
MINUTES
CITY OF LAKE CITY
City Council Regular Session
May 18, 2026
6:00 PM at City Hall

This meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall located at 205 North Marion Avenue, Lake City, FL 32055. Members of the public may also view the meeting on our YouTube channel. YouTube channel information is located at the end of this agenda.

Call to Order – 6:35 PM

Events Prior to Meeting - 5:00 PM Council Workshop - City Animal Control

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation - Council Member James Carter

Roll Call

Mayor/Council Member
City Council

Noah Walker
Chevella Young
Ricky Jernigan
James Carter
Tammy Harris
Clay Martin
Don Rosenthal
Chief Gerald Butler
Audrey Sikes

City Attorney
City Manager
Sergeant-at-Arms
City Clerk

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Carter made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Harris seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Presentation- 250th Project - Students from Columbia County School System - Ms. Lisa Lee

Ms. Lee introduced Milana and Brenda, two students from Richardson Sixth Grade Academy, who shared details from their trip to Washington D.C. After, Ms. Lee shared with members the quilt crafted by Columbia County Elementary students.

Proclamations/Awards/Recognitions

1. City of Lake City Gatekeeper Award Presented to Columbia High School Traditional Weightlifting Team (Mayor Noah Walker)

Team Accomplishments

2026 District and Regional Champions and 2026 2A State Champions

Team Members
Ray'jon Beasley
Jacob Bell
Mekah Combs-Turner
Conner Robinson
Maurice Campbell
Jae'den Simmons
Cameron Stephenson - 169lb Weight Class Individual State Champion Olympic Division
Jackson Woodley
Jordan Johnson
Jerome Horne
Alfonso Curry Jr
Bryson Grinstead
Garret Shipley - 219lb Weight Class Individual State Champion Olympic Division
Xander Satterfield
Joshua Jones
Josiah Rossin
Henry Camiel - Unlimited Class Individual State Champion Traditional Division
De'manuel Jones
Coaching Staff
Brian Allen, Head Coach
John Woodley Jr, Assistant Coach
Quinton Callum, Assistant Coach

Mayor Walker presented and read aloud the Gatekeeper Awards.

Public Participation - Persons Wishing to Address Council

- Raelyn Wehinger – funding request for the Columbia High School softball team

Ms. Young made a motion to amend the agenda to add Discussion and Possible Action: Support of Columbia High Softball Champions with funding up to \$5,000.00 and to be placed behind the consent agenda. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

- Sylvester Warren

Approval of Consent Agenda

2. City Council Resolution No. 2026-056 - A resolution of the City of Lake City, Florida approving that certain interlocal agreement between the City and Careersource North Central Florida, a Florida local government agency, to provide services in support of the City Summer Youth Job Program managed by the City of Lake City Police Department; making certain findings of fact in support of the City approving said agreement; recognizing the authority of the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said agreement; directing the Mayor to execute and bind the City to said agreement; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date.

Mr. Jernigan made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mr. Carter	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Ms. Harris	Aye
Mayor Walker	Aye

3. Discussion and Possible Action: Funding request from the Columbia High School softball team

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tony Buzella

Mr. Jernigan made a motion to fulfill the request for \$5,000.00 in funding from the Mayors Matching Grant to the Columbia High Diamond Club. Ms. Young seconded the motion.

Council Member Carter confirmed with the diamond club’s president that the Columbia County School Board does not budget for extra events.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Carter	Aye
Ms. Harris	Aye
Mayor Walker	Aye

Presentations

4. Five Points Elementary Property (City Manager Don Rosenthal)

City Manager Rosenthal reviewed with members the diagram presented in the agenda packet and pointed out the red highlighted areas are reserved for the Suwannee Valley 4C’s and the blue highlighted areas are to be considered for broader community-use planning and future visioning.

He reported ideas from the County: career and job skills training; support/training for single parents; food drives and community distribution programs; maker space and hands-on training; pet-friendly shelter; Toys for Tots and seasonal support initiatives.

Ideas from City Staff and members included: women’s shelter; maker space; employment office; free urgent care for employees; shared City/County/School Board childcare area.

Mayor Walker reported he would like to name the property Lake City Family Resource Center.

Next steps for staff were to: inventory all remaining vacant classrooms by building and room number; confirm which rooms were already reserved for Suwannee Valley 4C/s; identify programs ready for immediate implementation; continue refining proposals and bring back at a future meeting; evaluation operational considerations; and present room-by-room recommendations for members to consider at a future meeting.

Quasi-Judicial Hearings - None

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Departmental Administration

5. Discussion and Possible Action: Approve New Director of ADA/Risk Safety Position (Human Resource Director BillieJo Bible)

Ms. Bible provided an overview of the newly requested position and reported Risk Safety was currently under Human Resources. She stated after speaking with City Manager Rosenthal and Finance Director Angie Taylor, funding for the position could come from the already budgeted ADA Coordinator from the City Clerk’s Office and Grant Writer position from the City Manager’s budget.

After discussion of paygrade, the possibility of future staff members under the new position, and a suggestion of keeping the position under Human Resources, **Mr. Carter made a motion to approve the creation of an ADA/Risk Safety Director position, with funding coming from the City Clerk’s budgeted ADA Coordinator position and the unfulfilled Grant Writer position in the City Manager’s budget. Ms. Harris seconded the motion.**

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Carter	Aye
Ms. Harris	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Nay
Mayor Walker	Aye

After being made aware the City could not fund the Columbia High Diamond Club with the Mayor’s Matching Grant due to the entity not being a 501c3 nonprofit, members discussed alternative funding sources.

Mr. Carter made a motion to reconsider the previous motion made to fund the Columbia High Diamond Club via the Mayor’s Matching Grant. Mr. Jernigan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Carter	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Ms. Harris	Aye
Mayor Walker	Aye

Mr. Carter made a motion to amend the original motion to change the funding source from the Mayor’s Matching Grant to General Funds from the City Manager budget. Ms. Harris seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Restated motion: Mr. Carter made a motion to fulfill the request for \$5,000.00 in funding to the Columbia High Diamond Club with the funding source being General Funds from the City Manager budget.

Mr. Carter	Aye
Ms. Harris	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Walker	Aye

Mr. Carter made a motion to fulfill the request for \$5,000.00 in funding to the Columbia High Diamond Club with the funding source being General Funds from the City Manager budget. Ms. Harris seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Carter	Aye
Ms. Harris	Aye
Ms. Young	Aye
Mr. Jernigan	Aye
Mayor Walker	Aye

Comments by:

City Manager Don Rosenthal – Mr. Rosenthal informed members he would beginning meeting with directors regarding the budget starting June 1st.

City Attorney Clay Martin – None

City Clerk Audrey Sikes – Ms. Sikes reported the free shred event held for the community on May 16th was a success.

Comments by Council Members

Council Member Chevella Young – Ms. Young reported a miscommunication with Richardson Community Center and stated they requested \$100,000.00 for summer programs but was informed they could only receive \$50,000.00. She suggested an alternative to not having a summer camp could be funding swimming lessons.

Ms. Harris requested representatives from a 501(c)(3) make the request for funding.

Council Member Ricky Jernigan – Mr. Jernigan congratulated the class of 2026 at Florida Gateway College, Columbia High School, Fort White High School and surrounding areas; reported Moose Lodge 624 was recruiting new members; commended the Gateway Airport on a great job; expressed gratitude to the City Clerk’s Office; commended the Lake City Police Department, Lake City Fire Department, and Finance Department on a good job; expressed appreciation for City Manager Don Rosenthal on what he does for the community.

Council Member James Carter – Mr. Carter reminded members they are a legislative body that sets policy, not administrative.

Council Member Tammy Harris – Ms. Harris expressed gratitude to the City Manager, City Clerk, Mayor and fellow members after attending an IEMO Ethics Class in Orlando and hearing issues that other municipalities are facing.

Mayor Noah Walker – Mayor Walker congratulated the Columbia High School Weightlifting team on winning State; congratulated the Columbia High School softball team for making it to the State Championship; recognized the Florida Gateway College Women’s flag football team who won a National Championship and are being considered for the Olympic team; reminded members of the Special Called Meeting being held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 5:30 PM; suggested everyone take a moment of silence during the Memorial Day Holiday; commended the parents of the young individuals on the teams he recognized.

City Clerk Sikes reminded members while she would be present for the Special Called Meeting, Deputy City Clerk Michelle Cannon would be clerking it as she would not be able to communicate at that time.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Mayor Walker adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM.

Noah Walker, Mayor/Council Member

Audrey Sikes, City Clerk