

Commission Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2025
5:30 pm

Mayor Redding called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. He opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members in attendance included Mayor Andy Redding, Commissioner Bob Milner and Commissioner Janice D. Mortimer. Also in attendance were Executive Assistant Cathy Bradley, Fire Chief Jason Clemons, Executive Assistant Lisa Heeder, Finance Director James Hughes, Administrative Assistant Becky May, General Manager Drew Mullins and Attorney Scott Walker. Commissioner Danny Nugent and Commissioner Scott Roberts were absent.

Mayor Redding called for any agenda additions or deletions. Mr. Mullins asked to add TRIM data under the General Manager Report. Mayor Redding asked to put Andy Tison's retirement after the consent agenda. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to approve the agenda with changes. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to approve the agenda with the requested changes. It was seconded by Commissioner Milner. The motion passed 3-0.

Mayor Redding entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the minutes of the July 1, 2025 Commission Meeting, Resolution Number 2025-37 approving that certain amendment 3 to the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Agreement DW040210 and the commissioner bill review. Commissioner Milner made a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. The motion passed 3-0.

Mayor Redding presented a plaque to Andy Tison for 25 years of outstanding service to the City of Starke and Starke Fire Rescue.

There was no old business.

There were no emergency items.

Mayor Redding called for citizen's participation. Sim Oliver Crum came forward to address concerns about Crum Street. He is concerned about a camper parked under power lines. Judith Young came forward to address concerns about solar power and the historic district. Paul Still came forward to address concerns about flooding and the Edwards Bottom Lands Mitigation Project. Mayor Redding asked Commissioner Mortimer about a meeting with Suwannee River Water Management District. Commissioner Mortimer said it was a North Central Florida Regional Planning Council meeting that she and Mr. Mullins attended. Mr. Mullins said the Suwannee River Water Management District is doing a study and they are writing a memo about the

responsibilities. They will be coming to a meeting in September to present the findings. Mr. Mullins said there are two contracts that Danielle Adams and Stephanie Mann are reviewing. Commissioner Mortimer asked Mr. Mullins if he is going to be at the mitigation meeting on Thursday. Mr. Mullins said he will attend at 3:00 pm at the Emergency Operations Center.

Mayor Redding called for the General Manager Report. Mr. Mullins said we will be shooting a promotional video for the city on July 28th and 29th. The next item was closing city hall on election day, August 19th. The consensus of the commission was to remain open and conduct operations as usual. The next item was moving the August commission meetings to August 12th and 26th. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to move the meeting dates. It was seconded by Commissioner Milner. The motion passed 3-0. Mr. Mullins said the TRIM needs to be set. He said there is the rolled back rate, the same rate or an increased rate. Mayor Redding said he would like to keep it the same. He entertained a motion on the TRIM. Commissioner Milner made a motion to set the millage at .0043879. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. The motion passed 3-0. Mr. Mullins reviewed the utility and transportation trust fund budgets. He asked about setting the budget hearings for September 9th and 23rd at 5:01 pm. The consensus of the commission was to set the budget hearings for September 9th and 23rd. Mr. Mullins asked Attorney Walker to speak on the issue with Eulinda Russ and Pine Forest Apartments. Attorney Walker said they sent a letter out on this to Mr. Mullins and the city does not owe an obligation to Pine Forest Apartments. Mr. Mullins said it will be sent by certified mail to Ms. Russ and the corporation as well as emailed.

There were no public hearings.

There were no quasi-judicial hearings.

Mayor Redding called for the Attorney's Report. Attorney Walker had nothing further.

Commissioner Mortimer said she thinks she needs to make it a matter of record that the Sandcastle project still has not put up a fence around their retention pond. They have tenants moving into those homes now, and most of those people have children. She talked to Mr. Mullins and the commission needs to be aware that the project is not coming to fruition like they were told. There are several other deficiencies that Mr. Mullins made her aware of.

Mayor Redding entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Commissioner Milner. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm.