



Lake Park Town Commission, Florida

Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

Commission Chamber, Town Hall, 535 Park Avenue, Lake Park, FL 33403

July 02, 2025 6:30 pm

Roger Michaud	—	Mayor
Michael Hensley	—	Vice Mayor
John Linden	—	Commissioner
Michael O'Rourke	—	Commissioner
Judith Thomas	—	Commissioner
Richard J. Reade	—	Town Manager
Thomas J. Baird	—	Town Attorney
Vivian Mendez, MMC	—	Town Clerk

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED, that if any interested person desires to appeal any decision of the Town Commission, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, such interested person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in the meeting should contract the Town Clerk's office by calling 881-3311 at least 48 hours in advance to request accommodations.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

6:35P.M.

PRESENT

Vice Mayor Michael Hensley

Commissioner Judith Thomas

Commissioner John Linden

Commissioner Michael O'Rourke

ABSENT

Mayor Roger Michaud

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was led by Vice Mayor Hensley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Vice Mayor Hensley requested that item 7 - Town Commission Priorities - FY 2026 Budget be moved to the July 16th agenda.

Motion made to approve the amended agenda by Commissioner O'Rourke, Seconded by Commissioner Linden.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Hensley, Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Linden, Commissioner O'Rourke.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION/REPORT:

1. 2025 State of Florida Legislative Update - State Senator Mack Bernard, State Representative Jervonte Edmonds & Ms. Ellyn Bogdanoff - Becker & Poliakoff.

State Representative Jevonte Edmonds provided the Commission with a presentation (Exhibit A). Commissioner O'Rourke thanked Representative Edmonds and staff for their efforts. Commissioner Thomas asked about funds of \$900,000,000.00 that have been repealed and where does that money now go. Representative Edmonds stated that this would be revenue that the State would lose and would not affect Counties or Local Government. Commissioner Thomas had additional questions that could not be immediately answered and was directed to review the statutes for details.

State Senator Mack Bernard gave a verbal update regarding the Legislative session.

Ms. Ellyn Bogdanoff of Becker & Poliakoff gave an update regarding the Legislative session. Commissioner Thomas raised her disappointment and concerns regarding how Lake Park has been treated over the last two years.

Town Manager Reade thanked Ms. Bogdanoff for all her efforts. He thanked the Senator and State Representatives and appreciated their efforts. Vice Mayor Hensley thanked everyone for attending.

2. Presentation - Palm Beach North Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Noel Martinez, Ms. Caitlyn Bergman, and Ms. Jacqueline Ramirez presented to the Commission. (Exhibit B) regarding an initiative with Florida Atlantic University (FAU).

Commissioner Thomas thanked them for the presentation. Mr. Martinez offered to conduct a community session in Town for residents and small businesses. He reiterated that you do not have to be a Chamber member to benefit from these services. Commissioner Linden asked if

the services were available to those small businesses that were less under 3-years in operation. Ms. Ramirez stated that as long as the business meets the “small business” criteria, then the services were available regardless of how long they have operated. Commissioner O’Rourke thanked them for the presentation. He agreed regarding the suggestion that the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Administrator meet with them to assist small businesses in the CRA. Ms. Bergman explained that on August 5th they will be hosting their first event, with a focus on starting up your business. Vice Mayor Hensley thanked everyone for attending and their presentation.

3. Proclamation - National Parks and Recreation Month - July 2025

Vice Mayor Hensley presented staff with the proclamation. Special Event Director Riunite Franks and Recreation Supervisor Michael Sloan accepted the proclamation.

Special Events Director Franks thanked the Commission, her staff, and the Public Works Facility and Maintenance staff for all they do. Commissioner O’Rourke thanked Ms. Franks for all that she does and considers her an asset to the Town.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

This time is provided for addressing items that do not appear on the Agenda. Please complete a comment card and provide it to the Town Clerk so speakers may be announced. Please remember comments are limited to a TOTAL of three minutes.

Captain Steen Eriksson, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, provided the 2024 Annual Report. He announced that they have an Honor Guard, Pipes, and Drums. He explained what the Honor Guard, Pipes and Drums do for communities. He welcomed the opportunity to schedule their services for any Town events.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed under this item are considered routine and action will be taken by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commissioner or person so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Any person wishing to speak on an agenda item is asked to complete a public comment card located on either side of the Chambers and given to the Town Clerk. Cards must be submitted before the item is discussed.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda made by Commissioner O'Rourke, Seconded by Commissioner Linden.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Hensley, Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Linden, Commissioner O'Rourke

4. Minutes - Regular Commission Meeting - June 18, 2025
5. Proclamation - 14th Annual KidsFit Jamathon Day - July 16, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING(S) - ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING: NONE

PUBLIC HEARING(S) - ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

6. Town of Lake Park Strategic Plan - Scope of Work & Funding (Commission Contingency - Budget Adjustment No. 2025-4).

Assistant Town Manager/Human Resources Director Bambi Turner gave a verbal presentation to the Commission. Commissioner O'Rourke felt this item should be part of the 2026 budget and priorities process. Commissioner Thomas outlined her understanding of the item and requested that the Commission discuss the item so that they could provide direction to staff. Town Manager Reade explained staff's need in attempting to discuss this item. He clarified that the \$20,000 cost to complete this process was because he knew a professional, who worked for a university, who was willing to do it for this price. Town Manager Reade explained the expectation of the strategic plan and his contract. The annual performance evaluation was conducted on the anniversary of his employment. The Commission discussed the Request for Qualifications process. Town Manager Reade assured the Commission that a contract to hire someone to conduct the strategic plan would come before them before a strategic plan session takes place. Commissioner Linden asked if the scope of work could come back at a future meeting, but lock in the \$20,000 during this fiscal year. Town Manager Reade stated that staff would bring back the scope of work for Commission approval. He explained that the Commission could move forward with the budget adjustment, which was separate from the scope of work.

Motion to use the contingency funds for funding the Strategic Plan made by Commissioner O'Rourke, Seconded by Commissioner Linden.

Commissioner Thomas clarified that the motion was to move funds from one account to another for a strategic plan. A future agenda item will come back to the Commission for the Scope of Work. The Commission all agreed. Assistant Town Manager/ Human Resources Director Turner read back her understanding of the Commission's desire.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Hensley, Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Linden, Commissioner O'Rourke

7. Town Commission Priorities - FY 2026 Budget

This item was moved to the July 16, 2025 agenda.

8. Discussion Item — 10-Year Roadway Improvement Plan and Pavement Preservation Program

Public Comment:

Mary Beth Taylor comments presented as an exhibit (Exhibit C).

Public Works Director Jaime Morales presented to the Commission (Exhibit D).

Commissioner Linden asked if the road study conducted several years ago was used in developing the 10-year roadway plan. Public Works Director Morales stated that the study drove the development of this plan. Commissioner Linden wanted to avoid the Town residents paying for this work. Commissioner O'Rourke asked if the plan could be modified to include specific roads that have been identified as those with the most issues, such as 2nd Street or Park Avenue. Public Works Director Morales explained that the Town was pursuing grant funding for stormwater services. He further explained that as they conduct the stormwater improvements then it would allow to improve the roadway. It was for these reasons that the projects along 2nd Street were moved a few years out, allowing for those funds to be used on other roadways. Commissioner Thomas felt this plan was in line with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). She thanked Public Works Director Morales for driving her around Town and explaining on-going projects. She tied this plan with the strategic plan for the Town. Vice Mayor Hensley commended staff for putting a plan together and funding it without using ad valorem taxes. Commissioner O'Rourke asked what different surface types and treatments were for the roadways. Public Works Director Morales explained the difference between cape seal and mill and overlay. Commissioner Thomas expressed traffic concerns regarding the intersection of Palmetto Drive, Flagler Blvd and Second Street. Community Development

Director Nadia DiTommaso explained that she was made aware, at the end of the day, about the FPL issue at that intersection. Town Manager Reade recapped that the staff goal was to bring back, each year, as part of the CIP and budget, how much it would cost to do roadwork.

9. Discussion - Proposed Amendments to Town Code - Sections 72-2 and 72-3 (Public Infrastructure Maintenance Responsibilities).

Public Works Director Morales explained the item. Commissioner Thomas expressed concerns with proper tree maintenance on private property and their impact on the sidewalks. Commissioner O'Rourke supported the draft Ordinance language. Vice Mayor Hensley asked for a program for residents to follow. The draft Ordinance would clarify the responsibilities of the residents versus Town.

10. Florida League of Cities Voting Delegate - Annual Conference - August 14 - 16, 2025.

Motion to select Mayor Michaud as the Town's voting delegate made by Commissioner O'Rourke, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Hensley, Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Linden, Commissioner O'Rourke

TOWN ATTORNEY, TOWN MANAGER, COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Town Attorney - none

Town Manager Read explained the upcoming (July 16) agenda items. Staff would reach out to coordinate a date to conduct a Special Called Park Avenue Downtown District Workshop. He announced that the Library would reopen on Monday. He recognized the Special Events staff for a great Sunset Celebration. He request to close Town Offices on July 3rd at noon. The Commission agreed. He wished everyone a Happy 4th of July.

Commissioner O'Rourke recognized the Special Events staff for a great Sunset Celebration.

Commissioner Thomas suggested starting an education committee. She suggested a reading club sponsored through the Library. She explained that she was an alternate member of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council. She would like to resign from the Council and requested that the Town Manager send a letter notifying them of her resignation and asked that Commissioner Linden take her place. Commissioner Linden agreed, however, he explained that the League appoints its members.

Motion to appoint Commissioner Linden as the Town's representative to the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council made by Commissioner O'Rourke; Seconded by Commissioner Thomas. Voting Aye: All

Commissioner Thomas thanked staff for the wonderful Red, White and Blue Sunset Celebration. Commissioner Linden thanked staff for the Sunset Celebration. He asked what was happening to the grass at Bert Bostrom Park. Public Works Director Morales explained that the field was going through weed treatment. Once this process was complete, they would put down the new turf.

Vice Mayor Hensley thanked the Special Events staff for the Sunset Celebration. He thanked Captain Steven Thibodeau for coming back with his family to attend the Sunset Celebration. He stated that Richard Radcliff of the Palm Beach County League of Cities would be retiring. He asked that a surprise proclamation be presented to him at an upcoming meeting.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

9:55 p.m.

FUTURE MEETING DATE: Next Scheduled Regular Commission Meeting will be held on July 16, 2025.