



City of Starke

"Forging Tomorrow's Small Town, Today"

Regular Meeting of City Commission Minutes

Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Mayor Redding called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Commissioner Milner opened the meeting with a time of ²Voluntary Prayer and the ³Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Redding called for ⁴Roll Call. Commissioner Dimple Overstreet was present, Vice Mayor Janice D. Mortimer was present, Commissioner Bob Milner was present, Commissioner Danny Nugent was present, and Mayor Andy Redding was present. Additionally, City Clerk Chrissy Allen-Thompson was present, City Manager Drew Mullins was present, and City Attorney Scott Walker was present. Also in attendance were Executive Assistant Cathy Bradley, Director of Building & Zoning Lance Campbell, Fire Chief Jason Clemons, Executive Assistant Lisa Heeder, Assistant City Manager-Finance James Hughes, Grants Coordinator Becky May, Captain Kevin Mueller, and Assistant City Manager-Utilities David Sparks.

Mayor Redding entertained a motion for the ⁵Approval of the Agenda. Vice Mayor Mortimer made a motion. Commissioner Nugent seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Redding entertained a motion to approve the ⁶Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda consisted of: ^{6.a}Minutes of the March 3, 2026 Commission Meeting, ^{6.b}Resolution 2026-25 Approving That Certain Agreement Between the City and the Bradford County Supervisor of Elections for Municipal Elections Management Services, ^{6.c}Resolution 2026-26 Approving That Certain Third Amended Consent Order with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, ^{6.d}Resolution 2026-27 Approving the Renewal of the Operations and Maintenance Contract Between the City of Starke and Woodard & Curran, Inc. for a Three (3) Year Extension Commencing May 1, 2026, ^{6.e}Resolution 2026-28 Approving That Certain Agreement Between the City and Scherer Construction of North Florida, LLC for Construction Services for the RJE Renaissance Center Gymnasium Renovation Project – Phase III, ^{6.f}FLC Fast Fly-In to Washington DC – Commissioner Daniel Nugent, ^{6.g}Florida Public Pension Trustee Association Annual Conference and Expo – Vice Mayor Janice Mortimer, ^{6.h}Florida Gas Utility 2026 Annual Meeting – Vice Mayor Janice Mortimer, ^{6.i}North Florida Elite Booster Club Boot Drive Request, and ^{6.j}Commissioner Bill Review: Commissioner Milner. Commissioner Milner reported he reviewed the bills and everything looked to be in order. Absent any disagreement, he made a motion to approve the consent agenda as printed. Commissioner Overstreet seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Redding asked for ⁷Emergency Items. There were none.

Mayor Redding asked for the ⁸FMEA Restoring Communities Award for 2025. Elizabeth Bendele thanked the Commission for the opportunity to recognize an outstanding collaboration by the City of Starke's Electric Utility. The Florida Municipal Electric Association presents the Restoring C

ommunities Award each year to recognize Public Power Utilities that restore electric service following major weather events, emergency situations, or through mutual aid and support to other utilities. This award highlights one of the defining strengths of public power with utilities helping utilities. When communities face outages or critical infrastructure challenges, Public Power Utilities across Florida and the Country work together to provide skilled crews, equipment, and expertise to get the lights back on safely and quickly. In 2025, the City of Starke was recognized for its collaboration with Gainesville Regional Utilities on an important electric infrastructure project. By sharing resources and working together on a Feeder Line Replacement Project, the utilities were able to complete the work more safely, more efficiently, and with minimal interruption to electric service for customers. This partnership reflects the spirit of mutual aid and defines Florida's Public Power Network through neighbors helping neighbors. The dedication, professionalism, and teamwork shown by the City of Starke's electric utility employees exemplifies the mission of public power, reliable service, community commitment and readiness to step up whenever help is needed. On behalf of the Florida Municipal Electric Association, she stated it was her honor to present the 2025 Restoring Communities Award to the City of Starke and its electric utility. She asked that individuals join her in the coming days by congratulating the full utility team and thanking them for the continued service to the residents and businesses of Starke. Mayor Redding said they have several members from the Utility Department here this evening. He asked them to come forward for a photo. This is the Utility Departments award, but the Commissioners want to show their support for all the linemen do. City Manager Mullins said he appreciates everything the linemen do.

Mayor Redding asked for ⁹Wendy Sullivan 25 Years with the City. City Manager Mullins said the City needed to appreciate their employees more moving forward. They had Terry Anderson a couple of months ago who had 30 years with the City and Steven Goodman who had 10 years with the City. City Manager Mullins said the City appreciates Ms. Sullivan's 25 years and asked when her actual anniversary was. Ms. Sullivan said March 9th. City Manager Mullins said she is a very dedicated employee who has done the City proud and they appreciate all she has done. The Commissioners joined her for pictures. Ms. Sullivan asked Linda Kay Johns to join them as she was the one who hired her. Ms. Johns said it was one of the best things she ever did. Mayor Redding asked any family or co-workers to please join them for pictures.

Mayor Redding asked for ¹⁰Citizens Request. There were none.

Mayor Redding asked for ¹¹New Business: ^{11.a}Public Risk Management Alternate Board Member. City Manager Mullins said this was for Health Care. He serves as the Primary Board Member, but they need an alternate as well. He stated that he was opening it up to the Commissioners to select one, since it requires their vote. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked who served as the alternate before. City Manager Mullins said former City Clerk Jimmy Crosby did. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked if City Clerk Allen-Thompson wanted to be the Alternate Board Member. City Clerk Allen-Thompson said she could. Mayor Redding said he will leave the floor open. He stated that he's not saying he's right with this, but this is for our Health Care and there are certain things that the staff deal with day in, day out. He continued that as Commissioners they have coverage, but they are not as intimately familiar with these plans as the members of City staff may be. In a lot of these positions, he thinks it would be fruitful for them to have staff members serve in those positions. It gives them more of a vested interest in it and it shows them that they're part of the team. They're part of the overall picture. As Commissioners, they can focus more on the legislative requirements

of their jobs. Going forward, he would like them to entertain things like that and take a hard look at them. It's good that City Manager Mullins is on the FMPA Board, and Mayor Redding is the alternate. He stated that he can't go to the meetings all the time, but City Manager Mullins deals with it day in and day out, just like Assistant City Manager-Utilities Sparks. Assistant City Manager-Finance Hughes deals with the financial side. Mayor Redding was willing to hear what the rest of the Commissioners think. Commissioner Nugent said he thinks that's a good idea. Mayor Redding said it gives them more to do with the City and it shows that they're a true stockholder in the system and gives them something to take pride in. Then they can come back and share with their fellow employees the brighter side of things, or the things that they may need to look at as employees from this healthcare standpoint. He asked again what the other Commissioners thought. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked if they needed a motion. City Manager Mullins said if they have somebody in mind. If they want a staff member, they can table this until the next meeting. Mayor Redding said if they are thinking of a staff member, City Clerk Allen-Thompson is here every day, and the former clerk served as the alternate. Otherwise, maybe come back with a recommendation. The employee could volunteer. Vice Mayor Mortimer said she thinks it's good, but when Mayor Redding is saying staff, was he speaking of the City Clerk Allen-Thompson as staff. Mayor Redding said City Clerk Allen-Thompson is here five days a week. Vice Mayor Mortimer inquired since she's here and this is on the agenda, if they ask her and she's willing to fill it can they go ahead with the appointment tonight as opposed to tabling it. Commissioner Nugent said he liked that idea, but he suggested giving her an assistant to give employees an opportunity to be involved. Mayor Redding said this is for an Alternate Board Member so they wouldn't need an alternate to the alternate. Commissioner Milner agreed with the comments. He thinks City Clerk Allen-Thompson is in a unique position and works well with City Manager Mullins and Assistant City Manager-Finance Hughes every day. He thinks she would be an excellent alternate on the Healthcare Board. Vice Mayor Mortimer made a motion to appoint City Clerk Allen-Thompson to serve as the Alternate Board Member on the Public Risk Management Board. Commissioner Nugent seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Vice Mayor Mortimer thanked City Clerk Allen-Thompson.

Mayor Redding asked for ¹².Old Business: ^{12.a}.Charter Review and ^{12.b}.Impact Fees. City Manager Mullins had no other news on Old Business.

Mayor Redding welcomed the students attending the meeting for a Civics Class Project.

Mayor Redding asked for ¹³.Public Hearings. There were none.

Mayor Redding asked for ¹⁴.Quasi-Judicial Hearings for Ordinance 2026-06. Attorney Walker asked anyone who intended to testify about this matter to stand and raise their right hand. Director of Building & Zoning Lance Campbell came to the podium and raised his right hand. Attorney Walker asked if he swore or affirmed to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Director Campbell said he did. Attorney Walker asked the City Commission if they had any ex parte communication. Commissioner Nugent said no sir. Commissioner Milner said no sir. Mayor Redding said no sir. Vice Mayor Mortimer said no sir. Commissioner Overstreet said no sir. Attorney Walker read ^{14.a}.Ordinance 2026-06 by title. An Ordinance of the City of Starke, Florida, pursuant to petition number ANX 26-01, by Starke Express Wash LLC, relating to voluntary annexation; making findings; annexing certain real property located in Bradford County, Florida, which is reasonably compact, and contiguous to the boundaries of the City of Starke, Florida, into

the boundaries of the City of Starke, Florida; providing severability; repealing all Ordinances in conflict; providing an effective date. Attorney Walker advised the appropriate motion was to pass Ordinance Number 2026-06 as read by title only at the appropriate time. Director Campbell introduced himself and explained that this was the second reading that passed unanimously at the last Commission Meeting. It was for a voluntary annexation to join the City of Starke. It's 1.8 a cres. He stated there is no change and staff recommendation is approval. He stated that he was open to answer any questions. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to pass. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. Commissioner Milner seconded the motion. There were no further questions. There was no public comment. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Redding asked for ^{15.a.}City Manager Report. City Manager Mullins said Commissioner Milner made mention of it during the prayer, but the City tragically lost one of their employees last Wednesday. He said he appreciated the prayers and thoughts and everybody that attended the service on that Sunday. The employee was a very young man. It's a very tragic situation. Moving to City Business, they've got the FMEA Conference coming up July 14th through the 16th in Palm Beach. If any Commissioners want to go to it, please get with them to make travel arrangements. Registration opens Monday and the rooms get booked very quickly. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for the dates again. City Manager Mullins said July 14th to 16th.

Mayor Redding asked for ^{15.b.}City Clerk Report. City Clerk Allen-Thompson said she just had a couple of quick reminders. Saturday, March 21st is Opening Day at Edwards Road Ball Field. She would love everyone to be there, if possible. Saturday Morning, March 28th is the Prayer Walk that will be on Old Lawtey Road. The Strawberry Festival is March 28th and 29th. She would love to see you all there as well. Thursday, March 19th is the Ribbon Cutting for First Federal Bank. Let her know if you will be attending. They were wanting to have a big Opening Day. It is from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Tonight, after the meeting, is Meet the Coach at the Downtown Grill to meet the new Bradford High School Head Football Coach. Commissioner Milner said this Saturday for Opening Day, he had at 9:00 AM. City Clerk Allen-Thompson said yes sir. Commissioner Milner thanked City Clerk Allen-Thompson. Vice Mayor Mortimer said the Prayer Walk on March 28th starts at Allen Chapel Church on Pine Street at 8:00 AM.

Mayor Redding asked for ^{15.c.}Public Safety Report. Captain Mueller said the monthly report was provided at the last meeting. Sheriff Gordon Smith will come to the next meeting to present the Annual Review for the Commission. Captain Mueller said to let him know if you have any questions or concerns. Mayor Redding asked if there were any questions or concerns for Captain Mueller. There were none. Mayor Redding thanked Captain Mueller.

Mayor Redding asked for ^{15.d.}Attorney Report. Attorney Walker said Happy Saint Patrick's Day.

Mayor Redding asked for ^{16.}Mayor and Commissioner Reports. ^{16.a.}Commissioner Overstreet thanked everyone and said they were amazing. ^{16.b.}Commissioner Milner had nothing further. ^{16.c.}Commissioner Nugent said the Northeast Florida League of Cities Dinner will be March 19th in Green Cove Springs at 6:00 PM. He will be there along with Commissioner Milner and a couple of others. ^{16.d.}Vice Mayor Mortimer had nothing further. ^{16.e.}Mayor Redding encouraged everybody to go to the Downtown Grill and meet the coach and welcome him. He said he's encouraged to come to these meetings and have what they had tonight with staff being recognized for their efforts and what they're doing in the City. They are small, but they're mighty. Ms. Sullivan being r

ecognized for her 25 years. That's a lifetime for some, but it shows a commitment to the City of Starke and to the citizens, but also to the culture that they have here. He said he thinks that was growing daily. They have more and more employees and he's sure City Manager Mullins and City Clerk Allen-Thompson can attest to it, but they're getting more and more tenured employees. When they start seeing more than 50% of their workforce getting over that 10-year mark with people being vested in the system, it shows not only their dedication but they have a reason to want to be here beyond just a paycheck. Thank you for your efforts. He thanked his fellow Commissioners for how smoothly things run.

Mayor Redding entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Milner said he was glad to have the Bradford High School students at the meeting and made a motion to adjourn. Vice Mayor Mortimer seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 PM.