

City of Clearwater

*Main Library - Council Chambers
100 N. Osceola Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33755*



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 5, 2026

6:00 PM

Main Library - Council Chambers

City Council

Roll Call

Present: 5 - Mayor Bruce Rector, Vice Mayor Lina Teixeira, Councilmember David Allbritton, Councilmember Ryan Cotton and Councilmember Michael Mannino

Also Present: Jennifer Poirrier – City Manager, Daniel Slaughter – Assistant City Manager, Alfred Battle – Assistant City Manager, Owen Kohler – Interim City Attorney, Rosemarie Call – City Clerk, and Nicole Sprague – Deputy City Clerk.

To provide continuity for research, items are listed in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

Unapproved

1. Call to Order – Mayor Rector

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Invocation

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Special recognitions and Presentations (Proclamations, service awards, or other special recognitions. Presentations by governmental agencies or groups providing formal updates to Council will be limited to ten minutes.) – Given.

- 4.1 Flood Awareness Week 2026 Proclamation, March 9-15, 2026 - Cassie Cordova, Gene Henry, and Sarah Kessler

5. Approval of Minutes

- 5.1 Approve the minutes of the February 19, 2026 City Council meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk.

Vice Mayor Teixeira moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2026 City Council meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

6. Consent Agenda – Approved as submitted.

- 6.1 Approve funding of a deferred loan in an amount not to exceed \$1,391,938 provided by

the City of Clearwater for the development of real property, located at 1718 North Betty Lane, into affordable multifamily housing and authorize the appropriate officials to execute documents required to affect closing of the loan. (consent)

- 6.2** Approve the purchase of excess Property Insurance, including Bridges, Boiler and Machinery, Terrorism, UAV/Drone, and Docks and Pier coverages, from April 1, 2026 through April 1, 2027, at the level of insurance provided for in this agenda item in a not-to-exceed amount of \$5,901,000 and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 6.3** Approve a not-to-exceed amount of \$265,000 for reconstruction and replacement work for the Beach Marina building performed by SERVPRO of Largo and various city departments and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 6.4** Authorize a purchase order to Ten-8 Fire Equipment Inc of Bradenton FL, for the purchase of one new Pierce Heavy Duty Velocity Platform and one Pierce Heavy Duty Velocity Pumper in the amount of \$3,497,068.01 pursuant to City Code of Ordinances Section 2.563(1)(c) Piggyback; declare G3405 (truck) and G3725 (engine) surplus effective upon receipt of the purchased apparatus and authorize disposal at auction or trade-in, whichever is deemed to be in the best interest of the City, pursuant to Code of Ordinances Section 2.623 (7) and (8); authorize lease purchase under the City's Master Lease Purchase Agreement or internal financing via an interfund loan from the Capital Improvement Fund, whichever is deemed to be in the City's best interests; and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 6.5** Authorize a purchase order to Motorola Solutions, Inc. (Motorola) of St. Petersburg FL, for the purchase of a Mach Alert Fire Station Alerting (FSA) system in an amount not to exceed \$108,940.46 pursuant to Code of Ordinances - Section 2.563(1)(c), Piggyback, and Section 2.563(1)(d), Non-Competitive Purchase (Impractical) and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 6.6** Approve a three-year maintenance and support agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc. of Yarmouth, ME for Munis Financials, Human Capital Management (HCM), and Tyler Time & Attendance Management software in a not to exceed amount of \$2,115,445.57 pursuant to Clearwater Code of Ordinances Section 2.563(1)(d), Non-competitive purchases (Impractical) and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 6.7** Approve a Work Authorization with Register Construction and Engineering, Inc. for Pre-Construction and Technical Services related to the Clearwater Executive Airport North Hangar project in the amount of \$63,666.00 pursuant to RFQ 51-24 and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 6.8** Authorize respective Agreements between the City of Clearwater and the Palm Pavilion

Hotel located at 10 Bay Esplanade, Pier 60 Concessions and Barefoot Beach House located at 1 Causeway Boulevard and 332 South Gulfview Boulevard, respectively, Shephards - Makin Waves located at 619 South Gulfview Boulevard, Hilton located at 400 Mandalay Avenue, Dolphin Sands located at 655 South Gulfview Boulevard and Hampton Inn and Suites located at 635 South Gulfview Boulevard, authorizing the limited use of certain vehicles on public beaches by permit pursuant to recent amendments to F.S. 161.58; and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)

- 6.9** Reappoint Michael Boutzoukas to the Community Development Board with a full term expiring February 28, 2030. (consent)
- 6.10** Appoint Chelsea Gird to the Municipal Code Enforcement Board to fill an unexpired term through November 1, 2028. (consent)
- 6.11** Cancel the August 17, 2026 and November 2, 2026 work session meetings. (consent)
- 6.12** Approve an increase to the legal services agreement with Gray Robinson to defend claims bills relating to plaintiff Maximus Giannikos. (consent)

Councilmember Allbritton moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Public Hearings - Not before 6:00 PM

7. Administrative Public Hearings

- 7.1** Approve Connecting Clearwater: An Active Transportation Plan for the City of Clearwater, and adopt Resolution 26-04.

Connecting Clearwater is the City's active transportation plan (ATP) proposed for council approval. The plan establishes a citywide framework to identify a low-stress network for walking, bicycling, rolling, and accessing transit, and includes a prioritized list of needs and ten concept-level corridor/crossing plans. The plan guides future planning and coordination and does not select final projects or authorize expenditures. The City will use the plan's priorities to inform work planning and policy decisions, including potential integration into the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and consideration through the land development process, as resources and funding opportunities allow, with feasibility, scope, and costs refined through engineering design.

Overview and Objectives

The City of Clearwater hired Fehr & Peers in November 2024 to develop an active transportation plan to replace the 2006 Shifting Gears Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Active transportation refers to human-powered methods of travel, such as walking, using wheelchairs and strollers, or bicycling, and the infrastructure that supports those forms of transportation. Connecting Clearwater will serve as a road map to enhance the facilities that support active transportation within the city.

Guided by the policy framework in the city's Clearwater 2045 Comprehensive Plan and the Complete Streets for Clearwater Implementation Plan, as well as Forward Pinellas's Advantage Pinellas Active Transportation Plan, Connecting Clearwater has the following key objectives:

1. Identify a citywide low-stress active transportation network that complements other travel modes, especially transit, supports future land use patterns, and connects to active transportation facilities in adjacent communities.
2. Improve transportation safety outcomes for people not traveling in motorized vehicles, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-automobile transportation system users.
3. Develop a feasible project list that can be implemented as stand-alone projects, as part of other planned transportation system improvements, or as part of the land development process.

Plan Development and Key Outputs

To support the development of a low-stress active transportation network, an existing conditions assessment was conducted. Staff also obtained guidance from:

- a technical advisory committee (TAC) comprised of staff from departments that will play a critical role in the implementation of the plan; and
- a formal stakeholder group, including Pinellas County, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA), Amplify Clearwater, local business owners, representatives from the bicycling and walking communities, disability advocates, and others.

General public engagement was also conducted, with almost 450 people participating online and in person through an online survey and map, a facility preference survey, an in-person community workshop, and at special events. Additional detail on the existing conditions assessment and engagement is provided in the Technical Appendix. These initial findings and the proposed prioritization criteria were presented at the City Council Work Session on June 2, 2025.

Based on the results of the existing conditions analysis and public feedback, the project team developed a system to prioritize potential projects based on safety,

user comfort, access and connectivity, ease of implementation (including estimated cost and timeframe), and demographics. Applying these criteria citywide produced project rankings for corridors, crossings, and sidewalk gaps on arterial streets (Appendices A - C). Additional detail on the prioritization criteria and the highest-ranked projects is provided in Section 04 - Prioritization.

Once the rankings were completed, the project team developed ten corridor or crossing concept plans for active transportation improvements (Section 06 - Concept Plans). The goal underpinning the prioritization and planning process was to identify and develop a citywide network of facility types that supports people who walk, bike, roll, and access transit, by choice or necessity (Section 02 - Network Development).

Measuring the level of comfort people feel on various types of roads was a key input for proposing the most appropriate facility or countermeasure (pages 18, 72). To support implementation, staff prepared a list of recommended revisions to the Community Development Code (Section 03 - Active Transportation Policy) and identified grant funding opportunities (page 64).

The ATP, priority list, and concepts (Appendix D) were shared with the TAC. The concept plans and their locations received positive feedback. However, some of the highest-ranked projects may not be feasible once engineering design identifies site-specific constraints (Implementation Plan - Section 05). Approval of Connecting Clearwater is the first step toward the selection, design, and construction of these improvements.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Connecting Clearwater: An Active Transportation Plan for the City of Clearwater will guide transportation planning and development to expand healthy, affordable travel options in support of Strategic Plan Objectives 1.2, 1.4, 2.4, 3.2, 4.1, and 4.4.

Assistant City Manager Al Battled said staff is requesting the item be referred to a date uncertain.

No action taken.

- 7.2** Approve a Resilient Florida Program Grant Agreement (Agreement No. 26SRP20) between the City of Clearwater and the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in the amount of \$4,000,000 for construction of resiliency improvements at the Clearwater Beach Marina, adopt Resolution 26-07, and authorize

the appropriate officials to execute same.

The State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has awarded the City of Clearwater a \$4,000,000 Resilient Florida Program grant to support resiliency-related improvements at the Clearwater Beach Marina. The project, titled "Clearwater Beach Municipal Marina Resiliency," includes a slip study, preconstruction activities, demolition of portions of the existing marina bulkhead, construction of a new bulkhead elevated by more than one foot, and replacement of the existing overwater fuel facility with a floating fuel facility designed to remain approximately 24 inches above the water's surface. These improvements are consistent with the City's broader Clearwater Beach Marina reconstruction initiative and are intended to enhance long-term coastal resilience, reduce vulnerability to storm surge and sea level rise, and improve operational sustainability.

The grant agreement term runs from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028. Funding is provided through the FY 2025-2026 General Appropriations Act. Resolution 26-07 formally authorizes acceptance and execution of the Agreement between the City of Clearwater and the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

This grant funding will directly offset eligible construction and resiliency costs within the overall Clearwater Beach Marina reconstruction project, reducing reliance on local enterprise funds while advancing the City's commitment to infrastructure resiliency, environmental stewardship, and protection of public assets.

The grant agreement requires the Grantee (the City) to fully indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Department and its officers, agents, and employees from any suits, actions, damages, and costs arising from personal injury, property damage, or breach of agreement caused by the Grantee, its agents, employees, partners, or subcontractors. As the City is a governmental entity, however, each party remains solely responsible for the negligent or wrongful acts of its own employees and agents, and nothing in the agreement shall constitute a waiver of sovereign immunity or the protections afforded under Section 768.28, Florida Statutes.

APPROPRIATION CODE AND AMOUNT:

Grant funds will be reimbursed to existing capital project C1905.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

High Performing Government

1.2 Maintain public infrastructure, mobility systems, natural lands, environmental resources, and historic features through systematic management efforts.

Economic & Housing Opportunity

2.2 Cultivate a business climate that welcomes entrepreneurship, inspires local investment, supports eco-friendly enterprises, and encourages high-quality job

growth.

2.3 Promote Clearwater as a premier destination for entertainment, cultural experiences, tourism, and national sporting events.

Resolution 26-07 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Mannino moved to Approve a Resilient Florida Program Grant Agreement (Agreement No. 26SRP20) between the City of Clearwater and the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in the amount of \$4,000,000 for construction of resiliency improvements at the Clearwater Beach Marina, adopt Resolution 26-07, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Rector, Vice Mayor Teixeira, Councilmember Allbritton, Councilmember Cotton and Councilmember Mannino

8. Second Readings - Public Hearing

8.1 Adopt Ordinance 9875-26 on second reading, annexing certain real property whose post office address is 1604 Bonair Street, Clearwater, Florida 33755, into the corporate limits of the city and redefining the boundary lines of the city to include said addition.

Ordinance 9875-26 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Cotton moved to adopt Ordinance 9875-26 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Rector, Vice Mayor Teixeira, Councilmember Allbritton, Councilmember Cotton and Councilmember Mannino

8.2 Adopt Ordinance 9876-26 on second reading, amending the future land use element of the Comprehensive Plan of the city to designate the land use for certain real property whose post office address is 1604 Bonair Street, Clearwater, Florida 33755, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Residential Low (RL).

Ordinance 9876-26 was presented and read by title only.

Vice Mayor Teixeira moved to adopt Ordinance 9876-26 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Rector, Vice Mayor Teixeira, Councilmember Allbritton,

Councilmember Cotton and Councilmember Mannino

- 8.3** Adopt Ordinance 9877-26 on second reading, amending the Zoning Atlas of the city by zoning certain real property whose post office address is 1604 Bonair Street, Clearwater, Florida 33755, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Low Medium Density Residential (LMDR).

Ordinance 9877-26 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Allbritton moved to adopt Ordinance 9877-26 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Rector, Vice Mayor Teixeira, Councilmember Allbritton, Councilmember Cotton and Councilmember Mannino

- 8.4** Withdrawn: Adopt Ordinance 9872-26 on second reading, annexing certain real property whose post office address is 2941 Abbey Lake Road, Clearwater, Florida 33759 into the corporate limits of the city and redefining the boundary lines of the city to include said addition.
- 8.5** Withdrawn: Adopt Ordinance 9873-26 on second reading, amending the future land use element of the Comprehensive Plan of the city to designate the land use for certain real property whose post office address is 2941 Abbey Lake Road, Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Residential Suburban (RS).
- 8.6** Withdrawn: Adopt Ordinance 9874-26 on second reading, amending the Zoning Atlas of the city by zoning certain real property whose post office address is 2941 Abbey Lake Road, Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Low Density Residential (LDR).

9. Citizens to be Heard on topics pertaining to city business but not on the agenda. – None.

10. City Manager Reports – None.

11. City Attorney Reports

Interim City Attorney Owen Kohler said the Gotham closing occurred last week; he thanked Assistant City Attorneys Jerrod Simpson and Matthew Mytych for their work on the matter.

12. Other Council Action

12.1 Provide direction regarding the September 3, 2026 council meeting.

At the March 2, 2026 work session, staff was requested to determine if rescheduling the September 3, 2026 council meeting, which is the City's first budget hearing, was possible.

Due to the School Board and County's budget hearings, the City may not reschedule the September 3rd budget hearing to September 8th or September 10th.

Based on council calendars, the budget hearing could be moved to Wednesday, September 9th. Please note Councilmember Allbritton has a conflict due to PSTA's budget hearing scheduled at 6:00 p.m.

If Council chooses to reschedule the September 3rd budget hearing to September 9th, staff recommends holding the council meeting on August 31, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. and cancelling the work session at 1:30 p.m.

Discussion ensued with direction given for staff to confirm if Tuesday, September 15, 2026 is available for the budget hearing and to bring back the item at the next meeting.

13. Closing comments by Councilmembers (limited to 3 minutes)

Vice Mayor Teixeira and Councilmember Allbritton reviewed recent events.

Vice Mayor Teixeira said she was thankful that Clearwater For Youth does not limit scholarships to traditional baccalaureate degrees and includes technical degrees, ensuring all students have a real opportunity.

14. Closing Comments by Mayor

Mayor Rector reviewed recent and upcoming events and reminded all that traffic associated with Spring Break will begin soon and encouraged all to be more patient.

15. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Attest

Mayor
City of Clearwater

City Clerk

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