

CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA
CITIZENS ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE
MEETING 2026-01

Held on Thursday, the 23rd day of April 2026, in 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 located at 120 Malabar Road SE, Palm Bay, Florida. The minutes are not a verbatim transcript, but a summary of the discussions and actions taken at the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Terese Jones, City Clerk, at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBER:	Eric Stein	Present
MEMBER:	Thomas Gaume, Jr.	Absent
MEMBER:	Donny Felix	Present
MEMBER:	Chad Story	Present
MEMBER:	Judy Trandel	Present
MEMBER:	Jose Buttera, Jr.	Present
MEMBER:	Dr. Rick Adante	Absent

CITY STAFF:

Lee Feldman, Facilitator; Terese Jones, City Clerk.

PRESENTATION(S):

1. Patricia Smith, City Attorney – Overview of the Florida Sunshine Law and Public Records Act.

The item was continued to the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Non-agenda items only)

There were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair.

Motion by Mr. Felix, seconded by Mr. Buttera to select Chad Story as the Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ms. Trandel, seconded by Chair Story, to select Donny Felix as Vice-Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Review and adoption of the Citizens Accountability Task Force bylaws.

There was discussion on certain areas of the by-laws.

Motion by Vice-Chair Felix, seconded by Chair Story, to amend Article V, Meetings, Section 5, to read as follows: "The curfew for all meetings shall be 9:00 P.M., except that upon a motion for each, thirty (30) minute extensions may be approved by the Task Force to continue past the adjournment hour."

The Task Force concurred to leave the language for quorum requirements and attendance via teleconference as is.

There was discussion regarding the terms for Task Force members. Vice-Chair Felix suggested aligning Task Force member terms with mayoral and council appointments for consistency. He proposed establishing two-year terms for all members to mirror at-large members while maintaining continuity. Mrs. Jones advised that any changes to term lengths would require City Council approval and ordinance modification. The Task Force agreed to present recommendations to City Council for review and potential amendment to the ordinance.

The Task Force further discussed meeting frequency. Vice-Chair Felix proposed to adjust meetings to a minimum of eight (8) per year to align with business cycles and staff schedules, rather than mandating twelve (12) monthly meetings. Emergency meetings could be called if needed. Mrs. Jones reiterated that this item would also need to be presented to City Council as it required a modification to the ordinance that established the Task Force.

Motion by Mr. Buttera, seconded by Vice-Chair Felix, to adopt the current bylaws with the reservation to make future adjustments. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion of meeting schedule.

Motion by Vice-Chair Felix, seconded Ms. Trandel, to approve the meeting schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Feldman said he would be making a presentation at the next meeting regarding certain requirements that were pursuant to the City Charter which would set a foundation for the Task Force for understanding the City's budget.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Vice-Chair Felix, seconded Mr. Buttera, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Lee Felman, Facilitator

ATTEST:

Terese M. Jones, City Clerk