

CITY OF LABELLE



MINUTES

Regular Commission Meeting

Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 5:30 PM

LaBelle Commission Chambers
481 West Hickpochee Ave
LaBelle, FL 33975

CITY COMMISSION:

Julie C. Wilkins, Mayor
Kevin Holland, Commissioner
Jackie Ratica, Commissioner
Bobbie Spratt, Commissioner
Hugo Vargas, Commissioner

ADMINISTRATION:

Tijauna Warner, MPA, MMC, Deputy City Clerk
Derek Rooney, Esq., City Attorney
Mitchell Wills, Superintendent PW

Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Wilkins at 5:32 PM.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Julie C. Wilkins

Vice Mayor Jackie Ratica

Commissioner Bobbie Spratt

Commissioner Hugo Vargas

Commissioner Kevin Holland

City Attorney Derek Rooney

Deputy City Clerk Tijauna Warner

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Holland led the invocation, Vice Mayor Ratica led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Additions of Emergency Basis From Mayor, Deletions and Approval of Agenda Items

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to add and approve RCM Lift Station Description of Work 6, 7, and 12, Seconded by Commissioner Vargas. Mayor Wilkins called for the question.

Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to rearrange the agenda, Seconded by Commissioner Vargas. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

5. Presentations

A. Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year (FFCA) Recognition - Chief Brent Stevens

Mayor Wilkins presented Fire Chief Stevens with a proclamation recognizing him for his achievement as Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year.

B. LaBelle Little League 12U All Stars Baseball Team Members & Coaches Proclamations

Vice Mayor Ratica presented the LaBelle Little League 12U All Stars Baseball Team Members and Coaches with proclamations.

C. Day of Remembrance Proclamation

Mayor Wilkins presented the Day of Remembrance Proclamation.

D. National Diapers Week Proclamation

Mayor Wilkins presented the National Diapers Week Proclamation to Amanda Brunson, Community Engagement Director of Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest Florida, Inc.

E. Firehouse Community Theatre

Firehouse Theater gave a brief description of their upcoming events.

F. ORDINANCE 2025 - 07 (first reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF LABELLE ZONING MAP FOR A 8.91+/-ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SOUTH CAPTAIN HENDRY DRIVE AND STATE ROAD 80, AMENDING THE ZONING DESIGNATION FROM BUSINESS (B-2) ZONING DISTRICT TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) ZONING DISTRICT, PROVIDING FOR IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR INTENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Derek read Ordinance 2025-07 title into the record and swore-in anyone who wishes to testify or speak on this item.

Margarete Tassone gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2025-07.

Public Hearing Opened 6:00pm

Kimberly Parrish, William Gleaser, and Delia Miners commented on Ordinance 2025-07.

Public Hearing Closed 6:41pm

City of LaBelle City Commission consented to moving Ordinance 2025-07 forward to second reading.

6. Consent Agenda Items for Consideration

A. Approval of August Check Register

B. Approval of Minutes:

July 31, 2025 City Commission Budget Workshop & Special Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2025 City Commission Meeting Minutes

C. Approval of Staff Reports:

-HCSO- Lt. Allen Hudson

-Fire Department- Chief Brent Stevens

-Building Department- Mark Lynch

-Code Enforcement- Zane Mungillo

D. 2026 Legislative Priority Request

E. Letter of Credit Renewals

F. 2025-2026 Renewal Proposal Property & Casualty Insurance PRM

G. RESOLUTION 2025-12 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LABELLE; AMENDING THE RETIREMENT PLAN AND TRUST FOR THE FIREFIGHTERS

OF THE CITY OF LABELLE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

H. Gray Robinson Fee Update

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve Consent Agenda Items, Seconded by Commissioner Spratt. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

7. Non-Public Hearing Items for Consideration

A. Art Gallery /LaBelle Garden Club

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve the Garden Club planting gardens on the Art Gallery property, Seconded by Commissioner Spratt. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

B. Hari's Discount Liquor

8. Public Hearings and/or Ordinances

- A. RESOLUTION 2025 -10 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, SETTING THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 – 2026 PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES, TOGETHER WITH A ROLL-BACK RATE; ESTABLISHING THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 – 2026; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Derek read Resolution 2025-10 into the record.

Lilly gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2025-10.

Public Hearing Opened 7:07pm

Jim Galley comment on Resolution 2025-10.

Public Hearing Closed 7:17pm

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to approved Resolution 2025-10, Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed (3-2).

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Holland

Voting Nay: Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to reconsider and approve Resolution 2025-10, Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed (4-1).

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner

Holland
Voting Nay: Commissioner Spratt

Meeting recessed at 7:39pm

Meeting reconvened at 7:45pm

- B. ORDINANCE 2025 - 02 (first reading) LABELLE CHAPTER 144 DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE 2020-14 FOR THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS FLEA MARKET PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT; ADDING 0.48+/- ACRES TO THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT FOR PARKING; PROVIDING FOR INTENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Derek Rooney read Ordinance 2025-02 title into the record.

Alexis Crespo gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2025-02.

Public Hearing Opened

No comments.

Public Hearing Closed

City of LaBelle City Commission consented to moving Ordinance 2025-02 forward to second reading.

- C. ORDINANCE 2025 - 04 (second reading) THE RESIDENCES AT GRANDE OAKS ANNEXATION AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, ANNEXING A 26.26+/--ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED ¼ MILE SOUTH OF HELMS ROAD AND WEST OF STATE ROAD 29, INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA; IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ANNEXATION PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 171, PART II, FLORIDA STATUTES; REDEFINING THE BOUNDARY LINES OF SAID CITY IN CONFORMANCE THEREWITH; AMENDING THE OFFICIAL BOUNDARY MAP OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, PROVIDING THAT EXISTING FUTURE LAND USE AND ZONING DESIGNATIONS REMAIN UNTIL CHANGED BY THE CITY ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE 13 DATE.

Derek Rooney read Ordinance 2025-04 title into the record.

Alexis Crespo gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2025-04.

Public Hearing Opened

No comments.

Public Hearing Closed

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve Ordinance 2025-04, Seconded by Vice Mayor Ratica. Mayor called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

- D. ORDINANCE 2025 - 05 (second reading) THE RESIDENCES AT GRANDE OAKS SMALL-SCALE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MAP AMENDMENT AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR A SMALL-SCALE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

AMENDMENT TO THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP FOR A 26.26+/-ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED ¼ MILE SOUTH OF HELMS ROAD AND WEST OF STATE ROAD 29; AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DESIGNATION FOR THE PROPERTY FROM UNINCORPORATED HENDRY COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN "HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL" DESIGNATION TO THE CITY OF LABELLE "OUTLYING MIXED USE" DESIGNATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Derek Rooney read Ordinance 2025-05 title into the record.

Alexis Crespo gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2025-05.

Public Hearing Opened

No comments.

Public Hearing Closed

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to approve Ordinance 2025-05, Seconded by Commissioner Spratt. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

- E. ORDINANCE 2025 - 06 (second reading) THE RESIDENCES AT GRAND OAKS PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF LABELLE ZONING MAP FOR A 26.26+/-ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED ¼ MILE SOUTH OF HELMS ROAD AND WEST OF STATE ROAD 29, AMENDING THE ZONING DESIGNATION FROM UNINCORPORATED HENDRY COUNTY GENERAL AGRICULTURE (A-2) ZONING DISTRICT TO CITY OF LABELLE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) ZONING DISTRICT, PROVIDING FOR IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR INTENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Derek read Ordinance 2025-06 title into the record.

Alexis Crespo gave a brief description of Ordinance 2025-06.

Public Hearing Opened

No comments.

Public Hearing Closed

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve Ordinance 2025-06 with conditions: eliminating two buildings, including pavilion, basketball, or pickleball, and community space, Seconded by Commissioner Spratt. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

Motion made by Commissioner Holland to approve Resolution 2025-13 Fire Assessment, Seconded by Mayor Wilkins. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to approve Resolution 2025-16 Street Lighting Assessment, Seconded by Mayor Wilkins. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to approve Resolution 2025-14 Police Assessment, Seconded by Vice Mayor Ratica. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to approve Resolution 2025-15 Recreation Assessment, Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

- F. RESOLUTION 2025 - 11 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Derek read Resolution 2025-11 title into the record.

Lilly gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2025-11.

Public Hearing Opened

No comments.

Public Hearing Closed

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve Resolution 2025-11, Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed (4-1)

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

Voting Nay: Commissioner Spratt

9. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Public comments were made by the following individuals: Jim Galli, Shandeya Thomas, and Diane Brown.

10. City Related Business by Commissioners

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Mayor Wilkins.

Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Wilkins adjourned the meeting at 9:37 PM.

Julie C. Wilkins, Mayor

ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, MPA, MMC, City Clerk