

# CITY OF LABELLE



## MINUTES

### **City Commission Budget Workshop & Special Meeting**

Thursday, July 24, 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 meeting was called to order by Mayor Wilkins at 3:03PM.

### 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

### 4. Presentations

#### A. FY2025-2026

Lilly Davenport provided a brief overview of the City of LaBelle's proposed budget. A 5% Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) was suggested for all employees this year. The city experienced a 2.5% increase in healthcare costs and an overall rise in retirement expenses, although rates decreased for legislative officials and senior executives. Workers' compensation costs are budgeted with an average projected increase of 18%, though final numbers are pending. All general fund attorney fees have been consolidated under the Commission budget to streamline allocation; however, utility departments will continue to manage their own legal expenses. She provided a proposed millage rate of 5.1414, with a rollback rate of 4.8137. A discussion ensued.

**Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to approve Resolution 2025-09 setting the proposed millage rate of 5.1414 and roll-back rate of 4.8137, Seconded by Vice Mayor Ratica. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

### 5. Adjournment

**Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to adjourn the budget workshop & 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.**

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Wilkins adjourned the meeting at 5:24 PM.

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Julie C. Wilkins, Mayor

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ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, MPA, MMC, City Clerk