



City Hall Council Chambers
9101 Bonita Beach Road SE
Bonita Springs, Florida 34135

City of Bonita Springs City Council Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2026
9:00 a.m.

1. **Call to Order** - Mayor Gibson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and announced the addition of a new agenda item, Item 8A: Bonita Estero Rail Trail (BERT).
2. **Invocation** - Provided by Pastor Mike Cosner of Oak River Church.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Roll Call**

The City Clerk called the roll:

Present: 6 Council Member Bogacz, Council Member Carr, Mayor Gibson, Council Member Corrie, Council Member Fullick, Council Member Fitzpatrick

Remote: 1 Deputy Mayor Purdon (via Zoom)

Absent: 0

*Council Member Carr motioned to permit Deputy Mayor Purdon to participate and vote remotely in the meeting; Seconded by Council Member Corrie. **The motion carried 6-0.***

5. **Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Martin Aita - Commented on Paradise Road Bike & Pedestrian Improvements Project design concepts for segment two and asked Council to consider parking issues at school bus stops.

Mari Randinelli - Commented on the Paradise Road Bike & Pedestrian Improvements Project, expressing preference for an expanding sidewalk on the west side of Paradise Road, with minimal impact to the east side.

Doug Hattaway - Commented on the results of yesterday's Ballot Referendum on General Obligation Bonds, which was approved resoundingly by voters.

Deborah Orton - Commented on the results of yesterday's Ballot Referendum on General Obligation Bonds, which was approved with 68 percent, and a record high voter turnout.

Dwight Esmon - Commented on his concerns with proposed designs for the Paradise Road Bike & Pedestrian Improvements Project, particularly related to the south segment.

Ben Henson - Commented on Paradise Road, thanking Council for moving forward with the project.

6. Consent Agenda Items:

*Council Member Carr motioned to approve the items on the consent agenda; Seconded by Council Member Bogacz. **The motion carried unanimously.***

- A.** Approve Minutes from the City Council Regular Meeting held on August 5, 2026.
- B.** Approve the five-year renewal of the Public-Private Partnership Lease Agreement between the City of Bonita Springs and the YMCA of Southwest Florida (formerly SKY Family YMCA, Inc.) for public use of the YMCA pickleball courts. (Green Sheet 26-08-132)
- C.** Approve Amendment No. 3 to the Beach Renourishment Interlocal Agreement with Lee County to specifically indicate in the project description the reconstruction of “rock groins” that were significantly damaged by Hurricane Ian (Green Sheet 26-08-133)
- D.** Approve the 2026-2031 Interlocal Agreement for Stray Animal Control Services between Lee County and the City of Bonita Springs. (Green Sheet 26-08-137)
- E.** Adopt Resolution Awarding the Imperial Parkway Landscaping & Irrigation Maintenance Project RFB 26-10 to P & T Lawn and Tractor Service. (Green Sheet 26-08-138)
- F.** Approve the migration of on-premises file servers to Microsoft Azure, to be carried out by the City’s Information Technology provider, Team Logic. (Green Sheet 26-08-140)
- G.** Approve a lease agreement between the City and the Lee County Sheriff’s Office, for use of the modular facility at 26876 Pine Avenue as a temporary substation, and authorize staff to make any nonsubstantial, post-approval revisions to the agreement that the Sheriff’s Office may request. (Green Sheet 26-08-141)

7. Presentations:

- A. Presentation by American Structurepoint, Inc. on design concept alternatives for the Paradise Road Bike and Pedestrian Improvements Project, followed by Council direction on which concept(s) to advance.** (Green Sheet 26-08-139)

Assistant City Manager Matt Feeney introduced Nick Harrison, Vice President at American Structurepoint, who provided an overview of the project and its location, summarized public input received during the workshops, and presented on the recommended design concepts for Council consideration. Mr. Harrison also responded to questions from Council Members. (Presentation slides on file in the Clerk’s Office.)

Council Member Corrie expressed support for incorporating traffic-calming elements, including 10-foot travel lanes, raised crosswalks with pedestrian-activated flashers, and five-foot landscape buffers separating the travel lanes from the shared-use paths and sidewalks. Council Member Bogacz and Mayor Gibson emphasized the importance of expanding the proposed shared-use path on the west side of Segment Two from 8 feet to 10 feet to improve safety.

*Mayor Gibson motioned to approve the following design concepts: Segment 1, Alternative B; and Segment 2, Alternative B with a 10-foot shared use path; Seconded by Council Member Bogacz. **The motion carried unanimously.***

B. Presentation and Discussion of the City of Bonita Springs Parks Master Plan. (Green Sheet 26-08-134)

Nicole Perino, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided an overview of the Parks Master Plan, explaining that it will guide the direction of Bonita Springs' parks, facilities, programs, and services over the next 10 to 15 years. She then introduced Becky Dunlap, Project Manager with the City's consulting firm, Berry Dunn, who joined via Zoom to present highlights of the draft master plan.

Ms. Dunlap reviewed the planning process and summarized the top priorities identified by residents and stakeholders. These priorities were gathered through community engagement efforts, including public workshops, a community survey, one-on-one interviews, and public comment cards. Director Perino stated that the complete Parks Master Plan will be presented to City Council for adoption at the September 9, 2026 City Council meeting.

*Council Member Bogacz motioned to direct staff to include the BERT project in the final Parks Master Plan; Seconded by Council Member Corrie. **The motion carried unanimously.***

*Council Member Carr motioned to direct staff to also include the Sun Trail project in the final Parks Master Plan; Seconded by Council Member Corrie. **The motion carried unanimously.***

8. Mayor and Council Member Items:

A. (Added to the agenda by Mayor Gibson) Bonita Estero Rail Trail (BERT)

Mayor Gibson reviewed the ballot referendum results, noting that it passed by an overwhelming margin. He expressed his appreciation to everyone involved, particularly the voters, who turned out in record numbers.

9. City Attorney Items: No report

10. City Manager Items:

A. Presentation of the June Financial Report and Update on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 draft budget.
(Green Sheet 26-08-135)

Lisa Griggs-Roth, Finance Director, presented the June financial report and reviewed the remaining steps and timeline for the FY 2026–27 budget process, also noting that two public hearings are scheduled: the first on September 9 at 5:30 p.m., and the second on September 23 at 5:30 p.m. (Presentation slides on file in the Clerk's office)

B. Presentation of Community Development Activity Reports for July. (Green Sheet 26-08-136)

John Dulmer, Director, Community Development Department, presented the July activity reports. (Presentation slides on file in the Clerk's office)

11. Mayor and Council Member Reports

Council Member Corrie – Provided remarks regarding the results of the ballot referendum and the BERT project.

Council Member Carr – Recognized BSU for receiving two recent awards related to water quality and resiliency. She also announced that Shangri-La Springs will celebrate its 100th Anniversary with a free community event on September 9, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Council Member Fullick – Reported on Tourist Development Council marketing fund allocations awarded to local organizations, including ArtsBonita, the Bonita Springs Concert Band, and Wonder Gardens. He also commented on the results of the ballot referendum and the BERT project.

Deputy Mayor Purdon – Commented on the results of the ballot referendum and the BERT project.

Jim Fitzpatrick – Expressed appreciation to Representative Adam Botana for his efforts in facilitating FDOT cleanup of the I-75 underpass. He also reported on upcoming FDOT public meetings concerning planned improvements to I-75 and requested that the meetings be posted on the City's online calendar. He further noted he will be out of town on Sept. 9 and plans to participate remotely in the Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting

Council Member Bogacz – Commented on the results of the ballot referendum and the BERT project. She also informed the public of the annual Patriots Day Ceremony hosted by the Bonita Springs Fire and Rescue District, scheduled for Friday, September 11, at 5:30 p.m., at Station One, 27490 Old 41 Road.

Mayor Gibson – Reported on his attendance at the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference. He also noted that he will be out of town on September 9 and plans to participate in the Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting via Zoom. He further stated he will be out of town for the September 11 Patriots Day Ceremony and designated Council Member Bogacz to present the proclamation on his behalf.

12. Public Comment

Dwight Esmon - Commented on the Council-approved designs for the Paradise Road Bike and Pedestrian Improvements Project.

Kyle Moran - Commented on voter approval of the ballot referendum and the positive outlook within the City.

13. Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

Date: 9/9/26

Mike Gibson, Mayor

Deputy

June M. [Signature]

PREPARED AND ATTESTED BY:

Michael J. Sheffield, City Clerk