



Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Mayor Walter Welch
Vice Mayor Shirley Green Brown
Commissioner Jacob Fletcher
Commissioner Jennifer Ringersen
Commissioner Dayna Williams

City Manager Rodolfo Valladares
City Attorney Scott Walker

Meeting Location: James A. Lewis City Commission Chambers
15100 NW 142 Terrace
Alachua, FL 32615

CITIZENS PRESENT: James Curington, Chris Hill, Robert Jernigan, Larry Crosby, Tom Hillard, Kiana Davis, Malcolm Dixon, Bill Smith, Julie Smith, Soorya Lindberg, LaKesha Jenkins.

STAFF ATTENDING: Michael Carrillo, Heather Carter, Carson Crockett, Kenyata Curtis, Brenda Flieger, Lisa Freeman, Jack Hansen, Carlos Hunt, Janet Knapp, Brent Lanier, Tara Malone, Damon Messina, Jason Moses, Donna Smith, Bryan Thomas, LeAnne Williams, Tyler Williams, Cap Wilson, David Wisener

City Commission Meeting

Notice given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes. In order to appeal any decision made at this meeting, you will need a verbatim record of the proceedings. It will be your responsibility to ensure such a record is made.

CALL TO ORDER

Led by Mayor Walter Welch.

INVOCATION

Led by Elder Malcolm Dixon, Southside Church of God in Christ.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mayor Welch.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Dayna Williams moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Ringersen.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for public comment.

There were no comments.

Passed by unanimous consent.

APPROVE READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE ONLY

Commissioner Ringersen moved to approve the reading of proposed ordinances and resolutions by title only; seconded by Vice Mayor Shirley Green Brown.

Passed by unanimous consent.

I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A) SANTA FE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PERFORMING ARTS APPRECIATION

Deputy City Clerk LeAnne Williams introduced the presentation.

Band Master Jacob Messina lead the Santa Fe Symphonic Band in the performance.

Vice Mayor Brown expressed her appreciation for the band.

City Manager Rodolfo Valladares echoed the sentiment.

B) 2025 NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH AND ALACHUA GOES PINK!

City Attorney Scott Walker read the 2025 National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Alachua Goes Pink proclamation.

Human Resources Director Tara Malone provided the Commission with details about the activities the City would implement to support National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Alachua Goes Pink!

Mayor Welch officially declared October 2025 as National Breast Cancer Awareness

Month and Alachua Goes Pink!

C) COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH PROCLAMATION

City Attorney Walker read the Community Planning Month Proclamation.

Mayor Welch officially declared October 2025 as Community Planning Month.

D) FLORIDA CITY WEEK 2025 PROCLAMATION

Deputy City Clerk Williams introduced the Florida City Week 2025 Proclamation, informing the Commission about the activities that would take place at the schools.

City Attorney Walker read the Florida City Week 2025 proclamation.

Mayor Welch officially declared October 20 through 26, 2025, as Florida City Week.

II. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(Please Limit to 3 Minutes. Any citizen who is unable to speak at this time will have an opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting)

Mayor Welch opened the floor for public comment.

Soorya Lindberg requested an update on the Tara Forest West plat.

Larry Crosby of Meridian Health Care discussed its disaster recovery team and informed the Commission about its mission.

Judge Jonathan (JR) Ransom provided the Commission with an update on the status of the judiciary.

Mandy Bucci also updated the Commission about Market on Main. She stated she needed letters of support for the Levitt Concert Series.

Lakesha Jenkins asked for help with her car.

Jim Curington announced that Wednesday, October 15, 2025, would be the Senior Showcase at Legacy Park Multipurpose Center.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

A) PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE HATHCOCK COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT

City Manager Valladares introduced the Progress Report for the Hathcock Community Center Project.

Barnett Chenault, President of Monarch Design Group, and Donald Buraco gave presentations.

The Commission discussed the options and made recommendations.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

(Presentations, other than the applicant, please limit to 3 Minutes)

- A) ORDINANCE 25-12: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE LARGE-SCALE AMENDMENT OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP; AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP CLASSIFICATION FROM COMMERCIAL (± 23.05-ACRES), INDUSTRIAL (± 81.31-ACRES), AND CONSERVATION (± 7.40-ACRES) TO MODERATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (± 89.80-ACRES), COMMERCIAL (± 14.04-ACRES), AND CONSERVATION (± 7.40-ACRES) ON A ± 111.25-ACRE SUBJECT PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF THE INTERSECTION AT US HIGHWAY 441 AND RACHEL BOULEVARD (CR 2054); TAX PARCEL 03957-000-000; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SECOND READING; LEGISLATIVE HEARING).**

City Attorney Walker read Ordinance 25-12 by title only.

Principal Planner Carson Crockett introduced the item and presented the staff report.

Applicant Gerry Dedenbach, Vice President of NV5, provided additional information.

Mayor Welch invited the commissioners to ask questions or offer comments.

Vice Mayor Brown moved that this Commission find the application for San Felasco Research Ventures, LLC to be consistent with the City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan and approve Ordinance 25-12 upon second and final reading; seconded by Commissioner Ringersen.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for public comment.

Ms. Lindberg suggested charging impact fees.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

- B) ORDINANCE 25-14 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA,**

FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS FROM AGRICULTURAL ("A") (COUNTY) TO PLANNED DEVELOPMENT – RESIDENTIAL ("PD-R"), PLANNED DEVELOPMENT – COMMERCIAL ("PD-COMM"), AND CONSERVATION ("CSV") ON A ± 111.25-ACRE SUBJECT PROPERTY; GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF THE INTERSECTION AT US HIGHWAY 441 AND RACHEL BOULEVARD (CR 2054); TAX PARCEL 03957-000-000; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (SECOND READING, QUASI JUDICIAL HEARING).

City Attorney Walker read Ordinance 25-14 by title only.

City Attorney Walker conducted a voir dire of the Commission.

Deputy City Clerk Williams swore in all individuals intending to speak on Ordinance 25-14.

Principal Planner Carson Crockett introduced the item.

Applicant, Mr. Dedenbach, Vice President of NV5, provided a presentation.

Principal Planner Carson Crockett presented the staff report and asked that his report from Ordinance 25-12 be added to this item.

Mayor Welch invited the commissioners to ask questions or offer comments.

Commissioner Ringersen moved that, based upon the competent substantial evidence, the presentation before this Commission, and Staff's recommendation, this Commission find the application for San Felasco Research Ventures, LLC to be consistent with the City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan and in compliance with the City's Land Development Regulations and (1) approve Ordinance 25-14 upon second and final reading, (2) authorize and direct the Mayor to enter into the PD Agreement, and (3) approve the PD Master Plan; seconded by Commissioner Williams.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

V. AGENDA ITEMS

- A) FY2025/2026 CITY OF ALACHUA/ALACHUA POLICE DEPARTMENT-FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT**

Compliance and Risk Management Director Cap Wilson presented the FY2025/2026 City of Alachua/Alachua Police Department—Fraternal Order of Police Collective Bargaining Agreement, the staff report, and made recommendations.

Mayor Welch invited the commissioners to ask questions or offer comments.

Commissioner Williams moved to ratify the FY2025/2026 City of Alachua/Alachua Police Department—Fraternal Order of Police Collective Bargaining Agreement and authorize and direct the Mayor of the City of Alachua, Walter Welch, to execute the Agreement; seconded by Commissioner Jacob Fletcher.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for public comment.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

Vice Mayor Brown thanked Compliance and Risk Management Director Wilson for his exceptional work.

Mayor Welch confirmed that the entire board shared this sentiment.

B) REVISION TO FY 2026 COMPENSATION PLAN

Human Resources Director Malone introduced the Revision to FY 2026 Compensation Plan and made a staff report.

Mayor Welch invited the commissioners to ask questions or offer comments.

Commissioner Ringersen moved to approve the proposed revisions to the FY 2026 Compensation Plan; seconded by Vice Mayor Brown.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for public comment.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

VI. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(Please Limit to 3 Minutes. Any citizen who did not speak during the Citizen Comments period at the beginning of the meeting may do so at this time.)

Mayor Welch opened the floor for public comment.

There were no comments.

VII. COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

City Manager Valladares announced that staff were working on the strategic initiatives for the new fiscal year. He also announced that the Alachua Police Department received the Crime Prevention Program Award.

City Attorney Walker thanked Judge Ramsey for attending the meeting. He reminded the Commission that an ethics training was scheduled on December 4, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and invited them to attend. He introduced Josh Silverman, who had attended the meeting.

Mayor Welch welcomed Mr. Silverman.

VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

Commissioner Williams expressed her satisfaction with the direction in which the City is heading.

Commissioner Fletcher stated he attended the Police Department's presentation for Breast Cancer Month. He reflected on the loss of loved ones to breast cancer. He said he also attended the Special Olympics at Legacy Park.

Commissioner Ringersen stated she attended the Market on Main.

Vice Mayor Brown thanked Elder Dixon for the invocation. She stated she attended the Senior Resources Advisory Council meeting, Alachua Learning Academy, where she read to the kindergartners, the Market on Main, and the swearing-in ceremony for Sergeant Davis. She thanked Officer Stanfield and Officer Hunt for attending the Pink Dress luncheon. She congratulated the Alachua Police Department for winning the Crime Prevention Award. She thanked Judge Ramsey and the citizens who participated in the meeting. She welcomed Josh Silverman.

Mayor Welch thanked the citizens for their attendance and noted he attended the Special Olympics.

Commissioner Ringersen expressed appreciation for Commissioner Fletcher's research on breast cancer and for bringing the information to the Commission's attention.

Vice Mayor Brown also commended Commissioner Fletcher for his efforts.

Mayor Welch stated his pink suit was in honor of his wife, who was a breast cancer survivor.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Ringersen moved to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner

Williams.

Passed by unanimous consent.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items represent routine City operations and business. These items are approved at the beginning of the Regular City Commission meeting upon approval of the meeting agenda.

- A) 2026 CITY COMMISSION CALENDAR**
- B) APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 25, 2025, CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**
- C) APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 25, 2025, CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**
- D) 2026 BUCKET TRUCK (F600 SKYLIFT SBA471 TRUCK W/ARTICULATING BOOM)**

ATTEST:

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
ALACHUA, FLORIDA:**

Rodolfo Valladares, City Manager/Clerk

Walter Welch, Mayor