



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, October 07, 2025
6:00 PM CST
Council Chambers, City Hall

Call to Order.

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Liese called the meeting to order.

Invocation - Councilmember Maher

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Anna Liese

Councilmember-At-Large Gerard Maher

Ward 1 Shane Finley

Ward 3 Jessie Harwood

Ward 4 Austin Clark

ABSENT

Ward 2 Ricky Sheppard

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to adjust the agenda removing from the agenda –

2025-252: Motion to concur with the Planning Commission recommendation to approve a Test Amendment to Article 9 - Administration, 9.7 Conditional Use Procedure. The proposed text amendment is to consolidate the timeframe for approval. The case file number is 22500574 .

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to remove from the table and add to the Action Agenda –

2025-209: Motion to approve the Planning Commission recommendation to deny an addition (covered patio) within 0' of the rear yard setback. The property address is 3 Whispering Branch Way. The tax parcel number is 123A-3-03-028.000. The property is in a R-3 zoning district. The rear yard setback for an addition is 20'. The variance requested is 20'. The Case File Number is 202500448.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentation Agenda.

- a. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall.

- b. The 13th Annual Blessing of the Classics will be Wednesday, October 8th from 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. at City Hall. Cruisers, live music and food on the Town Green. Cruisers' parade to the blessing circle will be from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
- c. Covington Civil and Environmental - Bank Stabilization Project

City Manager's Report.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

October 07, 2025

1. MDOT Projects – The contractor is waiting on MDOT engineers to provide the updated drawings for the railing along the multimodal path. The subcontractor will install the final signage around the project in the next week.
2. Coon Branch – The project is 180 days with a current end date of December 13th. The contractor is working on the ditch between houses. All work has been completed around the outfall areas. The new culvert has been installed under the roadway.
3. Canal Dredging – Project is out for bid. A pre-bid meeting is currently scheduled for October 20th, and bids are due on October 29th.
4. Jourdan River Boardwalk – The engineers have finalized the lighting plans for the boardwalk and the educational material that will be displayed along the boardwalk. Plans have been resubmitted to MDEQ for their review of the updated plans and specifications.
5. Montjoy Creek – The MDMR specialist is working on this project and plans to sit down with USACE and go over the plans and design submitted. The specialist will let our engineer know something by the end of next week. Once the permit is issued, we will be able to go out for advertisement.
6. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – FEMA will make the adjustment to the scope change request for the generator at the end. The appraiser is completing the reports on the property acquisition project. As soon as I have the updated appraisals, I will submit them to MEMA.
7. Bank Stabilization – The next step for this project will be to work on easement acquisition. Once complete, the engineers can finalize the design.
8. Pelican Cove Drainage Project – The engineer is finalizing the plans and specifications for this project. Once ready, we will be requesting permission to advertise.
9. Rotten Bayou Nature Trail – The engineer has completed the surveying of the trail and is working on the final legal description. We will need to get a lease from the Secretary of State and Purcell.
10. Fitness Park – Public Works will start clearing the property next to Ochsner Medical and the new multimodal trail. Once cleared, they will install the equipment provided by Ochsner.
11. Dog Park – Public Works has completed rerouting the ditch and will be cleaning up the rest of the area as per the design. Permission to advertise is on this agenda.
12. Commercial District – The engineers' design and specification for phase 3 of the commercial district project is near completion. The city is currently waiting for the final property acquisition. Once we have both properties, we will submit this to the council for approval.
13. Landscaping Project – The city is meeting with Keep Diamondhead Beautiful and their landscape architect to discuss the design for the city entrance way. This plan will cover the landscape design from the community center to Yacht Club Circle.

Public Comments on Agenda Items.

Tracy Fountain - Kratom

Shane Billiot - Kratom

Dennis Ladnier - Kratom

Seth Hayes - Kratom

Mary Craig - Kratom

Don Duff - Bank Stabilization

Council Comments.

Policy Agenda.

Minutes:

1. Motion to approve September 16, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve September 16, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolutions:

3. **2025-243:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-049 thereby acquiring by donation, grant or conveyance, certain real property located within the city from GEM City Properties, LLC for right-of-way and sidewalk.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to adopt Resolution 2025-049 thereby acquiring by donation, grant or conveyance, certain real property located within the city from GEM City Properties, LLC for right-of-way and sidewalk.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **2025-244:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-050 thereby acquiring by donation, grant or conveyance, certain real property located within the city from Rouse Land Company, LLC for right-of-way and sidewalk.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to adopt Resolution 2025-050 thereby acquiring by donation, grant or conveyance, certain real property located within the city from Rouse Land Company, LLC for right-of-way and sidewalk.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **2025-254:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-051 thereby authorizing the City Manager to permit the use of city-owned barricades or similar devices on private property to aid in traffic control and for other related purposes.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Mayor Liese to adopt Resolution 2025-051 thereby authorizing the City Manager to permit the use of city-owned barricades or similar devices on private property to aid in traffic control and for other related purposes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to approve the following consent items:

6. **2025-234:** Motion to approve the Municipal Compliance Questionnaire for Fiscal Year 2025.
7. **2025-235:** Motion to accept substantial completion of the Kome Drive and Kalipekona Pond Drainage Project as of August 18, 2025.
8. **2025-236:** Motion to approve payment to Chiniche Engineering & Surveying in the amount of \$1,131.25 for Pond 6 Improvements, in the amount of \$8,324.00 for Jourdan River Boardwalk, and in the amount of \$7,610.50 for Canal Dredging Rebid.
9. **2025-237:** Motion to approve Work Assignment under the Master Service Agreement with Machado Patano, PLLC, in the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 for the Diamondhead Town Green.
10. **2025-238:** Motion to approve and accept the Federal Emergency Management Agency statement of assurances terms and conditions for property acquisition projects and to authorize the City Manager to execute same.
11. **2025-239:** Motion to approve payments to Covington Civil & Environmental, LLC in the amount of \$19,915.00 for Diamondhead Paving 2025, in the amount of \$21,250.00 for Kome Dr and Fairway Dr Drainage Project, in the amount of \$32,500.00 for Bank Stabilization Project, in the amount of \$905.95 for Site Development Plan, in the amount of \$1,035.00 for On Call Survey Services, in the amount of \$1,645.65 for Annual Unit Price Contract, in the amount of \$13,440.00 for West Aloha Roadway Improvements Project and in the amount of \$6,020.00 for East Aloha Phase II Sidewalks.
12. **2025-240:** Motion to approve Pay Application 7 in the amount of \$164,296.05 to JLB Contractors, LLC., for the Kome Drive and Kalipekona Pond Drainage Project.
13. **2025-241:** Motion to approve Work Assignment under the Master Service Agreement with Covington Civil and Environmental, LLC in the amount not to exceed \$142,000.00 for Diamondhead Paving 2026.
14. **2025-242:** Motion to approve to advertise for bids for the Shepherd Square Dog Park.
15. **2025-246:** Motion to approve Pay Application 2 in the amount of \$130,940.10 to SCI, LLC., for the Coon Branch Drainage Improvements - Phase I.
16. **2025-247:** Motion to declare surplus equipment and proceed with proper disposal.
17. **2025-248:** Motion to approve Budget Adjustment 2026-001.

18. **2025-249:** Motion to accept and award the low bid received from Taylor Power Systems in the amount of \$41,313.00 for a 125kW standby generator and to award to Energy Systems Southeast, LLC (EESE, LLC) in the total low bid amount of \$88,221.00 for the purchase of one (1) 45kW trailer-mounted generator (\$74,605.50) and an alternate integrated light tower (\$13,615.50.)
19. **2005-250:** Motion to enter into Interlocal Agreement with Hancock County for the transfer of surplus reinforced concrete pipe.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Action Agenda.

20. **2025-245:** Motion to approve a text amendment to remove the 10 feet setback from the primary residence requirement for accessory structures. The case file number is 202500573.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley to approve a text amendment to remove the 10 feet setback from the primary residence requirement for accessory structures. The case file number is 202500573.

MOTION DIED FOR A LACK OF SECOND

21. **2025-251:** Motion to approve a Text Amendment to add additional requirements for Camper/Boat/RV Storage in C-1, C-2, PFR, and ADWF Districts.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve a text amendment to remove the 10 feet setback from the primary residence requirement for accessory structures. The case file number is 202500573.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

Voting Nay: Councilmember-At-Large Maher

MOTION CARRIED

23. **2025-253:** Motion to discuss and consider possible action regarding the regulation and/or sale of kratom within the City of Diamondhead.

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to discuss and consider possible action regarding the regulation and/or sale of kratom within the City of Diamondhead.

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to direct City Attorney to research Kratom and report findings to the council.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 23 a **2025-209:** Motion to approve the Planning Commission recommendation to deny an addition (covered patio) within 0' of the rear yard setback. The property address is 3 Whispering Branch Way. The tax parcel number is 123A-3-03-028.000. The property is in a R-3 zoning district. The rear yard setback for an addition is 20'. The variance requested is 20'. The Case File Number is 202500448.

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to approve the Planning Commission recommendation to deny an addition (covered patio) within 0' of the rear yard setback. The property address is 3 Whispering Branch Way. The tax parcel number is 123A-3-03-028.000. The property is in a R-3 zoning district. The rear yard setback for an addition is 20'. The variance requested is 20'. The Case File Number is 202500448.

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to amend to approve the variance for an addition (covered patio) within 0' of the rear yard setback. The property address is 3 Whispering Branch Way. The tax parcel number is 123A-3-03-028.000. The property is in a R-3 zoning district. The rear yard setback for an addition is 20'. The variance is amended to 19' setback and the applicant must make application and obtain a permit for the covered patio. The Case File Number is 202500448.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Routine Agenda.

Claims Payable

24. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233171 - DKT233222) in the amount of \$682,975.99.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233171 - DKT233222) in the amount of \$682,975.99.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items - None

Council Closing Comments

Adjourn/Recess.

At 7:12 p.m. with no further business to come before the council, motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Anna Liese
Mayor

Jeannie Klein
City Clerk