

# CITY OF PAHOKEE



## MINUTES

**City Commission Regular Meeting**  
Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 6:00 PM

Pahokee Commission Chambers  
360 East Main Street  
Pahokee, Florida 33476

### **CITY COMMISSION:**

Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.  
Vice Mayor Sanquetta Cowan-Williams  
Commissioner Isabelle J. McDonald  
Commissioner Everett D. McPherson, Sr.  
Commissioner James H. Scott

### **CHARTER OFFICERS:**

Tammy Bussey, Interim City Manager  
Nylene Clarke, City Clerk  
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, P.A., City Attorney

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## AGENDA

### A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Babb called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

### B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner McPherson led the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### C. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.

Vice Mayor Sanquetta Cowan-Williams (left the meeting at approximately 7:16 PM)

Commissioner Isabelle J. McDonald (via phone)

Commissioner Everett D. McPherson, Sr.

Commissioner James H. Scott

Tammy Bussey, Interim City Manager

Burnadette Norris-Weeks, City Attorney (via phone)

Chan Bryant Abney, Acting City Attorney

Nylene Clarke, City Clerk

Motion made by Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams to allow Commissioner McDonald to attend the meeting via phone. Duly seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott

### D. ADDITIONS OF EMERGENCY BASIS FROM CITY MANAGER, DELETIONS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion made by Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams to accept the agenda as printed. Duly seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott

### E. PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS / PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS / PUBLIC COMMENTS (*agenda items only*)

1. Presentation - Mr. Rob J. Beasley, Area Development Director for UNCF South Florida  
(**Not present**)

2. Presentation - Mrs. Linda Johnson-Earsley, Principal of Everglades Preparatory Academy

Mrs. Johnson-Earsley requested use of the lower-level gym space to expand the school's CTE programs, stating the renovations would be completed at no cost to the City and could also support emergency shelter use. Following discussion, the Commission reached consensus to place the item on a future agenda for formal consideration and attorney review.

3. Introduction of Staff/Department Head Update(s)

### F. CONSENT AGENDA

1. January 27, 2026 City Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams to accept the Consent Agenda. Duly seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott

**G. OLD BUSINESS** (*discussion of existing activities or previously held events, if any*)

**H. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND/OR ORDINANCES**

**I. RESOLUTION(S)**

**J. NEW BUSINESS** (*presentation by city manager of activity or upcoming event, if any*)

1. Crimestoppers Bike Rider - February 15, 2026
2. Black History Month Program - February 22, 2026
3. I Love Pahokee Day - April 4, 2026
4. Discussion and direction for consideration of a partnership with the United Negro College Fund (UNCF)
5. Discussion and direction for a workshop to determine criteria for Business of the Month  
Motion made by Commissioner McPherson to hold a workshop on February 24, 2026, at 5:00 PM to discuss the Business of the Month criteria. Duly seconded by Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams and passed unanimously.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott
6. Discussion and direction for a workshop to discuss the process of hiring a city manager and to review the applications  
Motion made by Mayor Babb to hold a workshop on February 17, 2026, at 6:00 PM to discuss the criteria and the process for hiring a city manager. Duly seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed unanimously.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott
7. Discussion and direction for steps needed to pursue litigation regarding the funds that have been misappropriated  
Motion made by Commissioner Scott to have a workshop on February 17, 2026, at 5:00 PM to deal with the litigation regarding funds. Duly seconded by Commissioner McPherson and passed unanimously.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott

**K. REPORT OF THE MAYOR**

**L. REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER**

**M. REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**

**N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS OF COMMISSIONERS, IF ANY**

Motion made by Commissioner McPherson to add to future agenda item authorization for the Interim City Manager to hire a professional firm that deals specifically with audits to assist her and her staff with corrective actions from the audit. (Clerk's Note: Commissioner McPherson clarified his intent follow the proper procurement process.)

Duly seconded by Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams and passed unanimously.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott

Motion made by Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams to add to the next agenda an update regarding the McClure Road project, including status of funding. Duly seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott

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Motion made by Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams to add to a future agenda a list of how the surtax dollars will be used for 2026. Duly seconded by Mayor Babb and passed unanimously.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Vice Mayor Cowan-Williams, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott

**O. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS** (*items not on the agenda*)

**P. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER** (*community events, feel good announcements, if any*)

**Q. ADJOURN**

Motion made by Mayor Babb to adjourn the meeting. Duly seconded by Commissioner Scott and passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Babb, Commissioner McDonald, Commissioner McPherson, Commissioner Scott

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourned the meeting at 7:58 PM.

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Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.

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ATTEST: Nylene Clarke, CMC, City Clerk