



Mayor Liese	
Councilmember Maher	At-Large
Councilmember Finley	Ward 1
Councilmember Sheppard	Ward 2
Councilmember Harwood	Ward 3
Councilmember Clark	Ward 4

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, September 02, 2025
6:00 PM CST
Council Chambers, City Hall
and via teleconference, if necessary

Call to Order.

Invocation
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call
Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Presentation Agenda.

- a. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall.
- b. Annual Paddle Paradise Event will be held Saturday, September 27th at the south side kayak launch. Participants may register in advance on the City's website or on-site registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. the morning of the event.
- c. Proclamation - National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- d. Pearl River Community College - Angie Kothmann

City Manager's Report.

Public Comments on Agenda Items.

Council Comments.

Policy Agenda.

Minutes:

1. Motion to approve August 19, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Resolutions:

2. **2025-205:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-042 thereby adopting the FY2026 Budget as finally determined by the City Council.
3. **2025-206:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-043 thereby setting the tax levy for FY2026 to be 29.5 mills and for other related purposes.
4. **2025-214:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-044 thereby reappointing Jon McCraw as Commissioner for Gulf Regional Planning Commission.

Consent Agenda:

5. **2025-196:** Motion to approve payments to Covington Civil & Environmental, LLC in the amount of \$22,760.00 for Diamondhead Paving 2025, in the amount of \$17,000.00 for Kome Drive and Fairway Drive Drainage Project, in the amount of \$20,160.00 for West Aloha Roadway Improvements Project, and in the amount of \$8,085.00 for the East Aloha Phase II Sidewalks.
6. **2025-197:** Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with Pearl River Community College for the County Tuition Assistance Program for FY 2025-2026 and authorize City Manager, Jon McCraw to execute same.
7. **2025-198:** Motion to approve payment to Chiniche Engineering & Surveying in the amount of \$6,385.00 for Coon Branch Drainage, in the amount of \$9,064.50 for Jourdan River Boardwalk, and in the amount of \$10,374.50 for Canal Dredging.
8. **2025-199:** Motion to accept and award low bid received from Bottom 2 Top Construction, LLC in the amount of \$932,409.69 for 2025 Annual Unit Price Repair Contract and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract for same and to issue the notice to proceed as appropriate.
9. **2025-200:** Motion to request fee waiver from the Diamondhead Water and Sewer District for the installation of a new water meter for the use of the City Dog Park once constructed.
10. **2025-201:** Motion to approve Pay Application 1 in the amount of \$188,034.20 to SCI, LLC., for the Coon Branch Drainage Improvements - Phase I.
11. **2025-202:** Motion to approve Pay Application 2 in the amount of \$472,456.85 to Gulf Pride Paving, LLC., for the Diamondhead Paving Project 2025.
12. **2025-203:** Motion to approve Pay Application 6 in the amount of \$181,973.59 to JLB Contractors, LLC., for the Kome Drive and Kalipekona Pond Drainage Project.
13. **2025-212:** Motion to approve amendment #2 to the Work Assignment with Covington Civil and Environmental, LLC in the amount of \$10,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 for the Support for 2025 Annual Unit Price Contract.
14. **2025-213:** Motion to accept and award low bid received from Breakwater Marine construction, LLC in the amount of \$4,403,000.00 for Canal Dredging Project and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.
15. **2025-215:** Motion to declare surplus and proceed with the proper disposal of public works equipment and police uniforms.
16. **2025-219:** Motion to authorize the release of annual fire rebate funds in the amount of \$66,730.70 to Hancock County Board of Supervisors for expenses of the Diamondhead Fire Department relating fire protection services in the City of Diamondhead pursuant to the agreement entered into on April 29, 2025.
17. **2025-220:** Motion to approve to advertise for engineering services for a 4-year term with amended Request for Proposal.

Action Agenda.

18. **2025-204:** Motion to request the City Manager explore viable options for repurposing the former guard house on Gex Drive, including the potential for establishing a "Welcome Center" and evaluating the feasibility of utilizing volunteers from the community to staff the facility. (Liese)

19. **2025-208:** Motion to approve the Planning Commission recommendation to allow a carport addition within 6' of the side yard property line. The property address is 6810 Apona St. The tax parcel number is 131A-0-01-064.000. The property is in a R-6 zoning district. The side yard setback for an addition is 10'. The variance requested is 4'. The Case File Number is 202500503.
20. **2025-209:** Motion to approve the Planning Commission recommendation to deny an addition (covered patio) within 0' of the rear yard setback. The property address is 3 Whispering Branch Way. The tax parcel number is 123A-3-03-028.000. The property is in a R-3 zoning district. The rear yard setback for an addition is 20'. The variance requested is 20'. The Case File Number is 202500448.
21. **2025-210:** Motion to direct the Planning and Zoning Commission to review and revise the language in the current tree ordinance regarding the clearing of lots, both residential and commercial. While the ordinance clearly requires a certain number of trees to be retained, it does not fully align with the intent of preserving mature trees and safeguarding the city's tree canopy. The Commission is asked to consider incorporating a tree survey and pre- and post-inspections as part of the permitting process, as well as requiring that a clearing permit be posted on lots prior to clearing. They should also consider if said permit should publicly outline how many trees are to be retained. Furthermore, the Commission should hold a public hearing to solicit input on proposed revisions and return to the Council with updated language that more effectively protects mature trees and enhances Diamondhead's tree canopy. (Liese)
22. **2025-211:** Motion to direct the Planning and Zoning Commission to develop and present a complete, actionable plan to bring all existing commercial signage into compliance with the city's current sign ordinance. As the majority of existing signage is grandfathered under previous regulations, the plan should include a sunset clause, establishing a clear deadline for full compliance. This will ensure that our community's visual standards align with the city's growth and aesthetic goals. Additionally, the Commission should hold a public hearing to gather input from the community. (Liese)
23. **2025-216:** Motion to approve text amendment to allow real estate signs 7 days a week.
24. **2025-217:** Motion to approve text amendment to reduce rear yard setback on properties adjoining canals and waterways.
25. **2025-218:** Motion to approve text amendment to allow golf carts to cross Exit 16 overpass.

Routine Agenda.

Claims Payable

26. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233089 - DKT233121) in the amount of \$1,015,730.48.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

Council Closing Comments

Executive Session - If Necessary

Adjourn/Recess.

NOTE: THE CITY OF DIAMONDHEAD WILL FURNISH APPROPRIATE AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES WHERE NECESSARY TO AFFORD INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CITY. A WRITTEN REQUEST BY OR ON BEHALF OF QUALIFYING INDIVIDUALS SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN A TIMELY MANNER TO THE CITY CLERK.