



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

**City of Bonita Springs
City Council
Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2026
9:00 a.m.**

1. Call to Order

In the physical absence of Mayor Gibson and Deputy Mayor Purdon, Acting City Attorney Kaylee Tuck called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and, pursuant to Robert's Rules of Order, opened the floor for nominations to select a presiding officer. Council Member Carr and Council Member Corrie placed their names into nomination. With no further nominations, Ms. Tuck closed the floor, and the City Clerk conducted a roll call vote, recorded as follows: Council Member Carr - 3 votes; Council Member Corrie - 2 votes. Ms. Tuck announced that Council Member Carr, having received the majority vote, would preside over the meeting.

2. Invocation - *Provided by Pastor Riley Grandell of Gulfshore Church.*

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call

The City Clerk called the roll:

*Present: 5 Council Member Bogacz, Council Member Carr, Council Member Corrie,
Council Member Fullick, Council Member Fitzpatrick*

Remote: 2 Mayor Gibson (via Zoom), Deputy Mayor Purdon (via Zoom)

Absent: 0

*Council Member Carr motioned to permit Mayor Gibson and Deputy Mayor Purdon to participate and vote remotely in the meeting; Seconded by Council Member Corrie. **The motion carried 5-0.***

5. Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

6. Consent Agenda Items:

*Council Member Corrie motioned to approve the consent agenda; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Purdon. **The motion carried unanimously.***

A. Approve Minutes from the City Council Regular Meeting held on June 17, 2026.

B. Approve Minutes from the City Council Budget Workshop held on June 17, 2026.

- C. Approve the Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) for the Bonita Water Steward position at FGCU's Vester Field Station. (Green Sheet 26-07-112)
- D. Approve the Twentieth Addendum to the Second Agreement with the Lee County Sheriff for Enhanced Law Enforcement Services. (Green Sheet 26-07-113)
- E. Approve amendment #1 to the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program - COVID (HMGP-COVID) Neighborhood Acquisition/Demolition Project purchase agreement #2026-001, extending the property acquisition closing date from July 31, 2026 to September 30, 2026. (Green Sheet 26-07-115)
- F. Approve amendment #2 to the Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker, LLC contract providing for a time extension to complete the Parks Master Plan. (Green Sheet 26-07-116)
- G. Approve amendment #1 with Infrastructure Consulting and Engineering for Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) Services for the East Terry Street Stormwater and Multi-Use Project. (Green Sheet 26-07-117)
- Opportunity for City Council Comments on Consent Agenda

Council Member Fitzpatrick addressed Consent Agenda Item 6C, requesting a brief water-quality update be presented to Council within 30 - 60 days.

7. Presentations:

- A. **Presentation of audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025 by Jeff Brown, CPA, partner with the audit firm of Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs.** (Green Sheet 26-07-114)

Finance Director Lisa Griggs-Roth introduced Jeff Brown, CPA, a partner with the audit firm Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs, who presented the principal conclusions of the firm's independent audit of the City's financial statements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025. Mr. Brown reported that the audit resulted in no findings and that the firm issued an unmodified opinion, the highest level of assurance an auditor can provide. (Audit report on file in the Clerk's office).

8. Mayor and Council Member Items:

- A. **Discussion regarding submitting an entry for the 2026 Great Places in Florida Award Contest.** (Gibson, Green Sheet 26-07-122)

*Mayor Gibson led the discussion, noting that the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association is currently accepting nominations for its annual Great Places in Florida Award Contest, the theme of which is "Great People-Focused Places." He expressed an interest in submitting an entry nominating Downtown Bonita Springs. City Manager Hunter stated that while there is no fee associated with submitting a nomination, staff would require formal Council direction in order to proceed. Council Member Carr motioned to direct staff to prepare and submit the nomination, Seconded by Council Member Fullick. **The motion carried unanimously.***

9. City Attorney Items: No report

10. City Manager Items:

A. Presentation of the May Financial Report and discussion of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget.

(Green Sheet 26-07-118)

Finance Director Lisa Griggs-Roth presented the May financial report and reviewed the timeline for the FY 2026–27 budget process, 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. Her presentation also included a review of the July 1 preliminary real estate taxable value provided by the Property Appraiser, which reflected a 1.39% increase over the June 1 estimate.

Mayor Gibson discussed the annual Halloween Trick-or-Treating Event hosted by the Downtown Business Alliance. He noted that attendance has grown substantially, prompting the Sheriff's Office to request closure of Old 41 Road during the event. Because the Downtown Business Alliance cannot absorb the cost associated with road closure, he proposed that the City assume responsibility of the event in partnership with the Alliance, and include funding for the event in next year's budget. City Manager Hunter estimated the City's cost at approximately \$15,000, covering deputy and City staff time and rental barricades.

Council Member Fitzpatrick suggested that the Downtown Business Alliance pursue private sponsorships prior to the 2027 event. Council Member Fullick stated that it is unfair for the Alliance to bear the expense of a growing community event and identified the underlying issue as the absence of a city-dedicated chamber of commerce. City Manager Hunter noted that funds are available within the economic development budget line-item and staff will review potential reallocation to cover the cost of the 2026 road closure. Council concurred.

B. Adopt proposed millage rate for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. (Green Sheet 26-07-119)

*Council Member Corrie motioned to adopt the preliminary millage rate for Fiscal Year 2026-27 at the prior year rate of 0.8470; Seconded by Council Member Fitzpatrick. **The motion carried unanimously.***

C. Approve a Resolution to establish the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Annual Stormwater Assessment Fee.

(Green Sheet 26-07-120)

*Council Member Carr motioned to approve as proposed; Seconded by Council Member Corrie. **The motion carried 6-1 (Deputy Mayor Purdon opposed).***

D. Presentation of Community Development activity reports. (Green Sheet 26-07-121)

Reports presented by John Dulmer, Director, Community Development Department.

11. Mayor and Council Member Reports

The Mayor and Council Members expressed sorrow over the passing of two foundational figures in the City's history - former Mayor and Council Member Jay Arend and former Council Member Alex Grantt - recognizing the lasting impact of their service and legacy, and extending condolences to their families.

The Mayor and Council Members also remarked on the outstanding turnout and success of the City's Fourth of July celebration commemorating the nation's 250th anniversary, and expressed gratitude to all who contributed to the event's planning and execution.

Mayor Gibson - Reported that he submitted a letter addressed to 'future citizens' for enclosure in the regional Semi-quincentennial time capsule, along with photos from the City's celebration. Copies were distributed to Council Members.

Jim Fitzpatrick - Suggested providing residents with an educational summary of the 2026-27 budget, outlining how tax dollar are allocated on their behalf.

Council Member Corrie - Reported that the Wonder Gardens is launching a fundraising initiative involving the sale of engraved bricks, noting that the initiative will require Council review and approval at a future meeting.

12. Public Comment

Jim Weeks - Commented on his family's historic Fish Camp, expressing appreciation to London Bay for allowing public access at the new Saltleaf Marina, and to the Mayor and Council for honoring his family's history.

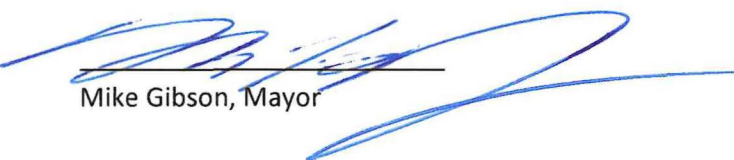
13. Adjournment - *There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.*

PREPARED AND ATTESTED BY:


Michael J. Sheffield, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

Date: 8/5/26


Mike Gibson, Mayor