



City of Starke

"Forging Tomorrow's Small Town, Today"

Regular Meeting of City Commission Minutes

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Vice Mayor Mortimer called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

Vice Mayor Mortimer opened the meeting with a time of ²Voluntary Prayer and the ³Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Mayor Mortimer called for ⁴Roll Call. Commissioner Dimple Overstreet was present, Commissioner Bob Milner was present, Commissioner Danny Nugent was present, and Vice Mayor Janice D. Mortimer was present. Mayor Andy Redding was absent due to work. Additionally, City Manager Drew Mullins was present and City Attorney Danielle Adams was present. City Clerk Chrissy Allen-Thompson was absent. Also in attendance were Building & Zoning Director Lance Campbell, Fire Chief Jason Clemons, Administrative Assistant Lisa Heeder, Captain Kevin Mueller, and Assistant City Manager – Utilities David Sparks.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ⁵Approval of the Agenda. She asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. City Manager Mullins asked to move Item 13.a.i. Presentation by Bradford Sports United under ⁷Emergency Items. Vice Mayor Mortimer requested moving Citizens Request under the ⁶Consent Agenda because someone needed to get to another event that they're participating in at the high school. She entertained a motion to approve the changes to the agenda. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. Commissioner Overstreet seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Vice Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve the ⁶Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda consisted of: ^{6.a}Minutes of the April 21, 2026 Commission Meeting, ^{6.b}Resolution 2026-35 Establishing a Right-of-Way Permit Fee Schedule for Work Conducted Within the Public Right-of-Way and ^{6.c}Commissioner Bill Review: Commissioner Overstreet. Commissioner Milner made a motion to approve the consent agenda as printed assuming Commissioner Overstreet reviewed the bills with no problem. Commissioner Nugent seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ⁸Citizens Request. *She asked for Terricena Kittles. Ms. Kittles thanked the Commissioners for allowing her to speak. She stated her address as 4503 Oakmont Circle, Apartment 311 in Starke, Florida. She came to address a meeting that she had with City Manager Mullins, Vice Mayor Mortimer, City Clerk Allen-Thompson, General Counsel & Director of Human Resources Mann, and her daughter. She stated that her daughter has been terminated. She was with the City of Starke for three years and eleven months. Ms. Kittles was told this information on April 29th. She said that she is her mother, and her job as her mother is to protect her daughter from everyone. She said she was told by Mayor Redding that he knew she was a Christian and she was going to handle this. She stated that God had nothing to do with what was done to her daughter, because no one thought about God when they made that decision. Ms. Kittles said that City Manager Mullins stated it was because of performance, yet her reviews had all come with an increase in salary. In that same meeting, City Manager Mullins explained that the

City of Starke was going in a different direction. She asked the Commissioners if they were aware of the fact that the City was going in a different direction which was saddening. Ms. Kittles stated she never got to meet with Finance Director Hughes, who she requested a meeting with. Ms. Kittles said that in speaking with City Manager Mullins in that same meeting, she was told that all of them are basically at-will employees. She continued that there are some elections that are going to be coming up with Mayor Redding, Commissioner Milner, and Commissioner Nugent. She wanted to let them know that it was very disheartening. She said if anyone knows her in Bradford County, she will say what she means and mean what she says. She told City Manager Mullins that the optics do not look good and she meant that. She said that his response was that he doesn't see color. She said please understand, when people say they don't see color, no one in this room is color blind. Her race is African American/Black. Her color is not even like Commissioner Mortimer. She stated she would say it's more like having rights, and that changes. Ms. Kittles said don't ever address a person of color saying that they don't see color, because that's like an insult because they do. She stated that she is lighter than all of her children. She said they all see color, so let's not say that. That's very disheartening. She said it's like a push her off to the side type of thing. She thanked the Commission for their time. *Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for Alvin Hunter. Mr. Hunter stated his address as 455 West Pratt Street in Starke. He just wanted to give an update of what's going on at the American Legion since May 8th was their 95th year of serving Bradford County, and that to him that was something that needed to be recognized. It has been 95 years that they have been serving the Citizens and Veterans of Bradford County. Coming up is their Memorial Day Celebration on Monday, Memorial Day at 10:00 AM. He apologized for the confusion last time. On May 30th they will be holding their second blood drive. They will be holding it at the New Memorial. Their goal is 15 units. They didn't quite get there last time. They're trying to do blood drives every quarter at a different location, so let him know if there's a location that they want them to come to as the American Legion. They work with First Blood. He thanked the Commissioners. Vice Mayor Mortimer thanked Mr. Hunter. She added that the new setup of the Veteran's Memorial is fabulous, it's visible, and it looks really good. Alvin Hunter said City Clerk Allen-Thompson and Dale Tenly worked really well together. Vice Mayor Mortimer said it really looks good. It brings that whole area out. Kudos to whoever did that.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ⁷Emergency Items. There were none.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ^{13.a.i}Presentation by Bradford Sports United. Recreation Director Deana DeSiena stated baseball and softball this year had great success. They had a total of 240 kids that signed up with 19 total teams. Opening day had approximately 500 people in attendance at the ball fields which was an awesome turnout. They were very pleased with that, the bottom picture on the slide showed their 16U Girls Rec Team, along with their adaptive team, which is for low functioning autism, and they have a game this weekend on the 23rd. She advised that if they haven't been to one of their games yet, she would recommend coming out to watch, because it is awesome to see those kids have such a blast, and they have so much fun watching them playing, getting to play alongside them. She continued that All Stars is what's going on right now for softball and baseball. That will be May 28th to May 31st for baseball, and then for softball it will be June 4th to June 7th. All of those tournaments will be held in Palaka, Florida. She said that baseball has an 8U T-Ball Team, a 10U Team, a 12U Team, and a 16U Team. Softball has a 12U Team and a 16U Team heading to All Stars for those tournaments, which is super exciting. She continued that Flag Football had 45 kids sign up and it is their first year, so that's a pretty good turnout. They had three teams; their practices started about two weeks ago, and their first game

will also be this Saturday at Edwards Road Park on the 23rd at 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM. All of their games will be played either here in Bradford County or in Union County against Lake Butler and/or Lake City, which was great. The three of them are doing a Round Robin throughout the year, and then games will run through June 26th which will be six weeks of games, and June 26th will be their championship, which will be in Lake Butler. She said it's co-ed with only a few girls on every team, but it is open to girls and boys which is fantastic. She stated that she thinks they've got at least two girls on each team and they're having a blast. She thinks the girls are doing a little bit better than the boys. She showed a slide of the improvements that have been made at the Edwards Road Ballpark. The top pictures showed the women's and men's restrooms. They often get compliments on the bathrooms. The bottom two pictures showed the concession stand. They have two full-size Pepsi refrigerators, as they partnered with Pepsi this season for all of their drinks and supplies. They also have Sysco as their food rep, which has been super helpful to get supplies delivered to the ball field. Their gross sales from March 21st, which was opening day, until April 30th, which was just about their last game, was about \$23,000 which was pretty good, considering it was only the first year and they weren't open as many games as they could have been. That doesn't take into account the sales yet. They are currently looking for scoreboard donations. They would like to get four scoreboards for the four main fields. The total cost for a scoreboard is \$3,895.99. If they could get multiple entities to come in and do one, they could get everyone's logo on that scoreboard. Currently, they have around \$10,700 in sponsorship money that gets added to every day as All Stars checks continue to come in for those teams. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for questions. Commissioner Milner said he knows when he looked at scoreboards for the Bradford County School Board, there would be a person running all four of them. Recreational Director DeSiena said typically that is going to be whoever's doing the scorebook. They'd have a remote control, and they just change whatever they need to. It could be a coach, it could be a team mom, it could be who's doing the scorebook, just someone that's not going to forget to change the score. Each field will have their own designated remote and the remotes will get returned back to concessions at the end of the night. Commissioner Milner said at the food pantry the other day, they got in a bunch of one-gallon cans of chili, like chili con carne or hot dogs or something. They can't give that out to clients now. They can use them for feeding the hungry every day down behind Powell's. Could they use that for chili dogs. Recreation Director DeSiena asked if there is an expiration date on it. Since softball and baseball is winding down, she only has three weekends left until the Fall season starts back up. So, they're going to be in a slowdown period, and she's probably going to be at the food pantry making a donation. Commissioner Milner said they got a huge amount of fresh flash frozen alligator meat, which is very expensive. Recreation Director DeSiena said they do have a basket fryer. She would just have to change the oil out, but she doesn't know who's going to buy alligator. Commissioner Milner said that's the same thing that the Downtown Grill and other restaurants buy from Sysco, Cheney Brothers. That comes from their alligator farm. Vice Mayor Mortimer said maybe as a special or something. Commissioner Milner said they flash freeze it immediately. That was processed per all the governmental regulations, because it's to be sold in restaurants. Recreation Director DeSiena said to check on those and let her know. Vice Mayor Mortimer said that Recreation Director DeSiena was aware that her girls participated in softball and it was phenomenal. They had a fabulous time. It was their first time playing and they're hooked. They played on those back fields. She really hopes that they will pay a little bit more attention to those, because they need some attention. Recreation Director DeSiena said absolutely, so that's actually on County Commissioner Danny Riddick and her agenda to paint those bathrooms and paint that concession stand to get that a little bit more presentable. Then field-wise there's actually sprinklers under both of those fields that are very nice, they just have to

get them to work because they keep getting hit with the lawnmower. If she can get those working those fields would look so much better. Vice Mayor Mortimer said they had some disruptive behavior during the season, and she's just wanting to make sure that a policy goes into effect that they'll be able to deal with those disruptive parents and coaches timely, so that it doesn't negatively impact the children. Even though people are volunteering, there still needs to be a code of conduct. Recreation Director DeSiena said she has been updating their bylaws this past week, and then once softball and baseball is completely done and she has a little bit more focus, that's her plan to get that completely squared away so that can be shared with the rest of the board for approval and then they can move forward from there with an established bylaw and has everything written and set in stone. Vice Mayor Mortimer said that's all she had. They appreciate the job that Recreation Director DeSiena is doing. Vice Mayor Mortimer thanked Recreation Director DeSiena. Commissioner Nugent said if they did get the alligator meat and cooked and sold them at the bank that'd help them pay for the scoreboards. They could get with the Rotary Club and Kiwanis Club and see if they want to purchase them. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked if there were any questions on the financial side. There were none.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ⁹New Business: there was none.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ¹⁰Old Business: there was none.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ¹¹Public Hearings: ^{11.a}Ordinance 2026-07 Calling for a Referendum Question to be Placed Before the Qualified Electors of the City of Starke at the Next General Election which is Scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, 2026 – Second Reading. Attorney Adams read the Ordinance by title. An ordinance of the City of Starke, Florida, calling for a referendum question to be placed before the qualified electors of the City of Starke at the next general election, which is scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, 2026; providing a Charter Referendum Question determining whether to adopt the proposed amendments to the Charter for the City of Starke; providing for the full text of the Proposed Amended Charter for the City of Starke; providing for Requisite Ballot Language; providing for repeal of all conflicting Ordinances; providing for severability and providing an effective date. Attorney Adams said that this is the second reading of this Ordinance, so any changes that the Commission have, would come back for first read; unless they're ministerial in nature. Vice Mayor Mortimer said she thought she was going to ask that this be pulled for tonight for a second reading, because she had some questions that she needed to get answered, but when she met with City Manager Mullins earlier today, he answered her questions to her satisfaction. Additionally, she understands that they are on a deadline to get this to the Supervisor of Elections, so that this can move on. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked if anyone else had any concerns regarding this Ordinance that would prohibit the Commission from moving forward. Commissioner Nugent said he took care of his questions. Vice Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve Ordinance Number 2026-07 as read by title only on second reading. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. Commissioner Overstreet seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Attorney Adams read Ordinance Number 2026-08 by title. An Ordinance of the City Commission of Starke of the City of Starke, amending Chapter 2, Article VI, Division 2, Sections 2-372 and 2-373; revising process for sale of surplus property and changing thresholds for public auction requirements for disposal of property other than real property; repealing all Ordinances in conflict; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date. This is the first read of this ordinance. And she, along with City Manager Mullins, would be happy to answer any questions they may have regarding the text change. Vice Mayor

Mortimer asked if there were any questions on the text change. She asked if all the changes in the Ordinance were struck out. Attorney Adams said yes, and all the additions are underlined. Vice Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion on Ordinance 2026-08 as read by title only on first reading. Commissioner Overstreet made a motion. Commissioner Milner seconded the motion for discussion. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked Commissioner Milner to go ahead with his discussion. Commissioner Milner said his only question was, if any other Commissioners felt like \$1,500 was too low. They get a lot of stuff that is not worth putting on a bid. City Manager Mullins has legal ways by law of selling, and he knows that is an awfully low threshold, but he doesn't want to change the Ordinance. He'd be comfortable with \$3,000 for example, but if the other Commissioners don't want to move on it, then so be it. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked how City Manager Mullins came up with a \$1,500 threshold. City Manager Mullins said that was what he thought the Commissioners would be amenable to. Going from \$200 to \$1,500. City Manager Mullins said there's a lot of material that ranges from \$200 up to \$1,500. Up in range, it just accumulates rather quickly, and then there's just junk. Attorney Adams said something that other cities do is they will authorize the City Manager to engage in any sort of competitive sale, so as opposed to putting a number amount, because every surplus property has to come through you anyway, whether it's a lawnmower that's worth \$100 or a pump truck that's worth \$100,000 and putting a cap on how you're going to engage in this sale, you enable your City Manager to sell, so long as it's in a competitive manner. Then, it's at the discretion of the City Manager to be in a competitive bidding process, whether they want to go to auction or if they want to post it on GovDeals. That's an alternative if you didn't want to think about the monetary cap and sending it to public auction. Vice Mayor Mortimer said she's comfortable with that. She asked Commissioner Milner if he was comfortable with that. Commissioner Milner said yes. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked Commissioner Nugent if he was comfortable with that. Commissioner Nugent said he would want to add a base first, then he would have no problem with the cap. He's just saying they don't want to sell it for nothing, but they can be flexible on the maximum amount, assuming that's what they want to do. Attorney Adams said the \$1,500 was the operative for how you sell it. That's what their trigger was, and anything past that value would be when City Manager Mullins would engage in a public auction. What she was suggesting was that a lot of cities don't have this monetary threshold. Typically the City Commission declares something to be surplus property, the City Manager is authorized to engage in any sort of competitive sale process. At that point, it can be GovDeals, it can be a public auction, and it would be at the discretion of the City Manager, as long as it's competitive in nature. Vice Mayor Mortimer said that competitive language is what she would propose bringing back, as opposed to setting the \$1,500 cap. Attorney Adams said correct. Commissioner Milner asked if they should withdraw the motion for tonight. Attorney Adams said they'll just make a motion to amend, as she's discussed, and they'll bring it back for first read, but then she's received direction from the Commission on what they want. Commissioner Nugent asked City Manager Mullins if they had a truck that's worth \$1,500 on the list, and someone only bids \$200. He doesn't want to get rid of a \$1,500 truck for \$200. City Manager Mullins said it would be listed at fair market value. Commissioner Milner said if Vice Mayor Mortimer was willing to entertainment, he would amend his motion to include the language as described by Attorney Adams, which would allow her to input for the next actual Commission Meeting. Vice Mayor Mortimer said she thought Commissioner Overstreet was the one who made the motion. Commissioner Overstreet asked what she was supposed to do. Vice Mayor Mortimer said Commissioner Overstreet is going to amend the motion to say what Attorney Adams said and Commissioner Milner is going to second that amended motion. Having heard the amended motion

to Ordinance Number 2026-08, Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for the pleasure of the board. The amendment passed 4-0.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ¹²Quasi-Judicial Hearings. There were none.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ^{13.a}City Manager Report. City Manager Mullins said he has nothing. Vice Mayor Mortimer said ^{13.b}City Clerk Allen Thompson is out on vacation. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for the ^{13.c}Public Safety Report. Captain Mueller said that what jumped out at him when he was compiling this report, was the fact that crime in the City, historically, is very low. He let the Commissioners look at the numbers for themselves to understand what he was talking about. There was consistency each month and it made him realize what a great community that they live in. They'll see a lot of productivity in the Law Enforcement Report. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for any questions or comments. Commissioner Overstreet said she was almost hit one morning while walking because of a speeder. She asked what is actually being done. Captain Mueller said they did 500 traffic stops. Commissioner Overstreet asked how many received a ticket. Did all of those people receive a ticket? Captain Mueller said no. Commissioner Overstreet said when she's out walking, she has to be constantly aware. Captain Mueller asked where the incident took place. Commissioner Overstreet said at the new little street, where the park was. Like you're going out to the hospital. She was crossing over and he not only was speeding, but he also gave no turn signal. She asked what's being done. Captain Mueller said traffic enforcement is at a high level. He doesn't want to dismiss her complaint. They are out there working and looking into that. He'll put an extra patrol in the area that she's talking about. Commissioner Overstreet said please. Captain Mueller said there were 500 traffic stops in 30 days, just in the City of Starke. Commissioner Overstreet said she likes to walk. She might be old, but she likes to walk. Captain Mueller said and we want you walking. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for Commissioner Nugent's questions. Commissioner Nugent said he thinks Commissioner Overstreet is talking about the area near Laura Street. They are going really fast through that area and behind the hospital down Colley Road. He thinks it's maybe coming from the apartments down behind the hospital. He asked Captain Mueller if he get the guys to monitor the area. He said there's also kids out there on four wheelers and three wheelers, and he's getting complaints about that. Captain Mueller said that starting tomorrow, they're going to have a project in that area. Vice Mayor Mortimer said she wants to thank Captain Mueller for the response that he gave to her request for speeders on Pine Street. Although they have a plethora of speed bumps, they were still speeding through there, especially down on the north end, where the park is. And with spring and summer coming up, it has really made a difference. The patrolling, and the visibility of law enforcement in that area, especially in the afternoon, has really made a difference. She's gotten compliments from the neighbors that had previously complained, that they've seen a difference. Thank you. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for the ^{13.d}City Attorney Report. Attorney Adams said she needs to schedule a Shade Meeting with the Commissioners. She doesn't know what their preferred methodology by which they do that. Whether they set it while they look at their calendars or if they'd like her to have City Manager Mullins reach out to them to find a time that would work. Vice Mayor Mortimer said absolutely, please. Attorney Adams said when they engage in litigation in cities, they have a tough time when settlements come about, because obviously they're in public meetings. When you would meet with your attorney to discuss, you're obviously shielded by Attorney-Client Privilege, whereas if I tell you all what our strategy is, the opposing party could watch the video, read the minutes, and then all of a sudden we're at an extreme disadvantage. So, the State of Florida permits them to do what's called Shade Meetings. They're publicly noticed meetings wherein they have a

court reporter come and she is able to talk to the Commissioners outside of Sunshine Law. That's why they call it a Shade Meeting. Once the litigation settles, the court reporter transcript becomes publicly available. The public eventually gets to see what was going on in the litigation, but it also gives them the ability to discuss litigation amongst ourselves, such that she can provide updates of what's going on. They have a foreclosure that's pending. They have a hearing set for next month. They've received a settlement offer, and she would like to discuss it with the Commissioners in a Shade Meeting. She's open to hearing how they would like to schedule the Shade Meeting. Whether they'd like to do it tonight or have City Manager Mullins reach out to them to coordinate. She wanted to put that on their radar and ask what their thoughts were on that. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked how soon they need to have this done. Attorney Adams said they have a hearing set for June 24th. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked if Mayor Redding is going to be back for the first meeting in June. City Manager Mullins said he believes he will be. Attorney Adams said she will probably only need 15 to 20 minutes of their time. Vice Mayor Mortimer said that for her it would be better if they schedule it before the next commission meeting, which is June 2nd. Commissioner Nugent said he's good for that date. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked if 4:30 PM would be good. Attorney Adams said 5:00 PM is plenty of time. Attorney Adams said they'll set that subject to Mayor Redding also being able to attend. Vice Mayor Mortimer asked staff to remind the Commissioners about being there at 5:00 PM on June 2nd.

Vice Mayor Mortimer asked for ¹⁴Commissioner Reports. ^{14.a}Commission Overstreet had nothing. ^{14.b}Commissioner Milner said they just went through the Charter Review Process with the Committee that they appointed. He thinks they all agree the Committee did an excellent job, and they've given them kudos at previous meetings. He mentioned that City Clerk Allen-Thompson talked about bringing them all back together for the purpose of thanking them. He stated that he read other cities' charter reviews on the internet or in their newspapers. And that the city of Monticello in Jefferson County has been going through a charter review, which he read in the Jefferson County Times. Monticello is slightly smaller than the City, and the county population is slightly smaller than Bradford; but, it is growing rapidly because of people moving from Tallahassee. They also appointed a committee, and they have been working on the Charter Review for 11 months, and they finally brought five particular things. The biggest one was keeping their elected police chief. They've already done away with the elected clerk. He was reading that it drug on for 11 months, and the number of meetings they had was unbelievable. When looking at what was accomplished with our appointed committee and this Commission reviewing it, because it's their job to send it to the voters. To him it speaks volumes about what they were able to get accomplished collectively with their committee, themselves, and their staff in a very short period of time. He thinks it was a very effective move to go from however many pages it was down to six and getting rid of the old language. He said thanks to Folds & Walker for all of their involvement. This makes him feel real good about how they are moving forward as a City. ^{14.c}Commissioner Nugent said they have the Northeast Florida League of Cities on Thursday night in Atlantic Beach, which is about an hour and a half away. It starts at 5:30 PM. He's going and he thinks Commissioner Milner is going. He thanked the Sheriff's Office for patrolling. ^{14.d} Vice Mayor Mortimer said thank you to everyone in the City, the Sheriff's Office Staff, everyone has been so very, very kind in the sudden loss of her dear husband Darryl, but you know we're one day at a time, one minute, one second sometimes, but when these things happen, it really brings to light what's really important in life, and there's nothing more important than loving on the people that love you, and she really cannot express in words how much her son and she appreciate the kindness of this City. You guys just don't know how you made us feel special, and it's not unnoticed. Thank

you, Bob. The Sheriff's Office was phenomenal. They asked some of their staff to serve as pallbearers, and they were so, they were so gracious. But thank you, guys. Thanks everyone. And she does hope she has an opportunity with every employee in the City to share her appreciation, and if she doesn't, then City Manager Mullins, please, when you see those guys, please thank them. We could not have made it through without them and that's all she had. She entertained a motion to adjourn.

Vice Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Milner made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Nugent seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 PM.