

City of Pembroke Pines, FL

*City of Pembroke Pines
Charles F. Dodge City Center
601 City Center Way
Pembroke Pines, FL 33025*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

5:30 PM

5:30 PM Board Night Workshop and 6:30 PM Regular Commission Meeting [Or at such time as the Board Night Workshop adjourns.] Item 8 - Exhibit 1 was revised on 6-3-2025. ITEMS PRE-7 was updated and Exhibit 1 was added PRE-3 on 6-3-2025.

Commission Chambers

City Commission

***Mayor Angelo Castillo
Vice Mayor Michael A. Hernandez
Commissioner Thomas Good Jr.
Commissioner Maria Rodriguez
Commissioner Jay D. Schwartz***

5:30 BOARD NIGHT ANNUAL REPORT WORKSHOP**ROLL CALL**

Present 5 - Mayor Angelo Castillo, Vice Mayor Michael A. Hernandez, Commissioner Thomas Good Jr., Commissioner Maria Rodriguez, and Commissioner Jay D. Schwartz

Also present: City Manager Charles F. Dodge, City Attorney Samuel Goren, and City Clerk Debra E. Rogers.

City Manager Dodge joined the meeting at 5:38PM and Commissioner Schwartz joined the meeting at 6:11PM.

WS-1 WORKSHOP ITEM NO. 1: BOARD NIGHT: PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE CITY BOARDS FOR 2024-2025:

1. Economic Development Board
2. Planning and Zoning Board
3. Education Advisory Board
4. Youth Advisory Board
5. Board of Adjustment
6. Charter Elementary - Middle School Advisory Board
7. Charter Academic Village Advisory Board
8. Arts and Culture Advisory Board
9. Environmental Advisory Board
10. Diversity and Heritage Board
11. Citizen Budget Advisory Board

Mayor Castillo opened the Board Night Workshop at 5:33 PM, thanked each of the boards for their service, and stated that the Commission welcomed their board suggestions.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD

Christopher Ziadie, Chair of the Economic Development Advisory Board, presented a few topics from the board's agenda which included community interest and key actions taken. He spoke about the newly active members, as well as individuals soon to be appointed, who are willing to serve as solution to the challenges the board faced with maintaining a quorum due to attendance issues.

He also shared the board's recommendations, which included adding networking opportunities to the city's website and holding a joint advisory meeting with the Citizens Budget Advisory Board. Additionally, he thanked former Chair Susan Meister for her 10 years of service and expressed appreciation to the Chamber of Commerce for its continued support.

Mayor Castillo thanked Mr. Ziadie for the report and stated that Assistant City Manager and Planning and Economic Development Director Mike Stamm would follow up on the board's website related recommendations.

Commissioner Rodriguez also thanked her appointee for the presentation.

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Linda Gonzalez, Chair of the Planning and Zoning Board, introduced Vice Chair Lee Golditch and board member Rosalie Labate before presenting the board's annual report. Ms. Gonzalez touched on key items from the report, including zoning changes, site plan reviews, zoning variances, various miscellaneous applications, and included the amounts the board reviewed. She noted that although accessory dwelling units have been added to the city's code, no applications have been submitted to date.

Ms. Gonzalez also discussed the potential to repurpose underused office spaces for housing since the city is built out and that future development would focus on redevelopment opportunities.

Mayor Castillo agreed with Ms. Gonzalez and acknowledged the role the board has played in the success of developing the City of Pembroke

Pines and how redevelopment would be the next big thing.

Ms. Gonzalez inquired if staff and the Assistant City Attorney could make presentations to the board regarding the application review process. She asked if the Commission could inform her of any recommendations they would like the board to explore further.

Commissioner Good spoke about the new concept of accessory dwelling units in the State of Florida and mentioned that no applications have been submitted to date. He shared that he participates in regional affordable housing meetings, where other municipalities have discussed the benefits of accessory dwelling units. Commissioner Good spoke in support for the program.

In response, Ms. Gonzalez said it was important to make the information about the program easily accessible to the public, so residents are aware of how to apply.

Commissioner Rodriguez also spoke in support of prioritizing housing in response to the statewide housing crisis. She noted that accessory dwelling units could serve as a valuable solution, for younger residents and seniors. She also suggested forming partnerships with the Communications Department to help promote awareness and outreach.

EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD

Danielle Spradley, Chair of the Education Advisory Board, presented the board's annual report. She mentioned couple of the board's initiatives which included, "Read for the Record Day" in October, "Student Ambassador Day" in February, and the board's involvement in discussions on school redistricting plans in response to low enrollment and schools being repurposed.

Ms. Spradley expressed her appreciation to Principal Dr. Lisa Maraj, Assistant City Manager Jonathan Bonilla, and the City Commission for their continued support.

Mayor Castillo brought up the idea of teaching children how to study as an opportunity for the board to explore. He mentioned while studying comes naturally to some kids, others; especially those in early developmental stages like third grade and below could really benefit from more support. He also raised the importance of making language learning more conversational and less focused on grammar, sharing an example of a constituent who took four years of Spanish but still couldn't speak it fluently. Mayor Castillo asked the board to consider

incorporating these topics in schools, even at the district level, and to share any suggestions they might have.

Ms. Spradley responded by offering some contacts who could serve as helpful resources to address these issues.

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Robertza Joseph, Chair of the Youth Advisory Board, began by acknowledging Vice Chair Jaden Lee, who was unable to attend the Commission meeting. She then presented the board's annual report, naming the high schools represented on the board and inviting students in attendance to stand and be recognized. Ms. Joseph highlighted the success of the Career Fair and Life Skills event, which featured 15 businesses and drew participation from over 100 students. She mentioned the importance of continuing such initiatives in the future.

Ms. Joseph shared several recommendations with the Commission: making the Career Fair and Life Skills event an annual occurrence, creating Q&A opportunities for youth to engage directly with the City Commission, and establishing "third place" environments where young people can socialize and become more involved in the community. She extended special thanks to Holly Bonkowski, who serves as the board's liaison and mentor, and expressed appreciation to the Commission for valuing the voices of youth.

Mayor Castillo thanked Ms. Joseph for an outstanding presentation.

CHARTER ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD

Dr. Irman Siddiqui presented the annual report of the Charter Elementary/Middle School Advisory Board. He thanked the City Commission and City Manager Dodge for their continued support of the Charter Schools, which maintain an A rating within the public school system. Dr. Siddiqui highlighted the board's accomplishments over the past school year, including the annual review of the Sunshine Law, reunification procedures, and various school improvement plans.

CHARTER ACADEMIC VILLAGE ADVISORY BOARD

Ms. Michelle Reynoso, Chair of the Charter Academic Village Advisory Board, presented the board's annual report, which included attendance records. She referenced Principal Bayer's updates highlighting the board's monthly academic and athletic accomplishments over the past school year, as well as a recent uniform policy change allowing students to wear black shorts and pants. Ms. Reynoso also thanked Assistant City Manager Jonathan Bonilla for discussing fundraising opportunities and noted that the school's budget would be reviewed on June 9th.

Commissioner Good thanked Ms. Reynoso for her presentation and asked about the board's response to recent funding shifts that could impact higher level learning programs.

Ms. Reynoso responded that parents had actively opposed potential program cuts by sending letters and making phone calls to express their concerns.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Mr. Israel Rodriguez-Soto, Chair of the Board of Adjustment, apologized for his tardiness before presenting the board's annual report. He summarized the board's accomplishments, noting its role in advising on cases where residents have completed work on their homes without obtaining the proper permits. He highlighted the board's June 18, 2024, approval of a code change ordinance 2022, increasing the allowable front lot coverage from 35% to 40%. Mr. Rodriguez-Soto recommended that conditional variances should only be granted to residents facing genuine hardships. Mr. Rodriguez-Soto made recommendations on behalf of the board and concluded by stating that the board is progressing well with its current membership.

ARTS & CULTURE BOARD

Rose Colombo presented the annual report on behalf of the Arts & Culture Board. She introduced the board members in attendance, as well as those who were unable to be present. Ms. Colombo highlighted the programs and offerings at the Frank Art Gallery, Studio 18 Art Complex, The Pines Art Center, and the Pembroke Pines Theatre of Performing Arts (PPTOPA). She discussed sponsorships for featured events, recapped exhibitions and activities held over the past year and thanked Assistant City Manager Christina Sorensen for support, Holly Bonkowski, and the Recreation and Cultural Arts staff.

Mayor Castillo thanked Ms. Colombo for the presentation.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Ram Tewari, Chair of the Environmental Advisory Board, thanked the City Commission for hosting two volunteer appreciation lunches: one at the Police Department and another at Community Services. He also expressed gratitude to Commissioner Good for the recognition certificate he received. Mr. Tewari acknowledged the Planning and Economic Development Department for their prompt responses to the board's information requests. He then presented the board's annual report and reiterated the board's request to hire a sustainability coordinator to help achieve the board's objectives. He noted that this

position would be included as part of the Green Plan in the upcoming budget. Additionally, he raised concerns regarding recycling and solid waste issues.

Mayor Castillo thanked Mr. Tewari and said he spoke to the city manager about the potential position and who it would be assigned to.

DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD

Dawn Prospect, Chair, presented the annual report for the Diversity and Heritage Board which included the board's recommendations for special events. Ms. Prospect thanked the Commission for filling vacancies so the board would have a regular quorum. She highlighted events such as the Caribbean Heritage Festival, Juneteenth Festival, and Martin Luther King (MLK) Parade. The calendar of events requested by the Commission was in the works, the board was trying to work with the existing events, and coordinate opportunities for advertising.

Mayor Castillo thanked Ms. Prospect for the presentation. Commissioner Good also thanked Ms. Prospect for the presentation and promoted the Juneteenth event taking place on June 20, 2025.

CITIZEN'S BUDGET ADVISORY BOARD

Scott Barnett, Chair of the Citizen's Budget Advisory Board, introduced the members present with him and acknowledged the mayor for his vision in establishing the Citizens Budget Committee four years prior. He spoke about the benefits of the bond referendum, despite the item not passing. Mr. Barnett expressed gratitude to Board Secretary Marlene Graham and City Clerk Debra Rogers for their professionalism during city proceedings. He stated that, based on the budget information presented, the board would rely on the city to make decisions regarding overdue capital projects, mentioning the need for the city to find solutions that address the requirements of each department.

Mayor Castillo thanked the Commission for the presentation by the Citizen's Budget Advisory Board.

Commissioner Schwartz commented on the importance of administration providing presentations, agendas, and minutes at least one week prior to meetings to allow advisory board members sufficient time to review the materials in advance.

Mr. Barnett noted that the newly formed board had been receiving information in a timely manner.

Mayor Castillo adjourned the Board Workshop at 6:33PM with a two-minute recess.

6:33 PM REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER [Or at such time as the Board Night Workshop adjourns.]

ROLL CALL

Also present: City Manager Charles F. Dodge, City Attorney Samuel Goren, and City Clerk Debra E. Rogers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Syara Leyton.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was performed by Syara Leyton.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE PULLED FROM AGENDA

There were no items pulled from the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS:

PRE-1

PRESENTATION NO. 1: MAYOR CASTILLO WILL PRESENT A PROCLAMATION TO PEMBROKE PINES RESIDENT YVONNE SERECIGNI IN RECOGNITION OF HER 100TH BIRTHDAY.

Mayor Castillo read the proclamation and presented it to Ms. Serecigni in honor of her 100th birthday. The Miami Heat Golden Oldie Dancers and the Miami Heat mascot, Bernie, were also present to celebrate Ms. Serecigni during the Commission Meeting.

The Commission and audience sang “Happy Birthday” to Ms. Serecigni, who offered a brief word of thanks in response to the honor.

Photos were taken with the Mayor and Commission to commemorate the occasion.

PRE-2

PRESENTATION NO. 2 : MAYOR CASTILLO WILL PRESENT A PROCLAMATION TO DENISE (DEE) EYERMAN, COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR FOR THE ALZHEIMER'S WALK, BROWARD COUNTY, RECOGNIZING JUNE 2025 AS ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES.

Mayor Castillo and Commissioner Good read the proclamation and presented it to Denise Eyerman recognizing June 2025 as Alzheimer's Awareness Month in the City of Pembroke Pines.

Denise Eyerman, Co-Chair of the Alzheimer's Association - Broward County, addressed the Commission to thank them for their support in raising awareness about the important cause. She provided information on legislative matters related to the issue and encouraged the public to participate in the Walk to End Alzheimer's event on December 6, 2025.

Photos were also taken with the mayor.

PRE-3

PRESENTATION NO. 3 : MAYOR CASTILLO WILL PRESENT A PROCLAMATION TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF FLORIDA RISING, WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER USA AND SEMILLAS COLOMBIA, RECOGNIZING JUNE 2025 AS DOMESTIC WORKERS AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES. FOLLOWING THE PROCLAMATION, REPRESENTATIVES FROM FLORIDA RISING, WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER USA, AND SEMILLAS COLOMBIA WILL DELIVER A PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTING THE VITAL ROLE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF DOMESTIC WORKERS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Mayor Castillo along with Commissioner Rodriguez read and presented a proclamation to the representatives of Florida Rising, Women Working Together USA, and Semillas Colombia.

The various organizations took photos with the Mayor and Commissioner Rodriguez to commemorate the occasion.

Ysabella Osses, Latino Constituency Director at Florida Rising, presented information highlighting the vital role and contributions of domestic workers in our surrounding communities. She spoke on key areas including data, economic impact, and the benefits of the proclamation.

PRE-4

PRESENTATION NO. 4: MAYOR CASTILLO WILL PRESENT A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JUNE 12, 2025 AS "NATIONAL WOMEN'S VETERANS RECOGNITION DAY" IN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES.

Mayor Castillo and Commissioner Good read and presented a proclamation to Joy Allington and another female veteran in recognition of National Women's Veterans Day in the City of Pembroke Pines.

Joy Allington, President of the Broward Veterans Coalition, addressed the Commission to share information about the resources and support available to veterans.

PRE-6 PRESENTATION NO. 6: MARTY KIAR, BROWARD COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER, WILL PROVIDE AN ANNUAL UPDATE.

Marty Kiar, Broward County Property Appraiser, addressed the Commission to provide updates on property values in Pembroke Pines. He encouraged residents to contact the Broward County Property Appraiser's Office to resolve any discrepancies related to their properties before the deadline of September 17, 2025.

The following statistics were presented:

Pembroke Pines

Market Value 2024: 32 billion dollars

Market Value 2025: 34 billion dollars

Percent Change: 5.66%

Taxable Value 2024: 18.7 billion dollars

Taxable Value 2025: 19.991 billion dollars

Percent Change: 6.29%

2025 Millage: 5.6690

Additional Revenue: By maintaining the same millage rate, the city is projected to generate approximately \$6.6 million in additional revenue compared to the previous year.

Exemptions

Exemptions Total Homestead: 41,000

Low Income Seniors: 4,025

Long-Term Senior Exemptions: 354

American Hero Veteran Exemptions: 1265

Full Exemption Veterans Service-Connected Total and Permanent: 587

Total and Permanent Disabled First Responders: 10

Single Family Home Values (varies each month)

Average Single-Family Home Sales: \$706,313.00

Average Taxable Property Value: \$303,000.00

Condominium Values

Average Condominium Value: \$218,000.00

Mr. Kiar presented information on the free "Owner Alert" program, which enables residents to register their properties through the Broward County Property Appraiser's website at <https://bcpa.net/> to help protect against fraud and scams. The appraiser explained that any information provided during registration would be used solely to notify property owners of changes and would remain exempt from public disclosure.

He also discussed the Interlocal Agreements with governmental agencies to prosecute individuals attempting to commit property-related fraud. Mr. Kiar shared examples of such offenses and expressed his appreciation to the Pembroke Pines Police Department for their continued support in combating these crimes.

Commissioner Good expressed support for the “Owner Alert” program and thanked Property Appraiser Marty Kiar for his informative presentation.

Vice Mayor Hernandez thanked the appraiser for the outreach visit at Century Village, where applicable exemptions were explained and made available to the elderly community, mentioning Michael Albert.

Commissioner Schwartz commended the Property Appraiser’s Office for the assistance provided to one of his constituents and recommended coordinating with the Broward Supervisor of Elections to assist with exemption sign-ups.

Commissioner Rodriguez thanked Mr. Kiar for attending the League of Cities meeting, where the topic was discussed at the state legislative level, and requested his input on how cities like Pembroke Pines might be impacted.

Mr. Kiar responded to the requests and suggestions raised by the Commission.

Mayor Castillo thanked Property Appraiser Marty Kiar for his comprehensive and informative presentation.

PRE-5 PRESENTATION NO. 5: ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WINNERS OF THE DISTRICT 4 AND 1 NATALIE BELMONTE GREAT YARD AWARDS FOR APRIL AND MAY 2025 .

Mayor Castillo, Vice Mayor Hernandez, Commissioner Good, Code Supervisor, Peter Avino, and Assistant City Manager/Director of Planning and Economic Development Mike Stamm, presented the Natalie Belmonte Award to the Mirabile family for District 4.

The Graham family was recognized for District 1 but was not present at the Commission Meeting.

Group photos were taken with the Mirabile family.

PRE-7 PRESENTATION NO. 7: JULIO TEJEDA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SPECIALIST, FROM THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT WILL PRESENT A POWERPOINT ON THE 2025 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON PREPAREDNESS AND FLOOD CONTROL COORDINATION.

PRESENTATION NO. 7(A) : LUIS OCHOA, DISTRICT DIRECTOR, FROM THE SOUTH BROWARD DRAINAGE DISTRICT WILL ALSO PRESENT A POWERPOINT ON THE ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON PREPAREDNESS AND FLOOD CONTROL COORDINATION.

Mayor Castillo called on Julio Tejeda to present.

Julio Tejeda, External Affairs Specialist with the South Florida Water Management District, presented information to the Commission on Hurricane Preparedness and Flood Control Coordination. He provided an overview of the origins of the South Florida Water Management District, the structure and breakdown of its regions, and the District Governing Board appointed by the Governor. Mr. Tejeda also discussed the levees and structures managed by the district, the partnerships developed to facilitate the movement of water through municipal and county systems, pre-storm preparations, and flood control efforts. Additionally, he addressed the challenges the district faces in managing stormwater during severe weather events.

Mayor Castillo referenced the Tropical Storm ETA incident, mentioning how the canals were overwhelmed, and asked what steps the district was taking moving forward to address the issue. He also inquired about the metrics the district used to measure and manage flood control.

Mr. Tejeda responded that the structures were currently being upgraded with enhanced pumps designed to move water continuously throughout the day. He also mentioned that a metric system is in place to monitor flood control but did not have the specific details available with him at the time.

Administration Direction:

Mayor Castillo requested that the metric information be provided through the City Manager and shared with the City Commission.

Luis Ochoa, District Director of the South Broward Drainage District (SBDD), presented an overview of the district's functions and provided average storm data along with forecasted predictions for 2025. He detailed the three-tiered system areas covered by the Broward district and explained the roles of homeowner associations, pump stations, and pump station maintenance.

Mr. Ochoa also discussed the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, water level recorders, SBDD resiliency efforts, aquatic and vegetation control, culvert inspections, the SBDD slip-liner, ongoing SBDD projects, as well as storm mode procedures and pre-storm preparations and operations.

Mayor Castillo raised concerns about flooding around shopping centers

following hard rains, referencing the Publix on 184th and related parking issues. He asked what measures are being taken to address these problems and inquired about which entity has jurisdiction to ensure that flooding issues are properly maintained.

Mr. Ochoa responded that maintenance of those areas was the responsibility of the property owners. He mentioned that he had met with the property owner and discussed improvements and modifications currently in place to address the flooding and parking concerns in that area. He added that ensuring proper maintenance of canals within shopping centers could be a joint effort between the City and the South Broward Drainage District (SBDD) to ensure appropriate measures are being implemented.

Administration Direction:

Mayor Castillo requested that the City Manager coordinate a meeting with the property representatives, along with Code Enforcement, to ensure that the flooding and related parking issues are properly addressed.

Commissioner Schwartz spoke about past storm events like the "No Name Storm" of 2000 when the University canal breached. The Commissioner highlighted improvements made since, such as deeper drainage systems and cooperation from FDOT to address water shedding issues. The Commissioner also spoke about North Perry Airport in preventing severe flooding in surrounding neighborhoods like Pines Village.

Commissioner Schwartz also spoke about the inability to predict storms due to staffing cuts at the National Weather Service, citing NBC meteorologist John Morales. These cuts include fewer weather balloons and less frequent hurricane hunter missions, which could severely impact storm forecasting. The Commissioner mentioned the limitations of the drainage system, noting the natural constraints of Florida's geography and watershed flow, especially in the Everglades.

Griffin Road's pumping station's capacity was also mentioned, along with praise for daily drainage efforts despite environmental challenges such as manatees now living in canals due to sea level rise and changes in the environment overall. He commended the efforts of State Representative Bartleman, Karl Kennedy, and his team for their assistance with ensuring the drainage systems are maintained. However, issues such as unpermitted driveway paving and poorly maintained commercial properties were noted as contributing factors for worsening flood conditions.

Commissioner Schwartz concluded by urging the Governor to ensure the necessary resources and emergency declarations are provided in advance, expressing concern that the federal government may not be reliable during the upcoming hurricane season.

Mayor Castillo weighed in on the matter and spoke about the areas of improvement needed regarding pockets of flooding, and that they need to be identified so cities can plan accordingly.

Commissioner Good commended Mr. Tejeda and Mr. Ochoa for the presentations and spoke highly of the operations in Broward County. He appreciated the mayor's deductive approach to resolving the flooding issues in the city; spoke to a 5-year operating permit in which system owners should obtain a recertification and spoke about how those matters should be enforced. The Commissioner spoke in support of a collaborative effort, suggesting the South Florida Water Management District and South Broward Drainage District work with the City to address compliance issues.

The following member of the public spoke on the presentation:

Gil Lerner, 1958 NW 74th Avenue, Pembroke Pines, FL to express thanks to the presenters of South Florida Water Management District and South Broward Drainage District.

ITEMS AT THE REQUEST OF THE PUBLIC

Gil Lerner, 1958 NW 74th Avenue, Pembroke Pines, FL, raised concerns about a longstanding code violation on his property, questioning how it was initiated given laws prohibiting anonymous complaints.

City Attorney Goren informed the Mayor and Commission that Mr. Lerner had retained legal counsel and was involved in ongoing litigation with the City in the Broward Circuit Court. As a result, the Commission was advised not to respond to any questions related to the matter, in order to protect the City's legal position.

15. VICE MAYOR MICHAEL HERNANDEZ ITEM NO.1: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FPL SEEKING A NEW RATE INCREASE.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Hernandez, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to prepare a letter from the City of Pembroke Pines Commission to the Public Service Commission opposing the proposed rate increase and a letter from the Mayor of the City of Pembroke Pines and the City Commission to the president of Florida Power and Light (FPL) inviting them to have a public forum within the City of Pembroke Pines explaining and justifying their rate increase prior to their hearings in August 2025 in front of the Public Services Commission . The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Mayor Castillo, Vice Mayor Hernandez, Commissioner Good Jr., Commissioner Rodriguez, and Commissioner Schwartz

Nay 0

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN:

Vice Mayor Hernandez read the item into the record regarding Florida Power & Light's (FPL) proposed rate increase, acknowledging that the City Commission has no authority over the matter, as it falls under the jurisdiction of the Florida Public Service Commission. He explained his role as a representative of residents; particularly those in Century Village, many of whom are on fixed incomes and already facing rising costs due to the state laws that changed after the Surfside incident, which caused increases in their insurance fees and maintenance rates. The Commissioner also explained the intent of the discussion was not to criticize FPL, but to provide a platform for resident voices and consider a response, such as a letter or resolution, to reflect community concerns.

Commissioner Good spoke in favor of the item and discussed the timeline of FPL's proposed rate increase, which is expected to be heard by the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) in August. It was discussed that July was typically a summer break for the City Commission, and the next regular meeting would be the first Wednesday in August. Commissioner Good then spoke about a two-pronged approach to send a letter to FPL or the PSC with a response deadline and consider a resolution at the August meeting.

Commissioner Schwartz spoke about the change of governors over time and about Florida Power & Light's (FPL) proposed \$9 billion, four-year rate increase. The Commissioner spoke about the importance of giving the public the opportunity to provide input via a Workshop, to be submitted to the PSC with the residents' testimony. Commissioner Schwartz also spoke about an education component being included, so the residents are aware of the upcoming issue.

Vice Mayor Hernandez acknowledged that while municipalities like Pembroke Pines have no authority over the Public Service Commission (PSC), they have a responsibility to give residents a voice on the matter due to the anticipated increases of up to \$240+/year per household.

Commissioner Rodriguez expressed support for a joint letter from the Commission to address community concerns regarding the proposed FPL rate increase, focusing on its impact on residents rather than the technical investment details. She suggested incorporating public comments into the letter, potentially requesting a public hearing in Pembroke Pines, and considering a formal resolution at a later stage. Commissioner Rodriguez also recommended using both city and

personal social media channels to inform residents about existing public hearings. She proposed partnering with FPL for a potential town hall meeting or encouraging resident participation in scheduled hearings. She emphasized the importance of advocacy and effective communication over duplicating efforts already in progress.

Mayor Castillo commended the Vice Mayor for giving a voice to resident concerns. The mayor expressed his willingness to write on behalf of the Commission, to the President of FPL to request a respectful and informative town hall in Pembroke Pines to provide residents with a clear explanation of the proposed \$9 billion investment and its justification. The mayor said after hearing from both FPL and residents, the Commission could then consider appropriate next steps, as suggested by Commissioner Good.

The following members of the public spoke in opposition to the item concerning the FPL rate increase and urged support and action from the City Commission:

Edda Ivonne Fernandez, 3710 NW 106th Avenue, Representative with AARP

Alberto Salvi, 1318 SW 172nd Avenue, Pembroke Pines, FL

Deborah Wilson, 13001 SW 11th Court, Pembroke Pines, FL

Vice Mayor Hernandez made a point of clarification, followed by a discussion amongst the Commission regarding how to best formulate and articulate the Commission's direction in addressing the matter.

COMMISSION AUDITOR REPORT:

None.

APPEALS OF BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT DECISIONS:

None.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

BA-1 MAYOR CASTILLO WISHES TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING REGULAR MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD:

1. SCOTT JOINER PRESENTLY AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND WILL NOW SERVE AS A REGULAR MEMBER.
2. GEORGE MCLEAN AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD.

Mayor Castillo appointed Scott Joiner as a regular city-wide member and George Mclean as an alternate member of the Economic Development Board.

Mayor Castillo expressed gratitude to Norman Taylor for his dedicated service to the City of Pembroke Pines, acknowledging that Mr. Taylor would no longer be able to continue in his role.

14. COMMISSION APPOINTMENT OF ONE REGULAR MEMBER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR A TWO YEAR TERM PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 32.123 (C).

A motion was made by Commissioner Good Jr., seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to approve Item 14 commission appointment of Teshca Harris to the Economic Development Board. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Mayor Castillo, Vice Mayor Hernandez, Commissioner Good Jr., Commissioner Rodriguez, and Commissioner Schwartz

Nay 0

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN:

Mayor Castillo read Item 14 into the record and the regular board appointment to the Economic Development Board was discussed.

Commissioner Schwartz requested the applicant to come forward. Teshca Harris Baker, residing at 9956 SW 16th Street, confirmed that no prior approval was required by her employer to serve on the city board. She also confirmed awareness of the meeting schedule and stated there would be no conflict with her current employment.

Commissioner Schwartz expressed support for her appointment.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. MOTION TO AWARD IFB # PSPW-25-04 "NEW PLAYGROUND TURF FOR THE EAST CAMPUS CHARTER SCHOOL" TO THE MOST RESPONSIVE/RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, TOP TURF LLC., IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$99,997.23, WHICH INCLUDES AN OWNER'S CONTINGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,090.66

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda.

2. MOTION TO AWARD IFB # PSPW-25-05 "CONSTRUCTION OF COVERED WALKWAY AT 501 MEDICAL BUILDING" TO THE MOST RESPONSIVE/RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, DAN ENTERPRISES TEAM, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$175,748.88, WHICH INCLUDES AN OWNER'S CONTINGENCY FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,977.17.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

3. MOTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWENTY-SIX (26) Nighthawk Night-Vision Goggles and Twenty-Six (26) Corresponding Mounts for the Police Department from SafeWare, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$278,534.36, utilizing pricing established by GOVMVMT Contract # 24101-RFP-DST, pursuant to Section 35.18(C)(6) of the City's Code of Ordinances.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

4. MOTION TO RATIFY THE CITY MANAGER'S APPROVAL FOR THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF THE CULVERT WHICH COLLAPSED UNDER NW 86 AVENUE AT NW 3 STREET WITH HINTERLAND GROUP INC, FOR AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$55,548.50, PURSUANT TO SECTION 35.18(C)(1) OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCE.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

5. MOTION TO APPROVE THE SIXTH AMENDMENT TO THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT, AS AMENDED, BETWEEN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES AND MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES, INC. AND TO ASSIGN THE AGREEMENT TO MES SERVICE COMPANY, LLC, ON BEHALF OF ITS PARENT COMPANY, MES I ACQUISITION, INC.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

6. MOTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF SIX HUNDRED (600) VMWARE VSphere FOUNDATION 8 (1 YEAR) LICENSES FROM NWN CORPORATION, UTILIZING THE STATE OF FLORIDA ALTERNATE CONTRACT SOURCE # 43230000-NASPO-16-ACS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,134, PURSUANT TO SECTION 35.18(C)(5) OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

7. MOTION TO ESTABLISH THE FOLLOWING HEARING DATES IN SEPTEMBER 2025:

THE FIRST BUDGET HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING AT SUCH TIME AS THE FIRST BUDGET HEARING IS ADJOURNED; **FIRE ASSESSMENT HEARING** ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 AT 5:15 PM; AND **SECOND BUDGET HEARING** ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING AT SUCH TIME AS THE SECOND BUDGET HEARING IS ADJOURNED.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

8. MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 21, 2025, REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

9. A) MOTION TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE 2025-2026 APPLICATION TO THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC. FOR CONTINUED SERVICES FOR THE GENERAL REVENUE CONTRACT GRANT - LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER (LSP).

B) MOTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT JL025-10-2026 BETWEEN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES/SOUTHWEST FOCAL POINT SENIOR CENTER AND THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC. TO PROVIDE SENIOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2025 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$216,155.00.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

10. MOTION TO AWARD IFB # PSPW-25-06 "EXTERIOR PAINTING OF PEMBROKE PINES CHARTER SCHOOL - WEST CAMPUS" TO THE MOST RESPONSIVE/RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, INDUSTRY GRADE CONSTRUCTION GROUP, INC, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$87,831.36, WHICH INCLUDES AN ALLOWANCE OF \$7,600 AND AN OWNER'S CONTINGENCY FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,293.76.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

11. MOTION TO AWARD IFB # CS-25-01 "KITCHEN & BATHROOM CABINET FABRICATION & INSTALLATION FOR THE HOUSING DIVISION" TO THE MOST RESPONSIVE/RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, VISTA CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING, LLC., ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$450,000 FOR THE INITIAL TWO YEAR PERIOD.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

12. MOTION TO APPROVE THE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS LISTED ON THE CONTRACTS DATABASE REPORT:

- (A) Blue Marlin Investments, Inc. d/b/a Cayco - IFB # PSPW-23-11 Citywide Trees, Plants, and Other Landscaping Materials - Renewal
- (B) Children's Services Council of Broward County - Maximizing Out-of-School Time (MOST) - Renewal
- (C) Fifth Asset, Inc. d/b/a DebtBook - Accounting Statements for City and Charter Schools - Renewal
- (D) Maccabi Landscape Corporation. - PSPW-23-11 Citywide Trees, Plants, and Other Landscaping Materials - Renewal
- (E) North America Fire Equipment Co., Inc. d/b/a NAFECO - Fire Department Uniforms - Renewal
- (F) Tropical Touch Gardens Center, Inc. -- PSPW-23-11 Citywide Trees, Plants, and Other Landscaping Materials - Renewal

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

13. MOTION TO AWARD IFB # TS-25-08 "ADOBE RENEWALS" TO THE MOST RESPONSIVE/RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, PAWOL TAFYA, LLC, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$61,065.18 FOR AN INITIAL ONE (1) YEAR PERIOD.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda.

Aye 5 - Mayor Castillo, Vice Mayor Hernandez, Commissioner Good Jr., Commissioner Rodriguez, and Commissioner Schwartz

Nay 0

QUASI JUDICIAL CONSENT AGENDA:

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

RESOLUTIONS:

REGULAR AGENDA:**REPORTS OF LEAGUE AND MPO REPRESENTATIVES**

Commissioner Rodriguez reported on the Broward League of Cities Luncheon scheduled for June 5, 2025.

Commissioner Schwartz requested that the League of Cities agenda be shared with the entire Commission moving forward.

Administration Direction:

Commissioner Schwartz also asked that the City Attorney, through the League, provide guidance on the most recent Office of the Inspector General (OIG) matter, specifically regarding some cities being unaware of the Form 9 requirements.

Commissioner Schwartz stated he would provide an update in two weeks.

Commissioner Rodriguez agreed to request that the League meeting agendas be shared with the Commission.

The Commission also discussed the upcoming annual appointment and swearing-in event for the Broward League of Cities, to be held at Margaritaville on Saturday, June 7, 2025, and the dress code for the event.

REPORTS OF THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY**COMMISSION ITEMS:**

Commission Agenda Q&A to be forthcoming, as / if / and when available via the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/mtkmvsud>

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

ADJOURN - 9:40 P.M.

CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES

Debra E. Rogers, CMC
City Clerk