



City of Oak Hill, Florida
City Commission Meeting Minutes
Date: January 26th, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: 234 S. U.S. Hwy 1, Oak Hill, FL 32759

Commission Meeting

Meeting minutes

A. OPENING

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ricky Taylor welcomed everyone to The City of Oak Hill Commission meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM on Monday, January 26th, 2026.

2. Invocation

The invocation was led by Mayor Taylor

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Taylor.

4. Roll Call

Roll call affirmed all commissioners were present, establishing quorum.

B. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

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Mayor Taylor asked commissioners for agenda modifications. Commissioner Drollinger requested adding Mr. Auggie to the comprehensive plan review. The commission reached consensus to add this item as H4. Mayor Taylor requested moving item H2 (Oak Hill Sports Club agreement) up to follow the consent agenda, which was also **approved by consensus**.

C. PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Proclamation Honoring Sid Corhern

Mayor Taylor presented a proclamation honoring Sid Corhern for his dedicated service in architectural design, historic preservation, and community redevelopment. The proclamation specifically recognized Corhern's instrumental role in restoring the historic 1906 VIA Hall and helping save Oak Hill Elementary School, which later became Burns Science and Technology Charter School.

Proclamation Honoring Tom Gibbs

Mayor Taylor presented a proclamation honoring Tom Gibbs for his generosity and vision in partnering with the Oak Hill Community Trust to purchase the former Oak Hill Elementary School property, preventing its demolition and allowing for the establishment of Burns Science and Technology Charter School, which now serves approximately 1,170 students in grades K-12.

1. Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Annie Roddenberry from the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission provided an update on aquatic habitat restoration projects in the area. She explained that her group focuses on conservation, restoration, and enhancement of underwater habitats such as oyster reefs, salt marshes, and seagrass meadows.

Ms. Roddenberry described recent projects including salt marsh restoration at North Peninsula State Park, living shoreline stabilization in Canaveral National Seashore, and efforts to establish seagrass nurseries throughout the Indian River Lagoon following the 2021 manatee unusual mortality event. She emphasized their transition away from plastic materials to biodegradable alternatives for oyster restoration projects.

Chris Van Gorder A resident expressed concern about plastic debris from previous restoration projects and requested better cleanup of those materials. Ms. Roddenberry acknowledged the issue and stated they are actively working to remove old plastic materials when they no longer serve their purpose.

2. Volusia Sheriff's Office Crime Report

Captain Dan Shivers presented the 2025 crime report for Oak Hill. He reported 5,253 total calls for service, with 71.1% being proactive calls including extra patrols and traffic enforcement. Emergency response time averaged 8 minutes and 43 seconds from initial call to deputy arrival.

The clearance rate for person crimes was 95.24%, well above the national average of 45.5%. Property crime clearance was 60%, compared to the national average of 17.2%. The Sheriff's Office made 69 total arrests, with 42% being narcotics related. Overall crime decreased by 7.61% compared to 2024.

Captain Shivers also presented results from a traffic study on Gaines Street, which showed an average speed of 18.8 mph in a 25-mph zone, indicating no systemic speeding problem. He noted Commissioner Hyatt's concerns about speeding on Halifax Avenue following the removal of speed bumps and committed to conducting another traffic study there.

3. Holiday Builders Conceptual Development Plan

Joey Posey presented a conceptual plan for developing 71 acres adjacent to Lighthouse Cove. The property includes different zoning designations with 48 acres of RPUD allowing for 212 units. Holiday Builders' plan features a mixture of 50' and 60' lots (197 total), improved stormwater management, and relocation of the existing canal.

Mr. Posey emphasized that they were seeking early feedback before formal submission. Commissioner Werning recommended holding a community workshop, particularly for Lighthouse Cove residents who would be most affected by the development. The commission appreciated the developer's proactive approach to gathering input before submitting formal plans.

D. Citizens Participation

E. CONSENT AGENDA

Meeting Minutes

The commission decided to table the January 12, 2026 meeting minutes after Vice Mayor Catigano expressed concern that his comments during a discussion on Garden Street were not adequately represented in the minutes. Staff will revise the minutes and bring them back for approval at the February meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT: OAK HILL SPORTS CLUB (Moved up on the agenda)

The commission reviewed an agreement with Oak Hill Sports Club for their spring baseball league at Mary DeWees Park from January 26 to May 23, 2026. Commissioner Werning suggested removing a provision about admission fees and adding a requirement that background check results for volunteers be provided to the city.

Motion: Commissioner Drollinger moved to approve the agreement with modifications to remove the admission fee provision and add requirements for background check results to be provided to the city. Commissioner Hyatt seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

F. CITY ADMINISTRATOR

1. City Manager John Barkley reported that FEMA-funded roof repairs and structural repairs to Mary DeWees Park, the VIA Hall Museum, and City Hall are underway, with some facilities already completed.

2. Mr. Barkley also announced that through negotiation with FDOT, the city's quarterly reimbursement for highway median maintenance will increase from approximately \$11,000 to \$19,000, resulting in an additional \$30,000 annually. Staff is also working with FDOT on potential funding for irrigation and plantings.

3. Travis Allen, Public Works Director, discussed needed repairs at Nancy Cummings Park baseball fields, including addressing unsafe lips where clay meets grass, ADA compliance issues, and fence repairs. The commission expressed support for the improvements, with recommendations to engage with the Parks and Recreation Board for future planning.

G. OLD BUSINESS

1. Draft Emergency Operations Plan

City Manager Barkley presented a draft emergency operations plan that establishes protocols for emergency response and coordination with Volusia County and regional entities. The plan outlines responsibilities, shelter information, and provisions for supporting vulnerable citizens during emergencies.

Motion: Commissioner Drollinger moved to approve the Emergency Operations Plan. Commissioner Werning seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of Request for Re-Zoning

The commission conducted the first reading of **Ordinance 2026-01**, which would rezone property at 659 Angelia Drive from R-1 to A-1. The applicant, Brittany Mason, explained that the rezoning would protect her ability to keep various animals on her property, including chickens, ducks, turkeys, and goats. The Planning and Land Development Regulations Committee had unanimously recommended approval. The second reading will be scheduled for the February meeting.

2. CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT: OAK HILL SPORTS CLUB (Moved up on the agenda)

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Motion: Commissioner Drollinger moved to approve the agreement with modifications to remove the admission fee provision and add requirements for background check results to be provided to the city. Commissioner Hyatt seconded. **Motion passed unanimously**

3. Review of Candidates for City Attorney

The commission interviewed three candidates for the city attorney position. After discussion, commissioners agreed they needed more time to consider the candidates, all of whom were deemed highly qualified. The decision was tabled until the February meeting.

I. City Attorney

Nothing currently

J. Boards & Committees

Mike Arman reported that they are working with Team Volusia and Monty Fletcher to potentially have Oak Hill declared an enterprise zone again, which would provide benefits such as sales tax refunds on commercial construction materials.

K. Comments & Concerns from the Commission

Add Member to Comprehensive Plan Review

Motion: Commissioner Drollinger moved to add Mr. Auggie to the comprehensive plan review. Vice Mayor Catigano seconded. Motion **passed unanimously.**

Mayor Taylor requested that agenda packets be provided one week before meetings to allow more time for review. There was further discussion about the removal of speed bumps on Halifax Avenue and resulting speeding concerns.

Vice Mayor Catigano suggested the city pursue implementing impact fees for new construction to fund improvements. Staff noted that while the city cannot assess impact fees for fire, police, and schools, they could potentially establish fees for parks and recreation and city facilities.

Several commissioners praised the recent Volusia County League of Cities dinner hosted in Oak Hill at Goodrich's, noting it was very successful and showcased the city well.

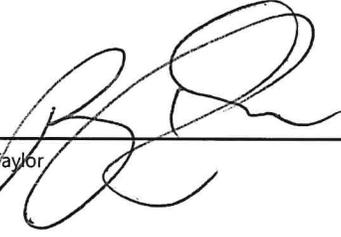
K. Adjournment

Motion To Adjourn made by Commissioner Werning, second made by Commissioner Hyatt.

Attest:

X

Ricky Taylor
Mayor



X

John Barkley
City Manager

