



**AGENDA
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
June 17, 2026
4:00 PM
TAVARES CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 E MAIN STREET, TAVARES**

(Members of the public wishing to speak on an item that is on the agenda must fill out a Request to Speak form available from the City Clerk or at the Council Meeting prior to the meeting being called to order. In addition, the Mayor will ask for comment under the agenda item titled "Audience to be Heard" for matters not on the Agenda. For further information contact the City Clerk at (352) 742-6209 or susie.novack@tavaresfl.gov)

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tab 1 Pastor Kevin Honeycutt, First Baptist Church of Tavares

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IV. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Tab 2 Tavares Chamber of Commerce Update

V. SWEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS

VI. READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS INTO RECORD

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Tab 3 Approval of the May 20, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes (City Clerk)

Tab 4 FCCMA Resolution Honoring John Drury

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

IX. ORDINANCES - PUBLIC HEARING

First Reading

Second Reading

X. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

- Tab 5 **Board Appointments - Planning and Zoning Board and Library Board (Mayor)**
- Tab 6 **Golden Triangle Regional Park (East and West Campus) Conceptual Plan Workshop and Review (Community Services)**
- Tab 7 **State's Referendum On Property Tax Reform (City Administrator)**
- Tab 8 **Request for Code Enforcement Lien Reduction (Finance)**

XI. NEW BUSINESS

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

XIV. REPORTS

Tab 9 **City Administrator Report**

Tab 10 **City Council Member Reports**

XV. ADJOURNMENT

F.S. 286.0105 If a person decides to appeal any decision or recommendation made by Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he will need record of the proceedings, and that for such purposes he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Individuals with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk at least two (2) working days in advance of the meeting date and time at (352) 742-6209.

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 1

SUBJECT TITLE: Pastor Kevin Honeycutt, First Baptist Church of Tavares

OBJECTIVE:

Pastor Kevin Honeycutt, First Baptist Church of Tavares, will provide the invocation and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUMMARY:

Pastor Kevin Honeycutt, First Baptist Church of Tavares, will provide the invocation and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPTIONS:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 2

SUBJECT TITLE: Tavares Chamber of Commerce Update

OBJECTIVE:

Receive an update from the Tavares Chamber of Commerce.

SUMMARY:

The Tavares Chamber of Commerce will provide an update on Chamber activities.

OPTIONS:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 3

SUBJECT TITLE: Approval of the May 20, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes (City Clerk)

OBJECTIVE:

Approval of the May 20, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes (City Clerk)

SUMMARY:

Attached are the May 20, 2026, City Council meeting minutes as submitted by the Deputy City Clerk.

OPTIONS:

1. Move to approve the meeting minutes under the Consent Agenda.
2. Move to approve the meeting minutes with corrections.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

For the Council's consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Yes.

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

1. 05-20-2026 CC Minutes

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.



**TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 20, 2026 – 4:00 PM
TAVARES CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 EAST MAIN STREET, TAVARES**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

**Lori Pfister, Mayor
Bob Grenier, Vice Mayor
Sandy Gamble, Council Member
Doug Keown, Council Member
Walter Price, Council Member**

STAFF PRESENT

**Lori Houghton, Acting City Administrator
Lindsay Holt, City Attorney
Michelle Winegard, Deputy City Clerk
Antonio Fabre, Community Development Director
Scott Aldrich, Community Services Director
Richard Keith, Fire Chief
Crissy Bublitz, Human Resources Director
Sarah Coursey, Police Chief
Mark O'Keefe, Support Services Director
Brian Dykes, Utilities Director**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pfister called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. She asked those who wished to speak on an agenda item to complete and submit a Request to Speak form.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tab 1. Pastor Josh Lane, Astatula Baptist Church

Chief Keith provided the invocation and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance in the absence of Pastor Josh Lane.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pfister called for consideration of the Approval of the Agenda item.

MOTION

Walter Price moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Doug Keown. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Tab 2. Tavares Chamber of Commerce Update

No representative appeared on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce.

Tab 3. Back the Blue and Red March (Police)

Chief Coursey made the following presentation:

A "Back the Blue & Red" event is a community gathering organized by a citizen, Shannon Cook, to show appreciation and support for first responders, specifically law enforcement ("blue") and firefighters ("red") and often EMS personnel. These events typically bring the public together with police officers, firefighters, and paramedics through activities such as meet-and-greets, equipment displays, luncheons, and brief recognition ceremonies. The goal is to strengthen relationships between the community and public safety agencies, highlight the service and sacrifices of first responders, and, in some cases, raise funds for related charities or support programs. Overall, it is a positive, community-focused event centered on recognition, connection, and public safety awareness.

This year, the organizer, Ms. Cook was able to bring in a special guest, Mr. Devarjaye "DJ" Daniel. DJ's dream is to be a police officer.

- *DJ is a 14-year-old Houston boy fighting terminal brain and spinal cancer who has become a national symbol of courage by being sworn in as an honorary officer by over 4500 law enforcement agencies across the nation. Diagnosed in 2018 and initially given months to live, he pursues a mission to support law enforcement and defy his prognosis.*
- *DJ was the guest of POTUS at the 2025 State of the Union Address*
- *Medical Journey: He has undergone at least 13 brain surgeries to fight brain and spinal cancer. He is widely regarded as a "real-life superhero" for his resiliency.*

- *Every Police department in Lake County and the Sheriff's Office held a joint ceremony to "Swear-in" Honorary Officer DJ Daniel on Saturday, March 9th. Not to be outdone, our Lake County Fire Departments also "swore-in" DJ as an honorary firefighter, bringing his honorary firefighter status to well over several hundred.*

A special thanks to Captain Jon Hall, who worked hand in hand with Ms. Cook and Major Mysinger (LCSO) to ensure the safety of all who attended this event. Tavares PD was also honored to provide transportation to and from the Orlando International Airport, where Captain Hall coordinated with the Orlando Police Department to provide a hero's welcome upon arrival. Captain Hall brought Dj straight to the Public Safety Complex and he was able to visit with TPD nightshift officers.

It was an honor meeting such a well-spoken, courageous young man, and being able to be a small part of making his dream come true.

Mayor Pfister commended Chief Coursey and her team on the event.

Council Member Gamble shared remarks about his interaction with Devarjaye "DJ" Daniel during the event. He described DJ Daniel as an outstanding, phenomenal young man and mentioned that he toured the seaplane area and viewed some aircraft.

Council Member Gamble also highlighted DJ Daniel's appreciation for his father, stating that DJ Daniel asked Council Member Gamble to recognize and thank his father for his support. He further commented on DJ Daniel's sense of humor, character, and the positive impression he made throughout the event.

V. SWEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Attorney Holt stated there were no quasi-judicial matters before the Council for consideration.

VI. READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS INTO THE RECORD

Ms. Winegard read the following resolution by title only:

RESOLUTION 2026-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE 2026 FISCAL YEAR ADOPTED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF TAVARES, REPRESENTING THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE ADOPTED BUDGET, AND PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION

Walter Price moved to approve the Consent Agenda [Tab 4. Approval of the May 6, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes], seconded by Bob Grenier. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Tab 4. Approval of the May 6, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

Tab 5. Resolution No. 2026-09 – Second Budget Amendment for FY2026/2027 (Finance)

Ms. Houghton made the following presentation:

The attached resolution represents increases and/or decreases to the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2026. Appropriation increases represent capital projects, and prior year/project encumbrance rollovers. In addition, the Resolution also reflects transfers between individual accounts within adopted budgets for all departments. This resolution represents the SECOND AMENDMENT to the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Ms. Houghton said staff recommended Option 1, for the Council to approve Resolution 2026-09, amending the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 City of Tavares Annual Operating Budget.

Mayor Pfister asked for questions from the Council. There were none.

MOTION

Sandy Gamble moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-09 – Second Budget Amendment for FY 2026, seconded by Doug Keown. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

IX. ORDINANCES – PUBLIC HEARING

First Reading

Second Reading

X. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Tab 6. Update on Lake County's Rural Protection Zones JPA/TDR Program

Ms. Houghton made the following presentation:

Previously, Council Member Doug Keown requested an update on Lake County's Rural Protection Zones and their proposed Joint Planning Area Agreements (JPA's).

Lake County Commissioner Sean Parks introduced the idea of identifying Transitional Areas and Wild Life Corridor "Protection Zones" in Lake County about three years ago and has subsequently hosted quarterly public meetings in Leesburg with his fellow County Commissioners and the 14 cities in Lake County to discuss this. As a result, Lake County hired a consultant to identify the protection zones. The consultant is in the process of accomplishing this work.

The County is also exploring the crafting of Joint Planning Area Agreements between Cities and the County, where the County and Cities would agree to protect the identified lands from development through several mechanisms including no annexation agreements without County Commission approval and Transfer of Development Rights (TDR's) from protected rural areas to urban areas.

A quarterly County/City meeting was recently conducted on Monday May 18th in Leesburg to provide updates at which Council Member Doug Keown and City staff attended. An opportunity is provided for Council member Keown to update Council on that meeting, the JPA process and TDRs.

Council Member Keown stated that during the meeting, they were given a map of the City of Tavares and asked to collaborate with the Council to identify which areas should be protected.

Council Member Gamble asked Attorney Holt whether the City had any authority or input regarding the development of privately owned property. Attorney Holt responded that, in her initial understanding, the City did not, but stated she would research the matter further to confirm.

Mr. Fabre stated that it was a very high-level meeting and that Lake County wanted to work with the City of Tavares to protect natural areas. A future meeting for the first week of June was scheduled to begin map markups.

All Council Members expressed a preference for determining their own land preservation designations rather than having them imposed.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

XII. OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Pfister stated that during the goals presentation at the previous City Council meeting, the City Administrator's salary increase for the upcoming year was not discussed. She noted that the budgeted increase amount for employees was 4%.

Council Member Gamble inquired about the current cost-of-living increase. Ms. Houghton advised that it had been increased to 3.8% in May and was on an upward trajectory.

The City Council discussed a minimum 4% pay increase for Mr. Drury. They spoke in support of Mr. Drury and commended his leadership skills.

Mayor Pfister expressed support in discussing a 7% salary increase for Mr. Drury, stating that she believed he earned additional compensation through his continued dedication and service to the City. She noted that Mr. Drury performs many responsibilities without support positions commonly found in other municipalities, such as an administrative assistant or deputy city manager, which she stated saves the City money.

Mayor Pfister further commented on Mr. Drury's consistent availability and commitment to City business, noting that he remained accessible and continued working even while away from the office or on personal time. She stated that, rather than granting additional time off, she preferred to focus on increased compensation.

Council Member Gamble stated that he knew Mr. Drury had not utilized all of his available vacation time and asked whether unused vacation leave was paid out. Ms. Houghton stated she believed that was the case.

Vice Mayor Grenier encouraged the Council to consider Mr. Drury's overall compensation and benefits package as part of the discussion. Council Member Gamble agreed and stated that he supported providing an increase of greater than 4%.

Mayor Pfister stated that, since this topic was not on the agenda, she wanted to hear other opinions and invited Gary Santoro to speak.

Garry Santoro, a resident of Royal Harbor, Tavares, expressed support for granting the City Administrator a 5% or 6% salary increase. He stated that he understood Vice Mayor Grenier's suggestion regarding additional vacation time; however, he noted that Mr. Drury does not typically utilize his vacation time and is consistently available to handle City business. He stated that Mr. Drury was worth every dollar that the City gave him.

Mayor Pfister asked whether anyone else wanted to speak on this item. There were no further comments from the public at this time.

Mayor Pfister stated that if she were not concerned with the property tax issue, she would suggest a 10% increase.

Council Member Keown suggested splitting the difference to make it a 7% increase. Council Member Gamble stated he was comfortable with that, and Vice Mayor Grenier agreed.

MOTION

Bob Grenier made a motion to approve a 7% salary increase for the City Administrator. Doug Keown seconded the motion.

Council Member Gamble asked Attorney Holt whether the item needed to be declared an emergency since it had not been included on the agenda. Attorney Holt stated that it did not, since the City was not subject to F.S. Chapter 120. The City Council controlled the agenda and could add an item.

Council Member Price stated he was not opposed to the motion and could be comfortable with 7% if the rest of the Council supported it.

Mayor Pfister then advised that she preferred the increase to be 7.5%.

Vice Mayor Grenier asked whether the compensation could be changed at a later date, such as during budget discussions. Ms. Houghton stated that yes, it could change during the budget process.

Mayor Pfister reiterated that she preferred a 7.5% increase rather than a 7% increase.

Attorney Holt advised that, according to Robert's Rules, the Council must vote on the first motion.

The motion failed by a vote of 1-4, as follows:

Sandy Gamble:	No
Doug Keown:	Yes
Walter Price:	No
Bob Grenier:	No
Lori Pfister:	No

MOTION

Bob Grenier made a second motion to approve a 7.5% salary increase for the City Administrator. Sandy Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

XIII. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

Gary Santoro, a resident of Royal Harbor in Tavares, complimented the City on the wraparound flowerpots at the public safety complex, stating they make a very nice impression. He also thanked the Council for voting in favor of a salary increase for the City Administrator.

Carlene Nichols, 1207 Texas Ave., Tavares, stated she had been a registered nurse for 40 years and had never received a raise of more than 3%.

XIV. REPORTS

Tab 7. City Administrator Report

Ms. Houghton noted that upcoming meetings and events were included in the Council's agenda packets.

Mr. Fabre wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day weekend.

Tab 8. City Council Member Reports

Council Member Gamble reported that he had spoken with Mr. Dillion and noted that a bicycle rack was scheduled to be installed at the Tavares Nature Preserve on Friday, weather permitting. He added that park signage would also be installed the following week, weather permitting.

Council Member Gamble inquired about the start dates for the All-Star program. Mr. Aldrich advised that the dates would be posted on the City's recreation Facebook page and stated that he could also send the information to him.

Council Member Gamble wished everyone a safe Memorial Day weekend.

Council Member Keown mentioned that the Chamber of Tavares was hosting a hurricane preparedness expo for residents and noted that the event date was available on the Chamber's website. He complimented Chief Coursey and staff for keeping the City safe. He also stated that his office hours would be held on Monday, June 1, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the library's conference room. Lastly, he wished everyone a happy Memorial Day weekend and explained the difference between Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Armed Forces Day.

Council Member Price invited everyone to attend the Memorial Day sunrise service at Peterson's Gun Shop beginning at 6:30 a.m. on Monday. He stated that the Back the Blue and Red event was phenomenal and noted that it had the largest turnout he had seen. He also stated that he attended the employee luncheon on Friday and expressed his appreciation for the professionalism and hard work of the City employees.

Vice Mayor Grenier spoke about witnessing a juvenile operating a golf cart on Captain Haynes Road and asked whether a City of Tavares police officer could conduct a traffic stop under those circumstances. Chief Coursey confirmed that an officer could stop the individual to verify that the driver is at least 16 years old and possesses a valid driver's license.

Vice Mayor Grenier spoke about the loss of Army Specialist Mariyah Collington, noting that she was from the City of Tavares. He also encouraged the Council and residents to visit the library and sign up for the summer reading program. Vice Mayor Grenier mentioned that May 27 marked the 139th anniversary of Lake County and stated that he

looked forward to celebrating the County's 140th anniversary next year. He wished everyone a safe Memorial Day holiday.

Mayor Pfister commented on the strong working relationship among the City Council Members and praised each member for their involvement and dedication to the City. She noted that Council Member Price consistently represented the City at community events, Council Member Keown brought new ideas and became highly involved, Council Member Gamble remained active in recreation-related initiatives, and Vice Mayor Grenier contributed extensive historical knowledge and insight.

Mayor Pfister also recognized City staff for their hard work and dedication, specifically highlighting the progress of the YMCA project and improvements at the cemetery and arboretum. She stated that the City operates efficiently because employees and leadership work together and consistently go above and beyond in serving the community. She expressed appreciation to the Police Department, Fire Department, City staff, and City Administrator John Drury for their continued efforts and commitment to maintaining the City's quality of life.

Mayor Pfister stated that although she would have liked to provide larger salary increases, she remained mindful of potential future impacts related to property taxes and the upcoming budget process. She emphasized the importance of balancing fiscal responsibility with maintaining residents' quality of life.

Mayor Pfister wished everyone a safe Memorial Day weekend and encouraged residents to remember and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the military.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business, and Mayor Pfister adjourned the meeting at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully,

Michelle Winegard
Deputy City Clerk

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 4

SUBJECT TITLE: FCCMA Resolution Honoring John Drury

OBJECTIVE:

To receive the Florida City County Management Association Board of Directors Resolution Honoring John Drury

SUMMARY:

City Administrator John Drury was elected to serve as the Florida District VIII Board member for the past two years and served as Board liaison for the Fiscal and Administrative Policy Committee during his two-year tenure.

Attached is a resolution of the Florida City County Managers Association Board of Directors honoring his service as District VIII Director 2024-2026.

OPTIONS:

NA

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Receive the resolution

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

YES

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

1. FCCMA Resolution - John Drury, Board of Directors

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 5

SUBJECT TITLE: Board Appointments - Planning and Zoning Board and Library Board (Mayor)

OBJECTIVE:

For the Mayor to make appointments to the Library Board and Planning and Zoning Board, with approval from the Council.

SUMMARY:

Library Board

There are three (3) expiring seats on the Tavares Library Board. The City received the following request for reappointment for the term June 2026 through June 2028 (2-year terms):

- Michael Watkins - Request for Reappointment

If the reappointment is approved, there will be two vacant seats remaining on the Tavares Library Advisory Board and the City will continue to advertise for those seats.

Planning and Zoning Board

There are three (3) expiring seats and one (1) vacant seat on the Tavares Planning and Zoning Board. The City received the following requests for reappointment and one new application for the term June 2026 through June 2029 (3-year terms):

- Deb Murphy - Request for Reappointment
- Gary Santoro - Request for Reappointment
- Erika Buigas - New Application

If the above appointments are approved, no vacant seats would remain on the Tavares Planning and Zoning Advisory Board.

The City advertised all open and expiring positions in the Daily Commercial and on the City website. Applications and reappointment requests are attached. The City will continue to advertise for all remaining vacant seats.

OPTIONS:

1. For the Mayor to make appointments to the Library Board, and Council to approve the appointments.
2. Do not make appointments and continue to advertise.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

For the Mayor's consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Yes.

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

1. Library Board Reappointment Request - Michael Watkins
2. PZ Board Application - Erika Buigas
3. PZ Reappointment Request - Deb Murphy
4. PZ Reappointment Request - Gary Santoro

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 6

SUBJECT TITLE: Golden Triangle Regional Park (East and West Campus) Conceptual Plan Workshop and Review (Community Services)

OBJECTIVE:

To present the conceptual master plan for the Golden Triangle Regional Park (GTRP) East and West Campuses.

SUMMARY:

On April 16, 2024, the City of Tavares advertised a Request For Qualifications (RFQ 2024-0006) for an architect firm to complete a build-out of the City's Golden Triangle Regional Park - East Campus. On August 7, 2024, at the regular scheduled city council meeting, Powell Studio Architecture was approved as the recommended top qualified firm.

On January 10, 2025, the City of Tavares advertised a Request For Qualifications (RFQ 2025-0001) for an architect firm to complete a build-out of the Golden Triangle Regional Park – West Campus. On March 5, 2025, at the regular scheduled city council meeting, Powell Studio Architecture was likewise approved as the recommended top qualified firm.

On May 13, 2025, the City entered into an AIA Master Architect Agreement with Powell Studio Architecture for the design, engineering and complete build-out of the Golden Triangle Regional Park system made up of both the East Campus and West Campus. Over the past 12 months, a series of studies, community gathering sessions, and team meetings took place. A public engagement meeting was held at the YMCA on September 25, 2025, as well as one at the Tavares Civic Center on October 16, 2025, to include the community on hands-on activities for designing the parks. Additionally, an online survey and project website were made available to collect specific insights on park amenities, desired activities, and overall functions of the design for both campuses.

Two separate Horizon Teams were established to focus design efforts individually for each campus in the regional park with the following representation:

The GTRP - East Campus Horizon Team

Mayor Lori Pfister, City of Tavares Council Representative

John Drury, City of Tavares

Scott Aldrich, City of Tavares

Pete Sherrard, City of Tavares

Kirby Smith, Lake County Commissioner

Angela Harrold, Lake County
Lindsaia Johansmeyer, Lake County
Justin Higa, Central Florida YMCA
Andy Weighill, Central Florida YMCA

The GTRP - West Campus Horizon Team

Sandy Gamble, City of Tavares Council Representative
John Drury, City of Tavares
Scott Aldrich, City of Tavares
Pete Sherrard, City of Tavares
Kirby Smith, Lake County Commissioner
Angela Harrold, Lake County
Lindsaia Johansmeyer, Lake County
Don Griffey, Griffey Engineering

Meetings for the GTRP East Campus Horizon Team were held on January 22 and May 7, 2026, and the West Campus Horizon Team was on February 18 and April 27, 2026. Both Horizon Teams have worked closely with the Powell Studio Architecture design team to incorporate input from the community while creating a conceptual master plan for each park.

Representatives from the design team will present these conceptual plans in an engagement workshop format for City Council's input and feedback. The next steps will be to hold the third and final community engagement meeting sometime next month at the YMCA to provide the public with a full recap of the conceptual design process of both campuses and offer a chance for questions and answers to specific design decisions. Following that final community meeting, the design team will bring back to City Council the final master site plans for both the GTRP East and West Campuses, with a phasing strategy to guide future implementation.

OPTIONS:

1. Hear the update on the conceptual master plan for the Golden Triangle Regional Park - East and West Campuses
2. Do not hear the update

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Option 1: Hear the update on the conceptual master plan for the Golden Triangle Regional Park - East and West Campuses

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

1. GTRP -- East Campus Concept Master Plan
2. GTRP -- West Campus Concept Master Plan

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 7

SUBJECT TITLE: State's Referendum On Property Tax Reform (City Administrator)

OBJECTIVE:

To receive information on the State's proposed referendum on Tax Reform

SUMMARY:

The Florida Governor and Legislature have approved a referendum on tax reform that will go before Florida voters on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. To pass, it would require 60% of the votes cast. The exact language is in the process of being approved by the Florida Secretary of State. Once it becomes available, it will be distributed.

The referendum includes several things, including an increase in the Homestead Exemption to \$150,000 for non-school property tax on January 1, 2027, and \$250,000 beginning January 1, 2028. It also reduces the tax increase cap of 10% on non-homestead property down to 5%. It also provides for other property tax-related uses.

If the referendum passes on November 3, 2026, it will not affect the current City budget which ends September 30, 2026, nor the proposed City budget that is currently being worked on that begins October 1, 2026, and ends September 30, 2027. It would, however, affect the FY 28 budget, which begins October 1, 2027, and ends September 30, 2028.

OPTIONS:

Receive the information provided.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Receive the information provided

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact on receiving the information. If the referendum passes, there will be a fiscal impact in the FY 2028 budget (October 1, 2027-September 30, 2028).

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

yes

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 8

SUBJECT TITLE: Request for Code Enforcement Lien Reduction (Finance)

OBJECTIVE:

Request for City Council to consider a request received from Carter Young to reduce Code Enforcement Fines/Liens for 1255 Wells Ave.

SUMMARY:

Chapter 2, Article 3, Section 2 of the City sets forth the Enforcement of Municipal Codes. Ordinance 2011-12 established the provision for the creation, establishment and levy of a lien against properties which have unpaid utility charges by the owner.

Currently, there are two outstanding Code Enforcement Liens with fines assessed on the property located at 1255 Wells Ave. Lake County Property Appraiser property records identify the property with Alt Key No. 1410614.

Carter Young, who is considering purchasing the property from its current owner, Stephan Clodwick, Jr., has requested Council's consideration for a reduction in the Code Enforcement Liens recorded against the property.

A summary of the Code Enforcement Liens and lien amounts are shown in the table below:

CODE ENFORCEMENT CASE NUMBER	Property Owner	Date of Lien	Date Recorded	Date of Circuit Court Judgement	Amount	
CET1810-0014	Stephan Clodwick, Jr.	3/23/2021	4/12/2021		37,876.82	LDRSection 12-13 Nuisances Prohibited; Section 12-23 Storage Prohibited
CET2103_0016	Stephan Clodwick, Jr.	1/28/2025	2/19/2025		69,750.00	Nuisances Prohibited; Section 12-23(Storage Prohibited) and City of Tavares Code of Ordinances Article IV, Section 10.5-152 (No Permit Required)
JUDGEMENT CASE No, 2022-CA-001703	Stephan Clodwick, Jr.			1/13/2023	N/A	Final Judgement Granting Permanent Injunction to Abate Nuisances
TOTAL AMOUNT OF LIENS					107,626.82	

Carter Young states that he has the property under a purchase contract, and further states that he is committed to closing if a workable path can be found. Mr. Young has requested the Council's consideration for a "*substantial reduction in both liens conditioned on closing of the sale.*" (See attached email document requesting reduction.)

OPTIONS:

1. Council hears Carter Young, prospective purchaser for 1255 Wells Ave (Alt Key 1410614), and Council holds discussions concerning the request for a reduction of Code Enforcement Liens for Case CET1810-0014 and for Case CET2103-0016 totaling \$107,615.26.
2. Council does not hold discussion on fine reduction.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Council hears Carter Young, prospective purchaser for 1255 Wells Ave (Alt Key 1410614), and Council holds discussions concerning the request for a reduction of Code Enforcement Liens for Case CET1810-0014 and for Case CET2103-0016 totaling \$107,615.26.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Code Enforcement Fine/Liens for discussion –

- Lien for Case #CET1810-0014 \$37,876.82 (\$37,876.82) less \$76.82 and less \$125.00
- Lien for Case #CET2103-0016 \$69,750.00 (\$69,750.00) less \$78.46 and less \$125.00

Administrative Fees of \$155.28 (\$76.82 + \$78.46) may not be reduced.

Fines/liens may not be reduced below \$250.00 (\$125.00 + \$125.00)

This means a total of \$405.28 from the total for both liens may not be reduced.

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Legally Sufficient

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

1. Email Request from Carter Young_CodeEnforcement Lien Reduction 1455 Wells Av_AltKey1410614
2. Circuit Court of the 5th Circuit in and for LakeCoFL_Final Judgement Granting Perm Inj 01132023
3. Code Enforcement Recorded Lien AND CaseBeforeMagistrate CET2103-0016-Recorded 02192025
4. Code Enforcement Recorded Lien AND CaseBeforeMagistrate CET1810-0014 Recorded 04122021
5. LCPA Record Card for 1255 Wells Ave_Alt Key 1410614

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 9

SUBJECT TITLE: City Administrator Report

OBJECTIVE:

The City Administrator will inform the City Council on city-related matters.

SUMMARY:

The City Administrator will provide a summary at the meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

City Council Meeting	July 1, 2026, 4:00 p.m., Tavares City Council Chambers July 15, 2026, 4:00 p.m., Tavares City Council Chambers (First Budget Meeting)
Planning and Zoning Board Meeting	July 16, 2026, 3:00 p.m., Tavares City Council Chambers
Library Board Meeting	September 9, 2026, 4:00 p.m., Tavares Library Expansion Room
Code Enforcement Special Magistrate Hearing	July 28, 2026, 4:00 p.m., Tavares City Council Chambers

OUTSIDE AGENCY MEETINGS:

Heartland League of Cities Meeting	July 10, 2026, 12:00 noon, Location to be Determined
Lake Sumter MPO Governing Board Meeting	October 28, 2026, 2:00 p.m., Suite 175, 1300 Citizens Boulevard, Leesburg
Tavares Chamber of Commerce Business Meeting	June 24, 2026, 11:30 a.m., Tavares Civic Center

Attached is the current 2026 Event Calendar.

OPTIONS:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

1. Tavares_EventCalendar_2026_Rvsd 6.8.2026

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.

**AGENDA SUMMARY
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
6/17/2026**

AGENDA TAB NO.: 10

SUBJECT TITLE: City Council Member Reports

OBJECTIVE:

To inform the Council on city-related items.

SUMMARY:

The Council will be offered an opportunity to provide a report at the meeting.

OPTIONS:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:

Attachments not provided are available to the public upon request to the City Clerk.