

CITY OF LABELLE



MINUTES

Special Final Budget Commission Meeting

Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 5:05 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 5:07 PM.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Vargas led the invocation, Commissioner Spratt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. 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

4. Presentations

- A. RESOLUTION 2025-17 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF LABELLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 – 2026 PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to authorize Mayor Wilkins to make the first decision on the Interlocal Animal Control Agreement between Hendry County & City of LaBelle and bring back to the commission, Seconded by Commissioner Vargas. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Alishia Gibson (resident) expressed concerns with students' education funding being cut from federal grants and authorities being able to pull individual over just because of the color of their skin.

Derek Rooney read Resolution 2025-17 title into the record and gave a brief explanation.

Public Hearing Opened

No comments.

Public Hearing Closed

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to approve Resolution 2025-17, Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the questions. A discussion ensued. Motion passed (4-1).

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

Holland

Voting Nay: Commissioner Spratt

- B. RESOLUTION 2025-18 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA; HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA; ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Derek Rooney read Resolution 2025-18 title into the record.

Lilly Davenport gave a brief explanation of Resolution 2025-18.

Public Hearing Opened

No Comments.

Public Hearing Closed

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve Resolution 2025-18, Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed (4-1).

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

Voting Nay: Commissioner Spratt

5. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to adjourn the special meeting, 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

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Wilkins adjourned the meeting at 5:59 PM.

Julie C. Wilkins, Mayor

ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, MPA, MMC, City Clerk