



CODE ENFORCEMENT HEARING MINUTES

Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 10:00 AM

Historic City Hall, Commission Chambers – 225 East Main Street, Suite 105

www.cityofwauchula.gov

CALL TO ORDER

ADMINISTER OATH

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1. Minutes for 08/27/2026 Code Enforcement Hearing

Minutes were not available for the Magistrate to view at the meeting. Magistrate Mitchell stated he will approve via email.

NEW CASES

2. Taylor Strusz

850 Third Street East, Zolfo Springs, FL 33890

BL-1116GQHLTC

Taylor Strusz requested to reschedule. Next hearing scheduled for November 19th, 2026, at 10AM.

3. Bethany Lorine Lazo Rimes

415 S 1st Avenue

WPD 003153

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WPD003154

Two open code enforcement cases, WPD003153 and WPD003154, were presented by Assistant Chief Tom Fort of the Wauchula Police Department regarding ongoing violations involving animals running at large.

Case WPD003153 – Animals Running at Large: Assistant Chief Fort presented information regarding the ongoing violation of animals running at large. Pursuant to Chapter 4 of the City's Code of Ordinances, the responsible party was given until November 6 to remove the dogs. Failure to comply by the specified deadline will result in a fine of \$100 per day until the violation is corrected.

Case WPD003154 – Animals Running at Large: Assistant Chief Fort presented information regarding a second ongoing violation involving animals running at large. Pursuant to Chapter 4 of the City's Code of Ordinances, the responsible party was

given until November 6 to remove the dogs. Failure to comply by the specified deadline will result in a fine of \$100 per day until the violation is corrected.

5. Edilberto Diego
319 N 9th Avenue
26-132-L

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319 N 9th Avenue
26-133-NA

Two open code enforcement cases involving Edilberto Diego were presented regarding the accumulation of junk and debris and an inoperable vehicle without a valid tag.

26-132-L – Accumulation of Junk and Debris: Code Enforcement Officer Bergens presented evidence and findings regarding the accumulation of junk and debris on the property. Bergens stated that she has been in communication with the residents and noted that progress has been made toward bringing the property into compliance. Magistrate Mitchell ordered Mr. Diego to bring the property into compliance by November 23. Failure to comply by the specified deadline will result in a fine of \$100 per day until the violation is corrected.

26-133-NA– Inoperable/Untagged Vehicle: A second violation was presented involving an inoperable vehicle without a valid tag located on the property. Magistrate Mitchell ordered Mr. Diego to bring the vehicle into compliance by November 23. Failure to comply by the specified deadline will result in a fine of \$100 per day until the violation is corrected.

7. Librada P Corpus
820 S 8th Avenue
26-142-L

Librada Corpus tenant, did not state his name, appeared in person and was administered the oath by Magistrate Mitchell.

Code Enforcement Officer Bergens presented evidence and findings regarding the condition of the property. Bergens acknowledged that Tenant had made progress toward correcting the violations; however, the property remained out of compliance. The violations discussed included the removal of concrete slabs, a swimming pool located in the front yard, and general lot maintenance.

Magistrate Mitchell granted Tenant 45 days, until December 4, to bring the entire property into compliance. Failure to comply by the specified deadline will result in a fine of \$100 per day until all violations are corrected.

Tenant acknowledged and agreed to the terms established by Magistrate Mitchell. Following his agreement, Tenant brought to the Magistrate's attention that he had previously filed a complaint with the City of Wauchula Police Department regarding the Blueline cameras, stating that they were not functioning properly. Magistrate Mitchell advised Tenant that the matter was not appropriate for discussion during the code enforcement hearing. Tenant acknowledged and agreed.

8. Andrew Hunt
703 W Palmetto Street
26-154-L

CLEARED PRIOR TO HEARING

9. Kevin Carter
501 E Oak Street
26-155-L

10. Kevin Carter
501 E Oak Street
26-156-NA

Two open code enforcement cases involving Mr. Kevin Carter were presented: Case 26-155-L and Case 26-156-NA.

Case 26-155-L – Tall Grass: Magistrate Mitchell ordered Mr. Carter to bring the property into compliance regarding overgrown grass by November 23. Failure to comply by the specified deadline will result in a fine of \$100 per day until the violation is corrected.

Case 26-156-NA – Inoperable/Untagged Vehicles: Code Enforcement Officer Bergens presented evidence of at least three vehicles on the property that were inoperable, lacked valid tags, and/or were missing tires. Due to the number of vehicles involved, Magistrate Mitchell granted Mr. Carter until November 23 to bring the vehicles into compliance. Failure to comply by the specified deadline will result in a fine of \$200 per day until the violation is corrected.

11. Vicente Rodriguez
205 Goolsy Street
26-159-L (Repeat)

Case 26-159-L – Accumulation of Junk and Debris (Repeat Violation): Mr. Vincent Rodriguez was identified as a repeat offender regarding the accumulation of junk and debris on his property, with the violation dating back to September 15. It was also noted that the property has a homestead exemption.

Magistrate Mitchell ordered a fine of \$500, along with an additional fine of \$150 per day until the property is brought into compliance.

12. Crystal Hernandez
609 S 9th Avenue
26-160-L

CLEARED PRIOR TO HEARING

13. Crystal Hernandez
609 S 9th Avenue
26-161-NA

CLEARED PRIOR TO HEARING

14. GWA Properties LLC
311 S 7th Avenue
26-168-L

CLEARED PRIOR TO HEARING

PUBLIC COMMENT / NON-AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Magistrate Mitchell adjourned the hearing at 10:20 AM