

**CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING 2025-21**

Held on Monday, the 8th day of September 2025, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 120 Malabar Road, SE, Palm Bay, Florida.

This meeting was properly noticed pursuant to law; the minutes are on file in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Palm Bay, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at the hour of 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR:	Rob Medina	Present
DEPUTY MAYOR:	Mike Jaffe	Present
COUNCILMEMBER:	Kenny Johnson	Present
COUNCILMEMBER:	Mike Hammer	Present
COUNCILMEMBER:	Chandler Langevin	Present
CITY MANAGER:	Matthew Morton	Present
CITY ATTORNEY:	Patricia Smith	Present
DEPUTY CITY CLERK:	Terri Lefler	Present

CITY STAFF: Juliet Misconi, Deputy City Manager; Dr. Brian Robinson, Deputy City Manager; Gabriel Bowden, Utilities Director; Angelica Collins, Assistant Finance Director.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Discussion of the tentative millage rate for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and Proposed Budget impacts.

The public hearing was opened.

Mr. Morton announced that the City had tentatively adopted an operating millage rate of 7.339 for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026. The tentative operating millage rate of 6.7339 exceeded the Truth in Millage (TRIM) current year aggregate rolled-back rate of 6.4071 by 5.10%. The percentage increase being above the three percent (3%) cap was caused by new construction being excluded from the three percent (3%) cap.

Contributing to the operating millage rate increase over the rolled-back rate was:

- Funding required for Police and Fire Pension Contribution Obligations of \$11 million resulting in a 30.6% increase from the previous fiscal year

- \$2.9 million in high priority funding needs including contractual obligations requiring payment
- Fire and Police safety equipment
- Onboarding costs of new city facilities
- Police vehicle equipment due to loss
- \$2.5 million contingency for emergency purposes, vehicle replacements and pending NAGE White and NAGE Blue union contract negotiations
- \$4.5 million for heavy Fire Rescue vehicles

The City had also tentatively adopted a debt millage rate of 1.1210 for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025. The tentative debt millage rate shall generate estimated revenues totaling \$10,013,557 based on the gross taxable value certified by the Property Appraiser's Office assuming an estimated 96.0% collection rate. These revenues were restricted and were designated for payments of the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2019 debt service payment totaling \$3,525,250; the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021 debt service payment totaling \$3,447,650; and the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023 debt service payment totaling \$3,040,825, all due in the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget year.

The public hearing was closed.

BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of the tentative millage rate for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; re-computation, if needed, and announcement of the final tentative millage rate and percentage increase over rolled-back rate.

Mr. Morton presented the request to Council.

Motion by Mr. Langevin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, to set the tentative operating millage rate for Tax Year 2025 at 6.7339.

Mr. Hammer did not support 6.7339 and wanted to lower the rate closer to 6.5000. Mr. Johnson suggested the rollback rate of 6.4071. Mr. Morton said staff had calculated as low as 6.5000 which would require an additional budget cut of \$2.334 million.

Mr. Langevin said that even if Council approved the rollback rate, it would still require a vote to exceed the 3% cap. He suggested that Council vote first on whether to break the cap.

Deputy Mayor Jaffe withdrew his second to the motion. The motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by Mr. Langevin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, to break the 3% cap.

Motion carried with members voting as follows:

Mayor Medina	Yea
Deputy Mayor Jaffe	Yea
Councilman Johnson	Nay
Councilman Hammer	Yea
Councilman Langevin	Yea

Motion by Deputy Mayor Jaffe to set millage rate of 6.5900. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hammer, to set the tentative operating millage rate for Tax Year 2025 at 6.5000. Mr. Morton noted again that the budget would have to be reduced by \$2.334 million.

Mayor Medina felt this would set the City up for failure and did not agree with going as low as 6.5000. Mr. Hammer had received input from residents that 6.5000 was too high. His goal was to lower the millage rate and felt 6.5000 was a good start. Mr. Langevin wanted to stay at the current millage rate. Deputy Mayor Jaffe agreed. Mr. Hammer would consider 6.5900.

Mr. Hammer withdrew his second to the motion. The motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by Mr. Johnson to table the item until after Item 5, under Business. The motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by Mr. Hammer, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to set the tentative operating millage rate for Tax Year 2025 at 6.6500.

Due to the supermajority vote requirement for approval, motion failed with members voting as follows:

Mayor Medina	Nay
Deputy Mayor Jaffe	Nay
Councilman Johnson	Yea
Councilman Hammer	Yea
Councilman Langevin	Nay

Motion by Mr. Langevin to set the tentative operating millage rate for Tax Year 2025 at 7.0000. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, seconded by Mr. Hammer, to set the tentative operating millage rate for Tax Year 2025 at 6.7000.

Due to the supermajority vote requirement for approval, motion failed with members voting as follows:

Mayor Medina	Yea
Deputy Mayor Jaffe	Yea
Councilman Johnson	Nay
Councilman Hammer	Yea
Councilman Langevin	Nay

Motion by Mr. Langevin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, to set the tentative operating millage rate for Tax Year 2025 at 6.7339.

Due to the supermajority vote requirement for approval, motion failed with members voting as follows:

Mayor Medina	Yea
Deputy Mayor Jaffe	Yea
Councilman Johnson	Nay
Councilman Hammer	Nay
Councilman Langevin	Yea

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hammer, to set the tentative operating millage rate for Tax Year 2025 at 6.7000.

Motion carried with members voting as follows:

Mayor Medina	Yea
Deputy Mayor Jaffe	Yea
Councilman Johnson	Yea
Councilman Hammer	Yea
Councilman Langevin	Nay

Motion by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to set the tentative debt millage rate for Tax Year 2025 at 0.9930. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Jaffe, Yea; Councilman Johnson, Yea; Councilman Hammer, Yea; Councilman Langevin, Yea.

2. Ordinance 2025-34, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 106, Impact Fees, Subchapter 'Water and Wastewater Impact Fees', by adjusting the water capital charges, first reading.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

Mr. Morton presented the request to Council.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, seconded by Mr. Langevin, to approve Ordinance 2025-34. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Jaffe, Yea; Councilman Johnson, Yea; Councilman Hammer, Yea; Councilman Langevin, Yea.

3. Ordinance 2025-35, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 200, Utilities Code, by adjusting the rates, fees and charges for the City's utilities system and services, first reading.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

Mr. Morton presented the request to Council.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, seconded by Mr. Hammer, to approve Ordinance 2025-35. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Jaffe, Yea; Councilman Johnson, Yea; Councilman Hammer, Yea; Councilman Langevin, Yea.

4. Ordinance 2025-36, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 201, Sewer Use, Subchapter 'Miscellaneous Provisions', by adjusting the permit fees and other charges related to the City's utilities wastewater system, first reading.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

Mr. Morton presented the request to Council.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, seconded by Mr. Hammer, to approve Ordinance 2025-36. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Jaffe, Yea; Councilman Johnson, Yea; Councilman Hammer, Yea; Councilman Langevin, Yea.

5. Ordinance 2025-37, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 202, Reclaimed Water, by adjusting the rates, fees, and charges for reclaimed water, first reading.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

Mr. Morton presented the request to Council.

Bill Battin, resident, questioned the percentage of the city that had reclaimed water ability and the percentage of the city that benefited from the costs to treat the water. Mr. Bowden said that approximately one million gallons per day were for reuse and was limited to a few small communities and one large business. He provided details on regulation changes.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve Ordinance 2025-37. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Jaffe, Yea; Councilman Johnson, Yea; Councilman Hammer, Yea; Councilman Langevin, Yea.

6. Ordinance 2025-38, adopting the final budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, first reading.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

Mr. Morton presented the request to Council.

Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Jaffe, to approve Ordinance 2025-38. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Jaffe, Yea; Councilman Johnson, Yea; Councilman Hammer, Yea; Councilman Langevin, Yea.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:12 P.M.

Rob Medina, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Terri J. Lefler, DEPUTY CITY CLERK