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HIGH SPRINGS
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2026 6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

ROLL CALL CITY COMMISSION:

Mayor Andrew Miller – Present
Vice Mayor Wayne Bloodsworth – Present
Commissioner Tristan Grunder – Present
Commissioner Chad Howell – Absent
Commissioner Katherine Weitz – Present

STAFF PRESENT:

Jennifer Applebee, Interim City Manager
Angela Stone, City Clerk
Kiersten Ballou, City Attorney
Jami Echeverri, Assistant City Clerk
Leslie Moyer, Finance Director
Joe Peters, Fire Chief
Ashley Mauldin, Assistant to the City Manager
Antoine Sheppard, Police Chief
Allan Alligood, Building Official
Mike Gobczynski, Interim Public Works Director

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation by:

Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approve agenda for August 27th 2026, Commission Meeting

Commissioner Grunder motioned to approve the agenda.
Commissioner Weitz seconded.
Motion Carried 4-0

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDAS:

1. **MINUTES OF JULY 30, 2026, SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING**
2. **MINUTES OF AUGUST 13, 2026, COMMISSION MEETING**
3. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2023-2024 CRA AUDIT AND CITY AUDIT**
4. **DEBT SERVICES PAYMENTS FOR WELL #3 (WATER ENTERPRISE), AMI METERING (50% WATER/50% WASTEWATER), CANOE OUTPOST (GENERAL FUND), AND BOTH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OBLIGATIONS (WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE)**
5. **PAYMENT OF CKH CONSULTING, LLC.**
6. **ADDENDUM TO THE SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS AND HOFFMAN CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE PRIEST THEATRE RENOVATION AND PRESERVATION PROJECT (GRANT NO. 24.H.SC.900.125).**

Commissioner Weitz requested a correction to the minutes of the August 13th 2026 meeting clarifying that during quasi-judicial communications disclosure she had communication with Plan Board Member, Tim Bollinger not Brad Riddle

Public Comment:

Sue Weller: discussed the amount of each invoice totaling over the City Manager's spending restrictions.

Staff Moyer clarified that while the total amount for the project was over the City Manager's spending limit each individual invoice was not and so he signed them.

Commissioner Weitz Motioned to approve the consent agenda(s) as corrected.
Commissioner Grunder Seconded
Motion carried 4-0

(E) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: NONE

(F) UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON ORDINANCE 2026-04, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE ADOPTED FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS: REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Ballou Read ordinance 2026-04 by title only.

Staff Moyer explained this was the routine second reading of the first of several budget amendments in progress.

Commissioner Weitz motioned to approve ordinance 2026-04 as read by title only on second reading.

Commissioner Grunder Seconded.

Public comment: None

Roll Call:
Mayor Andrew Miller – yes
Vice Mayor Wayne Bloodsworth – yes
Commissioner Tristan Grunder – yes
Commissioner Katherine Weitz – yes
Ordinance 2026-04 passed 4-0

DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON RESOLUTION 2026-V, A PRELIMINARY RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS STATING THE REASONS FOR THE INTENDED REMOVAL OF JEREMY MARSHALL AS CITY MANAGER PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.03 OF THE CITY CHARTER; OFFERING THE CITY MANAGER AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON THE MATTERS RAISED HEREIN; AFFIRMING THE SUSPENSION OF THE CITY MANAGER FROM DUTY WITH PAY; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE AND SERVICE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Ballou Read Resolution 2026-V by title only. She explained at the end of the last commission meeting their office was instructed to enter into good faith negotiations for Mr. Marshall's separation with the City. She explained that in a proposed separation agreement he requested his PTO payout and would resign peacefully with an agreement not to sue the City.

Commissioner Grunder believes that it is in the best interests of the citizens and community to go separate ways. He believes there is still cause for termination but in interest of concerns for litigation and further spending he supports it.

Commissioner Weitz Motioned to approve the separation agreement for Jeremy Marshall.
Commissioner Grunder seconded

Public comment:
Scott Jamison: Agreed with Commissioner Grunder that this is the best way forward for the City.
Lanier Smith: also agrees with Commissioner Grunder that there is cause but it is best for the City to be able to move on.

Roll Call:
Vice Mayor Wayne Bloodsworth – yes
Commissioner Tristan Grunder – yes
Commissioner Katherine Weitz – yes
Mayor Andrew Miller – yes
Motion Passes 4-0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

(G) CITIZEN REQUESTS AND COMMENTS – FOR ISSUES NOT ON AGENDA (PLEASE STATE NAME FOR THE RECORD – **LIMIT COMMENTS TO 5 MINUTES)**

Sue Weller: has concerns regarding the City Charter, language. She explained that during the Charter Review board there was discussion regarding language for charter amendments that removed language regarding when new commissioners are sworn in. Her request is for that sentence to be corrected in the next review.

Linda Jones: discussed her tenure as a commissioner, Mayor, and Vice Mayor. She also discussed social media and its effect on the community and citizens. She has concerns about some commissioners being held to other standards and would like to see everyone treated fairly. She commended Vice Mayor Bloodsworth for his heart and service to his community.

Burt Wetherington: invited the commission and community to an event at Turkey Creek Golf Course. He provided a flyer and business card to the Commission for information. The event has special recognition for first responders and military veterans.

Scott Jamison: discussed that the former Fire Chief is employed full time in another agency. He would like clarification on how he has time for this and if an interim being appointed instead would be appropriate.

Charley Mills: discussed Prime Conduit and his ongoing concerns with their suspected noise and environmental issues.

George Tatum: discussed his concerns about staffing at the fire department. He discussed the unfairness with some departments and staff being held to higher standards and not others. He has concerns about losing good staff and discussed a merger or partnership to protect employees.

Commissioner Response:

Commissioner Weitz asked Mr. Mills if he has reached out to Gainesville EPD for assistance. She addressed George Tatum and advised that it is a violation of charter to communicate with staff in certain manners.

(H) NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON ORDINANCE 2026-05, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Ballou Read ordinance 2026-05 by title only.

Staff Moyer advised that this is the first reading of the second budget amendment. This is an ongoing process to restore accounts to their appropriate funding departments etc.

Commissioner Weitz commended Ms. Moyer for being helpful and willing to discuss.

Commissioner Weitz motioned to approve ordinance 2026-05 as read by title only. Vice Mayor Bloodsworth Seconded.

Public comment:

Sue Weller asked for clarification on what certain line items mean. (Staff Moyer clarified that in future reports she would attempt to include account descriptions)

Roll Call:
Commissioner Tristan Grunder – yes
Commissioner Katherine Weitz – yes
Mayor Andrew Miller – yes
Vice Mayor Wayne Bloodsworth – yes
Ordinance passed 4-0

DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON RESOLUTION 2026-W, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS APPROVING THE EXTENSION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS AND WILLDAN ENGINEERING FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Ballou Read Resolution 2026-W by title only.

Commissioner Weitz motioned to approve Resolution 2026-W as read by title only. Vice Mayor Bloodsworth Seconded.

Public comment: none

Roll Call:
Commissioner Katherine Weitz – yes
Mayor Andrew Miller – yes
Vice Mayor Wayne Bloodsworth – yes
Commissioner Tristan Grunder – yes
Resolution passed 4-0

DISCUSS, CONSIDER, AND ACT ON A RESOLUTION 2026-X, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS APPROVING CHANGE ORDERS NUMBER 2 AND 3 BETWEEN THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS AND CURT'S CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR FDEP CR 236 WASTEWATER EXTENSIONS; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT ON

BEHALF OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Ballou Read Resolution 2026-X by title only.

Staff Moyer explained the need for the resolution involving change orders and that is reimbursable

Commissioner Weitz wanted to go on record that she is disappointed in the engineer and feels they were not responsive to staff.

Attorney Ballou offered an option to amend the resolution allowing staff to sign for the changes as long as it does not exceed the grant reimbursable amount.

Mayor Miller agrees it would be ideal to execute this so the process can continue without any further delays.

Vice Mayor Bloodsworth agreed with Commissioner Weitz and would like to see changes for the engineer.

Vice Mayor Bloodsworth motioned to approve Resolution 2026-X, with the amendment to allow staff to make changes as needed to keep the project moving forward not to exceed grant funding
Commissioner Weitz Seconded.

Public comment: none

Roll Call:
Mayor Andrew Miller – yes
Vice Mayor Wayne Bloodsworth – yes
Commissioner Tristan Grunder – yes
Commissioner Katherine Weitz – yes
Resolution passed 4-0

DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND ACT ON RESOLUTION 2026-Y, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS APPROVING THE ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH CKH CONSULTING, LLC.

Attorney Ballou Read Resolution 2026-Y by title only.

Staff Moyer explained that the engagement letter would conclude at the completion of the 2025 audit. There are also contingencies, so the spending does not exceed an established rate.

Commissioner Grunder motioned to approve Resolution 2026-Y as read by title only.
Commissioner Weitz Seconded.

Public comment: none

Roll Call:
Vice Mayor Wayne Bloodsworth – yes
Commissioner Tristan Grunder – yes
Commissioner Katherine Weitz – yes
Mayor Andrew Miller – yes
Resolution passed 4-0

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT/UPDATE: discussed the availability of an interim city manager from the Florida City and County Manager's Association (FCCMA), offers services such as advisement to commissions regarding hiring a new city manager. She advised that hiring a city manager is a lengthy and tedious process and she knows staff is currently at maximum workload. She recommended a partnership with FCCMA to assist the City in working through the process of hiring a city manager. She advised this service is free of cost.

Commissioner Grunder motioned to request the services of FCCMA.
Commissioner Weitz Seconded

Public Comment:

Sue Weller: would like to suggest that the next city manager be from Florida with Florida experience as Florida has a lot of niche circumstances that are difficult to navigate.

Mayor Miller mentioned requiring the next city manager to 'clock in and out' to keep track of time as well as maintaining standard office hours and attending advisory board meetings.

Attorney Ballou advised yes this is possible.

Motion Carried 4-0

CITY MANAGER REPORT/UPDATE: Staff Applebee advised she is here as long as needed. She invited citizens to help flip the negativity and help recruit the next city manager. There will be a budget workshop Monday August 31st. Youth sports registrations is closing soon for the fall programs. Congrats to Coach Graham on the win against Newberry. September 26th, & 27th Chamber of Commerce is hosting their annual Fall Festival.

COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Grunder: Thanked staff for sticking with things. He commended Staff Applebee for her hard work and stepping up.

Commissioner Grunder Motioned to compensate Interim City Manager Applebee and her be brought up to the bottom base of $97,000.
Commissioner Weitz seconded.
Public Comment: None

Motion Carried 4-0

Commissioner Weitz: Thanked staff for the work and she knows they're stretched thin. She commended the rest of the commission for being willing to entertain and support the city manager's separation agreement peacefully. She formally apologized to Planet Fitness for how they were painted in a negative light and she herself went and looked at some of the vegetation there and saw they are doing their best and there is a lot of vegetation present. She encouraged youth in the community to apply for the Mayor's Youth Council, and also thanked Staff Moyer for her assistance.

Vice Mayor Bloodsworth: Thanked the staff for their hard work and stepping up. Would like to see more firefighter applications and ideas for drawing in applicants.

Mayor Miller: Also went and visited Planet Fitness and confirmed they are within code and also apologized to their business for the negativity.

Staff Applebee commended Mr. Chris Tatum with the Fire Department as the employee of the week.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Commissioner Grunder motioned to adjourn
Mayor Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm