

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale held June 1, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of City Hall, after having been properly advertised, with the following members present: Mayor Alex Cam, Vice Mayor Jordan Helms, Commissioners: Sean Levy and Crystal Tijerina. Commissioner Travis Avery was absent. Also, present were: City Manager Jeffrey Brown, City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr., City Clerk Brandon Henry, and Police Chief Terry Storie.

Mayor Alex Cam declared a quorum present, and the Meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Jerry Smith, Berea Baptist Church, and a salute to the flag.

**Motion** by Vice Mayor Helms, seconded by Commissioner Levy, to approve Minutes of the City Commission Meeting of May 18, 2026. Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Jeff Brown announced that the City received the \$1,000 donation from the Tuesday Thursday Pickleball Group, with the request that \$500 be applied to the Children's Library, and the remaining \$500 be applied to the Fire Department's Children Fire Safety Protection Program – a thank you letter was sent to the group. A document was left on the Commissioners' desks regarding the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference. The City is monitoring the status of property tax legislation. He said he left a book on the Commissioners' desks written by Dr. Brooks Williams.

Commissioner Tijerina said she really enjoyed the City staff update. She encouraged the public to read it. Where can the public get a copy?

City Manager Brown said physical copies are available at the City Library and the Municipal Services Building. It is also available online.

Commissioner Tijerina said she thought it was very well put together, she really appreciated it. A lot of the public can learn about what the City does and what their tax dollars pay for. We should distribute this report and get it out there. She would highly recommend people read it. She was impressed with everything that she read.

Mayor Cam concurred. He thanked Communications Manager Josh Starr for a job well done.

Mayor Cam asked if there was public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no public comment.

## **1. PRESENTATION OF LAKE MYRTLE SPORTS PARK PROJECTS**

City Manager Brown said on September 17, 2024, the City Commission approved an Interlocal Agreement with Polk County for Tourist Development Tax funding for design and development/construction of new facilities at the Lake Myrtle Sports Park. The Interlocal Agreement pledged a portion of the Tourist Development Tax and City funding to complete various projects. The County made a single payment of \$3,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the City planned to finance \$15,000,000 over the following three years to design and construct the following proposed improvements:

- New Bathrooms for Soccer Fields 1-3 and 7-10
- Soccer Stadium Fencing
- Design and Construction of improvements to the Championship Water Sports Lake
- Design and Construction of three Multi-purpose (Football/Soccer) fields
- Relocation of onsite residence and maintenance shop
- Design and Construction of Baseball Stadium
- Design of Softball Fields

- Design and Construction of Artificial Turf Fields at the Auburndale Softball Complex

Parks and Recreation Director Cody McGhee provided an update on Lake Myrtle Sports Park projects.

Commissioner Levy asked how long do we project to be in this initial Phase 1?

Parks and Recreation Director McGhee said we are 90% done with design of the softball and football fields. Staff conversations indicate that we try to go to bid sometime this summer or August – and potentially at the same time go to bid for design and construction of the baseball stadium, to make it more of a consecutive effort and tie in with event schedules. The obligation in the agreement is either 2030 or 2029 to be done with the projects. We are on pretty good par on getting those done. The outlier would be artificial turf at softball, which is not a hot topic for Central Florida Sports, but is something we are obligated to provide but will be a benefit for the City maintenance-wise, as well as for events.

Commissioner Tijerina asked if the new restrooms will alleviate the need for portable restrooms?

Parks and Recreation Director McGhee answered yes, with the exception of larger events. He provided additional details regarding the new restrooms.

## **2. PRESENTATION OF CAPITAL OUTLAY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 AND FISCAL YEAR 2028 ANNUAL BUDGETS**

City Manager Brown said in preparation of the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 and Fiscal Year 2028 Annual Budgets, Department Directors were requested to revisit all the Capital projects previously approved by the City Commission in the second-year budget (Fiscal Year 2027) and the 5-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). This helps to determine if the equipment or improvements are still needed, could be delayed, if pricing has increased/decreased, and/or has a funding source. The proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Capital Outlay section reflects expenditures of \$54,887,930. Fiscal Year 2028 includes Capital Outlay projects totaling \$43,129,958.

City Manager Brown summarized the biennial budget approval process.

City Manager Brown presented and summarized improvements included in the proposed Capital Outlay section, including:

### Fiscal Year 2027

#### Public Utility Department Capital Outlay:

- Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Design & Engineering = \$3,325,000
- Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Construction = \$10,026,000
- Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance & Rehab = \$2,646,000
- Regional Master Lift Station Upgrades = \$2,550,000
- Hwy 542 Water Main Extension = \$2,000,000
- Allred Centrifuge = \$900,000 (new project)
- Allred 24" Gravity Sewer Main = \$500,000
- Utility System Rehabilitation = \$500,000

#### General Fund:

- Lake Myrtle Football & Softball Improvements = \$10,000,000

- . Fire Station # 2 Construction = \$6,000,000
- . Public Works Building Design & Construction \$1,880,000
- . Purchase Various Vehicles for Police Dept. (10 New) = \$714,770
- . Reserve for Street Resurfacing = \$500,000

Fiscal Year 2028

Public Utility Department Capital Outlay:

- . Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Construction = \$16,501,000
- . Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance & Rehab = \$4,267,000
- . Effluent Storage & Transmission Construction = \$3,231,000
- . New Water Main to Winona Water Plant = \$1,500,000
- . Utility System Rehabilitation = \$500,000
- . Crane (Equipment) = \$280,000

General Fund:

- . Baseball Stadium Design & Construction = \$5,000,000
- . Fire Station #2 Construction = \$3,000,000
- . Cemetery Property Acquisition = \$1,000,000
- . Street Resurfacing = \$1,000,000
- . North Auburndale Park Design = \$500,000
- . Garbage Truck = \$330,000
- . Street Sweeper = \$325,000

Mayor Cam asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

**Motion** by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Levy, to tentatively approve the Capital Outlay sections of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 and Fiscal Year 2028 Budgets.

Mayor Cam thanked City Manager Brown and staff.

Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Brown said that for the next four meetings, we will be going through the budget. Our next one will be the Revenue Section, but he may switch that with the Expenses Section given recent developments regarding property tax legislation in Tallahassee. He summarized the budget presentation schedule.

City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr. asked for clarification on the schedule.

City Manager Brown clarified the schedule.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are true and correct.



---

Brandon Henry, City Clerk