



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 05, 2026
6:00 PM CST
Council Chambers, City Hall
and via teleconference

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

Invocation - Councilmember Clark

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Anna Liese

Councilmember-At-Large Gerard Maher – via teleconference

Ward 3 Jessie Harwood

Ward 4 Austin Clark

ABSENT

Ward 1 Shane Finley

Ward 2 Ricky Sheppard

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to adjust the agenda modifying items **#2, #8** and **#11**.

2. 2026-093: Motion advertise for public hearing on proposed Ordinance 2026-001 Zoning Ordinance thereby establishing standing procedures to ensure that entities which cut and excavate streets owned by the City have the knowledge, competence and resources needed to perform the scope of work for which they are permitted and further to provide focus on the need for better coordination and accountability and for employing less intrusive, more durable, and cost-efficient methods for restoring utility cuts within paved roads.

8. 2026-086: Motion to approve sole source purchase for East Recreation playground replacement parts in the amount of \$5,661.10 to Pelican Playgrounds.

11. 2026-091: Motion to declare surplus real property by accepting the recommendation of the City Manager that the listed real properties are no longer necessary for public purposes, the sale of said properties will promote the best interest of the City, the sale of said properties will be conditioned on the deed restriction, if any, currently in place on the deeds held by the City, establishing Fair Market Value (parcel no. 067N-1-35-048.00 FMV \$39,000, parcel no.067F-2-26107.00 FMV \$75,000, parcel no. 067H-2-25-014.00 FMV \$6,750 and parcel no. 067F1-26-112.00 FMV \$6,750) and authorizing the advertisement for disposition through competitive bid process.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentation Agenda.

City Manager's Report.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

May 05, 2026

1. Canal Dredging – The contract is for 240 days with the current end date of October 24th. The contractor is steadily working on the project. I will have exact numbers for the next council meeting. The contractor is having issues with the type of material being dredged. The engineer is working with the contractor to resolve this problem.
2. Paving 2026 – The contract is for 120 days with a current completion date of June 18, 2026. The contractor is currently working on Aulena Place with base repair being completed and paving scheduled for next week.
3. Jourdan River Boardwalk – The contract is for 180 days with the current end date of October 17th. The contractor has installed over 100 pilings as of Friday. Boaters need to be aware of the work area to remain safe.
4. Montjoy Creek Nature Trail – The contract is 180 calendar days with a current end date of October 10th. The contractor has installed all mats for the work area. They are currently installing pilings for the raised boardwalk area.
5. Community Center – A building inspection has been completed, and the city has reviewed the report. The proposal on the agenda tonight is to hire an architect firm to determine next steps in the repair of the facility.
6. Surplus Property – By agreeing to consent item #11, the Council is making a finding based on the recommendation of the city manager that the listed real properties are no longer necessary for public purposes and the sale of the properties will promote the best interest of the city. The sale of the properties will be conditioned on the deed restrictions, if any, currently in place on the deeds held by the city.

No additional updates on remaining projects.

7. Fitness Park – The city received the exercise equipment. Public Works will start working on installing everything this month.
8. Pelican Cove – The engineers have applied for the nationwide permit from USACE. There have been several follow up questions that the engineers have answered. Once the permit is approved, I will ask for permission to advertise.
9. East Aloha Drive – The engineers are finishing the sidewalk designs and right-of-way acquisition process with MDOT. The electrical engineering sub-contractor is completing the design and layout for the streetlights. The engineers expect to be able to advertise as soon as the MDOT requirements are completed.
10. West Aloha Drive – I am working with American Towers to finalize the egress into the driveway access to North Bay Auto and AutoZone.
11. Commercial District – The engineer is completing the final design. Additional sewer realignment is needed to finish the project.

- 12. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Received notification on Monday that FEMA has approved our Outdoor Emergency Siren System. The required documents will be presented on the next agenda. MEMA is currently asking for a period of performance extension on this project.
- 13. Bank Stabilization – Received notification from MDMR that the project is not under the Coastal Zone Management Act. Also, a non-reporting Nationwide Permit is all that is needed for this project. This will allow the engineers to move forward with final design. The next step for this project will be to work on easement acquisition. Once complete, the engineers can finalize the design.
- 14. MDOT Projects – The contractor installed the signage last week. Once the engineers update the drawings for the railing along the multimodal path, the contractor will be back out to install and complete the project.
- 15. Landscaping Project – Keep Diamondhead Beautiful and their landscape architect company are working on the project scope. The city has expressed that the landscaping cannot obstruct driver’s view.
- 16. Rotten Bayou Nature Trail – The engineer has presented the new preliminary design for this project. They will start the survey work to determine layout and the required permitting from the USACE. The funding is currently out for public comment. Once completed, a meeting with MDEQ will be scheduled to discuss the project and receive paperwork for the council to review and approve.
- 17. Unit Price Contracts
 - Crooked Stick – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.
 - Mauna Loa Drive – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.
 - Ewa St @ Hilo Way – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.
 - Koula Drive – A design has been created. An OPC has been issued for budget needs.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - None

Council Comments.

Policy Agenda.

Minutes:

- 1. Motion to approve April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.
 Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.
 Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ordinances:

- 2. **2026-093:** Motion to advertise for public hearing on proposed Ordinance 2026-001 Zoning Ordinance thereby establishing standing procedures to ensure that entities which cut and excavate streets owned by the City have the knowledge, competence and resources needed to perform the scope of work for which they are permitted and further to provide focus on the need for better coordination and accountability and for employing less intrusive, more durable, and cost-efficient methods for restoring utility cuts within paved roads.

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Mayor Liese to advertise for public hearing on proposed Ordinance 2026-001 Zoning Ordinance thereby establishing standing procedures to ensure that entities which cut and excavate streets owned by the City have the knowledge, competence and resources needed to perform the scope of work for which they are permitted and further to provide focus on the need for better coordination and accountability and for employing less intrusive, more durable, and cost-efficient methods for restoring utility cuts within paved roads.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve the following consent items:

3. **2026-081:** Motion to approve proposal for cost estimate and professional recommendation for renovation of the existing Diamondhead Community Center in the amount of \$3,400.00 to Eley Guild Hardy Architects.
4. **2026-082:** Motion to approve Pay Application 2 in the amount of \$62,925.51 to Gulf Pride Paving, LLC., for the Diamondhead Paving Project 2026.
5. **2026-083:** Motion to approve the Fire Protection Agreement between the City of Diamondhead, Hancock County Board of Supervisors and the Diamondhead Fire District for fire protection services.
6. **2026-084:** Motion to ratify the purchase made prior to authorization in the amount of \$1,100.00 for the Dog Park prep area to Make It Happen Services, LLC.
7. **2026-085:** Motion to accept the low quote from JLB in the amount of \$22,022.00 for the replacement guardrail for Kalipekona Pond.
8. **2026-086:** Motion to approve sole source purchase for East Recreation playground replacement parts in the amount of \$5,661.10 to Pelican Playgrounds.
9. **2026-089:** Motion to approve payments to Chiniche Engineering & Surveying in the amount of \$4,112.50 for Coon Branch Drainage, in the amount of \$9,020.50 for Jourdan River Boardwalk, in the amount of \$10,787.00 for Canal Dredging, in the amount of \$3,515.00 for Pond 6 and in the amount of \$11,891.50 for Rotten Bayou Nature Trail.
10. **2026-090:** Motion to approve payments to Covington Civil & Environmental, LLC in the amount of \$4,655.00 for On-Call Survey Services, in the amount of \$755.00 for Annual Unit Price Contract, in the amount of \$40,250.00 for Bank Stabilization Project, in the amount of \$585.00 for Site Development Plan Review FY26, in the amount of \$3,593.09 for East Aloha Phase II Sidewalks and in the amount of \$31,000.00 for Diamondhead Paving 2026.
11. **2026-091:** Motion to declare surplus real property by accepting the recommendation of the City Manager that the listed real properties are no longer necessary for public purposes, the sale of said properties will promote the best interest of the City, the sale of said properties will be conditioned on the deed restriction, if any, currently in place on the deeds held by the City, establishing Fair Market Value (parcel no. 067N-1-35-048.00 FMV \$39,000, parcel no.067F-2-26107.00 FMV \$75,000, parcel no. 067H-2-25-014.00 FMV \$6,750 and parcel no. 067F1-26-112.00 FMV \$6,750) and authorizing the advertisement for disposition through competitive bid process.

- 12. **2026-092:** Motion to approve Work Assignment under the Master Service Agreement with Chiniche Engineering and Surveying Environmental in the amount not to exceed \$35,000.00 for the amendment for construction administration and inspection services for the Montjoy Creek Trailhead Improvements Project.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Action Agenda.

- 13. **2026-087:** Motion to approve the Planning & Zoning Commission recommendation to allow a residence within 17’ of a rear property line. The property address is 557 Golf Club Drive. The tax parcel number is 131C-2-13-092.000. The property is in a R-10 zoning district. The setback for a residence from the rear property line is 20’. The variance requested is 3’. The Case File Number is 202600241.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Mayor Liese to approve the Planning & Zoning Commission recommendation to allow a residence within 17’ of a rear property line. The property address is 557 Golf Club Drive. The tax parcel number is 131C-2-13-092.000. The property is in a R-10 zoning district. The setback for a residence from the rear property line is 20’. The variance requested is 3’. The Case File Number is 202600241.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 14. **2026-088:** Motion to approve the Planning & Zoning Commission recommendation to allow a swimming pool within 8’ of a rear property line. The property address is 85007 Diamondhead Lakes Boulevard. The tax parcel number is 067M-2-35-032.000. The property is in a R-6 zoning district. The setback for a swimming pool from the rear property line is 10’. The variance requested is 2’. The Case File Number is 202600240.

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve the Planning & Zoning Commission recommendation to allow a swimming pool within 8’ of a rear property line. The property address is 85007 Diamondhead Lakes Boulevard. The tax parcel number is 067M-2-35-032.000. The property is in a R-6 zoning district. The setback for a swimming pool from the rear property line is 10’. The variance requested is 2’. The Case File Number is 202600240.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Routine Agenda.

Claims Payable

- 15. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233716- DKT233741) in the amount of \$450,718.95.

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Mayor Liese to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233716- DKT233741) in the amount of \$450,718.95.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 16. Motion to approve payroll payables DKT233705-DKT233714 in the amount to \$51,176.46, DKT233628 in the amount of \$90.72, DKT233629 in the amount of \$90.72, DKT233679 in the amount of \$90.72, PRCLAIM 000266 in the amount of \$31,000.56, PRCLAIM 000267 in the amount of \$29,621.19, and PRCLAIM 000268 in the amount of \$3,028.37.

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve payroll payables DKT233705-DKT233714 in the amount to \$51,176.46, DKT233628 in the amount of \$90.72, DKT233629 in the amount of \$90.72, DKT233679 in the amount of \$90.72, PRCLAIM 000266 in the amount of \$31,000.56, PRCLAIM 000267 in the amount of \$29,621.19, and PRCLAIM 000268 in the amount of \$3,028.37.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Department Reports

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Mayor Liese

Court

Police

Building

Code Enforcement

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

Dotty Crotwell - Drainage

Council Closing Comments

Adjourn/Recess.

At 6:11 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 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Anna Liese
Mayor

Jeannie Klein
City Clerk