

## M I N U T E S

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING  
SOUTH PASADENA, FLORIDA

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025  
COMMISSION CHAMBERS 7:00 P.M.

MAYOR PENNY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:01 P.M. THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY VICE MAYOR REID. ALL PARTICIPATED IN THE PLEDGE TO THE FLAG.

ROLL CALL: COMMISSIONERS GAIL NEIDINGER, MARK MCALEES, LYNDIA THOMPSON, VICE MAYOR THOMAS REID, AND MAYOR ARTHUR PENNY. ALSO PRESENT: CITY CLERK CARLEY LEWIS, CITY ATTORNEY KRISTEN GRAY, FINANCE DIRECTOR JAMES GRAHAM, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR SHAWN SHIMKO, DEPUTY CHIEF MATT WIRTH, AND DEPUTY CITY CLERK MARY JO BOWMAN.

### PEOPLE'S FORUM

NONE

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

### PUBLIC HEARING

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2025-11 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Penny stated this is the third and final reading and the second public hearing on the 2025-2026 budget. He said that the purpose of this hearing is to amend, if necessary, and adopt a millage rate and final budget. He noted that the following will be accomplished:

1. Determine the millage rate to fund the budget; adopt a millage rate.
2. Receive comments from both the public and the City Commission and answer questions.
3. Pass a resolution setting the millage rate to be levied and adopt a budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Finance Director Graham read Resolution No. 2025-11 in its entirety.

Mayor Penny stated that the City Commission held an Administrative Workshop and discussed the FY 2026 millage

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rate. He reported that the consensus of the Commission was to pursue maintaining the current millage rate of 5.175 mills.

Commissioner Neidinger stated that in the past residents were upset when the Commission did not increase the millage and had to make a bigger increase in a future year. She suggested that the Commission consider adopting the rollback rate. She noted that she was hurt by the storms like the rest of the community but Finance Director Graham recommended not staying with the existing millage rate.

Mayor Penny stated that staying with the current millage rate will leave slightly more than six months in reserves. He said that he would be willing to consider the rollback rate to help maintain the City. He noted that past Commissions put the City in a difficult position by not increasing the millage.

Vice Mayor Reid stated that he has heard the community's feedback about leaving the millage rate the same. He said that he hopes the community hears the Commission in the future.

Discussion ensued regarding potential millage rates and City reserves.

Mayor Penny opened the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

Resident Marj Lorand, Corey Way South, thanked the City Commission for their cooperation in discussing the millage.

Resident Susan Freeman, Grande Vista Way South, spoke regarding permitting activity.

Mayor Penny spoke regarding demolition activity and substantial damage statistics.

City Clerk Lewis spoke regarding permitting activity. She said that she would assist Ms. Freeman individually with questions about her recent permit costs.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Penny closed the public hearing at 7:18 p.m.

MOTION WAS MADE BY VICE MAYOR REID, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER THOMPSON, TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 2025-11 TO

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REFLECT A MILLAGE RATE OF 5.175 AND TO ADOPT RESOLUTION  
2025-11 AS AMENDED.

VOTE:	COMMISSIONER NEIDINGER	AYE
	COMMISSIONER MCALEES	AYE
	COMMISSIONER THOMPSON	AYE
	VICE MAYOR REID	AYE
	MAYOR PENNY	AYE

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

2. ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH  
PASADENA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET;  
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE - THIRD AND FINAL READING.

Mr. Graham read Ordinance No. 2025-03 by title.

This Ordinance has been properly noticed.

City Clerk Lewis stated that based on the millage rate just  
adopted in Resolution No. 2025-11, Ordinance No. 2025-03  
will need to be amended when a motion is made following the  
public hearing.

Mayor Penny stated that \$655,870 will need to be taken out  
of reserves.

Mayor Penny opened the public hearing at 7:21 p.m. There  
being no public comment, Mayor Penny closed the public  
hearing at 7:21 p.m.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MCALEES, SECONDED BY  
COMMISSIONER NEIDINGER, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03 TO  
REFLECT A MILLAGE RATE OF 5.175 MILLS THEREBY DECREASING AD  
VALOREM TAX REVENUES BY \$630,895 TO \$4,691,605 AND  
INCREASING GENERAL FUND - APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE BY  
\$630,895 TO \$655,870 AND TO PASS AND ADOPT THE ORDINANCE ON  
THIRD AND FINAL READING AS AMENDED.

VOTE:	COMMISSIONER MCALEES	AYE
	COMMISSIONER THOMPSON	AYE
	VICE MAYOR REID	AYE
	COMMISSIONER NEIDINGER	AYE
	MAYOR PENNY	AYE

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

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There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at  
7:22 p.m.

*Arthur Penny*

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Arthur Penny, Mayor

ATTEST:

*Carley Lewis*

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Carley Lewis, City Clerk  
09-15.25SCM

**DIGITALLY SIGNED COPY.  
TO VIEW ORIGINAL SIGNED MINUTES,  
PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE.**