

HILLIARD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Hilliard Town Hall / Council Chambers
15859 West County Road 108
Post Office Box 249
Hilliard, FL 32046

TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

John P. Beasley, Mayor
Kenny Sims, Council President
Lee Pickett, Council Pro Tem
Joe Michaels, Councilman
Jared Wollitz, Councilman
Dallis Hunter, Councilman

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Lisa Purvis, Town Clerk
Cory Hobbs, Public Works Director
Gabe Whittenburg, Parks & Rec Director
Lee Anne Wollitz, Land Use Administrator

TOWN ATTORNEY

Christian Waugh

MINUTES

THURSDAY, MAY 07, 2026, 7:00 PM

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

Anyone wishing to address the Town Council regarding any item on this agenda is requested to complete an agenda item sheet in advance and give it to the Town Clerk. The sheets are located next to the printed agendas in the back of the Council Chambers. Speakers are respectfully requested to limit their comments to three (3) minutes. A speaker's time may not be allocated to others.

PLEDGE OF CIVILITY

WE WILL BE RESPECTFUL OF ONE ANOTHER
EVEN WHEN WE DISAGREE.
WE WILL DIRECT ALL COMMENTS TO THE ISSUES.
WE WILL AVOID PERSONAL ATTACKS.
"Politeness costs so little." – ABRAHAM LINCOLN

CALL TO ORDER

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor John Beasley
Council President Kenny Sims
Council Pro Tem Lee Pickett
Councilman Dallis Hunter
Councilman Joe Michaels

ABSENT

Councilman Jared Wollitz

REGULAR MEETING

ITEM-1 Additions/Deletions to Agenda

No additions or deletions from the agenda.

ITEM-2 Town Council consideration of next steps following negotiations for purchase of the Mikkelsen Estate Property.

Christian Waugh – Town Attorney

Attorney Christian Waugh provided an overview of the terms and offers received for the property.

Mayor Beasley invited the bidders to present their proposals.

Todd Jones, 27207 Pond Drive, Hilliard, Florida, spoke first. He stated that his offer was higher and that he could provide a faster closing. He also indicated that he would use local contractors whenever possible.

Courtney Graver, representing New Leaf, presented the company's offer and terms. John Latshaw, also representing New Leaf, provided additional information regarding the proposed process.

Councilman Sims stated that the decision ultimately came down to the purchase amount, and Council Pro Tem Pickett agreed.

Councilman Hunter expressed that the Town should adhere to the original due date.

Ms. Graver advised that New Leaf would not be prepared to submit a revised offer that evening.

Council President Sims asked Mr. Jones whether he had any additional comments that might influence the Council's decision.

Councilman Hunter stated that he believed New Leaf should be given the opportunity to increase its offer.

Attorney Waugh advised that the Council could proceed with accepting Mr. Jones's offer.

Motion to move forward with Mr. Todd Jones's offer. Council President Sims agreed and stated that Attorney Waugh should be given the authority to negotiate the terms of the agreement.

Motion made by Councilman Michaels, Seconded by Councilman Sims.
Voting Yea: Council President Sims, Council Pro Tem Pickett, Councilman Michaels.

Voting Nay: Councilman Hunter

ITEM-3 Town Council to accept the resignation of Hannah Davis, **Grant & Capital Projects Administrator, effective April 23, 2026.**
Lisa Purvis, MMC – Town Clerk

Motion made by Council President Sims, Seconded by Council Pro Tem Pickett.
Voting Yea: Council President Sims, Council Pro Tem Pickett, Councilman Hunter, Councilman Michaels

ITEM-4 Town Council approval of the Veterans Memorial Monument at Town Hall Park.
Gabe Whittenburg – Parks & Recreation Director

Timothy Fisk, 27146 West First Avenue, Hilliard requested to speak. He expressed concern about the cost of the monument and stated that the upkeep of the existing crosses has not been satisfactory. Mr. Fisk asked whether the funding for the monument would come from the Parks and Recreation budget. He also inquired whether the project would include a walkway and benches.

Mayor Beasley responded that the funding for the monument is not coming from the Town's budget. He also stated that the inclusion of walkways and benches has been discussed with Gabe Whittenburg, Parks & Recreation Director.

Motion made by Councilman Hunter, Seconded by Council President Sims. Voting Yea: Council President Sims, Council Pro Tem Pickett, Councilman Hunter, Councilman Michaels

ITEM-5 Town Council approval of Parks & Recreation Seasonal Staffing Request.
Gabe Whittenburg – Parks & Recreation Director

Motion made by Council President Sims, Seconded by Council Pro Tem Pickett. Voting Yea: Council President Sims, Council Pro Tem Pickett, Councilman Hunter, Councilman Michaels

ITEM-6 Town Council consideration of approval of Capital Budgeted Project, Hilliard Volunteer Fire Department "Upstairs Remodel". Budgeted amount of **\$20,000**.
Jerry Johnson - Hilliard Volunteer Fire Chief

Mr. Timothy Fisk, 27146 West First Avenue, Hilliard requested to speak regarding the proposed expenditures. Mr. Fisk expressed concern that a 60-inch television was excessive in size and cost. He also requested additional information regarding the type of appliances being considered. Mr. Fisk asked how many firefighters are typically present at the station and questioned whether the associated costs were justified.

Motion made by Council President Sims, Seconded by Councilman Michaels. Voting Yea: Council President Sims, Council Pro Tem Pickett, Councilman Hunter, Councilman Michaels

ITEM-7 Town Council approval of CPH Engineering, Payable through April 17, 2026, Project Name: MH 167 and MH 170 Repairs in the amount of \$1,440.00
CAPITAL FUNDED PROJECT BUDGETED \$300,000; CPH ENGINEERING LUMPSUM CONTRACT \$18,400.00

Motion made by Council Pro Tem Pickett, Seconded by Councilman Hunter. Voting Yea: Council President Sims, Council Pro Tem Pickett, Councilman Hunter, Councilman Michaels

ITEM-8 Town Council approval of PQH Group, Payable through April 21, 2026, Project Name: Hurricane Shelter / Community Center Project in the amount of \$1,600.00.
FDEM 100% GRANT FUNDED PROJECT \$5,890,200; PQH GROUP LUMP SUM CONTRACT \$572,000

Motion made by Council Pro Tem Pickett, Seconded by Councilman Michaels.
Voting Yea: Council President Sims, Council Pro Tem Pickett, Councilman
Hunter, Councilman Michaels

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

PUBLIC

Timothy Fisk, 27146 West First Avenue, Hilliard, Mr. Fisk attempted to play a recording; however, the audio could not be heard. He spoke from a hard copy. Mr. Fisk discussed concerns regarding the proposed handicap spot at North Oxford Park, including golf cart access and basketball activities at the park. He also addressed drainage concerns related to the new building and its potential effects on the park. Mr. Fisk advised that the Town is currently under Phase II water restrictions as established by the St. Johns River Water Management District.

MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL

Council President Sims reported on the wildland fire response efforts, noting that the provisions initiative was started by County Commissioner Alyson McCullough and Councilman Sims' sister, Tracey Conner. He stated that the community, along with other communities, came together to provide supplies and support. He expressed appreciation to the Hilliard Volunteer Fire Department and stated that the recent remodel was well worth the investment.

Council Pro Tem Pickett regarding Mr. Fisk's comments concerning the Hilliard Volunteer Fire Department, he stated that he was 19 years old when the referenced items were originally put in place. He emphasized that the Town must continue to move forward and that the expenditures are justified. He also noted that County Commissioner Farmer was charged with leading the effort regarding the wildland uniforms.

Councilman Hunter expressed his appreciation for the help and support received following the loss of Hilliard Volunteer Fire Department Member Kevin Crews. He stated that the remodel of the Hilliard Volunteer Fire Department facility is overdue and noted that the volunteers will now have a decent place to stay during emergency situations.

Councilman Wollitz, left a statement that was read by Lee Anne Wollitz. Expressed his appreciation for the help and support received following the loss of Hilliard Volunteer Fire Department Member Kevin Crews.

Mayor Beasley, thanks Councilman Sims for his part to set up to feed fire team at the Wildland fire. Thanks also to Jared Wollitz and Lee Anne Wollitz for help with Hilliard Volunteer Fire Department loss. Mother's Day – hug your moms. O'Reilly's grand opening is May 16, 2026.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

PRESENT:

Parks & Recreation Director, Gabe Whittenburg
Land Use Administrator, Lee Anne Wollitz

ABSENT:

Town Clerk, Lisa Purvis
Public Works Director, Cory Hobbs

Lee Anne Wollitz, Land Use Administrator, spoke in regarding to the opening of the new O'Reilly's store, the water restriction that have been put in place St. Johns River Water Management, and items that will be coming up on next week workshop.

Parks and Recreation Director Gabe Whittenburg, had to leave due to an emergency. Mayor Beasley reminds everyone that the pool opens at the end of the month. We also have soccer, volleyball, football and cheer, and adult basketball currently.

TOWN ATTORNEY

No comment.

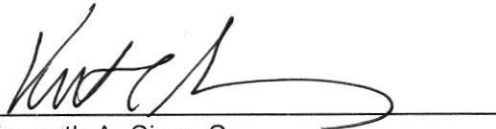
ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:39 p.m.

Motion made by Council President Sims, Seconded by Council Pro Tem Pickett.

Voting Yea: Council President Sims, Council Pro Tem Pickett, Councilman Hunter, Councilman Michaels

Approved this 16th day of July 2024 by the Hilliard Town Council, Hilliard, Florida.



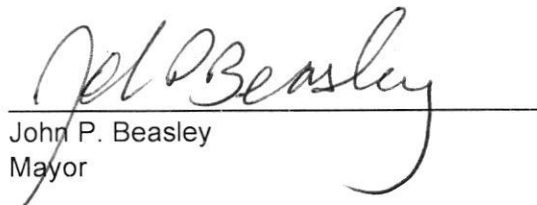
Kenneth A. Sims, Sr.
Council President

ATTEST:



Lisa Purvis
Town Clerk

APPROVED:



John P. Beasley
Mayor

TOWN OF HILLIARD

AGENDA ITEM SHEET

REQUEST TO SPEAK

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AGENDA ITEM-NO.

6

AGENDA ITEM TOPIC

20,000 TO HILLIARD
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

FOR THE RECORD:

YOUR NAME

TIMOTHY FISK

ADDRESS

27146 W 1ST AVE

PHONE NO.

904-574-6974

TOWN OF HILLIARD

AGENDA ITEM SHEET

REQUEST TO SPEAK

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AGENDA ITEM-NO.

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AGENDA ITEM TOPIC

VETERANS WAR

MEMORIAL MONUMENT

FOR THE RECORD:

YOUR NAME

TIMOTHY FISK

ADDRESS

27146 W 1ST AVE

PHONE NO.

904-574-6974