TOWN COMMISSION FINAL BUDGET HEARING MEETING MINUTES

September 22, 2026, at 5:30 PM

COMMISSION CHAMBERS - 202 E. MAIN STREET, DUNDEE, FL 33838

Phone: 863-438-8330 | www.TownofDundee.com

CALL TO ORDER at 5:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Mayor Garrison

INVOCATION provided by Commissioner Richardson

RECOGNITION OF SERGEANT AT ARMS, Sgt. Eason

ORDINANCE #13-08, PUBLIC SPEAKING INSTRUCTIONS provided by Mayor Garrison

ROLL CALL taken by Town Clerk Erica Anderson

PRESENT

Mayor Joe Garrison

Vice Mayor Ray Hunt

Commissioner Julia Hunt

Commissioner Annette Wilson [present 5:47 pm]

Commissioner Mary Richardson

ALSO PRESENT:

Town Manager Ken Cassel

Town Attorney Markeishia Smith

Town Clerk Erica Anderson

DELEGATIONS-QUESTIONS & COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR
(Each speaker shall be limited to three (3) minutes)

A resident spoke about the line item for the employee Christmas Dinner.

Alethea Pugh inquired about the line item in the budget for professional services.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Mayor Hunt moved to approve the agenda without changes, seconded by Commissioner Richardson.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **DISCUSSION & ACTION, RESOLUTION 26-30 FINAL MILLAGE ADOPTION**

Attorney Smith read the resolution title into the record. Town Manager Cassel provided the analysis.

Resolution No. 26-30 establishes the Town's operating millage rate for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 at 7.9000 mills and establishes the voted debt-service millage at zero. The Polk County Property Appraiser certified the Town's gross taxable value for operating purposes at $487,547,579.

Mayor Garrison opened the floor for public comment; seeing none, the floor was closed.

Commissioner Richardson moved to approve Resolution 26-30, seconded by Commissioner Hunt.

Voting in favor: Commissioner Hunt, Commissioner Wilson, Commissioner Richardson, Vice Mayor Hunt, and Mayor Garrison

The motion passed unanimously.

[5 MINUTE RECESS AT 5:57 PM]

2. **DISCUSSION & ACTION, RESOLUTION 26-31 FINAL BUDGET ADOPTION**

Attorney Smith read the resolution title into the record. Town Manager Cassel provided the analysis.

Resolution No. 26-31 adopts the Town of Dundee's final budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2026. The resolution states total estimated revenues and appropriations of $13,199,196 and incorporates by reference the final budget maintained by the Town Clerk.

Mayor Garrison opened the floor for public comment; the following persons spoke before the commission

Suzetta Hinson, Alethea Pugh, Michelle Thompson, Brenda Carter, and Yvonne Musselwhite.

Commissioner Hunt moved to adopt the budget as presented and remove any COLA increases for all employees and freeze any other new positions that have not already been offered, until a pay study for all employees has been conducted, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Further, there was a consensus to hold all merit increases pending the salary study.

Voting in favor: Commissioner Hunt, Commissioner Wilson, Commissioner Richardson, Vice Mayor Hunt, and Mayor Garrison

The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

3. DISCUSSION & ACTION, TOWN CLERK'S CONTRACT AGREEMENT

The proposed agreement states that Ordinance No. 26-12, adopted August 4, 2026, placed the Town Clerk under the direction and supervision of the Town Commission and authorized an employment agreement. The contract memorializes Erica Anderson's continued service without a break in employment or a new appointment and is subject to commission approval.

Mayor Garrison opened the floor for public comment; the following persons spoke before the commission Michelle Smith, Jill Kitto, Kim Downing, Alethea Pugh, and Delonda Hall.

Commissioner Richardson moved to approve the Town Clerk's Contract, seconded by Commissioner Wilson.

Voting in favor: Commissioner Wilson and Commissioner Richardson.

Voting Against: Commissioner Hunt, Vice Mayor Hunt, Mayor Garrison.

The motion failed 2-3.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Polk County Sheriff's Office – No report

Dundee Fire Department –No report

Town Attorney – No report

Town Manager – No report

Commissioners

Commissioner Hunt – No report

Commissioner Wilson – No report

Commissioner Richardson – No report

Vice Mayor Hunt – No report

Mayor – Thanked citizens and staff.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Anderson

Erica Anderson, Town Clerk

APPROVAL DATE: November 3, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE: *Please be advised that if you desire to appeal any decisions made as a result of the above hearing or meeting, you will need a record of the proceedings, and in some cases, a verbatim record is required. You must make your own arrangements to produce this record. (Florida statute 286.0105)*

If you are a person with disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the town clerk's office at 202 East Main Street, Dundee, Florida 33838 or phone (863) 438-8330 within 2 working days of your receipt of this meeting notification; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.