

City of Pembroke Pines, FL

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



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

6:30 PM

Regular Commission Meeting, Item # 1 was updated on 01/07/2026, Exhibit # 1 was replaced and Exhibit # 7 was added for Item # 8 on 01/07/2026.

Commission Chambers

City Commission

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

6:30 PM REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**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 Gabriel Fernandez.

Mayor Castillo opened the meeting by expressing deep sorrow over the recent passing of John "Footy" Kross from Y100, a longtime friend of the City of Pembroke Pines. The Mayor reflected on Mr. Kross's character, his dedication to the community, and his volunteerism, including his post-radio involvement with the nonprofit Here's Help, which supported individuals recovering from substance abuse through life skills and culinary arts. The Mayor recalled fond memories of Mr. Kross bringing students to City Hall events and concluded by calling for a moment of silence in his honor.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kaitlyn Bergs.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was performed by Kaitlyn Bergs.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE PULLED FROM AGENDA

There were no items pulled from the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS:

PRE-1 PRESENTATION NO. 1: ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WINNER OF THE DISTRICT 4
NATALIE BELMONTE GREAT YARD AWARDS FOR DECEMBER 2025.

Mayor Castillo, along with Assistant City Manager Mike Stamm, and Code Enforcement Supervisor Juliet Luque presented the District 4 Natalie Belmonte Great Yards Award for December to Paul and Lourdes Ackerman.

Mr. Ackerman explained that he personally maintained his yard and enjoyed the work as a form of exercise. He noted that his wife assisted with plant selection while he handled the labor, described the modest time commitment involved, and shared details about his backyard vegetable garden.

Vice Mayor Hernandez spoke about how individual property maintenance reflected positively on the entire city, thanked the recipients for their efforts, and formally recognized them with a certificate and a gift card, while expressing appreciation on behalf of the city.

ITEMS AT THE REQUEST OF THE PUBLIC

Kristen and Daniel Davalos, 2051 NW 93 Avenue, Pembroke Pines, FL addressed the Commission as volunteer leaders of B.P. Academy at Fletcher Park. Mrs. Davalos explained that the organization was entirely volunteer-driven and described Fletcher Park as a safe, supportive space for children. She detailed B.P. Academy's contributions over the past year, including partnerships, supporting underserved and homeless families; assisting with new field development; recruiting coaches; promoting community pride; and helping athletes earn college opportunities.

Mayor Castillo, Commissioner Good, and Commissioner Schwartz responded by expressing gratitude and admiration for B.P. Academy's leadership and impact. The Commission highlighted the long history of successful programming at Fletcher Park, praised the Davalos family for exceeding commitments, and acknowledged the organization's communication, dedication, and focus on families.

COMMISSION AUDITOR REPORT:

None.

APPEALS OF BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT DECISIONS:

None.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

There were no board appointments announced.

CONSENT AGENDA:**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Vice Mayor Hernandez, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay 0

1. MOTION TO AWARD IFB # PSPW-25-11 "ROOF REPLACEMENT OF CITY WIDE ROOFS" TO THE MOST RESPONSIVE/RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, PALETZ ROOFING AND INSPECTIONS, INC., IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$577,964.80, WHICH INCLUDES THE COST TO PROVIDE PAYMENT AND PERFORMANCE BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,320.80 AND A 10% OWNER'S CONTINGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51,604.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

2. MOTION TO APPROVE THE MASTER AGREEMENT JM026-10-2028 BETWEEN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES/SOUTHWEST FOCAL POINT SENIOR CENTER AND THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC., FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2026, TO DECEMBER 31, 2028.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

3. MOTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT JA126-10-2026 BETWEEN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES/SOUTHWEST FOCAL POINT SENIOR CENTER AND THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC. TO PROVIDE OLDER AMERICANS ACT TITLE IIIB AND TITLE IIIE SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2026, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$499,000.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

4. MOTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH FLORIDA DESIGN DRILLING, LLC. FOR WELL REHABILITATION SERVICES, UTILIZING PRICING ESTABLISHED IN BROWARD COUNTY'S SOLICITATION NO. PNC2127733B1, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$201,200, INCREASING THE CONTRACT TO AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$346,200, WHICH INCLUDES \$5,720 FOR PAYMENT AND PERFORMANCE BONDS, AND AN OWNER'S CONTINGENCY OF \$32,580, PURSUANT TO SECTION 35.18(C)(5) OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

5. MOTION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH ALL WEBBS ENTERPRISES, INC. TO PERFORM MECHANICAL INTEGRITY TESTING (MIT) AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP) INJECTION WELLS IW-1 AND IW-2 UTILIZING PRICING ESTABLISHED IN VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON'S ITB 202524 "WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY CLASS I INJECTION WELL SYSTEM MECHANICAL INTEGRITY TESTING" IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$144,100, WHICH INCLUDES A 10% OWNER'S CONTINGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,100, PURSUANT TO SECTION 35.18(C)(5) OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

6. MOTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF REPAIR PARTS FOR CITY WASTEWATER LIFT STATIONS ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS FROM SMITH & LOVELESS, INC. IN AN ANNUAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$325,000, PURSUANT TO SECTION 35.18(C)(3) OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

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

(A) Tyler Technologies, Inc. - Enterprises Resource Planning (ERP) SaaS - Renewal

ITEMS (B) AND (C) WILL EXPIRE WITH NO RENEWAL TERMS AVAILABLE, THEREFORE, NO COMMISSION ACTION IS REQUIRED AS THEY ARE PRESENTED FOR NOTIFICATION PURPOSES ONLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 35.29 (F) OF THE CITY'S PROCUREMENT CODE:

(B) R.J. Behar & Company, Inc. - Civil Engineering, Development Review Committee (DRC) Engineering Permit Review and Inspection Related Services - Non-Renewal

(C) Safeguard Services, Inc. - Janitorial Services for the Charter Schools and Early Development Centers (EDC's) - Non-renewal

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

QUASI JUDICIAL CONSENT AGENDA:

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

RESOLUTIONS:

8. MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2025-R-47.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2025-R-47 IS A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FLORIDA, APPROVING UPDATES TO THE 2025-2028 CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES COMMUNITY SHUTTLE OPERATIONS, TITLE VI PROGRAM PURSUANT TO FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION REQUIREMENTS; DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Hernandez, seconded by Commissioner Good Jr., to adopt Proposed Resolution No. 2025-R-47. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay 0

Enactment No: 3940

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN:

City Attorney Goren read Proposed Resolution 2025-R-47 into the record by title.

REGULAR AGENDA:

REPORTS OF LEAGUE AND MPO REPRESENTATIVES

Commissioner Rodriguez reported that there was no substantive update from the League of Cities at that time because a directors meeting was scheduled for the following day. She stated that she would provide a full report at the next commission meeting. She also noted that the League's general meeting was scheduled for January 15th and explained that she would be unable to attend the dinner portion due to a conflict but reminded the board that the meeting was open to all members. Additionally, she shared that she would be traveling to Tallahassee later in the month to attend Broward Days in coordination with the League of Cities and would report back on those developments as well.

Commissioner Good commented there was no Broward MPO report to provide that evening because a meeting was scheduled for the following day.

Mayor Castillo stated that he would be attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in Washington, D.C., later in the month. He explained that during the trip he would meet with the city's federal lobbyists and federal delegation to discuss city business, and that the City Manager, and the City Attorney would conduct a briefing before his departure. He indicated that he would provide a report to the commission upon his return.

REPORTS OF THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

COMMISSION ITEMS:

9. COMMISSIONER JAY D. SCHWARTZ ITEM #1: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE PEMBROKE PINES CHARTER SCHOOL FOUNDATION DUE TO THE CANCELLATION OF THE 20+ YEAR RUNNING HONORABLE FRANK C. ORTIS ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT FOR 2026 WITHOUT EXPRESS AUTHORIZATION OR ADVISEMENT TO THE CITY COMMISSION. A DATE WAS SELECTED TO HOLD A DIFFERENT TOURNAMENT WITHOUT THE EXPRESS AUTHORIZATION OF ANOTHER NONPROFIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR MARCH 13, 2026. THE FCO GOLF TOURNAMENT HAS ALWAYS BEEN SCHEDULED ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE SPRING BREAK. VENDORS AND PAST SPONSORS WERE NOT ADVISED ABOUT THE CHANGE IN FORMAT. PARENTS WHO VOLUNTEER EVERY YEAR FOR THE FCO TOURNAMENT WERE NOT NOTIFIED ABOUT THE CHANGE IN FORMAT. COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ REQUESTED INFORMATION FROM THE ADMINISTRATION AS TO WHEN CHANGES WERE MADE AND WHO MADE THEM. THERE ARE NO EMAILS OR MEETING NOTES TO PROVIDE FOR THIS ITEM, AS NO OFFICIAL RECORDED MEETINGS WERE HELD. COMMISSIONER SCHWARTZ GATHERED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FROM THE ADMINISTRATION REGARDING THE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE CHARTER SCHOOL FOUNDATION AND WILL PROVIDE A DETAILED BREAKDOWN AT THE COMMISSION MEETING.

Commissioner Schwartz read Item 9 into the record by title and discussed that his colleagues had received a quarterly events notice from Assistant City Manager Christina Goulding on December 18, which included major upcoming events, and that a listed event titled the "Masters in the Pines Golf Tournament" drew concern. The Commissioner explained that an email was sent to staff on December 17, which he read into the record, asking whether this event was the Frank C. Ortis golf tournament, and staff responded that Masters in the Pines was a new tournament benefiting the We Love Pembroke Pines Foundation, while the Frank C. Ortis Charter School tournament was not being produced and a 5K event had instead been brought back to benefit the Charter School Foundation. After learning the tournament would not occur, the Commissioner said the item would be placed on the January 7 agenda and that additional records were requested from Mr. Dodge and Assistant City Manager Goulding regarding meetings, notes, and emails related to changes to the 2026 golf tournament.

Commissioner Schwartz noted that public records suggested the charter schools were already working on the 5K and that the Frank C. Ortis tournament had been canceled before commissioners were notified. The Commissioner then summarized Assistant City Manager Goulding's response, which indicated there were no meeting notes, that the We Love Pembroke Pines business plan included an annual golf tournament, that March 13 was selected after reviewing the mayor's calendar, and that the mayor and she developed the "Masters in the Pines" concept inspired by the professional Masters tournament. The Commissioner added that concerns about potential trademark infringement would be referred to the City Attorney and emphasized that one commission member did not speak for the entire commission, while staff responded that coordination with the mayor occurred in his role as president of the foundation rather than as a policymaker.

The Commissioner further stated that, after asking Mr. Dodge about any meetings, Mr. Dodge indicated there were no notes and that, to his knowledge, all communication had been verbal, specifically with Assistant City Manager Goulding. The Commissioner said that the Commission had never made a policy change to eliminate the largest fundraising event for the Charter School Foundation and stated that a

conversation with Mr. Bonilla in December had reconfirmed the facts prior to the meeting, noting that Mr. Bonilla was available to answer questions or correct any inaccuracies.

City Manager Dodge stated that, as president of the foundation, the questions had not been directly asked of him and that he could have addressed them differently than how they were reflected in the email exchanges. He clarified that if there were questions regarding the foundation, fundraising, or the Frank C. Ortis golf tournament, the tournament had not been canceled but was being rescheduled to a different date. He explained that the decision to begin with the We Love Pembroke Pines Foundation was based on the Commission's establishment of the foundation, its desire to begin fundraising, and the business plan's inclusion of fundraising events such as an annual golf tournament, making it a logical starting point to launch the nonprofit.

City Manager Dodge also mentioned that postponing the Frank C. Ortis golf tournament would have no negative financial impact on the Charter School Foundation, noting that the golf tournament represented only about 30 percent of the foundation's overall fundraising and that additional events, such as a 5K or other efforts, were intended to supplement existing activities. He further stated that there had never been a cancellation of the Frank C. Ortis golf tournament and that, although it was traditionally held in March, it was simply his decision to move the charter school tournament later in the school year while holding the We Love Pembroke Pines golf tournament in March, a process that staff had already been working on for some time.

Mayor Castillo commented that he did not believe anyone would have objected to the decision, as it appeared to make sense, and noted generally that many matters occur at City Hall without controversy.

City Manager Dodge explained that the foundation conducted many fundraising activities that never came before the Commission, emphasizing that the foundation was a 501(c)(3) entity independent of the City and that, from its inception, it had organized fundraisers, including golf tournaments, without requiring Commission approval.

Mayor Castillo stated that such events did not need to be brought before the Commission because the Commission's role was limited to support,

and he could not recall the Commission ever setting specific dates for City events, noting that events were funded through the budget and handled by staff in accordance with the Charter.

Commissioner Schwartz provided historical context, recalling that in 2024, during outgoing Mayor Frank Ortis's term, the golf tournament had been scheduled for the Friday before spring break but was postponed until April due to weather. He recalled that the prior year an agenda item had been raised regarding parent volunteers, at which time there was no item before the board related to the golf tournament because staff had indicated they were focused on other priorities, including the bond referendum. As a result, the Frank C. Ortis tournament proceeded with parent participation, although not all elected officials were able to attend due to travel.

Commissioner Schwartz continued to discuss that the subsequent receipt of a memo distributed to all commissioners felt like a progression of concerns and, in the Commissioner's opinion, reflected an erosion of long-standing tradition. The Commissioner expressed concern about one-on-one communications rather than operating as a collegial body and emphasized the importance of collective transparency. The Commissioner explained that the foundation had not been referenced in the title to avoid creating conflict between foundations but stated that, if questioned about the Monday memo, the December emails read into the record suggested a personal perception of competing for fundraising dollars.

Mayor Castillo clarified based in part on statements about prioritizing launching the foundation, while noting that questions were raised during the discussion about whether any competition for funds actually existed and reiterating that there had been no cancellation of the tournament. The Mayor stated that after seeing an agenda item referencing a cancellation, he contacted the City Manager directly and was told that the Charter School Foundation golf tournament had not been canceled.

Commissioner Schwartz questioned why that clarification was not included in the Monday memo and noted that no direct question had been asked at the time. He emphasized that historically the Frank C. Ortis tournament generated between \$60,000 and \$80,000 annually, that

the foundation held approximately \$750,000, and that achieving a \$1 million endowment had long been a Commission goal.

City Manager Dodge acknowledged that the tournament was being planned for October and stressed that this decision rested with the foundation, not the Commission. Commissioner Schwartz then inquired as to why that was not explained in his initial emailed inquiry.

Mayor Castillo reiterated that the tournament had always been the Charter School Foundation's fundraiser, that it was later named in Frank C. Ortis's honor due to his long-standing involvement and success in raising over \$1 million across two decades, and that he strongly supported its continuation. The Mayor rejected assertions that the tournament lacked commitment or was only moving forward because of the agenda item. The Mayor and Commissioner Schwartz both encouraged leaving animosity and politics aside, and underscored the shared history of commissioners, parents, and volunteers supporting the event.

Commissioner Schwartz further clarified that parents were not notified, and City Manager Dodge responded that notifications were not sent until a date was set, that the tournament did not require Charter School Board approval. Commissioner Schwartz then concluded by asking the city manager to coordinate potential dates with former Mayor Ortis to ensure his availability.

Commissioner Good thanked Commissioner Schwartz for bringing the matter forward, stating that the discussion raised awareness and clarified confusion. The Commissioner reaffirmed support for the Frank C. Ortis golf tournament and the Charter School Foundation, and emphasized its importance to students and teachers, and clarified that no formal commission policy mandated the tournament's timing.

Commissioner Rodriguez expressed optimism about the Charter School Foundation exploring new fundraising approaches, such as a 5K event, noting that diversifying events could attract new sponsors and broaden community engagement while still respecting longstanding traditions.

Mayor Castillo added that efforts were underway to build an alumni association to expand the donor base and strengthen future fundraising

for the Charter School Foundation. He reiterated that no event had been canceled, no foundation was being neglected, and that all efforts were aimed at sustaining and enhancing support for the city's charter schools.

Vice Mayor Hernandez clarified that his subsequent remarks were unrelated to the foundation discussion and instead focused on charter school achievements. He announced that the middle school girls' basketball team had won the county championship and that the boys' varsity basketball team had won a multi-game tournament, praising their performance and athletic talent. The Vice Mayor expressed enthusiasm for both programs and requested that the City Commission formally recognize the student-athletes at a future meeting.

Mayor Castillo agreed with the request to recognize the students and directed that both the girls' and boys' basketball teams be invited to an upcoming City Commission meeting for formal acknowledgment of their accomplishments.

Commissioner Schwartz shared personal remarks about the long-term success of the varsity basketball program, noting that his son had been part of the team during its first state championship appearance and that the program had remained strong in subsequent years. He praised Coach Roca's leadership, acknowledged that former Vice Mayor Iris Siple attended the recent tournament to support the team, and provided historical context on the "Light Up the Night" 5K fundraiser. He explained that the event had existed for many years before pausing around the COVID period, shared past fundraising figures, and expressed appreciation for its return and continued community support. He also thanked Mr. Dodge for confirming that the Charter School Foundation golf tournament would take place later in the year.

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 - 7:15 P.M.

CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES

Gabriel Fernandez
City Clerk