

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, May 20, 2026

6:30 PM

Regular Commission Meeting, Addendum # 1 & Addendum # 2 were added on 5/18/2026, Exhibit # 1 on Item # 15 was updated on 5/18/2026.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Castillo shared and celebrated a personal milestone within his family, announcing the arrival of his first grandchild. The mayor shared with the chamber that the child, named Anthony Angelo Rocco Hoffman, was born the previous day, measuring twenty inches in length and weighing seven pounds, twelve ounces. Mayor Castillo happily reported that both the infant and his daughter are in perfect health, noting that everything about the medical process went exactly as it was supposed to go. Mayor Castillo then shared his surprise at learning that the child's middle name was chosen to be Angelo.

Mayor Castillo then announced that Charles Horowitz, a local young man who has spent significant time in Pembroke Pines serving as a state legislative aide to State Representative Robin Bartleman and State Representative Daryl Campbell, had just called him to report that he had been accepted into Harvard Law School. The Mayor expressed his pride in witnessing those from the local community achieve success and extended his congratulations to Mr. Horowitz.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was performed by the Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida.

Mayor Castillo thanked the members of the chorus.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE PULLED FROM AGENDA

City Clerk Fernandez indicated that there are no items to be pulled from the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS:

- PRE-3** PRESENTATION NO. 3: MAYOR CASTILLO WILL PRESENT A PROCLAMATION TO THE FLANAGAN HIGH SCHOOL COLOR GUARD FOR EARNING A SILVER MEDAL AT THE 2026 WGI COLOR GUARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Mayor Castillo invited the Flanagan High School's Color Guard team and the school's representatives, including the school's Principal Fatout, to step forward. The mayor celebrated the Flanagan High School World Guard for achieving the distinction of being the silver medalists in the World competition at the Winter Guard International Color Guard World Championships. The mayor detailed that the team secured multiple first-place finishes throughout their highly competitive season, including at the Winter Guard International Regionals in Tampa and Stuart, Florida, as well as top honors at the South Florida Winter Guard Association Championships, earning them recognition as the number one color guard in the entire state of Florida.

The mayor further highlighted that the Flanagan High School World Guard earned second place at the 2026 Winter Guard International Color Guard World Championships held from April 8th through April 10th at the University of Dayton Arena in Ohio. Mayor Castillo emphasized that this achievement marked the first time the school's program has placed in the top three since 2015, bringing distinction to the City of Pembroke Pines. Mayor Castillo noted that under the leadership of Color Guard Director Nicholas Rodriguez, the 23-member Falcon's team achieved a score of 97.9 in the Scholastic World competition, the highest score in the school's history. The proclamation emphasized that the Scholastic World competition represents the highest level of color guard performance, featuring twenty-six elite teams from more than 500 high schools across the United States that participated.

Mayor Castillo, speaking on behalf of himself and the City Commission, congratulated the Flanagan High School Color Guard for the dedication and perseverance demonstrated by the team members, Director Rodriguez, and all the parents and supporters who contributed to this achievement. Mayor Castillo then invited Principal Fatout to speak.

Principal Fatout expressed his thanks to the Mayor and the City Commission for taking the time to recognize the students and their accomplishments. Principal Fatout noted that Flanagan High School possesses a long tradition of excelling at the highest competitive levels. Principal Fatout highlighted that seeing the students perform at the highest level was deeply admirable. Principal Fatout shared that the official recognition ensures the students know their local community loves them and that the city government stands with them.

PRE-2 PRESENTATION NO. 2: RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS FROM ACADEMIC VILLAGE HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATING IN THE INAUGURAL 2025-2026 CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES ACADEMIC VILLAGE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

Mayor Castillo then requested that Commissioner Rodriguez join him at the center of the chamber to recognize the students participating in the city's new internship program. Mayor Castillo commended Commissioner Rodriguez and emphasized that her leadership and efforts were responsible for this new initiative. Mayor Castillo noted that the city has had interns in the past, but noted that the program had never been as well-organized as it is under the current system.

Commissioner Rodriguez extended her gratitude to the staff at the Academic Village for embracing the project concept. Commissioner Rodriguez emphasized the importance of involving high school students directly with local government, describing it as a gateway for youth to connect with municipal administration, organizations, and local businesses. Commissioner Rodriguez noted that these experiences provide students with critical insight into post-academic life, practical career education, and excellent resume accomplishments.

Commissioner Rodriguez proceeded to read the names of the participating students, asking them to come forward to be recognized, including:

Andres Arenciba with the Fire Department, Brianna Barney with the Police Department, Maria Benedek with the Academic Village, Jazlyn Bonilla with Community Services, Giovanna Colaferi with the Academic Village, Aaliyah Djokaj with Community Services, Jasleen Gomez with Community Services, Gabby Jarvis with Recreation and Cultural Arts, Madisyn Marriott with Human Resources, Kristen Martinez with Community Services, Ana Martins with Procurement and Sustainability, Gracie Mortman with Procurement and Sustainability, Shayna Mortman with Procurement and Sustainability, Norah Nicolas with Community Services, Leah Noriega with the Academic Village, Destiny Ortega with Public Services, Mia Plasencia with the Fire Department, Mariella Plaza with the City Clerk's Office, Aleena Querishi with Community Services, Camila Rivera with Community Services, Gabriela Rivera with the Academic Village, Mckenzie Rockerfeller with Community Services, Zoe Romain with Community Services, Amina Stark with Recreation and Cultural Arts, and Lealia Taylor with the Police Department, and Jacob Williams with the Academic Village.

Commissioner Rodriguez congratulated the group for serving as the first students in this program and expressed her strong desire to expand the internship initiative to all eligible students across the city in the future.

PRE-4 PRESENTATION NO. 4: MAYOR CASTILLO WILL PRESENT A PROCLAMATION TO MARGARET BORGES RECOGNIZING MAY 2026 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES.

Mayor Castillo then called forward representatives from Broward County NAMI, the National Alliance for Mental Illness, to receive a proclamation declaring Mental Health Awareness Month. Mayor Castillo detailed that NAMI Broward operates with a mission to enhance awareness and support a system within Broward County that treats and helps individuals facing mental health challenges, delivering education, advocacy, and coping skills to improve outcomes for individuals and their families. Mayor Castillo asserted that mental health conditions are widespread and that comprehensive health care needs to include equitable access to mental health services regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or cultural background to ensure an inclusive and supportive community.

Mayor Castillo noted that the mental health crisis impacts both children and adults, with one in five adults experiencing a mental health condition each year. The mayor explained that half of all such conditions begin by the age of 14 and seventy-five percent by the age of 24, yet barriers and stigma consistently prevent individuals from receiving timely treatment, even though early intervention drastically improves outcomes. Mayor Castillo affirmed that mental health challenges are not criminal matters and noted that individuals dealing with these conditions remain disproportionately represented within the justice system. The mayor commended initiatives like Crisis Intervention training, which the Pembroke Pines Police Department participates in, alongside diversion systems and mobile crisis response teams for improving public safety, reducing incarceration, and supporting individuals in leading productive lives.

Mayor Castillo, on behalf of the city commission, declared May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month in partnership with NAMI Broward County and encouraged residents to increase awareness and support those facing mental health challenges.

The NAMI Broward Representative, Margaret DeCambre Borges, accepted the proclamation, expressing that it was an honor and a privilege to be recognized by the Mayor and City Commissioners. Ms. Borges noted that the City of Pembroke Pines consistently demonstrates a reliable commitment to recognizing the alliance's work, pointing out that NAMI Broward is one of 650 grassroots affiliates operating across the United States. Ms. Borges emphasized that every single service, support group, and educational class they provide is completely free to the public, which is critical for those seeking community support. Ms. Borges further noted that all of their board members are volunteers

driven by a love for the cause and thanked the Pembroke Pines Crisis Intervention Team officers.

PRE-5 PRESENTATION NO. 5: MAYOR CASTILLO WILL PRESENT A PROCLAMATION TO FLOTILLA COMMANDER NEIL KURITZKY RECOGNIZING MAY 16-22, 2026, AS NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK IN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES.

Mayor Castillo requested that the individuals representing safe boating initiatives step forward to the podium to accept a proclamation declaring National Safe Boating Week. Mayor Castillo read the proclamation, sharing that for over one hundred million Americans, recreational boating continues to be an immensely popular activity enjoyed across the nation as families take to the water. The mayor detailed that during National Safe Boating Week, the United States Coast Guard, the National Safe Boating Council, and local municipal partners promote the responsible enjoyment of waterways. The mayor emphasized that human error remains the primary reason for the majority of boating accidents and shared that the use of life jackets could prevent nearly 75% of boating-related fatalities. Mayor Castillo emphasized the importance of safety measures, such as the carrying of functional emergency distress and communication devices, completing state-approved boating safety courses, receiving free vessel safety inspections, and strictly maintaining sobriety while operating watercraft.

Mayor Castillo, on behalf of the city commission, communicated the city's support for the goals and proclaimed May 16, 2026, through May 22, 2026, as Safe Boating Week and encouraged residents to practice safe-boating habits all year.

The Boating Safety Representative, Flotilla Commander Neil Kuritzky, thanked the Mayor and City Commissioners for bringing public attention to water safety. Commander Kuritzky pointed out that there's a misconception that boating safety only impacts boat owners or individuals who live near the water, which he explained is false, noting that there has already been a higher frequency of severe boating accidents this year compared to the previous year. Commander Kuritzky acknowledged Pembroke Pines Division Fire Chief Ernest Spreitzer for his cooperation, noting that the Fire Training Center successfully hosted a safe boating class the previous Saturday for ten local students from the surrounding area. Commander Kuritzky shared his belief that this marked the beginning of a long-term collaboration.

PRE-6 PRESENTATION NO. 6: MAYOR CASTILLO WILL ANNOUNCE THE WINNER OF THE 2026 SPRING FLORIDA PREPAID SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE SPONSORED BY THE PEMBROKE PINES CHARTER SCHOOL FOUNDATION, INC.

Mayor Castillo announced the city's annual educational scholarship drawing and requested that Dr. Maraj and Assistant City Manager Bonilla manage the selection process. Mayor Castillo explained that it is a long-standing annual raffle in which participants purchase entries for a chance to win a fully funded, four-year college scholarship at a state institution in Florida. Mayor Castillo added that when he was a newly elected mayor, he would physically draw the winning ticket himself; however, he now has staff pull the name while he announces it. Dr. Maraj pulled the winning ticket, and Mayor Castillo announced that the ticket purchaser was Ricardo Regalado, and the official winner of the four-year Florida college scholarship was Daniela Regalado, an eighth-grade student currently attending Pembroke Pines Charter West Middle School. The Mayor congratulated Daniela, sharing that she is going to college with her tuition completely covered.

PRE-1 PRESENTATION NO. 1: DOUG BRIGHTWELL, DIRECTOR OF THE BROWARD COUNTY ANIMAL CARE DIVISION, WILL BE MAKING A PRESENTATION ON UPDATES TO BROWARD COUNTY'S PET REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.

Mayor Castillo introduced Doug Brightwell, the Director of the Broward County Animal Care Division, to deliver a presentation detailing modern changes to countywide pet licensing, microchipping incentives, and shelter operational data.

Director Doug Brightwell thanked the Mayor and Commission, expressing appreciation for the collaboration his division receives from the Pembroke Pines Police and Fire Departments during animal-related incidents. Director Brightwell served as director for approximately two years, reporting that Broward County Animal Care has improved its programs, expanding its volunteer networks and shelter management systems.

Mr. Brightwell shared that the division has an adoption facility and noted that the division takes in strays from the county and cities. Mr. Brightwell detailed that in the past year, county intake took in over 9,000 animals from across the county and its partner municipalities. Director Brightwell shared that the shelter recorded its highest animal adoption and return-to-owner rates for lost pets seen in nearly a decade. Director Brightwell highlighted that these system changes helped place pets back in their original homes, or into new homes if reunification proved impossible.

Director Brightwell detailed updates to the county's pet licensing framework, introducing the "Tags for Life" initiative. Director Brightwell shared that starting in 2025, Broward County permanently shifted away from issuing entirely new physical registration tags and license numbers to pet owners every single year. Director Brightwell explained that the county introduced a framework where the physical tag and identification number remain consistent to the individual animal for the duration of its life with that owner, meaning residents only need to renew the registration rather than replacing the metal tag. Director Brightwell detailed that county law mandated that these tags undergo annual renewal; however, the Board of County Commissioners amended the ordinance to allow pet owners to sync their registrations with medical timelines. Director Brightwell explained that residents can choose to renew their pet licenses either on an annual basis or opt for a three-year renewal to run concurrently with a three-year rabies vaccination cycle, eliminating repetitive annual filings until the underlying vaccine expires.

Director Brightwell explained that pet licenses and embedded microchips are the two most effective methods for returning lost animals to their homes. Director Brightwell communicated that the county

removed traditional sterilization requirements as the primary financial metric for licensing costs, electing instead to tie fee schedules directly to microchipping status. Director Brightwell explained that the fee structure was adjusted so that owners of microchipped pets pay a baseline fee of 25 dollars for a one-year registration, or 65 dollars for a three-year registration.

Director Brightwell explained that if an animal is not microchipped and on file with the county, the owner is charged a fee of 55 dollars for a single year, and nearly triple that amount for a three-year tag. Mr. Brightwell explained that the pricing is designed to incentivize owners to microchip their animals, ensuring that current residential addresses and telephonic data are retrievable the moment a lost animal arrives.

Mr. Brightwell explained that when he arrived two years ago, dogs experienced an average stay exceeding 30 days in the shelter. Director Brightwell shared that through process changes, the division successfully drove the average length of stay down to just over 19 days, highlighting that in a year and a half, the county cut the shelter stay duration by 11 days for dogs.

Director Brightwell encouraged dog and cat owners in the county to fulfill the legal mandate to register their pets either through their local veterinarian or directly with the county.

Mayor Castillo thanked Director Brightwell for the presentation and noted that Pembroke Pines operates its own public access television station. The mayor offered to broadcast any videos or graphics produced by the county to help educate local residents on the new regulations, noting that the city would be more than happy to air them. Mayor Castillo emphasized the necessity of this work, noting that Pembroke Pines is deeply invested in animal welfare through its long-running "Pooches in Pines" program, which is important to the community. The mayor shared a troubling incident from earlier in the week where a resident witnessed someone release a dog on the side of the street. The mayor shared his concerns that such abandonments happen frequently, but expressed gratitude that a resident was able to safely secure the dog and thanked the Pembroke Pines Police Department for responding efficiently to resolve the situation.

Commissioner Schwartz thanked Director Brightwell and praised the county for its move to consolidate and incentivize microchipping. Commissioner Schwartz noted that many older pets possess microchips belonging to companies that have since gone completely out of business. Commissioner Schwartz asked what steps the county has

implemented to ensure data reliability when older chips are scanned.

Director Doug Brightwell explained that the county has integrated its internal municipal database with a centralized software framework operated by 24Pet, a major shelter software and microchipping company. Director Brightwell shared that every night, the Broward County Animal Care computer systems update with new information that has been entered. Director Brightwell explained that any new pet license, physical tag update, or microchip number logged by county staff or local vets is instantly uploaded to the 24Pet global registry completely free of charge to the resident. Director Brightwell explained that if a lost animal is brought to a private veterinarian or outside clinic, the staff can scan the chip, enter it into any open microchip lookup portal, and within about a week of initial registration, the system will instantly identify it as an active record managed by 24Pet. Director Brightwell explained that the clinic can then call their twenty-four-hour dispatch or contact county animal control directly to pull up current owner data.

Commissioner Schwartz communicated that because Pembroke Pines has earned an excellent reputation for rehoming animals via "Pooches in Pines," surrounding municipal areas frequently use Pembroke Pines as a dumping ground for unwanted pets. Commissioner Schwartz asked if the majority of abandoned animals are chipped or unchipped.

Director Brightwell responded that the majority of abandoned animals possess no identification, collars, or microchips. Director Brightwell noted that while owners routinely strip off external collars and visible tags before discarding an animal, they cannot easily remove an embedded microchip, which is why they are so effective.

Commissioner Schwartz asked if the division actively collaborates with the Broward Sheriff's Office or police to pursue individuals who intentionally dump animals that are microchipped.

Director Brightwell responded that if investigators can successfully prove an animal was abandoned and did not just escape, the county issues civil citations to the owners. Director Brightwell noted that individuals frequently drive directly to the main county animal shelter parking lot, dump animals out of their vehicles, and speed away, without realizing that the facility has surveillance cameras. Director Brightwell noted that they routinely pull those license plates, drive directly to the individual's residence, knock on their door, ask them to reclaim their pet, and give them a ticket for abandonment.

Commissioner Schwartz expressed gratitude that Broward County is

taking an active leadership role in animal protection, noting that the Pembroke Pines administration and the City Attorney's Office are currently reviewing the treatment, living conditions, and required property spacing for horses and livestock, proving that the city cares about all living things.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked that Director Brightwell provide the city manager with the information with the city manager and noted that during her time working with the county, she would often be questioned about spay and neuter services. Commissioner Rodriguez requested a current update on municipal spay/neuter availability that the city could post clearly on the Pembroke Pines website to help inform the public.

Director Brightwell explained that the division currently operates a fully funded voucher system that provides free Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) surgeries for community cats, alongside free spay and neuter surgeries for owned residential dogs and cats weighing over forty-five pounds. Director Brightwell communicated that cats and dogs represent the primary animal populations causing overcrowding at the county shelter, leading the county to completely waive adoption fees at this time. Director Brightwell explained that the county's sterilization fund is directly fed by pet licensing revenues and that money from every single pet registration tag sold is put directly into the voucher fund, meaning that increased registration compliance directly yields more municipal revenue to provide free sterilization options for all Broward County citizens.

Director Brightwell clarified that free TNR surgeries for feral community cats are done by separate, specialized clinics equipped to handle undomesticated felines, while six to seven veterinary clinics across the county accept county vouchers for residential pet sterilizations and microchipping. Director Brightwell committed to providing the city manager with direct web links containing these resources.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked that Director Brightwell provide information and locations as to where animals could be taken for sterilization and microchipping.

An audience member shared that many residents are unaware that the county offers this service and that veterinary services encourage people to spend money rather than use the county's system.

Director Brightwell explained that the reason is why the county and his department have been focusing on media tours. Director Brightwell noted that the department has also actively promoted adoption and

registration. Director Brightwell also noted that twice a month, his department hosts free clinics where approximately 100 citizens, on a first-come, first-served basis, can be seen and receive free vaccines and microchips for their pets. Director Brightwell noted that the new policy is that if a pet comes through their shelter, it is required to be microchipped for free before it is returned to the owner.

Vice Mayor Hernandez shared that his comment was going to be the same as Commissioner Rodriguez's. The vice mayor commended Director Brightwell's PIO Zach and shared that he was his adjunct professor at FIU, confirming that he gave him an A in his class. The vice mayor asked that Director Brightwell provide him with the same information that he will provide Commissioner Rodriguez.

Mayor Castillo inquired whether the market currently offers collars integrated with tracking systems like Apple AirTags to help owners track pets that are prone to running away, noting a high volume of lost dog listings on neighborhood social media applications like Nextdoor.

Director Brightwell confirmed that pet owners can purchase collars that can hold AirTags. Director Brightwell noted that some major tracking manufacturers like Tile produce specialized GPS and Bluetooth tracking tags tailored for animal collars, allowing owners to track their pets.

Mayor Castillo requested that Director Brightwell include the idea of AirTags and other trackers in the videos that he will provide. The mayor shared that many residents remain entirely unaware of how cheap and accessible these tracking solutions have become. The mayor noted that many people are surprised by how simple the idea of placing a tracking device like an AirTag on a dog is, sharing that he is surprised that more people aren't doing it.

Director Brightwell emphasized that while this technology was historically cost-prohibitive for most people, individual AirTags and Tile devices have dropped in price to twenty-five dollars or less, making them an affordable and effective tool to augment traditional microchips and county licenses.

Mayor Castillo noted that on social media, there are so many posts seeking their lost pets.

Director Brightwell commented that social media helps return a lot of animals home. Director Brightwell also noted that his team bought scanners at the start of the year, providing them to all fire department

stations in the county that wanted them, sharing that they still have some remaining if the Pembroke Pines Police Department would like some.

The mayor shared that he is confident the police department would appreciate the scanners and thanked Director Brightwell for the presentation and all his work.

Commissioner Schwartz requested that the city administration post the information received in the presentation to dog parks with QR codes to maximize public awareness and spread the word. Commissioner Schwartz emphasized that the information is only as good as what's being shared. Commissioner Schwartz confirmed that the city operates two high-quality parks and could place an informative banner at those locations.

ITEMS AT THE REQUEST OF THE PUBLIC

Mayor Castillo opened the floor to public comment, reminding speakers to state their full name and residential address for the official record.

Kit Jordan, 7030 Southwest 10th Court in Pines Village, addressed the Commission regarding the ongoing municipal water and sewer infrastructure project, which has been a work in progress in the community for approximately forty years. Ms. Jordan explained that she is not unfamiliar with the realities of construction, having lived through multiple projects in the past, but this is the first time she has had to tolerate the lack of consideration.

Ms. Jordan explained that she expected, based on agreements from an early meeting on the project, that residents would be provided notice whenever construction crews would be blocking residential driveways, staging heavy machinery, or being a general inconvenience to residents.

Ms. Jordan shared that on the previous day, she attempted to leave her home only to find her exit entirely obstructed by construction crews. Ms. Jordan shared that when she confronted a project representative identified as Mr. Lopez, she was told that if she did not want to drive her vehicle directly through the active construction archway, which had damaged her car previously, she could just wait until they were done.

Ms. Jordan explained to Mr. Lopez that her refusal to drive blindly through the unpaved construction zone stems from a prior incident where her vehicle sustained over \$1,000 worth of structural damage from flying debris and uneven terrain on her street. Ms. Jordan shared that despite her protests, she was given no alternative and was forced to allow Mr. Lopez to physically guide her car out. Ms. Jordan stated that she had previously been completely blocked inside her home for two full consecutive days and recently had half of her driveway blocked by heavy machinery, making any attempt to exit neither easy nor safe. Ms. Jordan characterized the project management as the most disorganized engineering operation she has ever witnessed, stating that driving through the neighborhood streets is like navigating rugged, unpaved backcountry dirt roads filled with ruts and holes.

Ms. Jordan asserted that even when traveling at safe speeds of five to ten miles per hour, vehicles are subjected to shaking, and the current state of the roads makes it entirely unsafe for residents to even walk down their own streets. Ms. Jordan explained that she understands construction but simply asks that residents be kept up to date and provided with advanced warnings when properties will be blocked.

George Koren, 6751 Southwest 11th Street in Pines Village, stepped to the podium to speak on two distinct matters of neighborhood concern, requesting permission to exceed the standard three-minute limit to ensure completeness. Regarding the ongoing water and sewer project, Mr. Koren explained that the contractor is creating havoc across the neighborhood, and residents are very upset. Mr. Koren explained that the contractor is not honoring the terms agreed to at the first homeowners' meeting, where they agreed to provide notifications for work on a resident's street, as well as address questions on whether residents would need to make parking arrangements and whether the streets will be passable.

Mr. Koren shared that the contractor has failed to segment their work. Mr. Koren pointed out that there is an apparent lack of coordination, asking why crews cannot perform multiple connections and stubbing operations during a single dig, rather than continuously digging up and re-digging for each item.

Mr. Koren noted that he has concerns about dust control in high-traffic areas and sprinkler repairs, noting that it needs to include irrigation of remaining lawn areas, not just capping off damaged lines, stressing the need for the maintenance of system functionality. Mr. Koren noted that with the arrival of the rainy season, it is important for the project to be well coordinated and organized. Mr. Koren noted that other projects have not been so difficult and asked that the commission relay his concerns to the proper authority.

Moving to his second item, Mr. Koren critiqued the Broward County Aviation Department for failing to deliver on multi-year promises to conduct testing of the air, soil, and water for pollution, alongside measuring noise pollution generated by North Perry Airport. Mr. Koren pointed out that the massive water and sewer project currently tearing up Pines Village is unearthing sixty years of buried industrial and aviation pollution. Mr. Koren reminded the Commission that heavy metals, specifically lead, do not dissipate from the earth; they persistently accumulate in the soil.

Mr. Koren noted that the noise and air pollution from piston engine gas-burning airplanes is well documented, noting that the aviation department's response has been to execute inspections confined within the airport's fencing, yielding functionally insignificant data and results for the families living in the surrounding area. Mr. Koren claimed that the aviation department's sole objective is to maximize flight operations at North Perry Airport at all costs, noting that he has been waiting for over

three months for a response to an email sent to the Broward County Commission regarding testing protocols and the expansion of flight schools. Mr. Koren explained that the number of flight schools operating at North Perry now numbers double digits, pushing total annual operations past 315,000 a year, with 75% to 80% of that flight traffic routed directly over the rooftops of Pines Village.

Mr. Koren asserted that North Perry Airport has changed the way that residents in the area are living their lives and noted that the reduction of operations at North Perry Airport is the only thing that can provide relief. Mr. Koren dismissed the argument from BCAD that aircraft are transitioning to low-lead or unleaded fuel, noting that over fifty percent of the operations are by aircraft that cannot use such fuel. Mr. Koren shared that the addition of operations currently maintains or increases the amount of pollution. Mr. Koren noted that flight schools are expanding their curriculum to offer dual-engine certifications, producing more pollution and noise.

Mr. Koren shared his firm belief that top county aviation executives are fully aware of these hazardous conditions. Mr. Koren explained that the executives chose to suppress action because true scientific exposure would force an operational reduction. Mr. Koren requested that the Pembroke Pines City Commission assist residents and help save the historic birthplace of the city.

Mayor Castillo requested that City Manager Dodge provide the Commission with an update on the sewer program in Pines Village. Mayor Castillo, addressing Mr. Koren, shared that he would personally contact the Broward County Commission and request a status update on the promised environmental and noise studies for North Perry Airport. Mayor Castillo promised to deliver a direct response to Mr. Koren. Mayor Castillo thanked Mr. Koren for his efforts in keeping the matter at the forefront of the public's attention.

City Manager Dodge explained that he believes Commissioner Good has information that he can share and emphasized that the water and sewer project currently disrupting Pines Village is not a City of Pembroke Pines project. The city manager noted that it appears that the contractors and the Broward commission are saying it's a city job when it is, in fact, a county job, and the project and its details belong entirely to Broward County Utilities. City Manager Dodge stated that the city has tried to insert itself into the situation to advocate for residents, noting that traffic and residential disruptions around local school zones have been horrendous. The city manager detailed that the county's chosen contractor has displayed an uncaring attitude and is operating via small

jobs on multiple streets simultaneously rather than executing a more logical street-by-street completion plan. The city manager affirmed that the administration will follow up on the issue.

Commissioner Good stated that Mr. Koren's two items are two of the most constant concerns raised by constituents within his district. Commissioner Good asked the city manager to follow up on the county's intentions for Perry Airport and learn if there are any updates. Commissioner Good explained that the city had previously been informed that the county would conduct an environmental study and was in an active procurement phase.

Mayor Castillo confirmed that he saw the item on a recent agenda and reported that he will get a definitive statement from the county.

Commissioner Good pointed out that Mr. Koren was incredibly polite and restrained in his comments regarding the construction. Commissioner Good shared that at a recent Pines Village meeting, residents were very vocal regarding their complaints about the contractor's behavior. Commissioner Good communicated that the execution of this project reflects a complete absence of basic accountability or respect for the local community and praised city staff for constantly jumping in to provide immediate but temporary relief.

Commissioner Good reminded the Commission that a large meeting was held directly at a local school to address these concerns. Commissioner Good noted that the meeting was attended by county representatives, the project manager, the consultants, the contractor, the city commission, and city staff, including the police department. Commissioner Good requested that City Manager Dodge have a high-level discussion with the county administrator. Commissioner Good stressed that because this is occurring within city limits, residents believe it is a city problem. Commissioner Good explained that he expects more residents to attend meetings where they can voice their complaints.

Commissioner Good shared that he would like to have the county take some form of accountability, explaining that most residents understand that the project is necessary. Commissioner Good explained that it is entirely unacceptable for a contractor to pull up to a home and instantly dig in front of someone's driveway without knocking on the front door well in advance to allow residents to move their vehicles. Commissioner Good explained that he has received calls from citizens who have missed appointments because their cars were physically trapped in their garages. Commissioner Good explained that when the city blames the

county without doing anything, residents view them as inept leaders, stressing the need for pre-communication and getting the contractor to do the right thing.

Commissioner Good thanked Kit Jordan and George Koren for bringing the issue to the commission and thanked City Manager Dodge for his work.

Commissioner Rodriguez explained that during recent administrative workshops focused on upgrading the municipal website, she collaborated with Marianne Wohlert from the Communications Department to explore the rollout of a text-messaging and notification system. Commissioner Rodriguez noted that when there was a recent road resurfacing initiative within the Trails neighborhood, she contacted Mr. Kennedy about updates and communicated with the HOA. Commissioner Rodriguez noted that the city itself could send text messages providing updates to residents directly.

Commissioner Rodriguez noted that the current issue is a contractor issue, but residents are often not frustrated that the project is being done, but rather that it is being done in a way that does not notify them. Commissioner Rodriguez shared that the electronic billboards and signs explaining projects are effective but not the most effective at conveying information that has a direct impact on the lives of residents and their property. Commissioner Rodriguez shared that she would like to develop a system and would like an update on the status of that process, and requested that the administration keep the commission updated, asserting that it is essential.

Commissioner Rodriguez argued that the city must possess a platform capable of sending text alerts to residents. Commissioner Rodriguez voiced that these notifications would warn residents of impending road closures, park renovations, or utility work. Commissioner Rodriguez affirmed that it is important to provide advance notice to residents.

Mayor Castillo expressed his support for the text-notification concept and requested that City Manager Dodge have staff prepare to inform the commission on the status of the concept.

Commissioner Schwartz commended Commissioner Good for his work and focus on the sewer process. Commissioner Schwartz noted that the process is painfully slow, recalling that two to three years prior, Commissioner Good brought the proposal to the dais and suggested that the City of Pembroke Pines do the project itself instead of delegating it to the county. Commissioner Schwartz asserted that if this

work were being performed by a Pembroke Pines vendor, the city would still face dirt and inconvenience, but there would not be pain.

Commissioner Schwartz noted that he has seen contractors on the same portion of the street for days. Commissioner Schwartz detailed that Florida Power & Light and TECO have been tearing him and surrounding communities up since November and February, respectively.

Commissioner Schwartz explained that he attempted to organize a community town hall to inform the residents, but his effort was unsuccessful. Commissioner Schwartz requested that the city triple its communication efforts and echoed Commissioner Rodriguez's request for the Communications Department to communicate more effectively. Commissioner Schwartz shared that it is unfair to the residents to have to seek out information from the commission because the administration was not effective at conveying information.

Commissioner Schwartz asserted that TECO is destroying Pembroke Lakes and that the sewer trucks will park in front of residents' homes for a handful of days, but TECO behaves randomly, and there is no indication of if or when they will communicate with residents or the city. Commissioner Schwartz shared that he will be sending an email to the administration the next day to learn how many times Jacobs has had to repair what they have broken.

Commissioner Schwartz complained about the Florida Department of Transportation and its contractors along major streets like Palm Avenue, Douglas Road, and University Drive, noting that newly installed signs were mounted crookedly. Commissioner Schwartz requested that Code Enforcement officers use their neighborhood patrols to document and report utility-inflicted property damage. Commissioner Schwartz shared that residents have been reaching out to multiple departments, including building and engineering. Commissioner Schwartz reaffirmed that he will be reaching out to TECO promptly, sharing that he is glad that the city has some say over what the county does.

Mayor Castillo asked Commissioner Schwartz to provide the exact names and contact numbers of the TECO executives he had been dealing with so that the Mayor's office could assist.

Commissioner Schwartz responded that he leans on City Manager Dodge to manage those affairs. Commissioner Schwartz shared that the city manager had a resident stop him back in February with concerns about the TECO project. Commissioner Schwartz requested the full

support of the administration to collaborate with the state of Florida as the issue relates to public utilities.

Mayor Castillo reiterated that he would like to know the exact name and position of the TECO representatives he has been talking to.

Commissioner Schwartz shared that he would get the contact information from his personal social media records and email it to the Mayor the following day.

Mayor Castillo commented that he would like to try to communicate with Commissioner Schwartz's contact at TECO.

City Manager Dodge asked the mayor for a chance to respond to Commissioner Schwartz's comments and detailed that he regularly communicates with City Engineer Karl Kennedy, who receives many of these concerns, and he has received very few resident complaints regarding the TECO gas line project. The city manager noted that he does not ever recall speaking to any resident in February, requesting that the commissioner share the identity of the individual so he could follow up, as he has never named the resident he is reported to have spoken to.

City Manager Dodge revealed that he personally resides directly within the impacted Pembroke Lakes neighborhood and drives those exact streets. The city manager stated that on his specific residential block, the TECO construction commenced around Thanksgiving in November and wrapped up around March or April. The city manager directly disputed Commissioner Schwartz's characterization of the work, explaining that he could not agree that they are tearing up the streets because his area was handled very neatly over five months, during which he personally spoke with workers who explained the process to him. City Manager Dodge explained the logic behind the delayed restoration, noting that the crews are completing the job, and when it is finished, they will come back and do the asphalt work and then repair the torn-up sod.

City Manager Dodge told the dais that he believed the complaints were exaggerated, as he had only received one communication from Commissioner Schwartz regarding it. The city manager noted that when residents actually communicate directly with professional city staff rather than elected officials, the processes are clearly explained and citizens leave satisfied, citing a recent case involving a resident in Century Village who was walked through the digital portal and successfully registered her email address to remain connected with city communications.

City Manager Dodge explained that talking to the resident and explaining it to them usually works. The city manager shared that City Engineer Kennedy will be present to address Commissioner Schwartz's item.

City Manager Dodge pointed out that a major driver of neighborhood frustration stems from poor inter-utility coordination, where the moment TECO wraps up a gas project and completely restores the sod, an entirely separate utility provider like FPL or AT&T rolls in with heavy machinery and tears up the same dirt plots for a second time. The City Manager noted that AT&T crews were canvassing his neighborhood, trying to convince residents to switch from Comcast to AT&T, meaning that the lines are going to have to be connected to the homes, creating additional installation and restoration work.

Mayor Castillo welcomed the conversation and shared his desire to improve coordination and communication. The mayor reiterated that he would like Commissioner Schwartz to provide him with the name and the TECO representative so he can follow up with them.

The city manager clarified that Commissioner Schwartz's town hall meeting never mentioned that he wanted to speak on any of the issues he brought up here.

Commissioner Schwartz shared that the town hall was going to be on the topic of utilities and shared that he does not want to relitigate it. Commissioner Schwartz clarified that Assistant City Manager Bonilla knew precisely what topics he intended to bring before the public.

Commissioner Schwartz then turned to Commissioner Good and pointed out that while FPL is actively burying lines and stripping heavy power cables off the existing telephone poles. Commissioner Schwartz noted that after one year, those poles are no longer FPL's responsibility and will belong to Comcast.

City Manager Dodge noted that it was a mistake at the time and that the city had no control over it. The city manager agreed with Commissioner Schwartz that they should have buried the Comcast lines simultaneously.

Commissioner Schwartz noted that there is no incentive for Comcast to use its money to bury.

Mayor Castillo noted that utility companies do not have to get local municipal permits anymore, removing city control while failing to deliver on promised cost reductions or coordination improvements.

Commissioner Schwartz quipped that the only reduction residents received was a reduction in service.

Mayor Castillo steered the conversation back to order, stating that while the conversation was healthy, the commission was straying from the agenda. Mayor Castillo emphasized that he was in favor of sharing information as Commissioner Rodriguez suggested, but emphasized that this is their information to share. The mayor warned that just because the city cares, he does not want to be responsible for not telling people what is going on when it is not the city's project. Mayor Castillo once more reiterated that he would like to receive the contact information for whoever Commissioner Schwartz was talking to.

Commissioner Schwartz clarified that he forwarded all the information to the administration at the beginning of February and that, in response, the administration gave the commissioner TECO's contact information. Commissioner Schwartz noted that this was three months ago and apologized for not having the information directly in front of him.

Mayor Castillo requested that City Manager Dodge find the information and the email in question and send it to the commission once more.

City Manager Dodge promised to recirculate that February document to the entire dais to ensure continuity. The city manager noted that the only complaint that he has received is the one that Commissioner Schwartz provided him with days prior.

Commissioner Schwartz retorted that he did not provide the city manager with the complaint; it was forwarded to him by staff in the building department.

Mayor Castillo moved the discussion forward, emphasizing that the commission has a long agenda. The mayor noted that if someone wants to bring this up on another item, that is their choice. Mayor Castillo provided Commissioner Good the last word on the item.

Commissioner Good asked for the exact legal limits of the city's current permitting authority over public utility companies. Commissioner Good asked if a permit from the city is required before one of these projects is conducted, whether it be a utility company or the county.

The city manager shared that he does not believe that a permit is required and called City Engineer Kennedy to answer the question. The city manager shared that he knows they inform them of the location of the

project, but does not believe that a permit is necessary.

City Engineer Karl Kennedy shared that telecommunications companies and utility companies are allowed to work in their easements without city permission. City Engineer Karl Kennedy explained that when they go through public rights-of-way, the city reviews their plans and issues them a no-fee permit, meaning the city permits only that specific portion of the project.

Commissioner Good asked City Attorney Goren whether the city could legally add conditions to the city's permits, such as requiring advanced communication and mandating restoration timelines. Commissioner Good questioned what the limits are on what the city can do in terms of adding conditions and handling such permits. Commissioner Good shared that through such conditions, the city would have some options to manage and respond to projects that inconvenience residents.

City Attorney Goren noted that before recent changes in state legislation, the answer might be different. The city attorney shared that he would rather withhold a public answer as there are some limitations, noting that while the law has changed, the city has not entirely waived its right to the described conditions. City Attorney Goren committed to delivering information on the exact boundaries of the city's remaining permit conditioning powers.

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 Schwartz, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, 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 RELEASE PERFORMANCE BOND #30225431 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$529,585.10 (FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE DOLLARS AND TEN CENTS) FROM BROOKS & FREUND, LLC; ACCEPT MAINTENANCE BOND #875300 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,352.00 (SIXTY-NINE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO DOLLARS) FROM WASTE MANAGEMENT INC. OF FLORIDA; AND APPROVE THE BILL OF SALE AND EASEMENT DEDICATIONS FOR THE PROJECT "WASTE MANAGEMENT RECYCLING EXPANSION," LOCATED AT 20701 PEMBROKE ROAD.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

2. MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR THE FY 2025 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM TO ENHANCE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S REAL-TIME INTELLIGENCE CENTER

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

3. MOTION TO APPROVE THE SHINE PROGRAM MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER OF BROWARD COUNTY AND THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES/SOUTHWEST FOCAL POINT SENIOR CENTER.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

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

(A) Baptist Health South Florida, Inc. - Programming to Improve the Health and Wellness of Members of COPP/Senior Center - Renewal

(B) Children's Services Council of Broward County - Maximizing Out-of-School Time (MOST) - Renewal

(C) Hercules Achievement, LLC - Yearbook Services - Renewal

ITEMS (D) AND (E) 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:

(D) Synalovski Romanik Saye LLC - Parks Architectural and Engineering Services - Non-Renewal

(E) TA Golf Sales, LLC - Operation of the Pembroke Lakes Golf Course Pro Shop - Non-Renewal

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

5. A) MOTION TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE 2026-2027 APPLICATION TO THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC. (AAABC) FOR CONTINUED SERVICES FOR THE GENERAL REVENUE CONTRACT GRANT - LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER (LSP).

B) MOTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT JL026-10-2027 BETWEEN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES/SOUTHWEST FOCAL POINT SENIOR CENTER AND THE AREAWIDE COUNCIL ON AGING OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC. TO PROVIDE SENIOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2026, THROUGH JUNE30, 2027 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$216,155.00.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

6. MOTION TO APPROVE A WAIVER REQUEST TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (FLDOE) PURSUANT TO RULE 6A-10455, FAC., SEEKING AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PEMBROKE PINES CHARTER SCHOOLS TO MAINTAIN ITS EXISTING SCHOOL START AND END TIMES BASED ON STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK AND OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL IMPACT ANALYSES.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

7. MOTION TO APPROVE A WORK ORDER AUTHORIZATION WITH CPZ ARCHITECTS, INC. FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECT REC01 - ROSE G. PRICE PARK RENOVATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$362,437

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

8. MOTION TO APPROVE A WORK ORDER AUTHORIZATION WITH R.E. CHISHOLM ARCHITECTS, INC. FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECT REC04 - FLAMINGO PARK FIELD ONE RENOVATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$237,370

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

9. MOTION TO APPROVE A WORK ORDER AUTHORIZATION WITH CRAVEN THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING SERVICES FOR STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECT REC06 - CHAPEL TRAIL SOCCER PARK ARTIFICIAL TURF IN THE AMOUNT OF \$198,600

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

10. MOTION TO APPROVE A WORK ORDER AUTHORIZATION WITH CRAVEN THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING SERVICES FOR STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECT REC07 - WEST PINES SOCCER PARK ARTIFICIAL TURF IN THE AMOUNT OF \$198,360

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

11. MOTION TO APPROVE A WORK ORDER AUTHORIZATION WITH MILLER LEGG & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL AND SURVEYING SERVICES FOR STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECT REC10 - PARK MONUMENT SIGNAGE REDESIGN AND REPLACEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$197,935

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

12. MOTION TO APPROVE A WORK ORDER AUTHORIZATION WITH SALTZ MICHELSON ARCHITECTS, INC. FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECT REC03 - CHARLES F. DODGE CITY CENTER PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$292,125.86

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

13. MOTION TO APPROVE A WORK ORDER AUTHORIZATION WITH SALTZ MICHELSON ARCHITECTS, INC. FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECT REC02 - MEMORIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$340,744.70

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

15. MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 15, 2026, REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING AND SHADE SESSION; THE APRIL 29, WORKSHOP MEETINGS- BUDGET VISIONING AND MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

16. MOTION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH ENVIROWASTE SERVICES GROUP, INC., INSITUFORM TECHNOLOGIES, LLC., IMR DEVELOPMENT CORP, JMP GROUP, LLC., AND USSI, LLC. FOR INFILTRATION AND INFLOW REDUCTION (I&I) SERVICE ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS UTILIZING PRICING ESTABLISHED BY THE CITY OF SUNRISE'S BID NO. 25-37-03-MS "SEWER REHABILITATION & MAINTENANCE AND INFILTRATION & INFLOW REDUCTION PROGRAM" IN AN ANNUAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,500,000, PURSUANT TO SECTION 35.18(C)(5) OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

17. MOTION TO AWARD IFB # FI-26-01 "JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT" TO THE MOST RESPONSIVE/RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, GREEN FACILITY INC., IN THE ANNUAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$69,438.25, WHICH INCLUDES AN OWNER'S CONTINGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,331.25 AND AN ALLOWANCE FOR JANITORIAL SUPPLIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,794.55.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

18. MOTION TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF TEMPORARY SPEED CUSHIONS IN PINES VILLAGE: SW 6TH STREET BETWEEN SW 69TH WAY AND SW 69TH TERRACE, AND SW 6TH STREET BETWEEN SW 71ST TERRACE AND SW 71ST AVENUE.

A motion was made to approve on the Consent Agenda

- 14.** MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 31, 2026, WORKSHOP MEETING - OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT AND MARCH 31, 2026 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING.

A motion was made by Commissioner Good Jr., seconded by Vice Mayor Hernandez, to defer Item No. 14. The motion carried by the following vote:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN:

Commissioner Good read Item 14 into the record by title, which sought approval for the official minutes of the March 31, 2026, Workshop Meeting focused on the Operations and Management of the Building Department, alongside the minutes of the March 31, 2026, Regular Commission Meeting. Commissioner Good recommended that the item be deferred to the next meeting, sharing that upon reviewing the documents, he discovered that the workshop minutes were missing and instead there is a duplicate copy of the regular commission minutes that had been mistakenly uploaded in their place.

The City Clerk asked for a moment to review the attachment.

Mayor Castillo noted that the approval of the minutes is not urgent business that has to be completed during this meeting and requested that the City Clerk be given time and that the minutes be approved at a later commission meeting.

Commissioner Schwartz confirmed the error and shared that he did not see the workshop minutes online; instead, there were two sets of the regular meeting minutes.

Commissioner Good moved to defer Item fourteen to the next commission meeting.

- ADD-2** MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE GRANT ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES AND COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES OF FLORIDA INC. (CRAFLA INC.) TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT TO AUGUST 31, 2026

A motion was made by Commissioner Good Jr., seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to approve Item Add-2 as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Good Jr., seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to amend Add-2 and only extend the agreement until June 17, 2026. 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:

Commissioner Good read Add-2 into the record by title, which proposed a fourth amendment to the grant administration agreement between the City of Pembroke Pines and Community Redevelopment Associates of Florida, Inc., to extend the termination date of the current agreement to August 31, 2026.

The item was seconded by Vice Mayor Hernandez.

Commissioner Good requested that the administration explain what changes there are in the contract, noting that the city has used this specific contractor for a long time.

Assistant City Manager Mike Stamm shared that the changes were noted in the Monday memo and are very subtle. The assistant city manager shared that the vendor has been in place for many years, and the city analyzed how the vendor bills the city, and the city proposed some revisions to the billing. Assistant City Manager Stamm shared that he plans to bring the item back in June, as the contract was set to expire May 30th as the contract and all its details have passed through the procurement process. The assistant city manager shared that they were looking at the billing, and the revisions to the billing are to ensure that the city has funds available.

Commissioner Good questioned Assistant City Manager Mark Gomes regarding the city's standard Request for Qualifications (RFQ) procurement protocols. Commissioner Good asked whether a sample or copy of the proposed contract is included when an RFQ is published.

Assistant City Manager Mark Gomes confirmed that the city typically includes contract templates as exhibits within the RFQ package. Assistant City Manager Gomes noted that certain contracts go through further revision and negotiation upon award.

Commissioner Good questioned whether the contract that was provided in the RFQ was adjusted or if the agreement was adjusted after the commission accepted the recommendation of the RFQ.

Assistant City Manager Gomes explained that he does not believe that the payment provisions Mr. Stamm mentioned were included in the draft included in the RFQ.

Commissioner Good noted that the contractor has been doing business with the city for a long time, and yet the administration is changing the contract, explaining that he interprets a subtle change to mean less than a page's worth of changes.

Assistant City Manager Stamm explained that he wants to be able to bring the proposal back to the commission and coordinate with the vendor. The assistant city manager shared that there have been instances where the vendor has billed through the end of the contract, creating funding friction because SHIP and CDBG operate on entirely separate fiscal calendar cycles. Assistant City Manager Stamm shared that this is necessary to ensure that the city remains in good financial standing. The assistant city manager shared that his department is now in charge of it and has designated a housing specialist to work with the vendor. Assistant City Manager Stamm emphasized that his department is working against a deadline, as the procurement process took longer than is typical. Assistant City Manager Stamm explained that the contract is unique as the city does not get the bidders that it has historically.

Commissioner Good explained that he is not questioning whether the contractor can do the job; he is focused on the process, noting that the contract expired and the city gave an 180-day extension. Commissioner Good shared that there is a subtle change to the document, and it makes sense to review it, and questioned the 90-day extension to August 31st, arguing that if the city gives the administration until late August, the item will inevitably be delayed over the summer recess.

Assistant City Manager Stamm replied that the contract does not expire until May 30th, sharing that the plan is to bring the item back to the commission in June. Assistant City Manager Stamm noted that the Commission meets again on June 3rd, explaining that the contract would have expired.

Commissioner Good responded that he is not opposed to granting an extension but shared that he is opposed to granting a 90-day extension, meaning that the item might not be seen by the Commission during June. Commissioner Good explained that he has no doubt the commission will see the contract before them again, but shared that he preferred that any new contract, either with the current vendor or some new vendor, start June 1st, not after August 31st. Commissioner Good explained that he opposes granting the vendor another 90 days.

Mayor Castillo asked if Assistant City Manager Stamm truly needed ninety days.

Assistant City Manager Stamm responded that a 90-day extension window is not necessary and explained that it was selected because of the break, noting he had no objection to a shorter extension. Assistant City Manager Stamm noted that the item could come back on June 30th, June 17th, or even the next commission meeting.

Mayor Castillo asked Commissioner Good if he was fine with moving the item to June 17th.

QUASI JUDICIAL CONSENT AGENDA:

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

RESOLUTIONS:

19. MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2026-R-08.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2026-R-08 IS A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES, FLORIDA APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AGREEMENT WITH THE BROWARD COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS FOR THE CITY'S SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE CONDUCTED ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COUNTY-WIDE GENERAL ELECTION; DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION AND THE EXECUTED MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AGREEMENT TO THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Hernandez, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to adopt Proposed Resolution No. 2026-R-08. 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: 3947

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN:

City Attorney Goren read Proposed Resolution Number 2026 R-08, into the record. City Attorney Goren explained that the resolution authorizes the execution of a municipal elections agreement with the Broward County Supervisor of Elections to govern the administration of a Special Municipal Election for the City of Pembroke Pines, to be conducted on November 3, 2026, in conjunction with the countywide general election. City Attorney Goren detailed that the resolution directs the City Clerk to transmit executed copies of the resolution and the executed municipal elections agreement to the supervisor of elections and provides for standard severability and effective dates. The item was formally moved by Vice Mayor Hernandez and seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez.

Vice Mayor Hernandez commended the City Commission and administration, noting that although he was an English and Political Science major rather than a mathematician, he used ChatGPT to review the costs of the agreement. The vice mayor revealed that the original estimated cost projected by the supervisor of elections was \$345,000, whereas the current cost is \$92,742. The vice mayor explained that this is a reduction of \$252,258, which is a 73% decrease. Vice Mayor Hernandez revealed that he sent a message to Broward County Supervisor of Elections Joe Scott, thanking him for personally appearing virtually at the prior commission meeting while traveling out of state to negotiate these costs. Vice Mayor Hernandez praised the city for working on the matter collaboratively.

Commissioner Rodriguez raised a question on the timeline and asked what limitations the city has regarding communications once the resolution is placed on the ballot.

Mayor Castillo requested that the City Attorney answer the question.

City Attorney Goren noted that at the moment there are no items on the ballot, but there are three potential ballot items that the commission has discussed. The city attorney noted that two of those three are ordinances that the city has passed on the first reading, including a charter amendment ordinance shifting city elections from March to November, and a charter amendment ordinance lowering the voting threshold required to hire or fire a City Manager or Acting City Manager from a four-fifths to a simple three-fifths majority. The city attorney noted that these ordinances have not yet been considered for a second reading.

City Attorney Goren explained that the third item is a public safety bond resolution for the new Police and Fire Public Safety Complex. City Attorney Goren explained that it is a resolution, not an ordinance; therefore, it is a one-time read and would be placed on the ballot. The city attorney explained that under Florida law, there are severe regulations and controls. City Attorney Goren explained that while the law permits purely objective public education, advocacy is not allowed, so educational content must be carefully crafted. The city attorney noted that the legislature changed the statute to put severe prohibitions on the expenditures of public monies years ago.

The city attorney reminded the Commission that during their recent workshops, he and his team advised a strategy of deferral. The city attorney explained that by deferring the second reading of the ordinances and the final vote on the bond resolution, no active ballot question technically exists in the eyes of the state.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked if that vote is an ordinance and will be taken later, whereas this is just the resolution for it.

City Attorney Goren confirmed that this is the resolution and clarified that if the commission adopted the ordinances today and the bond resolution, the restrictions apply, as now there are items that will be on the ballot. The city attorney detailed that at a prior public meeting, Supervisor Joe Scott explicitly established on the record that August 18, 2026, is the due date for his office to receive the ballot language for printing. The city attorney shared that if the commission were to have a second reading on the two ordinances and a final review of the resolution on August 5, there is sufficient time to submit them to the Supervisor before August 18, sharing that the delay gives the commission more opportunity to educate and inform residents.

Commissioner Rodriguez thanked the city attorney for the information and explained that his clarification made sense.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Castillo called for the vote.

REGULAR AGENDA:

REPORTS OF LEAGUE AND MPO REPRESENTATIVES

Commissioner Rodriguez reported that she was unable to attend the last director's meeting due to travel, but noted that Commissioner Good was in attendance. Commissioner Rodriguez shifted focus to her role as a council member for the South Florida Regional Planning Council, sharing information regarding data centers. Commissioner Rodriguez noted that most ordinances and regulations governing these facilities fall under county jurisdiction, revealing that Broward County Commissioner Steve Geller is working on ordinances and resolutions regarding data centers.

Commissioner Rodriguez explained that she is currently tracking how these regulations might impact Pembroke Pines, urging the city to support the county, should it choose to act on the issue. Commissioner Rodriguez emphasized that while Florida Power & Light has issued briefs regarding electrical power limitations, the water usage is within city limits. Commissioner Rodriguez noted that City Attorney Goren was also present at the meeting and confirmed they would look into the matter further to keep it on the commission's radar.

Mayor Castillo shared that the Florida League of Cities 69th Annual Event will be held on May 30th, 2026, at a hotel in Hollywood Beach.

Mayor Castillo shared insights he gained while attending the winter meeting of the United States Conference of Mayors. The mayor reported that cities across America are actively building data centers, as they are essential to support Artificial Intelligence technology. Mayor Castillo revealed that these centers generate massive streams of city revenue, suggesting that Pembroke Pines should consider exploring this space. Mayor Castillo pointed out that a data center is perfectly suited for installation at a vacant school building, noting it is not unusual for a local government to own a data center facility and lease the interior space back to the private sector. The mayor stated that the concept is certainly worth looking into.

Commissioner Good delivered the report for the Broward League of Cities Board of Directors meeting. Commissioner Good noted that the session was uneventful as it marked the final meeting of outgoing President Denise Horland, a council member from the City of Plantation, with the league spending time honoring her service. Commissioner Good added that the league also took time to memorialize Vice Mayor Nancy Metayer of Coral Springs. Commissioner Good distributed a set of surtax documents across the dais to his colleagues.

Commissioner Good explained that these documents provide a

description and mapping of every surtax project currently active within the MPO cities, as well as their associated costs. Commissioner Good requested that City Manager Dodge post the documents on the city's website, noting that it is an excellent way to show constituents that some surtax dollars are being spent in the city.

Commissioner Good shared information regarding the Broward Transportation Surtax projects. Commissioner Good passed a document across the dais showing a map and a description of all surtax projects going on in their cities, along with their associated costs. Commissioner Good requested that City Manager Dodge put this on the city website to share it with people and let folks know that some of the surtax dollars are being spent here in the city.

Commissioner Good reported that a question was brought forward by the City of Pembroke Pines regarding the process that cities can follow in order to be able to ask for additional dollars for surtax projects that were initiated a long time ago. Commissioner Good explained that these were funded at those levels before experiencing two waves of inflationary events, specifically mentioning COVID-19 and then supply chain disruptions. Commissioner Good noted that eight years later, the city has a shortfall today because of those inflationary measures.

Commissioner Good explained that, through a long discussion, it essentially came down to the fact that the city would have to amend the interlocal agreement that they currently have. Commissioner Good noted that, going forward, should cities agree and the county be in agreement as well, there may be an opportunity to amend the interlocal agreement in such a way that all projects that are underfunded should be able to be brought to a funded level. Commissioner Good acknowledged that the interlocal agreement process is arduous, but noted that it is the identified process. Commissioner Good shared that this was Director Gretchen Cassini's last presentation because she is leaving Broward County and there will be a new surtax director.

Commissioner Good stated that this is good information to share with constituents and hoped there is a way to find a secondary source of funding, noting that the city is working through some of that right now with some of its projects.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked Commissioner Good if the document or presentation addressed the Panther Run Elementary School zones for the funding years 2019 to 2026.

Commissioner Good clarified that none of the projects were talked about

in any kind of detail, as it was just a presentation about the surtax and the projects everyone is doing. Commissioner Good noted that the school board representative was present but did not have an opportunity to speak on anything and could only hear the presentation.

Commissioner Rodriguez suggested mentioning it to their school board representative to bring it up at the next meeting, noting that they should highlight that in the redefining process, they eliminate some of those schools or some of these programs because the schools are being shut down.

Commissioner Good shared an invitation and announced that the University Drive project celebration would take place on May 27 at the Pembroke Pines City Hall. Commissioner Good explained that this event falls under "Built for Broward Week," which is an MPO initiative running from May 25th through May 29th, immediately following National Infrastructure Week. Commissioner Good explained that they created a separate week because Broward Transportation deserves its own spotlight, separate from all other infrastructure issues.

Commissioner Good shared that each day of the week, the MPO will highlight one transportation project from one of the five Broward MPO districts, of which Pembroke Pines is part of one, to showcase different stages of construction.

Commissioner Good stated that the University Drive event is the signature moment for the week and is hosted under the theme "Built for Regional Mobility." Commissioner Good explained that University Drive serves commuters, businesses, schools, and neighborhoods across a wide stretch of central Broward. Commissioner Good detailed that the program will host the official celebration of the construction starting on the University Drive roadway improvement projects, beginning at 10:30 AM at City Hall. Commissioner Good detailed that the program will feature remarks from speakers who represent different agencies as well as partners who make the project possible.

Commissioner Good explained that the presentation will feature project drawings, photographs, and 3D renderings of the completed corridor, offering a preview of what University Drive will look like when construction finishes in 2030. Commissioner Good commended Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz for her major contributions to the project, noting that out of the total \$43 million project cost, she sourced \$5 million dollars in federal community project funding, which assisted in making the project possible. Commissioner Good reiterated that Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz's commitment to Pembroke

Pines helped the city reach this accomplishment.

Commissioner Good explained that the project runs from Pembroke Road to the north of Johnson Street and touches nearly every dimension of the corridor, including safety, mobility, lighting, drainage, and multimodal access. Commissioner Good shared that Northbound University Drive will get a dedicated seven-foot bike lane from Pembroke Road to Pines Boulevard and that from Pines Boulevard to Northwest 13th Street, the corridor will get a new ten-foot shared-use separate path to give both pedestrians and cyclists a continuous, connected route along one of the city's busiest roads.

Commissioner Good explained that the project will also upgrade the traffic signals at Airport Road, French Drive, and Johnson Street to modern mast-arm signals, and street lighting throughout the corridor will be converted to LED to improve safety both day and night. Commissioner Good shared that long-term infrastructure resiliency will be addressed by way of drainage improvements and canal cross-section restorations, rather than just surface-level fixes. Commissioner Good detailed that sidewalks, curb ramps, signage, and pavement markings will all be upgraded through the project limits with the objective of making the corridor accessible and usable for everyone. Commissioner Good estimated that the project should be completed by Fall 2029.

Commissioner Good communicated that construction is going to begin either at the end of the month or at the end of the next month, and requested that the invitation be placed on the website so that the public knows that they can attend the celebration at City Hall.

REPORTS OF THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

City Manager Dodge announced that the commissioners would receive an email tomorrow with the dates, times, and locations of the town hall meetings. City Manager Dodge shared the schedule, noting that District 2 would meet on June 1st at 6:30 PM at the Southwest Focal Point Community Center, and District 1 would meet on June 2nd at 6:30 PM in the Commission Chambers.

City Manager Dodge continued that the District 3 meeting would be on June 8th at 6:30 PM at the New Dream Park, and the District 4 meeting on June 10th at 6:30 PM at the River of Grass Theater. The city manager explained that a date has been established for Century Village on June 11th at 10:00 AM, and Colony Point is scheduled for May 28th at 10:00 AM. City Manager Dodge noted that the administration is still awaiting a commitment from Hollybrook and Park Place for their respective dates and times, but expected the entire town hall schedule to be completed by the middle of June. The city manager explained that he would provide a copy of the presentation ahead of time so the commissioners would know what to expect and that they would discuss the referendum questions and the bond referendum for public safety.

Commissioner Schwartz asked City Manager Dodge if he believed a ten-day notification window published over the Memorial Day weekend would give residents enough time.

City Manager Dodge responded that publishing the dates tomorrow, on May 21st, provides 10 days before the June 1st and June 2nd meetings, describing it as ample time. The city manager explained that they would publish them on social media, on the city website, and send direct emails to the people whose addresses are on file.

Commissioner Schwartz asked if the city would make use of the HOA red alert system.

City Manager Dodge clarified that the city is moving away from that toward an Everbridge system, noting that unless a resident registers for it, they will not get the alerts. The city manager confirmed that the information would go onto the seven digital signs throughout the city tomorrow. City Manager Dodge agreed with Mayor Castillo and explained that the city would display sandwich boards out in the districts before their respective meetings.

Commissioner Rodriguez raised a comment regarding the May 28th meeting scheduled at Colony Point. Commissioner Rodriguez explained

that she conducts monthly meetings at Colony Point on the fourth Thursday of the month, which matches that exact date. Commissioner Rodriguez noted that she spoke directly with Joan, who organizes the events, and was told she was unavailable, which forced Commissioner Rodriguez to cancel her own May 28th meeting. Commissioner Rodriguez questioned who coordinated the 10:00 AM time slot and whether a morning meeting was ideal for seniors, even if they are retired.

City Manager Dodge stated that the administration will follow up with whoever they spoke with.

Commissioner Rodriguez emphasized that because this is a shorter time span, the city should look into using public voter registration data from the Supervisor of Elections to notify residents on a more individual basis via email or text message. Commissioner Rodriguez noted that if the city is unable to do so, she will explore options to do so individually, emphasizing that she wants as much resident participation as possible. Commissioner Rodriguez noted that she does not believe that seven days' notice is sufficient, as many seniors still work.

City Manager Dodge responded that he understands what Commissioner Rodriguez is saying and clarified that these meetings are only the initial meetings, and the city will confirm with Colony Point once more. The city manager shared that he is not sure who staff coordinated with at Colony Point but explained that administration would move the meeting date if necessary. The city manager explained that he would like to first establish a schedule and then modify it if the need arises.

Commissioner Rodriguez stressed that for future reference, the notice time was too short and that there needs to be between 15 and 20 days of notice.

Commissioner Schwartz questioned why the town hall schedule was being heavily front-loaded into the beginning of June instead of utilizing the month of July.

Mayor Castillo responded that the city had originally hoped to have all the town halls in late May, but the timeline was pushed back because the administration faced frustrations waiting for a series of meetings to share information. Mayor Castillo explained that the city is on a strict timeline, as there is an August 18th deadline to submit information. Mayor Castillo noted that attendance during the month of July is exceptionally difficult because many people, including the commissioners, travel out of town. The mayor explained that the administration indicated June was the timeframe to get it done, and he

offered to duplicate meetings later in June if districts require them. The mayor explained that if it is possible to get the information out more effectively, it may be worth it, even if it costs money.

Mayor Castillo emphasized that it is important to disseminate the information now, before the passage on second reading, the public will only have access to the information that was previously published. The mayor asked the Commissioners to cooperate in the case that meetings have to be rescheduled in order to make sure that the information reaches residents.

The city manager communicated that the Supervisor of Elections is already sending out emails tomorrow to approximately 48,000 registered voters within the city, which is why it was critical to announce the dates this evening.

Commissioner Good explained that community groups such as HOAs have extensive email listings and suggested that those community groups and HOAs send out the information.

The city manager responded that if the members of those groups are not a part of the 48,000 listed by the Supervisor of Elections (SOE), then they are not registered voters.

Mayor Castillo responded that what the city manager said may not be the case and that not every registered voter gives the SOE their email. The mayor explained that if the HOAs and various associations wish to share their contact lists, he welcomes that.

Commissioner Good requested clarification on whether District 1's meeting will be on June 2nd.

The city manager confirmed that June 2nd is the correct date.

Commissioner Good responded that he would be out of town on that date, but shared that he was not opposed to moving forward. Commissioner Good shared that some residents will be at the meeting, but most of the discussion will come from the sharing of the information received at the meeting.

City Manager Dodge added that the June 2nd meeting would be live-streamed and available to replay, and the identical presentation would be posted on the website so residents can look at it remotely at any time.

Commissioner Rodriguez clarified that even when the item is placed on the ballot, the city is still able to communicate, although it is limited in what it can say. Commissioner Rodriguez explained that last year, at the bond town halls, they were able to communicate the facts up until election day. Commissioner Rodriguez emphasized that past the August deadline, they are still able to, and should continue to, inform residents.

Mayor Castillo responded that he understands what Commissioner Rodriguez is saying and that the commission will have that conversation.

Commissioner Schwartz explained that commissioners had been asked in the last two or three days to schedule individual meetings with the public safety building design team, and noted that an item regarding the project was scheduled for the June 3rd commission meeting. Commissioner Schwartz explained that the commission, as a collective group, needs to decide on the record.

Mayor Castillo responded that he is not aware of anything planned for June 3rd.

City Manager Dodge explained that they discussed that at the June 3rd Commission meeting, the architects would share details on the public safety project. The city manager explained that the individual meetings were meant to provide additional time to ask questions and become familiar with the project.

Commissioner Schwartz argued that it is improper to hold public town halls on May 28th, June 1st, and June 2nd to talk about a potential bond when the commission as a collective group will not have deliberated on it until June 3rd.

Mayor Castillo explained that the City Attorney will answer Commissioner Schwartz's concern. The mayor asked Commissioner Schwartz to share his comment at a later time.

City Manager Dodge explained that the purpose is to give information on the scope of the project, emphasizing that the commission will not be voting on it. The city manager shared that he believed the resolution was on June 17th.

City Attorney Goren explained that there's an outside date for submitting ballot referendum questions, which is August 18th, and that there is a City Commission meeting on August 5th. The city attorney shared that the commission has taken action to approve both ordinances that would change the charter on first reading, including the ordinances related to

the changing of the election date and the city manager. The city attorney shared that as part of bond resolutions, you have to inform the voters what they are voting on, sharing that the bond resolution is being finalized and that it must have a dollar figure in the question so the voters know the maximum potential bond amount for a public safety complex, which has not yet been provided.

The city attorney shared that the finance director, financial advisors, and bond counsel are working to finalize the recommendation, but expressed his belief that if the commission reviews the bond resolution on June 3rd or the 17th, but does not adopt it until August, the commission can say that the item has not been placed on the ballot yet, granting the commission more flexibility.

Mayor Castillo shared that this situation is different from the ballot questions because the ballot questions allow the city to talk to residents based on the first reading. The mayor communicated that a second reading will be reserved for when the item is due, noting that when that time comes, the first reading will be complete and the city will have had an opportunity to converse with residents. The mayor stressed that the city cannot have a conversation without knowing all of the components, including the scale, cost, and details of the building. The mayor shared that it was his understanding, based on conversations with the city attorney, that they would first pursue the approval of a draft resolution signaling the intent of the city to deliberate on an actual resolution.

The mayor asked the city attorney if there were any legal issues with pursuing a draft resolution before the town hall meetings.

City Attorney Goren shared that there are no issues as long as it is not approved in its final form.

Mayor Castillo asked the city manager if the administration is able to provide the city attorney with a number before the first town hall.

City Manager Dodge explained that he would be able to provide the number and that he could provide it that evening as well.

Mayor Castillo shared that if the commission did not object, he did not mind calling a special meeting for the purpose of reviewing a draft resolution with the complete information before they begin the town halls.

Commissioner Schwartz shared that he is unavailable next week and that he would not be able to sit down with the architect until June 1st.

Mayor Castillo explained that Commissioner Schwartz would need to move around his schedule and questioned whether he would even be available to call in.

Commissioner Schwartz commented that the city rushed through a bond initiative that failed a year ago.

Mayor Castillo asked Commissioner Schwartz to stop speaking, and as the mayor, requested that he rearrange his schedule to allow the business of the city government to proceed. The mayor instructed Commissioner Schwartz to figure it out, explaining that he did not want to hear that the commissioner would not be available for multiple weeks.

Commissioner Schwartz responded that he was only following the explicit scheduling instructions he was given by administrative staff. Commissioner Schwartz communicated that City Manager Dodge had stated minutes earlier that the upcoming presentations would focus on design and would feature no costs, yet the administration was now discussing providing a cost component to residents.

City Manager Dodge clarified that he could present a cost tonight, explaining that three different options could be presented this evening.

Mayor Castillo asserted that this is not on the agenda and therefore was not fair to ask. The mayor communicated that it should be an agenda item that is addressed at the next commission meeting or during the special meeting. The mayor reiterated that it is his intent to call a special meeting to discuss the bond matter and asked that the commissioners be flexible and do what they must to be available for the special meeting.

Commissioner Rodriguez shared that she was available for the special meeting and requested clarification as the 25th is Memorial Day and the first meeting is on the 28th of May. Commissioner Rodriguez asked if the intention is to call a special meeting on the 26th or the 27th.

Commissioner Schwartz explained that the point Commissioner Rodriguez shared was what he was trying to articulate, as there are only three days that a special meeting could be held at this point. Commissioner Schwartz asked if the meetings on the 28th, the 1st, and the 2nd could be moved to provide more time for residents.

Mayor Castillo shared that he has no objections to that.

The city manager explained that the issue is that the administration is prepared to give the proper notice and send out at least 44,000 emails

tomorrow to residents. City manager Dodge shared that changing the dates adds a delay to the schedule, sharing that if the dates keep changing, they will be unable to send anything out tomorrow, as it will confuse residents.

Mayor Castillo explained that he is certain that by May 28th, there will be sufficient information and that he is willing to modify an existing date if need be. The mayor emphasized that the city should just proceed and fix what needs to be fixed if the need arises.

City Attorney Goren communicated that the commission wishes to bring a draft resolution that can be brought on the 3rd or the 17th of June.

Mayor Castillo responded that he would prepare to do it sometime early next week, such as Monday or Tuesday.

City Attorney Goren shared that his office will coordinate with the finance director, financial advisors, and bond counsel and that he has a draft of the document in his hands. The city attorney requested that the city attorney provide him with an amount that he can insert into the document to complete the draft.

COMMISSION ITEMS:

ADD-1 MAYOR ITEM - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO REPLACE THE PEMBROKE LAKES COMMUNITY SIGN AT FLAMINGO AND TAFT.

The Commission agreed by Consensus to have the City Manager bring back an item at a future meeting with options for how to replace the sign.

Mayor Castillo passed the gavel to Vice Mayor Hernandez. Mayor Castillo commented that Pembroke Lakes represents one of Pembroke Pines' foundational communities in the city. The mayor shared that, as far as he knows, the community has always been a deed-restricted community, explaining that he is not sure if the deeds apply or if the association can enforce them, noting the community association has since disbanded due to missed deadlines in Tallahassee. Mayor Castillo noted that the community erected neighborhood signs, including one at Taft Street near Flamingo Road that was struck and destroyed.

The mayor explained that he received an email from a resident who is a respected member of the Pembroke Pines Police Department asking the city to replace the sign. Mayor Castillo communicated that he completely agrees that the sign should be replaced, noting that he is unsure if it should be paid for by city funds or through the "We Love Pembroke Pines" Foundation. Mayor Castillo asked the City Manager to evaluate the project and return to the next meeting with a plan, noting his personal preference that the replacement marker look comparable to the original, and explained that if it is no longer a deed-restricted community, that portion of the text should be removed.

Mayor Castillo reiterated that the community association is no longer in existence as it expired and was not renewed, noting that nothing can be done about it. The mayor expressed that there's no mechanism by which residents can do the sign on their own and shared that he believes they will welcome their city assisting them in restoring the sign.

The vice mayor shared that he and the city manager communicated that a deed-restricted community does not have to be present on the sign. The vice mayor detailed that as the community is no longer deed-restricted, it would need to be removed.

Commissioner Schwartz shared that the accident happened some time ago and that he had been working directly with community members to pursue reimbursement from the driver who damaged the sign. Commissioner Schwartz explained that the effort to get the insurance company to cover the reconstruction ran into a challenge because the organization no longer exists. Commissioner Schwartz shared that he does have quotes that have been provided to him, sharing that he is comfortable using his own funds to help repair the sign.

Commissioner Schwartz communicated that the We Love Pembroke Pines foundation is ripe for consideration and would be the best path

forward. Commissioner Schwartz reminded the commission that under the Streetscape 2.0 initiative, the city made a commitment to install neighborhood identification signage for communities, specifically Pembroke Lakes, Westview, Sunswept, and Pines Village. Commissioner Schwartz explained that funding for Streetscape 2.0 was subsequently shifted, used elsewhere, and ultimately COVID-19 used the remainder. Commissioner Schwartz suggested that since public dollars are no longer available, the foundation should step up to fulfill those past neighborhood signage commitments across all those communities.

Vice Mayor Hernandez questioned if Commissioner Schwartz had quotes and asked if he would be sharing those tonight.

Commissioner Schwartz explained that he had quotes that he received a few days prior and communicated that he and the residents of Pembroke Lakes have been working on a solution to the problem. Commissioner Schwartz shared his appreciation with the Mayor for putting this item on the agenda. Commissioner Schwartz explained that in the past, he supported an overlay district that would have protected the community with code enforcement, noting that the measure did not succeed. Commissioner Schwartz reiterated that the residents are requesting neighborhood identification, noting that he has the contact information of the wife of the original designer of the sign.

Commissioner Schwartz shared that he is happy to help and collaborate with the administration to resolve this problem. Commissioner Schwartz shared that his concern is leaving out other communities that do not have HOAs, including Pines Village, Sunswept, Boulevard Heights, and West View.

City Manager Dodge stated that this was the first time these corporate quotes or neighborhood sign plans were being communicated to him, noting that no one had spoken to him or shared the documentation with his office.

Commissioner Schwartz responded that he is happy to share what he has and work collaboratively with the city manager.

City Manager Dodge shared that if Commissioner Schwartz is working with staff, he'd rather the communications and plans go through him.

Commissioner Schwartz shared that he is happy to forward the information, noting that City Manager Dodge does not seem to be hearing him correctly. Commissioner Schwartz explained that he would send the information quickly so that City Manager Dodge could have an

opportunity to review it.

City Manager Dodge questioned whether Commissioner Schwartz had already provided the information to staff.

Commissioner Schwartz responded that he has not provided that information to staff yet. Commissioner Schwartz explained that he has the residents' information, as he initially planned to do a GoFundMe and contribute his own funds, noting that some bidding was done.

The city manager informed Commissioner Schwartz that he could give him the price if Commissioner Schwartz wished to pay for it out of pocket.

Commissioner Schwartz reiterated that he would send the city manager the information and let him decide what to do with it. Commissioner Schwartz explained that the project is within the city manager's purchasing ability without getting the commission's approval. Commissioner Schwartz communicated that he does not know how the foundation will work, but expressed that he would like to have a discussion to decide that.

City Manager Dodge responded that the "We Love Pembroke Pines" Foundation operates as an independent board completely separate from the city administration, meaning they must vote on how to expend those funds and establish its structure.

Commissioner Schwartz shared that he likes the idea of the foundation doing a project like this one.

Mayor Castillo clarified that he placed this single item on the agenda in direct response to a resident's email. The mayor shared that he was seeking consensus to direct the city manager to review the project and figure out the best course of action. Mayor Castillo shared that he supports any commissioner making a contribution to the project if they wish to. Mayor Castillo explained that if the manager finds funds from the previous bond issue, the last commission made decisions on how those funds would be used. Mayor Castillo clarified that other communities are not related to his item and that another commissioner could bring it back if they would like further discussion on those communities.

Mayor Castillo asserted that he is only here to talk about the Pembroke Lakes sign, sharing that he does not want it to get confused with other items. The mayor shared that he believed that the sign was removed to be repainted and was informed it was broken.

Commissioner Rodriguez voiced support for replacing the sign immediately but requested that any new design align with a modern, unified city branding scheme. Commissioner Rodriguez explained that under Item 11 of tonight's consent agenda, the city authorized a comprehensive park signage replacement contract. Commissioner Rodriguez argued that community entrance signs should be brought into the fold of a larger brand vision, making use of coordinated design and materials to ensure a standard city image.

Commissioner Good asked for clarification regarding who owns the property where the sign stood.

Commissioner Schwartz responded that the sign sat directly on a swale on Taft Street on Pembroke Pines property. Commissioner Schwartz noted that for years, there were volunteers who would paint and beautify the neighborhood at their expense. Commissioner Schwartz reintroduced the issue and explained that there is a solution available to the commission, sharing that he sent the city manager the quote that he was provided.

Commissioner Good noted that since the sign sat on city property, the HOA is no longer in existence, noting that typically the HOA would handle its maintenance. Commissioner Good asked what the city did regarding its maintenance.

City Manager Dodge responded that the sign is in the public right of way, but the city paid for it, and it belongs to the city.

Commissioner Good noted that if the sign is in the city's right of way and it is the city's property, then it is a city issue.

City Manager Dodge explained that he is not sure how much responsibility the HOA will assume.

Commissioner Good explained that perhaps the city attorney could go after the insurance company as it is damaging to the city's property. Commissioner Good expressed his support for the item and commented that Commissioner Rodriguez's statements are a part of a much larger conversation. Commissioner Good reiterated his support of the restoration as a city project, noting that it likely means a lot to the members of the community.

Commissioner Schwartz explained that when he first started coming to the city in 1987, he believed the city was Pembroke Lakes due to the

sign. Commissioner Schwartz explained that the destruction of the sign means something to the people who have lived here for a long time.

Mayor Castillo reiterated that his request is for consensus to direct the city manager to return to the commission with an item.

Commissioner Good questioned why, if the issue is related to standard city maintenance, the item has to come back to the commission.

The city manager agreed that the item was within the city's purchasing threshold, meaning a purchase order can be executed without waiting for formal commission approval. The city manager explained that what would come back is related to the foundation and a foundational meeting related to expenditures.

Commissioner Good explained that as this is a city project and city property, he views it as a maintenance issue.

The city manager explained that the signage is designed, and if they would like to maintain uniformity throughout the entire community, then the particular sign's design should be used.

Commissioner Good agreed with the city manager and noted that branding is another, larger conversation. Commissioner Good shared that he's had a similar issue with someone crashing into a city sign in his district, and although it took some time, it was ultimately repaired.

Mayor Castillo noted that to him, this is more of a historic issue than any other type of issue.

City Manager Dodge explained that the city contributed to getting the project done for the village area, as the community does not have an HOA.

Commissioner Good explained that in his districts, there are many such cases of communities without HOAs but still have signs in the public right of way. Commissioner Good gave his support.

Mayor Castillo adjourned the meeting.

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 - 9:05 P.M.

CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES

Gabriel Fernandez
City Clerk