

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
Senior/Community Building
REGULAR MEETING
November 20, 2025
6:00 PM**

The City Commission met on this date November 20, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. at the Wewahitchka Senior/Community Building, 314 N. 3rd St, Wewahitchka, Florida. **Mayor Gaskin** called the meeting to order, asked **Bro. Derrick Gerber** to lead a prayer, and everyone said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Mayor Phillip Gaskin
Commissioner Charlie Pettis
Commissioner Johnny Paul
Commissioner Brian Cox

Public

Joey Smith
Gene Hanlon
Tonya Claycomb
Derrick Gerber
Lexi Mayo

City Manager

Michael Gortman

City Clerk

Rachel Jackson

City Superintendent

Chipper Wade

City Parks & Rec Director

David Paul

City Finance Director

Brittney Proctor (via video conf)

City Finance Clerk

Misty Robbins

City Engineer-SCE

Jack Husband

Hunter Baumgardner

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Cox made a motion to approve the agenda. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

After review, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve, Regular Meeting 10.30.25. **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Recognition

Lexi Mayo - 600 Jehu Road - General Manager at The Hitch introduced herself and explained some of the activities they are doing to support the community and asked for ideas that they can do to be a part of and support the community. **Mayor Gaskin** stated that the city can not promote any businesses. **City Manager Michael Gortman** suggested sponsoring and supporting the sports teams and recreation leagues.

Tonya Claycomb - 134 Dorsey Drive, asked about water line project, stating their culvert and ditch has been damaged and would like to know what the plan is for fixing it. **City**

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Manager Michael Gortmand and **City Engineer Hunter Baumgardner** explained the timeline of the project and assured her that it would all get repaired and fixed.

Agenda

1. **Ordinance 2025-1235L – Gulf Coast Electric Franchise Agreement** *(1st Reading, approval to advertise)* **City Clerk Rachel Jackson** stated the franchise agreement had expired with Gulf Coast Electric and that this was the new agreement for another 15 year term and discussed the updated rates for street lights. She requested approval to advertise the ordinance and **Mayor Gaskin** asked her to read the ordinance by title only. City Clerk Rachel Jackson read the ordinance by title:

Ordinance 2025-1235L

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY TO THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA AND THE INHABITANTS THEREOF AND TO GRANT A FRANCHISE TO GULF COAST ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., A CORPORATION ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "COMPANY," AND SUCH TERMS SHALL INCLUDE THOSE HAVING AN INTEREST THEREIN, TO OWN, CONSTRUCT, BUILD, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WITHIN THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA FOR A PERIOD OF FIFTEEN (15) YEARS.

Following the reading, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve the first reading and advertisement of Ordinance 2025-1235L. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

2. **2024-2025 Budget Line Item Adjustment/Amendment – City Finance Director Brittney Proctor** presented and discussed the 2024-2025 budget line item adjustments and the amendment. Stating that the only actual amendments were for fire and to administration to move the necessary funds from administration to fire. The overall budget remained the same.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Pettis** made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 budget line item adjustments and the amendment to fire and administration. **Commissioner Cox** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Bills

1. **Fisher's Building Supply** – Moved to regular bills in **Commissioner Fisher's** absence.
2. **Charlie Pettis Pest Services** – Following review, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve Charlie Pettis Pest Services bill (\$90.00) **Commissioner Cox** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0, with **Commissioner Pettis** abstaining due to conflict of interest.
3. **Wewa Outdoors** –Removed from agenda, no bills

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4. **Regular Bills** – Following review and discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve payment of the November 2025 regular bills (\$638,444.83), re-occurring bills (\$34,428.60), additional bills (\$39,900.81) and Fisher's Building Supply bills November 2025 (\$510.57). **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-1. **Mayor Gaskin** voted no to approving payment of the Clark Partington invoice (\$670.00).

Old Business/Open Items

1. **Monthly Budget Update** – None

2. **Delinquent Utility Bills** – None

3. **Extension List** – None

4. **Bad Debts** – **City Clerk Rachel Jackson** presented and discussed the 2024-2025 bad debts.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve **City Clerk Rachel Jackson** submitting the bad debts (\$2,136.57) to the credit bureau. **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

5. **Water Losses** – **City Superintendent Chipper Wade** stated they are working on them regularly. Got two today and will be working on more tomorrow.

6. **SEWER INFILTRATION AND INFLOW** – None

7. **Ray Dickens Fish Fry for the Sr. Citizens (October 3, 2026)** – None

8. **Overtime Report broken down by pay periods** – **Mayor Gaskin** stated **Blake Gilmore** has the sewer plant looking really good and clean.

9. **Employee Water/Sewer License Testing**

- **Blake Gilmore** – Water – **Mayor Gaskin** stated that Blake is working on it

10. **Senior Building** – **City Parks & Rec Director David Paul** stated they almost have ac rooms completed then will be working on the porch enclosure.

11. **Cemetery Committee & Buckhorn Decorative Fencing** – **City Engineer Jack Husband** presented and discussed plans and pictures for proposed pavilion. He stated the cemetery committee met with him and discussed what they would like done. The board directed them to proceed.

12. **TL James Ballfield Lights** – **City Manager Michael Gortman** stated the new poles are down and Kenny's guys are getting them hooked up. He stated Kenny said they

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should be finished in a couple of weeks and then Power South will come and set them back up.

Other Comments

City Manager Michael Gortman – Stated we received a quote from Gulf Coast Electric for bucket truck for \$40,000.00 and would like the board to approve purchase of the bucket truck. Funds would come from borrowing against one of the CD's, we budgeted \$70,000 (\$15,000 a year for payments).

Following discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2017 bucket truck from Gulf Coast Electric (\$40,000.00) to be funded through borrowing from a CD. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

City Superintendent Chipper Wade – None

City Parks & Rec Director David Paul – None

Engineer Jack Husband – Asked if a survey is needed for the pavilion or can we get it flagged? **Mayor Gaskin** stated we shouldn't need a survey, but **City Superintendent Chipper Wade** will flag it.

Engineer Hunter Baumgardner – Presented 850 Construction's Pay Request 5 for the water line project for \$61,850.76 and recommended the board approve the payment.

Following review, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve payment of 850 Construction's pay request 5 for the water line project (\$61,850.76). **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Engineer Hunter Baumgardner requested approval to issue notice to proceed for the waste water project (M0118) contingent with Florida Commerce approval of the agreement and the contractor signing the agreement

Following discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approval issuing the notice to proceed contingent on Florida Commerce's approval of the agreement. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

City Engineer Hunter Baumgardner provided an update about the State Appropriations application for 2026-2027. He stated that the application for city hall would be submitted tomorrow.

City Finance Director Brittney Proctor – None

City Clerk Rachel Jackson – Stated we need to reschedule the December meeting to Monday, December 22, 2025 at 6:00 pm since it falls on Christmas day.

The board agreed to move the meeting to December 22, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

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Mayor/Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Cox – Asked about the culvert and ditches on Corn Griffin. Commissioner Paul stated they fixed the culvert and the ditches, but we haven't had any rain yet to see if everything was corrected.

Commissioner Paul- Asked **City Manager Michael Gortman** if he had heard any updates about the Property at park? **City Manager Michael Gortman** said he had not. **Commissioner Paul** asked him to start emailing him on a regular basis to see if he could get a response back. **City Manager Michael Gortman** stated he would email him again.

Commissioner Pettis – asked if **City Manager Michael Gortman** has heard anything on the playground equipment. **City Manager Michael Gortman** said he hadn't called him back, but the last he talked to him we are supposed to take delivery by December 31, 2025.

Commissioner Pettis asked about the tear down of the old equipment. **City Manager Michael Gortman** stated it would be best to wait until we have an install date before tearing it down.

Commissioner Pettis thanked **Bro. Joey Smith**, **Bro. Derrick Gerber**, and **Ben** for helping with the cemetery committee. They had a productive meeting and he feels like everything is going to get completed soon.

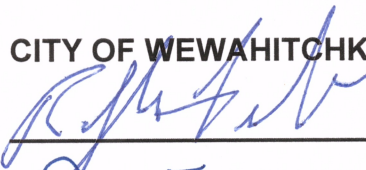
City Manager Michael Gortman requested City staff receive Friday after Christmas off.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Pettis** made a motion to allow the City Employees to have a paid day off following Christmas on December 26, 2025. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Adjournment

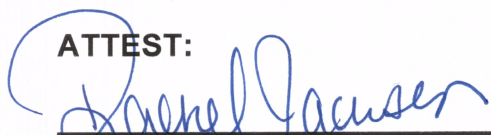
Commissioner Pettis made a motion to adjourn 7:00pm. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA



By Ralph Fisher, Mayor / Pro Tem

ATTEST:



Rachel Jackson, City Clerk

