

ORDINANCE 2026-14

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING AUTHORIZATION FOR TRANSFERS OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXPENSES AS LONG AS SUCH TRANSFERS DO NOT AFFECT THE TOTAL BUDGET FOR EACH DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Section 200.065, Florida Statutes, sets out the method of adopting a budget by the governing body of a taxing authority; and

WHEREAS, Section 200.065(2)(a) 4., Florida Statutes, requires the City Commission (the “Commission”) of the City of Wauchula, Florida, (the “City”) to prepare and consider tentative and final budgets; and

WHEREAS, the Commission of the City, must set the final budget in accordance with the amount of ad valorem taxes to be raised; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 200.065(2)(c), Florida Statutes, the Commission, published notice and held a public hearing on Wednesday, September 14, 2026, at 5:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as can be heard, on the adoption of the tentative budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 and adopted the same; and

WHEREAS, the public notice of the hearing to be held on Monday, September 28, 2026, at 5:05 P.M, to adopt the final budget and a statement summarizing the adopted tentative budget was duly published in The Herald Advocate, a newspaper of general circulation in Hardee County, Florida, pursuant to the requirements of Section 200.065(2)(d), Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, estimates of revenues have been made using information available and estimates of expenses have been made to determine the amount of funds required to continue necessary operations and maintenance and make scheduled principal and interest payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA THAT:

1. The provisions set forth in the recitals to this Ordinance (whereas clauses) are hereby adopted by the Commission as the legislative findings and intent pertaining to this Ordinance.

2. Pursuant to Section 200.065, Florida Statutes, the Commission of the City, adopts the final budget in the amount of TWENTY-EIGHT MILLION SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$28,688,439).

3. The budget for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2027, is hereby adopted as follows:

Utilities	\$ 12,280,128
Sanitation	\$ 1,510,000
General Fund	\$ 6,257,286
Wauchula Airport	\$ 433,006
Community Redevelopment Agency	\$ 8,208,019

TOTAL BUDGET **\$ 28,688,439**

and is based upon the taxable value of real property of TWO HUNDRED TWENTY MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$220,754,625), tangible personal property of NINETEEN MILLION ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$19,151,895), and anticipated, non-ad valorem revenues totaling TWENTY-SEVEN MILLION TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$27,289,352). The budget consisting of FIFTY-FOUR (54) pages is attached to this ordinance and incorporated herein by this reference.

4. Upon written request from the department head and approval by the City Manager, transfers of appropriations for expenses may be made from one account to another account of the budget, so long as the total appropriations for each department, including capital outlay accounts related thereto, shall not be increased thereby. The City Manager shall advise the Commission of any such transfer at the next regular City Commission meeting.

5. If any provision of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of any other provision, and to that end the provision of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

6. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

7. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

This ordinance was moved for approval by Commissioner _____.
The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Anne Miller	_____	insert yes or no
Commissioner Sherri Albritton	_____	insert yes or no
Commissioner Richard Keith Nadaskay, Jr.	_____	insert yes or no
Commissioner Gary D. Smith	_____	insert yes or no
Commissioner Russell Graylin Smith	_____	insert yes or no

SEAL)

ATTEST:

CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA

Stephanie Camacho, City Clerk

By: _____
Richard Keith Nadaskay, Jr., Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kristie Hatcher-Bolin, City Attorney

I HEREBY CERTIFY that notices of the public hearings on this ordinance were published in the Herald Advocate as required by Florida Statutes; that the foregoing ordinance was duly passed and adopted on the 28TH day of September, 2026; that the first reading of said ordinance was held on the 14TH day of September, 2026; that the public hearings were held on the 14TH day of September, 2026; and on the 28TH day of September, 2026; and that the second and final reading of said ordinances was held on the 28TH day of September, 2026.

Stephanie Camacho, City Clerk