



**Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2026 at 6:00 PM**

Mayor Walter Welch
Vice Mayor Jennifer Ringersen
Commissioner Shirley Green Brown
Commissioner Jacob Fletcher
Commissioner Jackson Youmas

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: Sherri McCormick, Malcolm Elliot, Dana Noyes, Chad Williams, Lilia Williams, Stacy Williams, Nannette Dell, James Curington, Bill Smith, Julie Smith, Brett Wable, Karen Wable, Dianne Crunkilton, David Soderholm, Britni Fultz, Tamara Robbins, Soorya Lindberg, Tanya Floyd, Rudy Rothseiden, Phyllis Strickland, Leslie Richardson, Latosha Brown, Nakula Hertz, John Havlik, Debra Havlik, Hans Havlik, Mohini Chacon, Mohim Krueger.

STAFF ATTENDING: Robert Bonetti, Carson Crockett, Kenyata Curtis, Nathaniel Ford, Lisa Freeman, Jack Hansen, Lynn Hayes, Carlos Hunt, Janet Knapp, Brent Lanier, Tara Malone, Damon Messina, Carl Newsome, Jesse Sandusky, 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.

In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the Mayor, through the City Clerk's office, no later than 5:00 P.M. on the day prior to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Walter Welch, Mayor

INVOCATION

Pastor Marco Caballero, Forest Grove Baptist Church

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Walter Welch, Mayor

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Jacob Fletcher requested that the minutes be removed to correct a scrivener's error.

Commissioner Shirley Green Brown moved to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Commissioner Jacob Fletcher.

Passed by unanimous consent.

APPROVE READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE ONLY

Commissioner Jackson Youmas moved to approve the reading of proposed ordinances and resolutions by title only; seconded by Commissioner Brown.

Passed by unanimous consent.

I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A) ALACHUA ELEMENTARY ART CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

Janet Knapp, Assistant Deputy City Clerk, Alachua Elementary Art Certificate Presentation - filed

Hannah Evans, Art Teacher, and Walter Welch, Mayor, presented the certificates to the students.

B) HOME INSTRUCTION FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL YOUNGSTERS (HIPPY) PROGRAM

David Wisener, Economic Development Manager, Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program – filed.

Stacy Williams, Program Coordinator of HIPPY, Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program presentation – filed.

C) 2026 FSAWWA REGION XI BEST TASTING DRINKING WATER AWARD

Kenyata Curtis, Public Information Officer, and Nathaniel Ford, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator 2026 FSAWWA Region XI Best Tasting Drinking Water Award presentation – filed.

D) 2026 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEEK PROCLAMATION

David Wisener, Economic Development Manager, 2026 Economic Development Week Proclamation – filed.

E) STOP THE BLEED DAY 2026

Tara Malone, Human Resources Director, Stop the Bleed Day 2026 proclamation – filed.

F) MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH 2026

Tara Malone, Human Resources Director, Mental Health Awareness Month 2026 proclamation – filed.

G) PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY 2026

Tara Malone, Human Resources Director, and Jesse Sandusky, Chief of Police, Peace Officers Memorial Day 2026 presentation – filed.

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)

Karen Wable
Angela Powers
Rudy Rothseiden
Soorya Lindberg
Diane Crunkilton
Sandra Ellsy
Umish Sherma
Sherri McCormick
Tamara Robbins
Param
Debra Havlik
Nikula Hertz

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

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

- A) ORDINANCE 26-09 | AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE SMALL-SCALE AMENDMENT OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP; AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP CLASSIFICATION OF A ± 46.68-ACRE SUBJECT PROPERTY FROM LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL, MODERATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL, AND COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL TO MODERATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL, COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL, AND COMMERCIAL; GENERALLY LOCATED AT 16650 NW US HIGHWAY 441 (TAX PARCEL 03042-050-004; 03042-050-005 (PORTION THEREOF); 03046-003-000 (PORTION THEREOF)); REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (LEGISLATIVE HEARING, FIRST READING).

Carson Crockett, Principal Planner, Ordinance 26-09 staff report – filed.

Commissioner Fletcher moved that this Commission defer the hearing and first reading of Ordinance 26-09 to a date certain of June 8, 2026; seconded by Commissioner Brown.

Citizens Commented:

Gary Pappas
Misha Shipata
Soorya Lindberg
Tamara Robbins
Unnamed Citizen

Jacob Fletcher - No
Jackson Youmas - No
Shirley Green Brown - Yes
Jennifer Ringersen - No
Walter Welch - Yes

Failed 2-3 by roll call.

Commissioner Fletcher requested that his comments be added to the record.

Commissioner Fletcher stated that unanswered questions kept the Commission from making an informed decision and that this action could set a precedent for the future; therefore, he voted no.

Commissioner Fletcher moved that this Commission defer the hearing and first reading of Ordinance 26-09 to a date certain of June 8, 2026, to direct the City Manager to inquire as to the factual basis for why the public notice requirement was not met, and to present those findings to the City Commission on June 8, 2026; seconded by Commissioner Youmas.

Citizens Commented:

Tamara Robbins
Unnamed Citizen
Soorya Lingberg
Rudy Rothseiden
Umesh Shedma
John Havlik

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

- B) ORDINANCE 26-10 | AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS FROM COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ("CC"), COMMERCIAL INTENSIVE ("CI"), AND PLANNED DEVELOPMENT – RESIDENTIAL ("PD-R") TO PD-R AND PLANNED DEVELOPMENT – COMMERCIAL ("PD-COMM") ON A ± 182-ACRE SUBJECT PROPERTY; GENERALLY LOCATED AT 16650 NW US HIGHWAY 441; TAX PARCELS 03042-050-003; 03042-050-004; 03042-050-005; 03042-050-010; 03042-051-001; 03046-003-000; 03046-003-001; 03046-003-003; 03046-003-004; 03046-003-005; 03875-001-001; 03875-010-001; 03875-010-002; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (QUASI-JUDICIAL HEARING, FIRST READING).**

Carson Crockett, Principal Planner, Ordinance 26-10 staff report – filed.

Commissioner Fletcher moved that this Commission defer the hearing and first reading of Ordinance 26-10 to a date certain of June 8, 2026, to direct the City Manager to inquire as to the factual basis for why the public notice requirement was not met, and to present those findings to the City Commission on June 8, 2026; seconded by Commissioner Youmas.

Citizens Commented:
Tamara Robbins

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

V. AGENDA ITEMS

- A) FY2025/2026 CITY OF ALACHUA/ALACHUA POLICE DEPARTMENT-**

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.

Tara Malone, Human Resources Director, FY2025/2026 City of Alachua/Alachua Police Department-North Central Florida Police Benevolent Association Collective Bargaining Agreement staff report – filed.

Commissioner Fletcher moved to ratify the FY 2025/2026 City of Alachua/Alachua Police Department-North Central Florida Police Benevolent Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, and authorize and direct the Mayor, City Manager and City Attorney to execute the agreement; seconded by Vice Mayor Jennifer Ringersen.

Citizens Commented:
Rudy Rothseiden

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.)

Rudy Rothseiden

VII. COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

ADJOURN

Commissioner Fletcher moved to adjourn; seconded by Vice Mayor Ringersen.

Passed by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.


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) APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 20, 2026, JOINT CITY COMMISSION/BOARD OF CANVASSERS MEETING MINUTES**
- B) APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 20, 2026, CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

ATTEST:

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



Rodolfo Valladares, City Manager/Clerk



Walter Welch, Mayor