

CITY OF LABELLE



MINUTES

City Commission Budget Workshop & Special Meeting

Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 3:00 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, BAS, MMC, Deputy City Clerk
Derek Rooney, Esq., City Attorney
Mitchell Wills, Superintendent PW

Minutes

1. Call to Order

The workshop/special meeting was called to order by Mayor Wilkins at 3:00 PM.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Julie C. Wilkins
Commissioner Jackie Ratica
Commissioner Hugo Vargas
Commissioner Kevin Holland via Teams
City Attorney Derek Rooney
Deputy City Clerk Tijauna Warner

ABSENT

Commissioner Bobbie Spratt

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

4. Consent Agenda Items for Consideration

Mayor Wilkins contacted Sue Moss by phone to discuss a proposed \$9,000 donation to the LaBelle Museum to support the hiring of part-time staff, enabling the museum to extend its hours of operation throughout the week. The conversation also included the possibility of the LaBelle Downtown Revitalization Corporation (LDRC) providing additional staffing support. Following a productive discussion, Sue Moss expressed her agreement with all proposed terms.

A. Insurance Rates & Plans

Lisa Awbrey (Human Resource Director) gave a brief overview of insurance options. A discussion ensued.

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve the Base Plan and HSA 05180/-1 for employees to select, Seconded by Commissioner Ratica. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

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

B. Fire Department Budget

Chief Brent Stevens provided the Commission with an overview of the three available plan options.

Motion made by Commissioner Ratica to approve Plan 3 not to exceed rate, Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Commission Ratica amended her motion to Plan 3 not to exceed rate and remove the cap for vacate building, industrial, and commercial. Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

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

5. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Ratica to adjourn the workshop/special meeting, Seconded by Commissioner Vargas. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

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

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Wilkins adjourned the meeting at 3:37 PM.

Julie C. Wilkins, Mayor

ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, MPA, MMC, City Clerk