

CITY OF SAFETY HARBOR
MINUTES OF CITY COMMISSION MEETING
750 MAIN STREET, SAFETY HARBOR, FLORIDA
MARCH 16, 2026

Present: Mayor Joe Ayoub, Vice Mayor Carlos Diaz, Commissioner Nancy Besore, Commissioner Jacob Burnett, Commissioner Kevin Shanks, Commissioner Andy Steingold, City Attorney Sarah Allen, City Manager Josh Stefancic, Community Development Director Carol Stricklin, Community Planner/GIS Analyst Cecilia Chen, Finance Director Matthew Converse, Fire Chief Andrew Hawkins, Public Works Director Renee Cooper, Recreation Director Julie Inman, Recreation Superintendent Shannon Schafer, and City Clerk Rachael Telesca.

Mayor Ayoub called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Invocation was given by Pastor Terry Rolen, Bayside Community Church, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PLAQUE PRESENTATION

1. PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE TO VICE MAYOR CARLOS DIAZ

Presentation of Plaque.

Mayor Ayoub presented Vice Mayor Diaz with a plaque, recognizing his twelve (12) years of dedicated public service to residents, business owners, City Commission, and staff; the Commission conveyed their enjoyment in working alongside him and thanked him for his service and for the positive impact on our community. Vice Mayor Diaz expressed heartfelt gratitude in serving the City for over a decade; conveyed his appreciation of support from family, friends, and residents along the way.

Mayor Ayoub called for a brief recess at 7:15 p.m., and the meeting resumed at 7:18 p.m.

CEREMONY

1. SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Installation of Joe Ayoub as Mayor-Commissioner, and newly Elected Official as City Commissioner Seat #4.

Ms. Telesca administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Ayoub and Commissioner Shanks.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the February 16, 2026 and the March 2, 2026 City Commission meeting minutes.

2. Approval of Renewal #2 for Continuation of Existing Continuing Contracts for Architectural and Engineering Services from March 2026 to March 2027.
3. Approval of Disposal of IT Equipment (PC's and Workstations).
4. Approval of Professional Services Task Order with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for design, permitting, and construction services of the Gulf Machinery Pump Station in the total amount of \$82,186.
5. Approval of Renewal of Tyler Technologies for ExecuTime Support and Maintenance.

Commissioner Burnett pulled Consent Item #4. Commissioner Steingold moved, seconded by Commissioner Besore, to approve Consent Items #1-3 and #5. Motion passed 5-0.

Item #4: Commissioner Burnett sought clarification on whether the Task Order included Engineering and Design Services and Ms. Cooper confirmed that those services were included in addition to construction services including contract administration, major inspections, permitting, and other related items as part of the construction process; \$350,000 is budgeted in FY26/27 for this project to support the construction.

Commissioner Burnett moved, seconded by Commissioner Steingold, to approve Consent Item #4. Motion passed 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

1. PUBLIC ART COMMUNITY SCULPTURE

Approval, approval with modifications, or denial of the repair and design of the CommUnity Sculpture.

Ms. Schafer gave a presentation and stated that on November 3, 2025, the City Commission approved a revised Three-Year Public Art Plan, which included the repair of the *CommUnity* public art piece originally located at Waterfront Park. During the meeting the Commission reviewed the damage to the artwork and the proposed repair options. The artist's repair proposal included two (2) pedestal height options. At the request of the Commission, the Public Art Committee (PAC) reviewed the design and height options at its November 5, 2025, meeting. The PAC unanimously recommended the 6-foot pedestal.

In addition, the PAC recommended planting plants around the base of the pedestal to create a barrier. It was requested that the PAC identify alternative locations for the piece. On March 4, 2026, the PAC reviewed potential sites within the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) district. The PAC recommended relocating the sculpture from the original Waterfront Park location to the area in front of the City Hall William Blackshear Commission Chambers. This relocation will create an additional expense for the construction of a sculpture pad. The PAC

recommended reviewing the budget and the Three-Year Plan to consider adding a new public art piece to the existing pad at Waterfront Park. The Fiscal Year 2026 CRA Fund allocates \$35,000 for public art. The cost of the *CommUnity* repair is \$8,100 and is included as part of the approved Three-Year Public Art Plan. Staff recommended approval, approval with modifications, or denial of the repair, pedestal height, plantings, and location as recommended by the PAC.

The Commission discussed most suitable locations and options to help prevent future damage to the art piece; the consensus was that the Waterfront Park served as the best location to ensure visibility and enjoyment by residents and visitors; supported PAC's recommendation of the six-foot pedestal option and the plant barrier around the base; suggested signage for further protection.

Commissioner Steingold moved, seconded by Commissioner Burnett, to approve the repair, six-foot pedestal height, base plantings, and the Waterfront Park location. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPOINTMENT OF VICE MAYOR

Appointment of City Commissioner to serve as Vice Mayor, by Mayor Ayoub.

Mayor Ayoub appointed Commissioner Besore to serve as Vice Mayor.

2. ANNEXATION REQUEST FOR A PARCEL LOCATED AT 1258 WOODDELL DR. (CASE # 2026-02 AN/ZO)

Approval/Denial of Ordinance No. 2026-02, on first reading.

Attorney Allen read Ordinance No. 2026-02, on first reading, by title only.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SAFETY HARBOR, FLORIDA, ANNEXING CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1258 WOODDELL DRIVE, SAFETY HARBOR, FLORIDA INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF LAW; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Ms. Chen gave a presentation and stated that the city received an application from the property owner, Matthew Wexler, to annex a piece of property located at 1258 Wooddell Dr. The subject property is 10,158 square feet and is developed with a single-family detached residential dwelling. The applicant would like to annex into the city for city utilities. The Technical Review Committee reviewed the application and had no objections.

Vice Mayor Besore sought clarification on whether the property owner was currently connected to septic and if this annexation would grant them access to City sewer and Ms. Chen confirmed.

Antonia Hughes, St. Petersburg College, Public Policy Student, supported the annexation.

Vice Mayor Besore moved, seconded by Commissioner Steingold, to approve Ordinance No. 2026-02, on first reading. Motion passed 5-0.

3. WAIVER REQUEST TO THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE SECTION 36.03 (H) FOR A FENCE, TO REDUCE THE REQUIRED SETBACK FROM 2' TO 0' FROM A PLATTED ALLEYWAY (CASE # 2026-08 CRD-W)

Approval/Denial of Waiver Request Pursuant to Section 100.00 of the Comprehensive Zoning and Land Development Code.

Ms. Chen gave a presentation and stated that the Community Development Department received a Waiver application from the property owners, Andrew and Marci Rosenberg, for a fence located at 737 2nd St N. The property is located within the Traditional Neighborhood Development -1 (TND-1) Character District in the Community Redevelopment District (CRD) and is developed with a Single-family residential dwelling. In January 2026, a building permit was approved for a fence located at this address. The fence has been installed and is pending inspection.

According to Land Development Code section 36.03, fences are required to be located at least two (2) feet from a platted alleyway. The applicants stated that the newly installed fence has created an inconsistency to the existing fences on the neighboring property and along the rest of the alley. The applicants submitted a Waiver application, proposing to reinstall a section of the fence to be located 0' from the alleyway. According to Land Development Code Section 100.00, Waivers may be approved if at least one (1) of the five (5) conditions are met.

The City Commission may approve, approve with modifications, or deny the Waiver request. If the decision is to approve, staff recommend adding a condition that the Public Works Department's comments are addressed.

There were some questions regarding why the alleyway was not previously vacated and Ms. Chen explained that the property owner has not submitted an application to vacate; the current waiver request would create consistency with existing fences on the neighboring property and along the rest of the alley; Commissioner Burnett encouraged the property owners to vacate the alleyway.

Mr. Rosenberg explained that the intent is to align the fence with the neighboring properties to create a continuous fence line.

Commissioner Burnett moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Besore, to approve the waiver request located at 737 2nd St. N., with the conditions as recommended by Public Work staff to include: the water meter and sewer clean-out must remain accessible and not behind a fence, the fence

shall not be installed beyond the property line into the right-of-way, and fence installation shall meet required visibility triangles, per Section 37.00 of the Land Development Code. Motion passed 5-0.

4. WAIVER REQUESTS TO THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE SECTION 36.00(G) FOR AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE: 1) TO REDUCE THE REQUIRED SETBACK FROM THE NORTH PROPERTY LINE FROM 5 FEET TO 1 FOOT 7 INCHES; 2) TO REDUCE THE REQUIRED SETBACK FROM THE WEST PROPERTY LINE FROM 5 FEET TO 4 FEET 7 INCHES; 3) TO REDUCE THE REQUIRED DISTANCE FROM ANOTHER ACCESSORY STRUCTURE FROM 6 FEET TO 4 FEET 6 INCHES, LOCATED AT 1061 DELAWARE ST. (CASE # 2026-07 CRD-W)

Approval/Denial of Waiver Request Pursuant to Section 100.00 of the Comprehensive Zoning and Land Development Code.

Ms. Chen gave a presentation and stated that the Community Development Department received a Waiver application from the property owners, Andrew and Karen Sambrook, for an accessory structure located at 1061 Delaware St. The property is located within the Traditional Neighborhood Development-2 (TND-2) Character District in the Community Redevelopment District (CRD) and is developed with a Single-family residential dwelling. In October 2025, the applicants submitted an after-the-fact building permit for a shed with a covered golfcart parking spot. According to the applicant, the structure is to replace a storm-damaged shed previously located in the same spot.

However, since the structure is a new building, it needs to satisfy all current code requirements. According to the Land Development Code section 36.00(G), accessory structures shall not be located closer than five (5) feet to a lot/property line or closer than six (6) feet from any other accessory structure. Currently the structure is located one (1) foot, seven (7) inches from the north property line, four (4) feet, seven (7) inches from the west property line, and four (4) feet, six (6) inches from the existing pool enclosure. The applicants submitted a Waiver application, seeking to keep the structure in its current location, stating that moving or deconstructing the structure would be disruptive to the property, may damage the adjacent live oak, and would impose financial burden. The applicants also provided signatures from neighbors showing support or no objection.

According to Land Development Code Section 100.00, waivers may be approved if at least one (1) of the five (5) conditions are met.

Ms. Chen explained that additional public comment was received this evening in support of the waiver requests; the City Commission may approve, approve with modifications, or deny the Waiver request. If the decision is to approve, staff recommend adding a condition that the applicant shall ensure that the structure does not create adverse drainage pattern that would negatively impact surrounding properties.

Ms. Sambrook explained that the previous shed was deteriorating, and was under the impression that a permit was not needed for the replacement of a previously existing shed; the structure is in the same location with additional drainage improvements.

Brian Freeman, 1064 Delaware St., explained that he helped build the shed to support his neighbors and everyone involved had good intentions; drainage will be improved with the addition of the raised platform; the adjacent tree will be preserved.

The Commission supported the waiver request and favored drainage improvements and tree protection efforts; neighbors aren't opposed.

Vice Mayor Besore moved, seconded by Commissioner Burnett, to approve the waiver request located at 1061 Delaware St., with the condition as recommended by staff. Motion passed 5-0.

5. CITY-INITIATED CITY CODE AMENDMENTS TO REVISE MOBILE VENDOR REGULATIONS

Approval/Denial of Ordinance No. 2026-03, on first reading.

Attorney Allen explained that Commissioner Shanks must refrain from discussion and voting on this item due to a conflict of interest; a Conflict of Interest will be completed and attached to the meeting minutes; prior to excusing himself from the dais, Commissioner Shanks announced his voting conflict and explained that he owns a business that is affected by the proposed regulations.

Attorney Allen read Ordinance No. 2026-03, on first reading, by title only.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SAFETY HARBOR, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE SAFETY HARBOR CITY CODE CHAPTER 17, SECTION 17.02 TO REVISE MOBILE VENDOR REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Ms. Stricklin stated that on January 20, 2026, the Commission directed staff to prepare a City Code amendment to modify the hours during which mobile vendors may operate. Staff are also proposing to increase the annual fire inspection fee for mobile vendors from \$25 to \$50 to offset the cost of providing the service.

Commissioner Steingold asked if we were recouping the appropriate amount in fees, and whether there was an additional fee collected by the City; Chief Hawkins explained that fire service fees have been evaluated and are based off the hourly rates of staff performing the service; the proposed increase is appropriate; Ms. Stricklin explained that a Business Tax Receipt is also required.

Sherri Kelly, Owner, Crooked Thumb Brewery, 555 10th Ave. S., requested that the Commission extend the weekend operating hours by allowing an earlier start time of 12:00 p.m. instead of 3:00 p.m.; this would allow for lunch service, which oftentimes poses a larger demand compared to dinner service.

Phyllis Shanks, 1050 N. Bayshore Dr., Owner, Troubled Waters Brewing, 670 Main St., agreed; earlier start times would be beneficial as there is more foot traffic during lunch hours; suggested further allowing earlier start times during holidays and special events.

Sean Curry, St. Petersburg College, Public Policy Student, supported approval of the Ordinance; the amendments add value to the community by offering a variety of food options while stimulating the economy; the City will attract modern businesses as food truck demands increase while supporting mobile vendor entrepreneurship; the fee increase is reasonable as Safety Harbor’s fees are lower in comparison to surrounding municipalities.

There was brief discussion amongst the Commission; consensus included extending weekend operating hours and adding certain holidays and events; Attorney Allen suggested narrowing special events to City-sponsored events to add clarity.

Commissioner Burnett moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Besore, to approve Ordinance No. 2026-03, on first reading with modifications to include expanding the operating hours from 3:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m., Friday – Sunday, and adding special days and City-sponsored events. Motion passed 5-0.

6. PRIVATE STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Approval of Private Stormwater Improvement Grant Program Recipients.

Ms. Cooper stated that on August 4, 2025, the Commission dedicated \$250,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in FY24/25 for this program, as well as \$100,000 of ARPA funds in FY25/26. Funds dedicated in FY24/25 were carried forward through a previous budget amendment. The approved FY25/26 budget includes an additional \$100,000 from the Stormwater Enterprise Fund dedicated to the Private Stormwater Improvement Grant Program. This brought the initial total program funding to \$450,000. To date, the City Commission has awarded \$81,996.

On October 20, 2025, the Commission adopted Resolution No. 2025-17, creating the Private Stormwater Improvement Grant Program. The program opened for applications on November 1, 2025. Applications meeting eligibility criteria were reviewed by the Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) on March 3, 2026.

<u>Project Location</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Beneficial Impact Criteria</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Ranking</u>	<u>Cost Share</u>
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1007 Wyndham Way	Bank stabilization of private retention pond.	Erosion Control	12	In Design/Permitting	1 <i>*tied for top ranking</i>	\$2,795
1113 Huntington Ln.	Bank Stabilization of private retention pond.	Erosion Control	12	In Design/Permitting	1 <i>*tied for top ranking</i>	\$1,675

The bank stabilization projects at 1007 Wyndham Way and 1113 Huntington Lane are adjacent to previously awarded pond bank stabilization efforts. By undertaking improvements to their shared private retention pond, these property owners will help reduce ongoing erosion, restore pond capacity, and alleviate localized flooding concerns. The SAB reviewed both applications and recommended approval.

Proposed improvements submitted by either individual property owners or multiple property owners/HOA’s must demonstrate a significant beneficial impact through improved flood mitigation, reduced erosion, and/or enhanced water quality. This is a matching reimbursement grant of up to 50%, not to exceed \$25,000 for individual property owners or \$50,000 for multiple property owners/HOA’s. Projects are eligible for reimbursement only after successful completion and inspection. Projects not yet completed must be constructed within eighteen (18) months of the contract date. The total value of grant applications reviewed this quarter is \$4,470. If all applications are approved, \$357,534 will remain available for future grant recipients this fiscal year. Staff recommended approval of Private Stormwater Improvement Grant recipients for 1007 Wyndham Way (\$2,795) and 1113 Huntington Ln. (\$1,675).

Commissioner Steingold moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Besore, to approve the Private Stormwater Improvement Grant recipients for 1007 Wyndham Way (\$2,795) and 1113 Huntington Ln. (\$1,675) for a total of \$4,470. Motion passed 5-0.

7. HIPPIE DASH

Approval, Approval with Modifications, or Denial of Hippiie Dash from the Goodwill Industries-Suncoast for a special event on Saturday, May 9, 2026.

Ms. Inman stated that on November 7, 2025, staff received a Special Event Application for the Hippiie Dash from the Goodwill Industries-Suncoast. Internal approvals and additional documentation were finalized in March of 2026. The event will be a 5K, 10K, 1-mile fun run, and post-race and expo on the Commission pre-approved 5K and 10K racecourse at Waterfront Park. The starting line will be in front, and the finish line will be on Veterans Memorial Lane. Proceeds from the race will benefit Goodwill Industries-Suncoast. The event is proposed on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at Waterfront Park, from 6:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Event setup will be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on May 8, 2026, with overnight security, and 4:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. on May 9, 2026. Cleanup will conclude by noon on May 9, 2026.

The event application anticipates approximately 1,800 participants and 400 spectators, resulting in an estimated total attendance of roughly 2,200 individuals. If approved, the event is expected to generate increased traffic volumes and parking demand throughout the Main Street/Downtown area during the designated event hours, possibly leading to overflow parking into adjacent residential neighborhoods. These conditions may lead to increased complaints from local businesses and residents related to congestion, limited parking access, and general mobility concerns. The special event applicant must provide a traffic and parking plan, communicate event plans with the Chamber of Commerce, and provide notice to surrounding property owners.

Organizers are aware of the ongoing Marina/Spa construction and possible site plan adjustments pending construction progress. Organizers will collaborate with Special Events Supervisor Joe Cooper for approval on a final site plan. Event organizers must submit a maintenance of traffic plan, parking plan, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) parking plan. Failure to have an approved plan may cause cancellation of the event.

Commissioner Steingold moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Besore, to approve the Special Event Application: Hippie Dash from the Goodwill Industries-Suncoast. Motion passed 5-0.

8. 2026 GOALS UPDATE

City Commission discussion and possible direction on the status of current/open goals.

City Manager Stefancic gave a presentation and stated that historically, following municipal elections, the City Commission conducts a goals discussion to review the status of previously adopted goals and to establish priorities for the next two-year period. The purpose of this item is to provide the Commission with an update on the current goals originally developed in 2024 and reviewed in 2025. Included in the backup are the current goals reflecting progress to date. Completed projects will be removed from the list. Open goals needing Commission direction will be scheduled for further discussion at a future City Commission meeting, unless the Commission has immediate direction this evening for staff.

On April 20, 2026, the Commission will continue this discussion and formally establish goals for the upcoming two-year period (FY27-FY28). This timing aligns with staff's ongoing work to finalize the budget for FY27, ensuring that Commission priorities are fully integrated into the upcoming budget cycle.

City Manager Stefancic summarized updates and reported on each item:

GOAL 2024-01 - Increase Customer Satisfaction Experience of Library: Improve and Expand Children's Division; Explore Feasibility of Providing Café Services.

The youth department project has been completed, including the consolidation of the Tween and Teen room into a renovated hangout for ages 10+ including games, computers, arts & craft materials and study space; staff continues to identify space and research options for café services

including healthy snack options; the circulation desk and floor renovations are in progress; staff will implement a Sunday pilot program this summer based on community feedback for Sunday-hours; no additional personnel costs will be incurred.

GOAL 2024-02 - Increase Capacity of Transient Boaters at Marina: Explore the Installation of Transient Day Docks for Boaters Visiting Safety Harbor.

Cost for Design/Permitting is a minimum of \$75,000 for a location within the Marina Boat Basin; Marina Special Revenue Fund – Not budgeted; transient docks could be created within the current footprint of the Marina if slip vacancies are realized; Marina waitlist remains extensive (approximately one-hundred active since 2008); Commissioner Steingold is unsure whether we have room for transient boats and whether the project is feasible; City Manager Stefancic recommended that the Commission revisit options and challenges once reconstruction is complete.

GOAL 2024-03 – Review Advisory Board and Committee Attendance Policy: Increase Candidates for Selection Process and Communication; Review Absence Policy; Review Term Limit and Extension Policy.

This goal is complete and will be maintained by staff; Commissioner Burnett would like to see Board advocacy continue as applicant inventory decreases; suggested staff presence during 3rd Friday or the Sunday Market on Main events.

GOAL 2024-04 – Improve Management of Downtown Parking Plan: Increase Driver Education on Parking Options and Violations; Explore Valet Parking Options, Shuttle, and Shared Ride Drop Off/Pick Up Locations; Continue Parking Engineering Programs.

Staff continues to work on improvements including updating the Traffic Calming Manual, installing/maintaining one-sided street parking, working with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office on enforcement efforts, increasing communication efforts and notifications during and prior to events; staff obtained a quote for 'Freebee,' a shuttle service successful in other communities; the service is approximately \$135,000 annually, or less if limited to downtown; staff will continue to research other options during special events and/or high-volume days/evenings; General Fund and/or CRA – not budgeted; Ride Share Drop-Off/Pick-Up locations can be identified as a part of Parking Engineering Programs; General Fund and/or CRA – not budgeted; the Downtown Master Plan is being reviewed and staff is identifying ADA parking opportunities at several facilities including the Rigsby Center, Library and other locations during special events; staff will present a parking requirement presentation in May; Phase I of Main St. Design Study is completed, and Phase II has been initiated.

There was general discussion regarding parking; Commissioner Steingold conveyed opposition towards valet and shuttle services and prefers exploring other options; the Commission agreed and prefers not to commit to any new programs or expenses; Commissioner Steingold suggested designated golf cart parking spaces in certain locations; Commissioner Burnett suggested adding

additional requirements into the parking plan as part of the Special Event Application to include plans for overflow/off-site parking for certain sized events; suggested analyzing options to expand permanent ADA parking throughout downtown; City Manager Stefancic ensured options will be brought back for review and discussion.

GOAL 2024-05 – Increase/Update Community Development Elements: Increase Customer Satisfaction Experience of the Community Development Department; Evaluate City’s Management of Short-Term Rentals; Update Land Development Code; Finalize Elm Street Property Masterplan; Host St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) PIE Presentations; Continued Discussion of City’s Noise Ordinance.

A new Assistant Community Development Director was hired in February 2025; electronic plan reviews and online submittals are now offered; staff continue to partner with the Pinellas County Building Department for streamlining plan reviews and inspections and improving client user experiences; staff continues to work with legal to evaluate current ordinances against State statutes; we are awaiting the Facility Master Plan (FMP) Report and continue to analyze parking lot options during special events; staff recommended revisiting following completion of the FMP; PIE presentations are completed.

GOAL 2024-06 – Increase Employee Protection, Safety and Security: Provide policy to maintain a safe and secure environment for employees; Safety and security measures for internal and external sources.

A Workplace Safety and Security Administrative Policy were established; legal continues to review decorum protocols for meetings and social media policies; City Hall and facility security measures are underway; a new access control system was installed at City Hall; the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office completed an analysis of City Hall and the Library; staff recommended regularly reviewing internal protocols and operational processes; the Personnel Review Board is reviewing applicable updates to Rules and Regulations; staff recommended reviewing and updating relevant policies to maintain operational effectiveness.

GOAL 2024-07 – Increase/Update Public Works & Leisure Services Elements.

Bishop Creek and Mullet Creek Improvements has been assigned to Public Works to merge with the ongoing Watershed Management Plan; the Comprehensive Creek Evaluation for Bishop and Mullet Creeks are underway and completion is expected this year; Private Stormwater Improvement Grant Program opened for applications on November 1, 2025 and over \$80,000 has been awarded for private projects; the Watershed Management Plan and the Vulnerability Assessment are due this year; project priorities in future fiscal years will be set based on these reports.

Sidewalk Improvements at/near Elm Street Property are not currently budgeted; this project involves complexities related to Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) permitting due to drainage ditches

needing to be piped; consultant estimates are \$300,000 for construction and \$75,000 for design; the Commission deemed the area unsafe and concluded to add this item to a future agenda for further discussion.

Water Feature at Waterfront Park include estimates of \$90,000 to \$150,000 for a misting station; stations utilize ranges of sixteen (16) to seventy-five (75+) gallons of water per minute or approximately 8,0000 gallons per day; water cost estimates are approximately \$85,000+/annually; potable and treated water must be used; the systems do not meet the City's FDEP approved water conservation plan.

Swings at Waterfront Park include estimates of \$6,000 per swing and are more prone to damage due to storm surge and flooding events; the swings may also cause obstruction to other uses at the park including special events; swings are not budgeted; Commissioner Steingold believes the swings will add to the ambiance at Waterfront Park and provide a place to relax; suggested additional shade at the Park; Commissioner Burnett agreed and would like to see options; Mayor Ayoub suggested shaded swings.

More plantings and greenery in Right-of-Ways: the plan has been approved by the Commission and the project is in progress; additional plantings for FY27 and FY28 will be budgeted.

Commissioner Steingold inquired about investment options as previously discussed amongst the Commission and Mr. Converse stated that the City has a sweep account in place as of December 2025; an investment services Request for Proposals (RFP) is forthcoming.

9. PLANNING & ZONING BOARD/BOARD OF APPEALS

Appointment of three (3) regular members.

Ms. Telesca introduced this item.

Vice Mayor Besore moved, seconded by Commissioner Steingold, to reappoint Ms. Allison, Ms. Norton, and Mr. Soucy as regular members, and appoint Ms. Marakas as a regular member. Motion passed 5-0.

10. SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

Appointment of one (1) member.

Ms. Telesca introduced this item.

Commissioner Burnett moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Besore, to appoint Ms. Brown to the Sustainability Advisory Board. Motion passed 5-0.

11. FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Appointment of one (1) alternate member.

Ms. Telesca introduced this item.

Vice Mayor Besore moved, seconded by Commissioner Steingold, to appoint Mr. Hughes as an alternate member. Motion passed 5-0.

12. CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD

Appointment of one (1) regular member.

Ms. Telesca introduced this item.

Vice Mayor Besore moved, seconded by Commissioner Steingold, to appoint Mr. Childers as a regular member, and appoint Ms. Spohn as an alternate member. Motion passed 5-0.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Burnett: congratulated Commissioner Shanks for winning the 2026 election, Seat #4, and congratulated Vice Mayor Besore for her appointment as Vice Mayor; congratulated David Gallagher for participating in the election; former Vice Mayor Diaz will be missed; is happy to see the new signage at the Boardwalk depicting the correct species of fish; the Suncoast League of Cities is hosting a meeting during the Pinellas Park Firefighters MDA Chili Blaze event on March 20th and encouraged the Commission to attend in his absence; commended the Craft Beer Festival; encouraged those to attend Fish Fry Fridays at Espiritu Santo Catholic Church from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. during lent, and thanked the Fire Department for responding to an incident that occurred during the event this past Friday; thanked City Arborist James Ryan for inviting him to speak at a recent regional forestry meeting; commended the Watershed Management Plan Public Outreach Meeting on March 10th.

Commissioner Steingold: congratulated Commissioner Shanks for winning the 2026 election, Seat #4, and to David Gallagher for participating in the election; former Vice Mayor Diaz will be missed; is happy to see Waterfront Park open; mentioned a recent rabid raccoon siting and suggested staff contact animal control.

Vice Mayor Besore: thanked Mayor Ayoub for appointing her as Vice Mayor; wished a happy 2nd Birthday to Folly Farm Nature Preserve goat George, named after Mr. George Weiss who donated the property to the City in 2014; commended the Craft Beer Festival; attended the Forward Pinellas School Transportation Safety Committee meeting on March 4th; the Committee discussed the SPOTlight initiative that focuses on safer, lighted bus stops in specific areas; the topic is controversial in addition to a proposed bus camera violation ticket system; encouraged those

who personally know Sheriff Gualtieri to inquire why the Department is opposed to the technology.

Forward Pinellas is also updating their Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan, focused on data-driven solutions including a High Injury Network (HIN), public-facing crash dashboards, and deploying near-miss technology to improve safety; those interested in getting involved and taking their survey can visit <https://fp.mysocialpinpoint.com/safe-streets-pinellas-update> to complete; commended the Junk in the Trunk event on March 7th; the next Friends of the Library Book Sale takes place on March 20th from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and thanked those who donated their books; commended the Watershed Management Plan Public Outreach Meeting on March 10th.

Commissioner Shanks: thanked former Vice Mayor Diaz for his time in serving the City; thanked his wife Nikki, children, parents, family and friends for their support; thanked Mr. Gallagher for participating in the election and for his efforts in campaigning; thanked those for attending the Craft Beer Fest, and to staff and volunteers for helping host a successful and enjoyable event.

Mayor Ayoub: congratulated Commissioner Shanks for winning the 2026 election, Seat #4; thanked residents for their support and is honored to have the opportunity to serve another term; commended the Craft Beer Festival.

City Manager Stefancic: congratulated Mayor Ayoub on his re-election, to Vice Mayor Besore on her appointment as Vice Mayor, and to Commissioner Shanks on winning the 2026 Municipal Election; Boardwalk repairs are complete and nearly open as we await a final inspection; the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office will focus efforts on illegal parking during the events this weekend; 3rd Avenue North between Main St. and 2nd Street North will receive new 'parking' and 'no parking' signage and curb markings to assist with legal parking, traffic flow, and pedestrian safety; staff is finalizing plans for one-sided street parking on Delaware Street between 9th and 11th Avenue, and residents and businesses will be notified of the new plans; trees have been planted on the east side of the Safety Harbor Resort & Spa parking lot; City Commission individual and group photos will take place at City Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular City Commission meeting on April 6th.

City Manager Stefancic reported on items to be eliminated in FY26 in preparation for potential Property Tax Reform impacts to include: requesting a 5% return of funds from individual Department Budgets; Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) not approved by April 1st will need to be re-budgeted and approved in the next FY instead of rolling over; the ten-year Penny for Pinellas renewal is forthcoming on the 2028 ballot; the City currently receives approximately \$3M annually towards CIP's, supported by the Penny fund; staff will continue to monitor; other deferred expenses include Folly Farm barns and animal shelters, Elm St. greenhouses, portable light towers, museum displays, Community Center gym flooring replacement, eliminating Recreation paid internship programs, and a reduction in Library equipment.

Reducing current FY spending will help avoid deficiencies later and ensure that the City maintains strong reserves, borrowing capacity, and avoids mid-year emergency cuts; the intent is to present

the FY27 budget with the same 3.9500 millage rate and to avoid the use of fund reserves; we anticipate no more than a 5% increase in revenue; a FY28 worst-case scenario synopsis includes a potential \$6.8M total reduction with significant impacts in services city-wide including delayed storm and EMS response and transport times, maintenance of parks and City equipment, and a multitude of other events and services that will be detrimental to the community.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

(THIS MEETING HAS BEEN RECORDED IN ITS ENTIRETY. THE RECORDINGS WILL BE KEPT ON FILE FOR THE REQUIRED RETENTION PERIOD. COMPLETE AUDIO CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.CITYOFSAFETYHARBOR.COM, OR BY CONTACTING THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK.)

Mayor

FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME SHANKS - KEVIN - LUKAS	NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE SAFETY HARBOR CITY COMMISSION
MAILING ADDRESS 630 2ND AVE N.	THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CITY <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER LOCAL AGENCY
CITY COUNTY SAFETY HARBOR PINELHAS	NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION:
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED 3/16/20	MY POSITION IS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ELECTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> APPOINTIVE

WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving at the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies equally to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law when faced with voting on a measure in which you have a conflict of interest will vary greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing the reverse side and filing the form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office **MUST ABSTAIN** from voting on a measure which inures to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also is prohibited from knowingly voting on a measure which inures to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal by which he or she is retained); to the special private gain or loss of a relative; or to the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community redevelopment agencies under Sec. 163.356 or 163.357, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting in that capacity.

For purposes of this law, a "relative" includes only the officer's father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A "business associate" means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, coowner of property, or corporate shareholder (where the shares of the corporation are not listed on any national or regional stock exchange).

* * * * *

ELECTED OFFICERS:

In addition to abstaining from voting in the situations described above, you must disclose the conflict:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN by publicly stating to the assembly the nature of your interest in the measure on which you are abstaining from voting; *and*

WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE VOTE OCCURS by completing and filing this form with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who should incorporate the form in the minutes.

* * * * *

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Although you must abstain from voting in the situations described above, you otherwise may participate in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:

- You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on other side)

APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, Kevin Shanks, hereby disclose that on March 16th, 20 26:

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one)

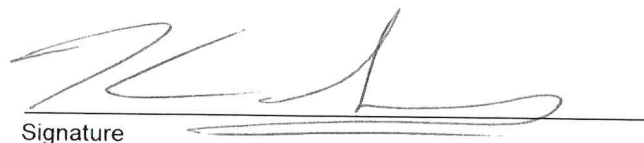
- inured to my special private gain or loss;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, _____;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, _____;
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, by whom I am retained; or
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, which is the parent organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

Safety Harbor was debating changing food truck hours. My business is a brewery which hosts food trucks regularly.

3/20/26

Date Filed


Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.