

CITY OF LABELLE



MINUTES

Regular Commission Meeting

Thursday, October 09, 2025, at 5:30 PM

LaBelle Commission Chambers
481 West Hickpochee Ave
LaBelle, FL 33975

CITY COMMISSION:

Julie C. Wilkins., Mayor
Kevin Holland, Commissioner
Jackie Ratica, Commissioner
Bobbie Spratt, Commissioner
Hugo Vargas, Commissioner

ADMINISTRATION:

Tijauna Warner, MPA, MMC, Deputy City Clerk
Derek Rooney, Esq., City Attorney
Mitchell Wills, Superintendent PW

Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Wilkins at 5:30 PM.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Vargas led the invocation, Commissioner Spratt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Julie C. Wilkins

Vice Mayor Jackie Ratica

Commissioner Bobbie Spratt

Commissioner Hugo Vargas

Commissioner Kevin Holland

City Attorney Derek Rooney

Deputy City Clerk Tijauna Warner

4. Additions of Emergency Basis From Mayor, Deletions and Approval of Agenda Items

5. Presentations

A. Public Risk Management - Robbie Chartier

Robbie Chartier gave a brief presentation on Public Risk Management Property & Casualty.

B. World Risk Management - Michele Jones and Paul Hebert

Paul Hebert gave a brief presentation on Public Risk Management Health Trust.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to approve moving Public Hearing Item 8A: Ordinance 2025-02 and Item 8B: Ordinance 2025-07 to the top of the agenda, Seconded by Commissioner Spratt. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed (4-1).

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Holland

Voting Nay: Commissioner Vargas

C. LaBelle Chamber of Commerce

Postponed to another date.

D. Comprehensive Plan Preliminary Assessment - Alexis Crespo, Vice President of Planning RVI Planning

Postponed to another date.

- E. United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades - Lisa Sands Assistant Director for Hendry, Glades, and LaBelle United Way Resiliency Hub

Postponed to another date.

- F. Hendry County Economic Development Council - Keitha Daniels, Director

Postponed to another date.

8. Public Hearings and/or Ordinances

- A. ORDINANCE 2025 - 02 (second reading) LABELLE CHAPTER 144 DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE 2020-14 FOR THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS FLEA MARKET PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT; ADDING 0.48+/- ACRES TO THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT FOR PARKING; PROVIDING FOR INTENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Derek Rooney read Ordinance 2025-02 title into the record and swore in everyone present to speak on this item.

Patty Kulak gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2025-02.

Public Hearing Opened 5:56pm

No comments.

Public Hearing Closed 5:56pm

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve Ordinance 2025-02, Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

- B. ORDINANCE 2025 - 07 (second reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF LABELLE ZONING MAP FOR A 8.91+/--ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SOUTH CAPTAIN HENDRY DRIVE AND STATE ROAD 80, AMENDING THE ZONING DESIGNATION FROM BUSINESS (B-2) ZONING DISTRICT TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) ZONING DISTRICT, PROVIDING FOR IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR INTENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Derek Rooney read Ordinance 2025-07 title into the record and swore in everyone present to speak on this item.

Margarete Tassone gave a brief explanation of Ordinance 2025-07.

Public Hearing Opened 6:09pm

Public comments were provided by the following: Estela Hernandez, Charlene Howard, Jennifer Curtis, James Holland, KC Lynn, Seth Waugh, Erin Melcher, Kelli Allen, and Kimberly Parrish, Jeff Burton, Susan Holland and Greg Miners opposing Ordinance 2025-07.

Public Hearing Closed 7:19pm

Motion made by Commissioner Holland to deny Ordinance 2025-07, Seconded by Commissioner Spratt. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion failed (2-3).

Voting Yea: Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Holland

Voting Nay: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Vargas

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve Ordinance 2025-07 with staff recommended conditions and six (6) directions: opaque gate, secondary access is not required unless called for by building plan, no migrant housing, second story and above frosted glass or unable to see out of the window (allows light), no parking in the rear of the hotel, wall not a fence, and construction access only from 80, Seconded by Vice Mayor Ratica. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed (3-2).

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Vargas

Voting Nay: Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Holland

7. Non-Public Hearing Items for Consideration

E. 9.11 Memorial Monument

Tawanda Green expressed concerns with the structure and order of the commission meeting.

Public comments were made by the following: Cindy Pearce, John Christy, Robert Tracy, Bethany Mudge, and Steven Lynn opposing the current location of the 9.11 Memorial Monument in Veteran's Park.

Public comments were made by the following: Charles Aguero and Letitia Aguero in support of the current location for the 9.11 Memorial Monument.

Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to rescind the vote allowing the 9.11 Memorial Monument to be placed in Veterans Park, Seconded by Commissioner Holland. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed (4-1)

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Holland

Voting Nay: Commissioner Vargas

Meeting recessed 8:21pm

Meeting reconvened 8:30pm

9. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

(Limited to 3 minutes per person)

Enrique Delgado inquired about Las Palmas Trailer water usage and gave a brief explanation of his situation. A discussion ensued.

6. Consent Agenda Items for Consideration

(Any commissioner or citizen may request to have an item removed from the consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda for further discussion.)

A. Approval of September Check Register

B. Approval of September Minutes:

September 11, 2025 City Commission Meeting

September 18, 2025 Special Final Budget City Commission Meeting

C. Approval of Staff Reports:

-HCSO- Lt. Allen Hudson

-Fire Department- Chief Brent Stevens

-Building Department- Mark Lynch

-Code Enforcement- Zane Mungillo

D. WWTP Emergency Purchase KB Pump and Electrical LLC

E. Interlocal Agreement between Hendry County Sheriff Office and City of LaBelle Fire Department

F. Proposal for Professional Engineering Services Zone B – 100% Redesign – City Standards and Roadway - Four Waters Engineering, Inc.

G. FY2025-2026 Budget Amendment No. 1

H. Protective Trust IT Services Agreement

I. RESOLUTION 2025-19 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LABELLE, FLORIDA; HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA; ESTABLISHING REVISED DOCKAGE FEES FOR THE CITY DOCK; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS, ESTABLISHING NEW FLAT-RATE FEES FOR SLIP RENTALS BASED ON ELECTRICAL SERVICE LEVEL; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to approve Consent Agenda Items, Seconded by Vice Mayor Ratica. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously. Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

7. Non-Public Hearing Items for Consideration

(Limited to 15 minutes per item: 3-5 minutes optional presentation time with the remaining time for discussion by the Commission)

A. Interlocal Agreement between Hendry County and the City of LaBelle for Animal Control Services for Unincorporated East Hendry County

Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to approve the Interlocal Agreement between Hendry County and the City of LaBelle for Animal Control Services for Unincorporated East Hendry County, Seconded by Commissioner Vargas. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously. Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

B. Disaster Debris Removal and Disposal Services Piggyback

Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to approve Disaster Debris Removal and Disposal Services Hendry County RFQ 2025-22 Piggyback, Seconded by Vice Mayor Ratica. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

- C. Temporary Use Application (1682) - Hari's Discount Liquor

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve the Temporary Use Application (1682) Hari's Discount Liquor, Seconded by Commissioner Spratt. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed (3-2).

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas

Voting Nay: Mayor Wilkins, Commissioner Holland

- D. Caloosa Humane Society Love Unleashed Gala

10. City Related Business by Commissioners

Mayor Julie advised city staff had two additions for the agenda:

- A. Increasing Purchase Order Threshold

Motion made by Vice Mayor Ratica to approve an increase in Purchase Order threshold from \$250 to \$500, Seconded by Commissioner Vargas. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

- B. Finance Boom Mower/Slope Mower

Motion made by Commissioner Vargas to approve a Finance Loan for \$192,000 for 36 months to purchase a boom mower/slope mower, Seconded by Vice Mayor Ratica. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. A discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Spratt to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Vice Mayor Ratica. Mayor Wilkins called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wilkins, Vice Mayor Ratica, Commissioner Spratt, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Holland

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Wilkins adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM.


Jackie Ratica, Vice Mayor


ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, MPA, MMC, City Clerk

