



City of Ormond Beach

City Commission Workshop

City Hall Commission Conference Room
22 South Beach St., Ormond Beach FL 32174

June 9, 2026, 5:30 PM

*Jason Leslie, Mayor
Lori Tolland, Zone 1
Travis Sargent, Zone 2
Kristin Deaton, Zone 3
Harold Briley, Zone 4*

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Leslie called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Present: Mayor Jason Leslie, Commissioners Lori Tolland, Travis Sargent, Kristin Deaton, and Harold Briley, City Manager Joyce Shanahan, City Attorney Randy Hayes, Assistant City Managers Shawn Finley and Claire Whitley, and Finance Director Kelly McGuire.

2. DISCUSSIONS

A. FY 2026-27 Budget Preparation

Ms. Kelly McGuire, Finance Director, provided an overview of the state's property tax reform amendment, the amendment's exemption schedule, and potential impacts to the city.

Mayor Leslie inquired about the amendment's proposed tax rate cap and resident eligibility; whereby, Ms. McGuire stated changes to the tax rate cap required a unanimous vote from the Commission and there was a five-year waiting period before new residential property owners would be eligible.

Ms. McGuire noted the city had 12,561 homesteaded properties bringing in about \$11.2 million in tax revenue and the income would be eliminated if the amendment passed. She stated the \$11.2 million accounted for 44 percent of the city's tax revenue at the time and the city took in \$25.3 million in total tax revenue for the general fund and dedicated millage funds. She reviewed the expected revenue loss the city would face if the amendment passed and indicated staff was gathering data for budget reductions. She shared the recommended process for budget reductions and discussed direction previously given by the Commission to maintain service levels with the tax rate at 4.3202 mills.

Commissioner Briley indicated fiscally prudent cities would be impacted by the tax reform.

Ms. McGuire described a hypothetical scenario to explain the possible funding shortage if the amendment was approved.

Commissioners Sargent, Deaton, and Tolland noted they would like the tax rate to stay flat.

Mayor Leslie asked if other cities with low millage rates would experience something similar; whereby, Ms. McGuire stated, cities with low millage rates to begin with would need budget cuts related to services. He asked if service fees could be implemented; whereby, Ms. McGuire shared homestead properties could have fees.

Commissioner Deaton inquired if there could be a future discussion about fees; whereby, Ms. McGuire expressed fees needed to be a future discussion and staff was looking into different ways to implement them.

Commissioner Briley reviewed fire fees in other jurisdictions and how fire fees could be incorporated; whereby, Ms. McGuire relayed fire fees would not cover the whole fire department budget but could be used.

Commissioner Sargent voiced concerns about adding fees.

Ms. McGuire shared staff would bring options for the Commission to consider, and feedback would be gathered from the citizens.

The Commission unanimously agreed to keep the millage rate at 4.3202 mills.

Ms. McGuire reviewed the budget process timeline. She provided reduction options for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026/2027 budget, such as subsidies the city provided to outside organizations.

Commissioner Deaton inquired if the city's contribution to the homeless shelter was removed, could the city still refer people to the shelter; whereby, Mayor Leslie remarked he could find out.

Commissioner Tolland voiced the need to give organizations advance notice that their funding from the city could be affected; whereby, Ms. Joyce Shanahan, City Manager, stated staff would look into the ramifications of funding cuts for suggested programs and provide the details to the Commission.

Ms. McGuire suggested only discussing options that were serious to consider; whereby, Commissioner Tolland stated she would only like to discuss things that do not affect residents' quality of life.

Mayor Leslie asked where the city would be able to make up for the potential revenue loss; whereby, Ms. McGuire noted it would take months to find thoughtful options to provide to the Commission. He inquired if the Capital Improvement Project timelines would need to be extended if the amendment passed; whereby, Ms. McGuire confirmed it could be necessary to slow down the projects.

Commissioner Briley questioned how the Community Redevelopment Areas could be affected; whereby, Ms. McGuire stated she did not know at the time.

B. Livestreaming Regular City Commission Meetings

Ms. Claire Whitley, Assistant City Manager, reviewed information for livestreaming of City Commission meetings. She provided the one-time startup cost of \$26,000 and an annual cost of \$24,000. She discussed the upgrades to the chambers that had been done previously and additional equipment and upgrades needed. She estimated the timeline for completion, if direction was given to move forward, to be August 4, 2026.

Commissioner Sargent stated the livestreaming was non-negotiable for him and questioned the lower cost from prior years, noting it was closer to \$200,000 when it was removed from the previous budgets; whereby, Ms. Whitley explained the reduction in overall cost was due to the city's current streaming provider adding the video livestreaming services, highlighting the cost reduction in other aspects of the budget from the provider.

Commissioner Tolland asked if there were any downsides to video livestreaming; whereby, Ms. Whitley explained other than cost, it was the Commission's policy decision, noting the increased public visibility.

Ms. Whitley provided visual options for the livestream view; whereby, the Commission agreed to a static dais view.

Commissioner Briley stated he was impartial in having livestreaming.

Ms. Whitley shared how other municipalities who livestreamed handled livestreaming.

Commissioner Tolland noted concerns about adding another service to the budget.

Commissioner Briley asked what it would cost to record the commission meetings and upload the video to the website; whereby, Ms. Whitley stated that staff would record the meetings.

Commissioner Tolland expressed she would be okay with livestreaming if it did not impact the budget; whereby, Ms. McGuire stated it could be fit into the budget without issue.

The Commission agreed to consider livestreaming and discuss it at the July workshop.

3. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Leslie adjourned the meeting at 6:27 PM.

Prepared by: Elizabeth Walden