

CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
Senior/Community Building
REGULAR MEETING
May 28, 2026
6:00 PM

The City Commission met on this date May 28, 2026 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 Johnny Paul
Commissioner Brian Cox
Commissioner Charlie Pettis

City Manager

Michael Gortman

City Attorney

Michelle Jordan

City Superintendent

Chipper Wade

City Parks & Rec Director

David Paul

City Clerk

Rachel Jackson

City Finance Director

Brittney Proctor (*via video conf*)

City Finance Clerk

Misty Robbins

City Engineers-SCE

Hunter Baumgardner

Senior Program Coordinator

Renece Gainer

Public

Brad Hough (Powell & Jones)
Ann Johnson
Christopher Veal
Chuck Johnson
Derrick Gerber
Tom Wynn
Chris Wynn
William Mills

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Cox made a motion to approve the agenda **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Minutes

After review, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve Regular Meeting 4.30.26 and Special Meeting 5.18.26 **Commissioner Cox** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Agenda Items

1. FY 2024-2025 Audit – (Commissioner Pettis entered meeting at 6:04 pm) Brad Hough with Powell & Jones CPA presented and discussed the FY 2024-2025 Audit. Mr. Hough reviewed:

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- Page 10 Management's Discussion and Analysis
- Page 20 Governmental Fund Balance Sheet
- Page 21 Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
- Page 23 Statement of Net Position
- Page 25 Proprietary Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Net Position
- Page 26 Statement of Cash Flows
- Page 40 Capital Assets
- Page 44 Proprietary Long Term Debt
- Page 49 General Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
- Page 52 Schedule of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance
- Page 67 Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
- Page 69 Financial Statement Findings and Recommendations
- Page 55 Independent Auditors' Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of Financial Statements Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards
- Page 66 Independent Accountant's Report On Compliance With Florida Statutes Relating to Local Government Investments

Following review, **Mr. Hough** stated that apart from a finding regarding the financial statement preparation, that is very common for small cities, and the grant-related expenditures fiscal year end accrual dates, which were not a result of mis-handling of funds, it was only due to timing issues which were discussed with management and corrected, there were no other findings.

Public Recognition

Senior Program Coordinator Renece Gainer thanked the churches and the Hitch for providing meals each week.

Mrs. Gainer stated the Seniors are planning a Yardsale on June 12th & 13th, and are accepting all donations.

Mayor Gaskin stated the storage building is too close to the steps and asked **City Parks & Rec Director David Paul** and **City Manager Michael Gortman** to see about getting that fixed.

City Parks & Rec Director David Paul stated that he would get in touch with Jodi Rustin so that she can contact the shed mover about moving it.

City Manager Michael Gortman told **Mrs. Gainer** that after checking the calendar the senior building was reserved for June 13th already; she stated she would be in touch with him about scheduling the yard sale for other dates.

Mrs. Gainer provided updates on program attendance stating it ranges between 34 – 44 per day.

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 Cox** made a motion to approve Charlie Pettis Pest Services bill (\$90.00) **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0, with **Commissioner Pettis** abstaining due to conflict of interest.
3. **Wewa Outdoors** – Following review, **Commissioner Pettis** made a motion to approve Wewa Outdoors bills (\$78.00) **Commissioner Cox** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0, with **Commissioner Paul** abstaining due to conflict of interest.
4. **Regular Bills** – Following review and discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve payment of the regular bills (\$73,734.69), reoccurring bills (\$37,075.51), additional bills (\$40,382.87), and Fisher's Building Supply bills (\$1,136.41) **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Old Business/Open Items

1. **Monthly Budget Update** – **City Finance Director Brittney Proctor** stated that everything was looking good, but we are going to have to make some amendments for the Senior Program as expected. She provided a senior program budget report for current revenue and expenses.

City Finance Director Brittney Proctor discussed the senior building rentals revenue and asked for board clarification about what account they wanted those funds to be placed.

Following discussion, due to the funds being used for building maintenance the board directed **City Finance Director Brittney Proctor** to put Senior Building rental revenue into General Fund.

City Finance Director Brittney Proctor also asked the board for clarification about what type of expenses to use the Senior Program bank account versus the General Fund account. Following discussion, the board directed **City Finance Director Brittney Proctor** to pay utilities and maintenance of the building from General Fund, all other program expenditures such as day-to-day operating expenses should be paid through the Senior Program bank account.

Mayor Gaskin stated he likes the sheet and asked **City Finance Director Brittney Proctor** to provide it each month.

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Old Business/Open Items cont'd....

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2. **Delinquent Utility Bills – Commissioner Cox** discussed account 3641. He stated since the customer is deceased and it is a sewer only account, how are we going to handle getting the name changed and bill paid?

City Manager Michael Gortman stated he had spoke to **City Attorney Michelle Jordan** about that account and we are most likely going to cap the sewer and call the health department.

3. **Extension List – None**

4. **Bad Debts** (*Reminder for: Dec 2026 – Jan 2027*) – **None**

5. **Water Losses – City Superintendent Chipper Wade** stated they are working on them.

6. **SEWER INFILTRATION AND INFLOW – City Superintendent Chipper Wade** stated we haven't worked on it because there hasn't been time, but it wasn't bad last week even with the rain.

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

8. **Overtime Report broken down by pay periods – None**

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

- Blake Gilmore – Water – **City Manager Michael Gortman** stated Blake is doing well and has a couple more months to go.

10. **Senior Building – City Manager Michael Gortman** stated **City Parks & Rec Director David Paul** got a quote from a vendor out of Panama City and we got quotes online from Webstaurant \$1,784 with shipping for the handwashing sink, table, and mopping sink. **City Parks & Rec Director David Paul** said the 3 bay sink had been donated and we will have to get the faucet for it.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve the purchase of the equipment needed for the Senior Building from Webstaurant for \$1,784.00 from the senior building maintenance funds. However, if there are not enough funds in that budget, management will come back to the board for approval to shift the expenses to contingency at a later date. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

11. **Cemetery Committee & Buckhorn Decorative Fencing – City Manager Michael Gortman** stated the trusses are up there, the county picked up material, and they should be starting next week.

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Other Comments....

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Other Comments

City Attorney Michelle Jordan – presented and discussed a proposed draft for sex offender ordinance. **City Attorney Jordan** recommended waiting until **Sheriff Harrison** is here to discuss enforcement. The board directed **City Clerk Rachel Jackson** to put it on agenda for next month.

City Attorney Jordan stated she had gotten a letter and received a voicemail from Ben Pridgeon regarding the entrance and easement on the property at Lake Alice. She stated she has not called him back because she wanted the direction of the board first.

Discussion followed regarding the location of the entrance, **City Attorney Michelle Jordan** recommended that the City not relocate the entrance as the statute of limitations from the date of sale had passed. The Board agreed, and instructed **City Manager Michael Gortman** to let Mr. Pridgeon know that the commission is not going to take any action at this time.

City Manager Michael Gortman – stated **Mr. Jerry Pridgeon** called with a complaint about noise at the Hitch and that it was so loud he couldn't hear his TV. **City Manager Gortman** explained that **Mr. Pridgeon** had called the Sheriff's office and they sent a deputy out. They turned it down, but after a while it was louder again. He wants the City to do something, but the Sheriff's office is the authority for enforcing the ordinance. **City Manager Gortman** explained that **Mr. Pridgeon's** property is 755 ft from the Hitch and there are two buildings in between them, so if the Sheriff's office didn't find any noise violations there is nothing else the City can do.

City Superintendent Chipper Wade – None

City Parks & Rec Director David Paul – None

Senior Program Director Renece Gainer – None

Gulf County Sheriff's Office Shane Ferrell – None

City Engineer Hunter Baumgardner – provided project updates and presented Extreme Land Clearing (CBC) pay request 5 for M0118 Waste Water Project for \$513,224.77.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve payment for Extreme Land Clearing pay request 5 for M0118 Waste Water Project \$513,224.77. **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

City Engineer Hunter Baumgardner presented and discussed Chapel Branch-Lagniappe (CBL) pay request 1 for M0163 Stormwater Project \$92,287.81.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve Chapel Branch-Lagniappe (CBL) pay request 1 for M0163 Stormwater Project \$92,287.81. Paul seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

City Finance Director Brittney Proctor – discussed the County budget requests wanting to be sure there wasn't anything else besides the fireworks and parks budget request.

City Finance Clerk Misty Robbins – None

City Clerk Rachel Jackson – reminded the board to completed annual financial disclosure reports online by July 1, 2026.

City Clerk Rachel Jackson discussed the need for an additional part time employee to fill in when **Senior Program Coordinator Renece Gainer** requires time off.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to hire **Nancy Marble** as a part time, non-benefit eligible employee, to fill in when **Senior Program Coordinator Renece Gainer** is out. **Commissioner Cox** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor/Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Cox – asked **City Manager Michael Gortman** to check about why cars are being parked on the empty lot across from Phillip Weeks house on River Road. **City Manager Gortman** stated he would.

Commissioner Paul – None

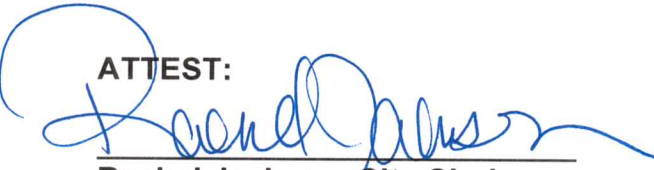
Commissioner Pettis – commended the senior program on their fundraising efforts stating it looks like they raised over \$5,000.

Mayor Gaskin - None

Adjournment

Commissioner Pettis made a motion to adjourn 6:56 pm. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

ATTEST:


Rachel Jackson, City Clerk

CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA

By 
6-25-25, Mayor/ Pro Tem

SEAL

