized Edson and Carla Pereira for their 29 years of service and dedication as owners of Piglet's Pantry. Council members expressed appreciation for their longstanding contributions to the Mount Dora community and downtown business district. Discussion also included acknowledgment of annual community fundraisers and appreciation for volunteers and contributors involved in those efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER BRYANT TO REORDER THE AGENDA SO THAT PUBLIC HEARING ITEM TWO, THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2026-18, NAMING THE FRANK BROWN SPORTS COMPLEX FOOTBALL FIELD (JOHNNY JAMES "TONK" COPELAND FOOTBALL FIELD) BECAME THE FIRST ITEM AFTER THE APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AND REGULAR AGENDA; MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON. MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

1. Request Approval of the First Amendment to the Piggyback Agreement Between the City of Mount Dora and Redzone Robotics Inc. for Sanitary Sewer and Manhole Inspections and Mapping Services
2. Request Ratification of HMGP Grant Application for the Dogwood Mountain Retention Pond
3. Request Approval of School Resource Officer Program at Round Lake Charter School
4. Request Approval of School Resource Officer Program at Mount Dora High, Mount Dora Middle and Triangle Elementary Schools
5. Request Approval of Agreement with Lamar Airport Advertising for Annual Tourism Campaign
6. Request Ratification of Corrected Task Authorization with Faden Builders for Repairs to the 3rd Avenue and Baker Street Parking Lot
7. Request Ratification of the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Extensions of Resolution No. 2025-45, Declaring a Local State of Emergency Related to October 26-October 27, 2025 Flood Event
8. Request Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND THE REGULAR AGENDA WITH THE REORDERING OF RESOLUTION NO. 2026-18; COUNCILMEMBER DAWSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES

1. Request Adoption of Resolution No. 2026-18, Naming the Frank Brown Sports Complex Football Field (Johnny James "Tonk" Copeland Football Field) (**Moved from its original position on the agenda as Public Hearing Item Two.*)

Mr. Brackins read Resolution No. 2026-18 by title only.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA DECLARING THE FOOTBALL FIELD LOCATED AT THE FRANK BROWN SPORTS COMPLEX TO BE NAMED IN HONOR OF JOHNNY JAMES "TONK" COPELAND; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY TO THE CITY MANAGER FOR IMPLEMENTING ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY TO THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE; PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS PROVISION; AND PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS, CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

Council considered Resolution 2026-18, naming the football field at the Frank Brown Sports Complex in honor of Johnny James “Tonk” Copeland.

Staff presented the resolution and confirmed that the request was consistent with the City’s naming policy. Several speakers provided testimony regarding Mr. Copeland’s decades of service to youth athletics and the Mount Dora community. Speakers shared personal stories highlighting his mentorship, support for local families, and commitment to providing opportunities for children through sports and community involvement.

The name “James” would be removed from the resolution and the official name of the field would be Johnny “Tonk” Copeland.

Mayor Homich opened public comment.

Vanesia Muldrow, the niece of Mr. Copeland, spoke about the positive impact Mr. Copeland had on the community.

Mr. Copeland’s nephew also shared his thoughts with those present, relating first-hand stories of Mr. Copeland’s influence on local youth.

Mayor Homich closed public comment.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2026-18 WITH CHANGES NOTED; COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A 7-0 ROLL CALL VOTE.

Staff was directed to coordinate signage and implementation details for the named field in collaboration with the Copeland family.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Request Approval of Structure Lease Agreement Between the City of Mount Dora and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC for Telecommunications Facility at 1207 N. Tremain Street (Water Tower)

Council reviewed and approved a structural lease agreement between the City of Mount Dora and New Singular Wireless PCS LLC for telecommunications equipment located on a City water tower.

Staff explained the terms of the 10-year agreement and discussed the anticipated revenue generated for the City. Council discussion included existing telecommunications providers utilizing the tower and the importance of improving cellular service capacity during large community events.

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

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WALKER TO APPROVE THE STRUCTURE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MOUNT DORA AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT 1207 N. TREMAIN STREET (WATER TOWER); COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A 7-0 ROLL CALL VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES

2. Request Adoption of Resolution No. 2026-17, Adopting the Lake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation and Resilience Plan

Mr. Brackins read Resolution No. 2026-17 by title only.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MOUNT DORA, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2026 LAKE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION AND RESILIENCE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY TO THE CITY MANAGER FOR IMPLEMENTING ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Council considered Resolution 2026-17, adopting the Lake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation and Resilience Plan.

Staff explained that adoption of the plan is necessary to maintain eligibility for FEMA grant opportunities and future hazard mitigation funding. Council discussed the importance of remaining compliant with FEMA requirements and confirmed updates to team membership associated with the plan.

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

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CRAIL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2026-17, ADOPTING THE LAKE COUNTY MULTIJURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION AND RESILIENCE PLAN; COUNCILMEMBER ROLFSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A 7-0 ROLL CALL VOTE.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

The City Manager provided an update regarding the Donnelly Street Restoration Project and the upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremony. Remarks emphasized the resilience of the community and the partnerships that contributed to completion of the project.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A legislative update was also provided, including discussion regarding the Witherspoon Lodge project and ongoing related proceedings.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Council discussion included updates from the Florida League of Cities Leadership Conference and the importance of monitoring legislative developments affecting municipalities. Council members commented on the positive impact of the Donnelly Street project and recognized the efforts of staff and community partners.

A moment of silence was observed in recognition of Army Specialist Mariya Symone Collington and in support of her family.

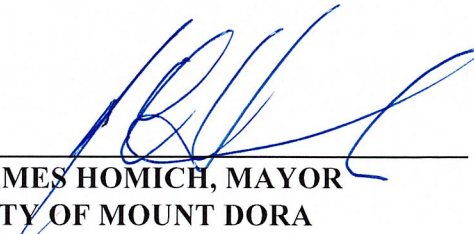
Additional comments included appreciation for passionate public engagement during the meeting and discussion regarding drainage system improvements and hydrology studies.

Council discussed ongoing intergovernmental coordination efforts related to rural land preservation and future development standards. An update was provided regarding a Joint Planning Agreement (JPA) with neighboring jurisdictions intended to restrict rural land conversions and preserve residential-only uses within designated rural and rural-transition areas.

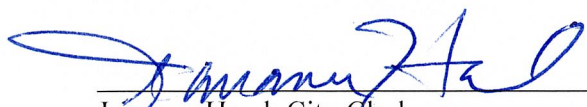
Council also discussed upcoming media coverage and public events related to the reopening of Donnelly Street. Staff was directed to prepare and distribute a draft JPA for future Council review and discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.



JAMES HOMICH, MAYOR
CITY OF MOUNT DORA



Jeanann Hand, City Clerk