MINUTES
City of Cocoa
Regular Meeting of The City Council

July 22, 2025

A Regular City Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, in Cocoa City Hall, in City Council Chambers, located at 65 Stone Street, in Cocoa, Florida, 32922, as publicly noticed.

I. Opening Matters:

Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Reverend Dr. Bryant provided the invocation, and the Summer Youth interns led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The City Clerk took the roll.

PRESENT:	Michael C. Blake	Mayor
	Patricia Weeks	Deputy Mayor
	Alex Goins	Councilmember
	Lavander Hearn	Councilmember
	Lorraine Koss	Councilmember
	Anthony Garganese	City Attorney
	Stockton Whitten	City Manager
	Monica Arsenault	City Clerk

ABSENT:

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Abby Morgan, Public Works Director; Rebecca Bowman, Finance Director; Charlene Neuterman, Community Services Director; Jonathan Lamm, Fire Chief; Evander Collier, Police Chief; Jack Walsh, Utilities Director; Samantha Senger, Communications and Economic Development Director; Lorne Stinnett, HR Director; Tom Wilkinson, Code Enforcement Manager; Mitch Lawyer, Systems and Support Manager; and Dalyn Sims, Helpdesk Support Tech.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

1. Agenda: Regular Meeting of July 22, 2025. (2025-570).

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Goins to approve the agenda for the Regular City Council meeting of July 22, 2025 with an amendment to move Consent item V.4 to Council Business VII.5.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

2. Minutes: Regular Meeting of May 13, 2025. (2025-571).

* **MOTION by Councilmember Hearn; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Weeks to approve the minutes for the May 13, 2025 Regular City Council meeting as written.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

II. Awards and Presentations:

1. Presentation of the City of Cocoa's 2025 "Cocoa Works" Summer Youth Employment Program. (2025-701). (Human Resources Director)

   Mr. Stinnett gave a brief presentation and formally congratulated the Summer Youth Program interns with a certificate.

2. Presentation by EXP US Services on the Vulnerability Assessment Grant. Presentation is required as part of the public presentation for the grant deliverables and to finalize the document which will be presented to Council in August. (2025-692). (Community Services Director)

   Ms. Neuterman introduced the City's consultant, Ajani Stewart, who has been working on the City's Vulnerability Assessment for the last year.

Ajani Stewart, with EXP US Services, provided a presentation[1] and explained the process for the Vulnerability Assessment Grant.

IV. Delegations:

Pam Shaia, 14 Oleander St., Cocoa, thanked the City Manager and Police Chief Collier for taking care of an ongoing issue in Cocoa Village.

Tony Johnson, 1920 Woodhaven Cir., Rockledge, wished to congratulate and recognize Cocoa's newest Postmaster who is the first woman of color to be a Postmaster in Cocoa.

Randy Cole Sims, 1364 Harvard St., Palm Bay, also wished to congratulate the new Postmaster.

Dr. Bryant, with Hartman Road Church of Christ, congratulated the new Postmaster and shared that they have been praying for her to come back to Florida.

The new Cocoa Postmaster, Ms. Mary Mustipher, thanked her friends, family and co-workers for their support and is looking forward to doing good things in Cocoa.

V. Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Task Order 2025-14 with Carollo Engineers, Inc. Orlando, Florida, in the amount of $624,009.18 for the SCADA Migration Project at the Jerry Sellers Water Reclamation Facility. (2025-613). (Utilities Director)

2. To Approve Task Order 2025-13 to Continuing Professional Services Agreement Q-23-13-COC with Carollo Engineers, Inc. in the amount of $296,345.94 for Design, Permitting, and Bidding Services for the Jerry Sellers Aeration Blowers Replacement Project (WS25AB). (2025-630). (Utilities Director)

3. Announcement of Mayor Blake, Deputy Mayor Weeks, Councilmember Koss, Councilmember Hearn, and Councilmember Goins to Attend the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference from August 14 - August 16, 2025. (2025-632). (City Clerk)

4. ~~Travel Authorization for Planning Officials Training Workshop for Councilwoman Koss. (2025-700). (City Clerk)~~ Moved to Council Business VII.5.

5. Correction to the affordable housing real property inventory list and approve a Resolution identifying certain real property within the City to which the City holds fee

[1] Exhibit A: Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment

simple title that is appropriate for permanent affordable housing. (2025-717). (Community Services Director)

* **MOTION by Councilmember Hearn; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Weeks to approve the Consent agenda.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

VI. Public Hearings:

1. Approve Resolution No. 2025-045, Establishing the Rolled-Back Rate, and Approve a Proposed Millage Rate for the Purposes of Notification to the Taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser and set the date, time, and place for the first Public Hearing to consider the FY2026 Budget. It is also recommended that the City Manager be instructed to complete the Florida Department of Revenue's Certifications of Taxable Value, Forms DR-420. (2025-584). (Finance Director)

   Ms. Bowman gave a presentation[2] and reviewed the rolled-back rate and the millage rate.

   Mayor Blake opened the Hearing to the public. There being no questions or comments, the public portion of the Hearing was closed.

   Councilmember Koss confirmed that in order to not raise property taxes this year, $402,000 dollars would need to be cut from somewhere else. In response, Ms. Bowman confirmed that in order to support the budget the way it is currently written, $402,000 dollars would in fact need to be cut from somewhere else or pulled from another revenue source, although she is not aware of any other revenue sources that could be pulled from at this time.

   Councilmember Koss noted that she would've liked to have more time to review the information shared in the presentation tonight and feels that $402,000 dollars is not that big of an amount compared to the overall total of the budget.

   Mayor Blake asked Ms. Bowman how many people in the city do not pay taxes. In response, Ms. Bowman shared that she doesn't know the exact number but roughly sixty percent of Cocoa's residents do not pay taxes.

   Mayor Blake pointed out that the City is still required to provide its services to residents regardless of whether they pay taxes or not.

[2] Exhibit B: TRIM Presentation

Deputy Mayor Weeks added that with all the new construction and development more revenue will be coming in soon. She would like to give homeowners a bit of a break on their taxes.

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Weeks; Seconded by Councilmember Koss to approve a Proposed Millage Rate of 6.85, for discussion.**

Councilmember Goins shared that he has several concerns with lowering the millage rate. He talked about retaining staff, the City's services and the City's Community Redevelopment Agencies. The City relies on this money to fund these things and he would like to know what the exact dollar amount is for what Deputy Mayor Weeks is proposing on the millage rate.

Councilmember Hearn shared that he understands Deputy Mayor Weeks' perspective, however he felt it was important to clarify that by raising the rate we are not technically raising property taxes.

City Manager Whitten provided further clarification and also pointed out that all of the construction and development going on will not be on the tax roll unless it is reported prior to January 1st. Therefore, a lot of the incoming developments will not be on the tax roll this year.

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Weeks, Koss

NAYES: Blake, Goins, Hearn

THE MOTION FAILED (2-3)

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn to approve Resolution No. 2025-045, establishing the Rolled-Back Rate at 6.7367.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn to approve the Proposed Millage rate at 6.9532.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Goins, Hearn

NAYES: Weeks, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED (3-2)

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Weeks; Seconded by Councilmember Koss to schedule the first Public Hearing to consider the FY2026 Budget on September 3, 2025 at 6pm at Cocoa City Hall.**

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

2. Conduct the Final public hearing on the proposed FY2025/2026 Action Plan; approve the Action Plan and Citizen Participation Plan for submission to HUD; and authorize the Mayor to sign all subsequent certifications and agreements. (2025-591). (Community Services Director)

Ms. Neuterman provided a background of the item and stated that staff is asking for approval of the Action Plan and the Citizen Participation Plan and to authorize the Mayor to sign any subsequent agreements or documents.

Mayor Blake opened the Hearing to the public.

David Brubaker, President of the Central Brevard Sharing Center, 113 Aurora St., Cocoa, talked about the purpose of the Sharing Center and noted that they have been operating for over forty-five years. He appreciates the City's continued partnership and he shared that this grant will help provide food for their community kitchen.

Councilmember Hearn and Councilmember Koss both thanked Mr. Brubaker for all of his hard work for the community and asked for more details on the number of people being served.

There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Blake closed the Hearing to the public.

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Weeks; Seconded by Councilmember Koss to approve the Action Plan and Citizen Participation Plan for submission to HUD; and authorize the Mayor to sign all subsequent certifications and agreements.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

3. PZ 23-02800005: 430 Brevard Mixed Use Development Agreement and Concept Plan. (2025-606). (Planner)

Erika Hughes, RVi Planning & Landscape Architecture, provided a presentation[3] on 430 Brevard Avenue. She spoke about the Development Agreement in detail and talked about its negotiated terms and conditions.

Councilmember Hearn asked when construction might begin. In response, Ms. Hughes shared that as part of the Development Agreement, it is required that construction begin within three years of the agreement being signed.

Pam Shaia, 14 Oleander St., Cocoa, shared that the merchants in the Village are so excited to see this happen and are in full support of the project.

Aleck Greenwood, 640 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, shared that Commercial Property Group is also in support of this project.

Nick Herring, Framework Group, gave a presentation[4] on the project.

Councilmember Koss thanked Mr. Herring for his hard work on this project and she shared that she really loves the renderings. She asked about on-site stormwater retainage and asked where that will be collected. Additionally, she spoke about the parking garage and also shared that she is happy to hear the gym and spa will be open and available to the public.

Lastly, she asked Mr. Herring if he has had any contact with St. Marks as their school enterprise is concerned about how they will be impacted during construction of this project. In response, Mr. Herring shared that he has tried to make contact but has had no success as of yet. He added that Framework Group is trying to be the best neighbors they can be and will continue to try and contact them.

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Weeks to approve the proposed Development Agreement with the City of Cocoa for the development of a Large-Scale Commercial/Mixed-Use Buildings on certain properties within the Cocoa Waterfront Overlay District.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

---

[3] Exhibit C: 430 Brevard Avenue Presentation
[4] Exhibit D: Framework Group-Cocoa City Council-430 Brevard Avenue Redevelopment

4. Second Reading of Ordinance 04-2025 Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance Amendment. (2025-639). (Planner)

City Attorney Garganese announced that this is the Second and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 04-2025 and read the title into the record as follows:

Ordinance No. 04-2025

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COCOA, RELATING TO REGULATION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; IMPOSING SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS FOR LIQUOR STORES AND PACKAGE STORES FROM CERTAIN OTHER USES; IMPOSING SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS BETWEEN LOCATIONS FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AND PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS; UPDATING THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO BE CONSISTENT WITH STATE LAW REGARDING SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS BETWEEN SCHOOLS AND LOCATIONS FOR ONPREMISES CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL; AMENDING THE METHOD OF MEASURING SEPARATION FOR PURPOSES OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REGULATIONS; AMENDING CERTAIN DEFINITIONS TO CLARIFY THE APPLICATION OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REGULATIONS; MODIFYING THE REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SALES AS AN ACCESSORY USE; AMENDING THE LIST OF PERMITTED AND SPECIAL EXCEPTION USES IN THE GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (C-G) RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ms. Webster provided a brief presentation[5] of the item. She provided its history and reviewed prior actions taken. She reviewed several definitions within Art. V under Alcoholic Beverage Sales in the Code and highlighted the changes being proposed.

Mayor Blake opened the Hearing to the public.

Pam Shaia, 14 Oleander St., Cocoa, thanked staff for their presentation and feels as though all of her questions were answered. Now that she understands the ordinance, she can fully support it.

Cliff Repperger, Attorney at Whitebird, PLLC, 2101 Waverly Pl., Melbourne, represents the property owner of 1035 W. King Street. He shared that although they understand the City's perspective and desire to change the code, they feel that the changes being proposed are very limiting. They are in full support of necessary changes, but they assert that the Ordinance is overly burdensome. They are mostly

[5] Exhibit E: 2nd Reading of Ordinance 04-2025

concerned with the three-hundred-foot buffer applied to package stores and would like to respectfully ask that Council consider approving the Ordinance without this requirement.

Jennifer Moton, 910 Bristol Dr., Cocoa, talked about her childhood and how beautiful it was in the City of Cocoa. She shared that as an adult, she has ventured into Orlando and even though it is an exciting City, she saw things in Orlando that were traumatizing, and she hopes that those things won't be happening in Cocoa. Cocoa has lots of opportunities and she is sure that it can be beautiful again.

There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Blake closed the Hearing to the public.

Deputy Mayor Weeks shared that she is concerned that the ordinance is too restrictive. She does not believe that the three-hundred-foot buffer should be applied to package stores and that package stores should be removed from the ordinance.

Councilmember Koss shared that she feels that the property owner had the rug swept out from under his feet and she's not sure how to make it right. She pointed out that since the property is vacant it is not attracting any attention right now. She expressed that she is not sure that leaving that property vacant is better than putting a business there.

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Goins to approve Ordinance 04-2025 on Second and Final Reading, for discussion.**

Deputy Mayor Weeks asked if Council would consider amending the motion to either exclude package stores, or remove the verbiage regarding the three-hundred-foot buffer applicable to package stores, or offer them a special exception.

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Weeks; Seconded by Councilmember Koss to amend the original motion to remove the verbiage from the ordinance regarding the three-hundred-foot buffer that's applicable to package stores.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Weeks, Koss

NAYES: Blake, Goins, Hearn

THE MOTION FAILED (3-2)

THE VOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Goins, Hearn

NAYES: Weeks, Koss

THE MOTION PASSED (3-2)

5. Pass on First Reading of Ordinance 07-2025 to adopt the updated Redevelopment Plan for the Cocoa Community Redevelopment Agency. (2025-690). (Community Services Director)

City Attorney Garganese announced that this is the First Reading of Ordinance No. 07-2025 and read the title into the record as follows:

Ordinance No. 07-2025

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING SECTION 8-21 OF THE CITY CODE TO ADOPT AN UPDATED REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE COCOA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENTAGENCY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ms. Neuterman introduced Laura Martinez, the City's consultant who is giving a presentation on the CRA plans.

Laura Martinez, Inspire Placemaking, provided a presentation[6] on the Cocoa CRA.

Mayor Blake opened the Hearing to the public. There being no questions or comments, the public portion of the Hearing was closed.

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Weeks; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn to approve Ordinance 07-2025 on First Reading.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

6. Pass on First Reading of Ordinance 08-2025 to adopt the updated Redevelopment Plan for the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency. (2025-691). (Community Services Director)

[6] Exhibit F: Cocoa & Diamond Square CRA Plans

City Attorney Garganese announced that this is the First Reading of Ordinance No. 08-2025 and read the title into the record as follows:

Ordinance No. 08-2025

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING SECTION 8-59 OF THE CITY CODE TO ADOPTAN UPDATED REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE DIAMOND SQUARE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ms. Martinez continued the presentation from the previous item to discuss the Diamond Square CRA plan.

Councilmember Goins shared that he is in favor of this, but he would like to see the Leon and Jewel Collins Museum included in the plan.

Mayor Blake opened the Hearing to the public. There being no questions or comments, the public portion of the Hearing was closed.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Goins; Seconded by Mayor Blake to approve Ordinance 08-2025 on First Reading with an amendment to add the Leon and Jewel Collins Museum under the Community Identity category under the CRAs Goals and Strategies.**

Ms. Neuterman made a point of clarification that it is already included in the plan and shared that portion of the plan with Council.

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

VII. Council Business:

1. The property owner (Tim Levensaler) is requesting a reduction of the current Code Enforcement lien of $24,010.00, on the property located at 213 Factory St. reference Code case # CE22-475, be reduced to the amount of the City's cost. (2025-687). (Community Services Director)

Mr. Wilkinson provided the background of the case to the Council. He shared that the case started before he became employed with the City but he has made contact with the property owner since he has applied for a lien reduction and shared that the property owner has been nothing but cordial and cooperative in getting the case resolved.

Mr. Tim Levensaler, property owner, elaborated on the history of the property since he purchased it and shared that he has re-done the parking lot and has cleaned up the property to make the area better.

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Weeks; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn to reduce the lien to the amount of $2,773.32, which is the City's cost to prosecute this case.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

2. The property owner (Fair Price Properties) is requesting a reduction of the current Code Enforcement lien of $39,620.00, on the property located at 309 Georgia Ave. reference Code case # CE23-0064, be reduced to the amount of $1,000. (2025-688). (Community Services Director)

Mr. Wilkinson provided the background of the case to the Council.

Councilmember Hearn asked if this property is being sold.

The property owner shared that the property has been fixed and brought into compliance and was sold back in May of this year.

Additionally, Deputy Mayor Weeks shared that he is a house flipper, and he originally had a partner but unfortunately that partner left him in the lurch which led him to run into some financial troubles.

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Weeks; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn to reduce the lien to the amount of $2,121.36, which is the City's cost to prosecute this case.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

3. Provide Direction for a Task Order to Design and Permit a Trailhead with parking to Cocoa Conservation Area off of Cox Road with Myra Planning and Design LLC. No budgetary action is needed at this point. If approved, provide a funding source and authorize the City Manager to execute the Task Order Agreement and the budget transfer. (2025-615). (Public Works Director)

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn to take a ten-minute recess.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Weeks to return from recess.**

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Ms. Morgan provided a presentation[7] on the item.

Mayor Blake talked about the homeowners that live in the surrounding area. He asked Ms. Morgan to elaborate on the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) requirements for a crosswalk.

Ms. Morgan explained that the City would need to perform a study meeting the criteria outlined in FDOT's Traffic Engineering Manual which includes demonstrating pedestrian demand, which is typically at least twenty pedestrians an hour.

Councilmember Koss shared that she is surprised that FDOT, who promotes programs for safety such as Vision Zero, is hesitant about installing a crosswalk here. She explained that this is a residential area and this crosswalk will allow pedestrians to access both sides of the road which has a park on one side and the conservation area on the other side.

[7] Exhibit G: Proposed SR524 CCA Trailhead Presentation

City Manager Whitten provided further clarification and pointed out the crosswalk locations that currently exist on SR524 which are all located at business plazas.

Deputy Mayor Weeks shared her sentiments and would like to pursue an entrance to the conservation area on SR524. It would be nice for residents to have a pavilion there and have access to the trails.

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Weeks; Seconded by Councilmember Koss to direct staff to work with FDOT to explore all options of establishing a trailhead off of SR524.**

Billy Long, 1450 Cox Rd., Cocoa, shared that he and his family have lived there for many years and do not want to lose their privacy. He is hopeful that Council will take into consideration the families that live in that area when making their decision.

Gregg Stoll, 2203 Salem Dr., Cocoa, shared that he has volunteered for many years at the Cocoa Conservation Area and used to lock and unlock the gate. He suggested that when the traffic circles are implemented somewhere down the line, that Council and staff consider proposing a crosswalk at the same time.

He also posed several questions that he feels are important for Council to consider when making their decision, including security, who will lock and unlock the gate, vandalism, etc.

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

NAYES: Blake

THE MOTION CARRIED (4-1)

4. Utilities Advisory Board Discussion. (2025-712). (City Manager)

Mayor Blake read the staff report into the record.

Councilmember Koss asked to table this item until she has had a chance to discuss this in furtherance with the City Manager.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Weeks to table this item until Councilwoman Koss has had a chance to speak with the City Manager.**

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Hearn, Koss

NAYES: Goins

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

5. Travel Authorization for Planning Officials Training Workshop for Councilwoman Koss. (2025-700). (City Clerk)

Mayor Blake asked what the purpose of the conference is, as the city already has planners.

In response, Councilmember Koss shared that it is not just for planners but for advisory board members. It was suggested to her that she should attend by other members at the Space Coast TPO. She expressed that she feels that this item was moved off Consent to target her. She added that other members of Council have been allowed to travel without being ridiculed. Ultimately, she stated that she would pay for the registration herself.

VIII. City Business:

1. Authorize City Staff to Apply for the National Fitness Challenge (NFC) Grant. (2025-713). (City Manager)

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Weeks to authorize city staff to apply for the National Fitness Challenge (NFC) Grant.**

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

IX. Informational Agenda:

1. Data showing the relation between the estimated and actual income and expenses to date. (2025-634). (Finance Director)

2. Approved change orders to construction contracts that the City Council has authorized the City Manager, by resolution, to approve in excess of the City Manager's spending authority. (2025-635). (Finance Director)

3. FY 2025 June Budget Adjustment Report. (2025-636). (Finance Director)

4. Informational Only - The City of Cocoa's Open Board Vacancies. (2025-704). (City Clerk)

5. Bi-Weekly Report for July 3, 2025 - July 17, 2025. (2025-705). (City Manager)

X. Reports:

Ms. Senger shared upcoming City events.

Councilmember Goins shared that on August 9th from 11am-4pm at Eastern Florida State College there will be an event hosted by 321 Empowerment to teach emotional intelligence.

Additionally, he wished to bring up something that he felt disrespected by which was an interview Councilmember Koss had with Brevard News. He understands that Council has the right to exercise free speech, and they may not agree all the time, but ultimately, they are a team and they should not attack one another. He would not do that to any of them, and he is asking that they be respectful to each other moving forward.

In response, Councilmember Koss shared that respect goes both ways, and she has been stabbed in the back by him as well. She is aware of several instances that she has been stabbed in the back by others.

Councilmember Goins talked about the importance of being wary of click bait and views on videos. He noted that sometimes these interviewers lead you to a place where it's easy for all of your emotions to come out on camera and you can't take it back. These interviewers are more concerned with getting views and focusing on negativity than they are on trying to bring the City together. He stated that he has no ill will towards Councilmember Koss and hopes she doesn't have any either.

Deputy Mayor Weeks shared several photos from events she recently attended.

Councilmember Hearn shared that he recently read an article about the City and that the Cocoa Police Department will be monitoring the railroad crossings and will be cracking down. He thanked the Police Chief for taking on that initiative.

* **MOTION by Mayor Blake; Seconded by Councilmember Hearn to extend the meeting by fifteen minutes.**

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Councilmember Koss shared that she has not watched the video yet. She stands behind the comment she made about rubber stamping, but she does not recall making any comments accusing anyone of sunshine law violations.

Further discussion was held between Councilmember Koss and Mayor Blake regarding past disagreements they've had and disrespect they each feel they've received from each other.

Lastly, Mayor Blake shared several photos from events and conferences he recently attended.

XI. Adjournment:

* **MOTION by Deputy Mayor Weeks; Seconded by Mayor Blake to adjourn the Regular meeting of July 22, 2025.**

AYES: Blake, Weeks, Goins, Hearn, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 p.m.

Michael C. Blake, Mayor

ATTEST:

Monica Arsenault, CMC, City Clerk