

**City Commission Regular Meeting**  
**Tuesday, August 26, 2025**  
**VIDEO and Agenda Packet**

Present: Mayor Fred E. Cleveland, Vice Mayor Lisa Martin, Commissioner Valli Perrine, and Commissioner Jason McGuirk, Commissioner Brian Ashley.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** City Manager Cowper announced Items 7B and 7C on consent agenda were moved to Administrative/New business as items 8C and 8D. Item 8D was removed and item 8B had revised information.

**Presentation:** Senator Tom Wright presented a check for \$1,000,000; a State Appropriations grant for the Stormwater Master Plan for the Historic Westside.

Kyle Fegley, city chief engineer, gave a detailed update on the Stormwater and Dredging projects throughout the city.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- work continues on the 2026 budget: the first public hearing is scheduled for Sept 10; and the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading at the regular Commission meeting on Sept 23.
- FDOT will host an open house detailing plans for state road 44 improvements, on Sept 11, at the Brannon Center, 5:30-7:30.
- At a recent League of Cities meeting, topics discussed were better communication, AI, Florida DOGE, and E Bikes.
- Negotiations with NSB police and fire employees continue.

Manager Cowper read a letter, for the public record, from Mark Billings, chair of the Charter Review Committee. As requested in the letter, a lengthy discussion ensued concerning its contents. A motion was made and the Commission voted to rescind their August 12 decision concerning funding and holding a special election on recent City Charter revision suggestions. The vote was 4-1 to APPROVE a special election in 2025, with details to be worked out between the NSB legal team and the Volusia County Election Office. **Vice Mayor Martin cast the dissenting vote.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Representatives from the semiprofessional soccer club in New Smyrna Beach requested support to bring professional sports to NSB.
- Citizens voiced concerns with the Sapphire Road/paid parking issue.
- City staff was thanked for the update report by city engineer on storm water projects.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Items 7 A, D and E were unanimously approved.**

7.A Consider the adoption of the minutes from the City Commission regular meeting held on Tuesday, August 12, 2025.

7.D Consider the approval of a change order to an existing purchase order for ditch cleaning and dredging of Pine Shores and Aqua Court.

7.E Consider the approval of an agreement between the City of New Smyrna Beach and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for Staging of Equipment and Personnel Supporting Emergency Management Activities

## **8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS**

- 8.A Approval to accept a waterfront parcel on S. Riverside Drive. **Approved**
- 8.B Approval of a termed contract for the City Clerk with the removal of the term "interim" to full employment, with salary increase. **Approved**
- 8.C Resolution No. 23-25: Sunset the Economic Development Task Force. **Approved**
- 8.D Resolution No. 24-25 Create the Economic Development Advisory Board and prescribing By-Laws including qualifications, terms and duties amended to reinstate the Economic Development Task Force. **Approved**

## **10. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 10.A Ordinance No. 41-25: Conduct a Second Reading and Public Hearing, which, if adopted, would amend sign definitions and required improvements. **DENIED**
- 10.B Ordinance No. 43-25: Conduct a Second Reading and Public Hearing, which, if adopted, would grant a non-exclusive franchise agreement to VPL Logistics, LLC. **APPROVED**
- 10.C Ordinance No. 44-25: Conduct a Second Reading and Public Hearing, which, if adopted, would repeal Ordinance No. 07-25 and adopt a new ordinance adopting a revised boating-restricted area within 500 feet of a sewage pump out station near Yacht Club Island. **APPROVED**

## **11. ORDINANCES FIRST READINGS**

- 11.A Ordinance No. 53-25 : Conduct the First Reading of an Ordinance, which, if adopted, upon the Second Reading and Public Hearing, would revise charges for household and commercial solid waste.

## **12. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

- 12.A Jana Caswell, Diane Bean and Katie Kaufman were appointed to the Historic Preservation Commission.
- 12.B Board Vacancy Notice: Building Trades Examining Board -Announcement

## **MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**Vice Mayor Martin** voiced her concerns with discussions of staff salaries and raises as well as waste removal fees.

**Commissioner McGuirk** commented on the League of Cities conference.

**Commissioner Perrine** commented on her many concerns of the Historic Preservation Commission.

**Commissioner Ashley** commented on the League of Cities conference and issues of signs and their importance to the city.

**Mayor Cleveland** commented on the League of Cities conference; thanked Sen Wright for state grant money; thanked Chief Kirk for morale at the police department; and stated that fire department negotiations are ongoing. He explained the relationship between the commission and the city manager. The city manager administers city policies and runs the city. The City Commission provides policy oversight.

The City attorney noted that an update on Senate Resolution 180 will be presented at the September 9th meeting as will regulating signs inside commission chambers. She also made comments on DOGE and use of DEI language.