

M I N U T E S

ADMINISTRATIVE WORKSHOP
SOUTH PASADENA, FLORIDA

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025
COMMISSION CHAMBERS - 9:00 A.M.

Mayor Penny called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M. 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 SAFETY DIRECTOR DAVID MIXSON, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR SHAWN SHIMKO AND DEPUTY CITY CLERK MARY JO BOWMAN.

The topics scheduled for discussion were City Holiday Events and FY2026 Tentative Millage Rate and Budget.

The first topic for discussion was City Holiday Events.

City Clerk Lewis spoke regarding the schedule for the Holiday Tree Lighting and Holiday Lighted Boat Parade. She stated that the tentative dates are November 21st and December 12th respectively.

Discussion ensued regarding winter holiday events.

City Clerk Lewis spoke regarding the reopening of Bay View Park. She suggested waiting to get through the busiest part of storm season and holding a Trunk or Treat event at the park to mark its reopening.

Discussion ensued regarding hosting a Trunk or Treat event.

The consensus of the Commission was to pursue holding a Trunk or Treat at Bay View Park the weekend before Halloween.

Public Works Director Shimko informed the Commission that the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) will be removing a bus stop on Oleander Way South. He added that approximately 400 bus stops are being removed to streamline the bus routes.

Vice Mayor Reid stated that PSTA is redeveloping and rerouting underutilized routes.

The next topic for discussion was FY2026 Tentative Millage Rate and Budget.

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Mayor Penny spoke regarding the tentative millage rate and City reserves. He said that a millage rate of approximately 5.5 mills would leave 6.72 months of reserves at the end of the year. He said that maintaining the current millage rate of 5.175 mills leaves approximately 6.28 months of reserves. He said that the City may be able to keep the millage rate the same this year but would likely need to increase it next year.

Vice Mayor Reid spoke in favor of maintaining the existing millage rate.

Commissioner Thompson spoke in favor of pursuing a millage rate of approximately 5.5 mills. She said that the community has suffered but so has the City so the Commission should try to meet in the middle.

Finance Director Graham spoke regarding maintaining the same millage rate and reviewed a handout (attached to Minutes as Exhibit A). He said that the City will generate less money than in 2025 by approximately \$75,000. He discussed fund transfers and the revenue sources to cover capital purchases and the City's debt service.

Discussion ensued regarding the tentative millage rate and City reserves.

City Clerk Lewis suggested that the Commission consider adopting the rollback rate. She explained that in the past, residents have been upset with the City for not increasing the millage and then making a large millage jump in the future to make up for it rather than small incremental increases over time.

Commissioner McAlees stated that he does not like pushing the ball forward but he could agree with leaving the millage rate the same if that is the desire of the Commission.

Discussion ensued regarding taxable values and City revenues.

The consensus of the Commission was to pursue maintaining the current millage rate of 5.175 mills.

In response to Mayor Penny, Public Safety Director Mixson stated that the Central Diner opened without a license. He said that he would look into the current status of the business.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 A.M.

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Arthur Penny

Arthur Penny, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carley Lewis

Carley Lewis, City Clerk
09-15.25a

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