

Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes
November 10, 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: Connie Meyer, Jackson Youmas.

STAFF ATTENDING: Robert Bonetti, Heather Carter, Carson Crockett, Kenyata Curtis, Bernadette Fisher, Lisa Freeman, 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

A moment of silence was observed.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mayor Welch, with Commissioner Dayna Williams absent.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Mayor Shirley Green Brown moved to approve the agenda; seconded by

Commissioner Jennifer Ringersen.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for public comment.

Tamara Robbins asked for an update on the placement of the live-streaming item on the agenda.

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 Commissioner Jacob Fletcher.

Passed by unanimous consent.

I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A) PRESENTATION: EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF ALACHUA COUNTY

Xaviera White from the Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County made the presentation.

Commissioner Ringersen expressed her gratitude to Ms. White for attending and highlighted her appreciation for the organization's work.

City Manager Rodolfo Valladares also thanked Ms. White and praised the mission of the Early Learning Coalition.

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)

Julie Smith addressed errors found on the Supervisor of Elections (SOE) website regarding the City of High Springs and requested that the City conduct an audit to ensure their accuracy. She raised concerns about issues related to the SOE regarding the 2025 election in High Springs.

Commissioner Fletcher inquired about who was responsible for overseeing the City of Alachua elections.

City Manager Valladares responded that the Deputy City Clerk's office was in charge.

Ms. Robbins questioned the Planning and Zoning Board's residency requirement and expressed her frustration with the unavailability of the Tara April application.

Michelle Lee encouraged citizens to sign up for "Christmas on Main" and provided the

Commission with an update on the Good Life Station.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

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

- A) ORDINANCE 25-13, FIRST READING: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES; AMENDING SUBPART A, CHAPTER 4, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE EXEMPTION OF THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY DISTRICT FROM THE RESTRICTIONS OF ALCOHOL SALES WITHIN PROXIMITY OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 3; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION OF THIS AMENDMENT IN THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (LEGISLATIVE)
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
QUALITY OF LIFE
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT

City Attorney Scott Walker read Ordinance 25-13 by title only.

Economic Development Manager David Wisener introduced Ordinance 25-13 and presented the staff report.

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

Commissioner Fletcher asked whether a map of the proposed area was available.

Economic Development Manager Wisener said he didn't have it with him, but it was the CRA district.

Vice Mayor Brown moved to approve Ordinance 25-13 on first reading and schedule a second reading for November 24, 2025; seconded by Commissioner Fletcher.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for comments.

Ms. Robbins asked for a map of the area and questioned why the Business Impact Estimate (BIE) listed economic impact as "none."

Deputy City Clerk LeAnne Williams provided the map.

Ms. Smith spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Commissioner Fletcher asked whether this ordinance would affect open containers in the area.

Economic Development Manager Wisener stated it had no impact on open containers.

Mitch Glaeser and Ms. Lee spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Commissioner Fletcher asked how the new state statute concerning the church's ability to open schools would impact this ordinance.

City Attorney Walker stated the ordinance would be grandfathered in. He responded to Ms. Robbins' inquiry regarding BIE, noting that only anticipated costs are considered and not a full economic analysis.

Passed 4-0 by roll call.

V. AGENDA ITEMS

A) DEED OF DEDICATION (FROM WACO PROPERTIES, INC. TO THE CITY OF ALACHUA FOR NW 115TH AVENUE EXTENSION)

City Attorney Walker introduced the item.

Economic Development Manager Wisener provided the Deed of Dedication (from Waco Properties, Inc. to the City of Alachua for NW 115th Avenue Extension) staff report and made recommendations.

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

Commissioner Fletcher asked about the specifics of the road.

Economic Development Manager Wisener provided the information.

Vice Mayor Brown moved to accept the Deed of Dedication from Waco Properties and authorize and direct the Mayor to execute the Deed of Dedication and Closing Statement by affixing his signature to both documents; seconded by Commissioner Fletcher.

Commissioner Fletcher asked about road maintenance.

Economic Development Manager Wisener provided information.

City Manager Valladares gave a further explanation.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for comments.

Ms. Robbins asked for specifics about road maintenance.

City Manager Valladares stated this was funded by a Community Development Block Grant given to the City of Alachua by the State of Florida. He then outlined the project's benefits.

Commissioner Fletcher asked for a financial study of future projects.

Passed 4-0 by roll call.

B) RFB 2025-02 - NW 115TH AVENUE EXTENSION - AWARD

Purchasing Specialist Donna Smith presented the RFB 2025-02 - NW 115th Avenue Extension, staff report, and made recommendations.

Commissioner Ringersen moved to accept the bid received from John C. Hipp Construction Equipment Company for RFB 2025-02, and authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with John C. Hipp Construction Equipment Company and to issue a Purchase Order in the amount of \$829,129.43; seconded by Commissioner Fletcher.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for comments.

Ms. Robbins asked about the difference between the bid amount and the awarded grant. She also asked about the process of change orders.

City Attorney Walker provided information.

Passed 4-0 by roll call.

C) RESOLUTION 26-01: AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET; AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER AND APPROPRIATION OF \$101,964 FROM THE GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY TO THE CITY COMMISSION, HUMAN RESOURCES, CITY ATTORNEY, AND RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS.

City Attorney Walker read Resolution 26-01 by title only.

Finance and Administrative Services Director Rob Bonetti introduced Resolution 26-01 and presented the staff report.

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

Commissioner Fletcher asked whether a tracking system was in place for the issues outlined in this item.

Finance and Administrative Services Director Bonetti provided the information.

Commissioner Fletcher moved to adopt Resolution 26-01; seconded by Commissioner Ringersen.

Mayor Welch opened the floor for comments.

Ms. Robbins asked about the litigation services as indicated in the budget.

Finance and Administrative Services Director Bonetti provided the information.

Passed 4-0 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 comments.

There were no comments.

VII. COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

City Manager Valladares shared letters from citizens and presented letters of appreciation from the second-grade class at W.W. Irby Elementary, all praising the quality of the staff's work during Florida City Week. He mentioned attending a food drive at St. Matthew's Baptist Church and meeting with the principal of Santa Fe High School to discuss opportunities for collaboration. Additionally, he attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the well field and participated in an event with the National Coalition of 100 Black Women.

City Attorney Walker announced that the new date for the ethics training would be December 18, 2025, and that they plan to offer another training session in January 2026.

VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

Commissioner Fletcher discussed the Commission's motion on live-streaming. He stated he attended the Community Literacy Collaborative Workshop at Santa Fe High School. He mentioned statistics regarding veterans, as November 11th was Veterans Day.

Commissioner Ringersen stated that O2B Kids wrote letters to veterans. She said she attended the ribbon-cutting for the Alachua Water Quality and Resiliency Improvement Project, the Just Between Friends sale, and the National Coalition of 100 Black Women. She thanked the Early Learning Coalition for a quality program.

Vice Mayor Brown stated she attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting and the

ribbon-cutting for the Alachua Water Quality and Resiliency Improvement Project. She thanked Pam Philman for the veterans' luncheon. She thanked those who attended the National Coalition of 100 Black Women.

Mayor Welch congratulated Vice Mayor Brown on the success of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women. He stated he attended the food giveaway at Hal Brady. He thanked the citizens for coming to the meeting. He also acknowledged the tremendous efforts of the staff.

Vice Mayor Brown requested that attendees of the Commission Meetings step outside if they needed to have conversations.

ADJOURN

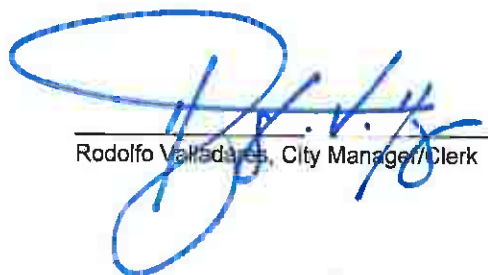
Commissioner Ringersen moved to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Fletcher.

Passed by unanimous consent.

CONSENT AGENDA

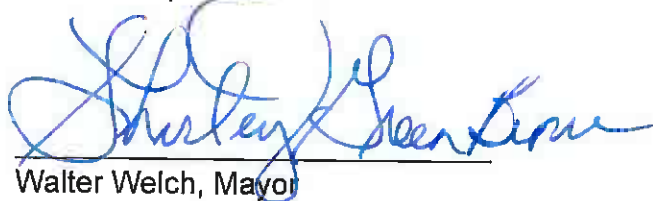
Consent Agenda items represent routine City operations and business. These items are approved at the beginning of the Regular City Commission meeting upon approval of the meeting agenda.

ATTEST:



Rodolfo Valledor, City Manager/Clerk

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



Walter Welch, Mayor