Regular Meeting of City Commission Minutes
Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Commissioner Milner called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

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

Commissioner Milner stated it was his understanding in the absence of the Mayor and Vice Mayor, they need a motion from a commissioner that one of the three of them be the chairperson tonight. Attorney Walker agreed. Commissioner Overstreet made a motion for Commissioner Milner to be the chair for tonight. Commissioner Nugent seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner called for 4. Roll Call. Commissioner Dimple Overstreet was present, Commissioner Danny Nugent was present, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Milner was present, and Mayor Andy Redding was absent. Additionally, City Clerk Chrissy Allen-Thompson was present, City Manager Drew Mullins was absent, and City Attorney Scott Walker was present. Also in attendance were Fire Chief Jason Clemons, Administrative Assistant Lisa Heeder, Assistant City Manager – Finance James Hughes, Planning & Zoning Code Enforcement Nick Krahl, Assistant Finance Director Becky May, Captain Kevin Mueller and Assistant City Manager – Utilities David Sparks.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for 5. Approval of the Agenda. He asked City Clerk Allen-Thompson if there were any agenda amendments. There were none. Mayor Pro Tem Milner entertained a motion to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. Commissioner Overstreet seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for the 6. Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda consisted of 6.a. Minutes of the July 21, 2026 Commission Meeting, 6.b. Resolution 2026-41 – Approving a Medical Director Agreement between the City of Starke, Florida and Matt Odom, M.D. for medical oversight of the City of Starke Fire Rescue Emergency Medical Services Program, and 6.c. Commissioner Bill Review: Commissioner Nugent. Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked Commissioner Nugent if he had an opportunity to review the bills. Commissioner Nugent stated he did and had no issues. Mayor Pro Tem Milner entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as published. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. Commissioner Overstreet seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for 7. Emergency Items. There were none.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for 8. Raymond Jones – 30 Years. He stated this was something that he loves doing and they don't get to do it enough. They were going to recognize one of their employees tonight and they've had employees with 10 or 20 years. Usually when they get to this level, they were choosing to retire. Terry Anderson had also recently received her 30-year recognition. They were honored tonight to be presenting to Raymond Jones who had been with the meter department. He would let him tell you what all he has done. His wife Valerie was with him. Mayor Pro Tem Milner had the pleasure back when he was city manager for three years of supervising Mr. Jones. He asked Mr. Jones what departments he had worked in. Mr. Jones stated the meter department. Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated there was a lot of physical work associated with reading meters, and they had to be accurate. Sometimes they were not the most popular guys. He asked when that was. Mr. Jones stated cut-offs. City Clerk Allen-Thompson stated she totally appreciated Mr. Jones and had for 30-years. They started together and she left and came back. She truly appreciated Mr. Jones and his dedication to the city. Former City Clerk Ricky Thompson would have loved to have been here tonight. His health was not well. He asked City Clerk Allen-Thompson to read something on behalf of him for Mr. Jones. *"Today we proudly celebrate Raymond Jones on his 30 years of dedicated service to the City of Starke! Raymond is the true definition of a faithful and dependable public servant. Through three decades of service, he has stood the test of time, leading by example with integrity, humility and a strong faith. His Godly character shines through in everything he does. Over the years, Raymond has taught countless young people the value of hard work, dedication, and perseverance - not only through his service with the City of Starke, but also through the many jobs he has taken on to provide for his family and through his commitment to serving others in his church and community. As a supervisor, Raymond continues to inspire those around him with his leadership, professionalism, and unwavering work ethic. His dedication to our city and citizens has made a lasting impact, and his example speaks louder than words ever could. On behalf of the City of Starke, thank you, Raymond, for 30 incredible years of service. We are grateful for your commitment, proud of your accomplishments, and thankful for the difference that you made every single day. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone, and may God continue to bless you in the tears ahead!"* Commissioner Overstreet stated she enjoyed saying hello to him when he comes to read her meter. It was always a pleasure to see that pretty smile. Thank you. Mayor Pro Tem Milner read the plaque *"Presented to Raymond Jones, in recognition of and appreciation for 30 years of outstanding service to the City of Starke, presented by the City of Starke, July 21st, 2026."* He asked everyone to join him in recognizing Raymond Jones for thirty years.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for 9. Citizens Request. Cameron Bacchus introduced himself and stated he represents a nonprofit here by the name of Community Action Recycling and Empowering Servicemen. The My Safe Florida Home Program was a program that offered four-point inspections of home and property to address potential property damage and/or loss due to a storm event. Drainage must also be considered to prevent foundational support losses due to fast-moving water across the county, especially along Alligator Creek flood zones. They were encouraging local contractors to register at the My Safe Florida Home website to begin the process of helping their community and neighbors stay safe this season and for all future events in the coming years. Lastly, on this point, an overall crown reduction across the whole city of Starke that will strengthen the trees, and with proper training and maintenance would guarantee a healthier, happier tree. Some trees are meant to grow tall, but a major wind event tied with poor maintenance would cause damage to the tree and any personal property within range, dependent upon wind speed and/or direction. In his 30 years of tree service and disaster cleanups, he had seen more of what these storms are capable of, but with trained eyes looking for potential problems and creating a five-point grading scale as needed to cover costs to mitigate loss of property and their neighbors. He provided a proposal for a public-private municipal digital utility that went along with a program here in the state of Florida dealing with stablecoins and digital currency. Money, as they know it, had always been evolving through inflation and finance. Now was the time to establish a form of exchange here in Northern Florida. The people would need to know that the leaders of their community agree that home change was needed to ensure domestic tranquility. Decentralized currency was moving into Florida with a pilot program designed to create a network of corporations, both public and private, to establish a locally viable unit of trade currency. Key businesses, contractors, and individuals willing to become part of this program would essentially design the framework of how the City of Starke in Bradford County would conduct trade and transactions with surrounding districts and municipalities in the coming decades. They could write the framework, or they could follow behind others without their own ideals or input. The time is upon them to act with accord. Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated in the absence of the Mayor and the City Manager, both items, as he heard described, basically used organic composting methodology, number one, the treaty business, and also the second about an alternative financial type, they would refer that to their City Manager and their two assistant City Managers for operations and finance, and they could consult with their attorneys, and bring them back a recommendation.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for 10.New Business. There was none

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for 11.Old Business. There was none.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for 12.Public Hearings. 12.a.Ordinance 2026-09 Attorney Walker read the Ordinance by title only. An Ordinance of the City of Starke, Florida, amending Chapter 10 of the Code of Ordinances relating to alcoholic beverages; amending Section 10-4 to provide that the hours for the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sunday shall be the same as those permitted on Monday through Saturday; providing for conflicts; providing for severability; providing for codification; and providing an effective date. The appropriate motion would be to pass Ordinance Number 2026-09 by second reading by title only. Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated they voted on this last month for the first reading. It really only affects one business. It brings the hours for the sale of alcohol into uniformity for each day of the week, irrespective of the date. He asked for further comment from the commissioners. There was none. He asked for public comment. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve Ordinance Number 2026-09 on second reading. Commissioner Overstreet made a motion. Commissioner Nugent seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Attorney Walker read the Ordinance by title only. 12.b.Ordinance 2026-10, an Ordinance of the City of Starke, Florida; making certain findings and determinations; creating Section 102-188 to provide for a storm resilience and recovery fund, including the imposition of a storm surcharge on all customer accounts; repealing all ordinances in conflict; providing for severability; and providing an effective date. The appropriate motion would be to pass Ordinance Number 2026-10 as upon first reading by title only. Commissioner Nugent made a motion to table the vote until the whole commission was here. The Mayor was not here, but he would be here for the next meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked Mrs. May if they had advertised this. Attorney Walker stated it does not need advertising. City Clerk Allen-Thompson stated it is on the schedule for advertising. Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated they had a motion to table the ordinance until the next meeting. Commissioner Nugent stated he would not be at the next meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated the motion was to table this ordinance until the second regularly scheduled meeting in August. Commissioner Overstreet seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for 13.Quasi-Judicial Hearings. There were none.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner [14.a.] stated the City Manager was out of state due to an illness in his wife's family. They had Assistant City Manager – Finance Hughes there if he wanted to make an overall comment about the budget for now. Assistant City Manager – Finance stated good evening, commissioners. They had a line-item budget for the Enterprise Fund. It had the same budget assumptions as the General Fund Budget presentation did, but went back over those. It had a 3% COLA increase, a 2% performance and competitive pay increase, a 9% employee health insurance increase, a 7% liability insurance increase, and a 5% retirement increase, as well as 3% for most other expenditures. If they took a peek at the total on page 19 of the line-item budget, they would see there was a significant difference between last year's budget and this year's budget, which predominantly had to do with capital projects. There were two capital projects that he wanted to note that were not in there yet. That will be in the final budget presentation later this month. One was the bypass extension project, as well as a CDBG neighborhood revitalization project that will significantly increase that budget. But from a high-level view, that was everything he wanted to cover. Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated for the numbers, particularly for the wastewater treatment plant and the others that weren't in there, suffice it to say, they were going to be a little over $20,000,000. Assistant City Manager – Finance Huges stated for the bypass extension project, yes. Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked if that would be in there by the time they get to their September meeting. Assistant City Manager – Finance Hughes stated yes sir. Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked if Commissioner Overstreet had any questions for Assistant City Manager - Finance Hughes. Commissioner Overstreet stated no, because they have talked it over. Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked if Commissioner Nugent had any questions. Commissioner Nugent stated he doesn't have any questions right now.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for [14.b.] City Clerk Report. City Clerk Allen-Thompson stated early voting had started. The primary would be August 18th. She reminded everyone their charter was on this ballot, and they would be putting it on all of their websites and different social media. She would get them a calendar of events for the rest of the month. Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated it was incredibly important that they get their citizens to understand that the charter revision, as proposed, was not something that just the commission came up with, but rather they appointed a 10-person committee made up of citizens who volunteered to serve on that. Mr. Alvin Hunter was here. Maybe another one or two. But anyway, he thinks they did a marvelous job. The commission apparently thought so too. They actually voted in favor of everything that the committee submitted. They didn't pull stuff out. They didn't add to it. They brought it down from 70-something pages. Cit Clerk Allen-Thomson said from 68 pages to 7. Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated that it had very outdated information. He highly encouraged, on behalf of the commission and the 10 people who spent their time voluntarily doing this, that their citizens get out and vote in favor of this charter. It sets guidelines for the future moving forward relative to the actions of the commission. Keeping everything totally ethical, strengthening the ethics of their commission, and he thinks there were just so many good positive things besides deleting things that didn't need to be in there anymore. He doesn't know of any organized attempts to defeat this proposal, which was rare, but it was the first one he had ever seen. They just need people to vote. When the people go on August 18th to vote in their gubernatorial primaries and whatever else is on there, please note there's a separate thing on the right side for citizens of Starke only, and they just highly encourage everyone to vote yes for the revision of the charter.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for [14.c.]Public Safety. Captain Mueller stated he was here to listen to them and to provide them this monthly report of their activities in the City of Starke. He asked if they had any requests or concerns for him. Other than that, he would not take up their time. Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked if they should put the report in the boxes for the ones that were not here. Captain Mueller stated yes. He has received a phone call or two about homeless and the bypass hanging out, and they have been taking action on that. That action would continue all throughout the city and the county. Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated he appreciates this every month. It was extremely helpful for them to know. They see the deputies and they see the activity, but there was a lot of stuff they don't see. He stated that they were all were doing a good job, in his opinion. The presence was there of the marked units and unmarked units. He has received no complaints, none, about the service of law enforcement in the city. Captain Mueller thanked Mayor Pro Tem Milner for the positive feedback. He would pass it on to the deputies every time they say so. He stated to call him, and they would take care of any issues that arose.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for [14.d.]City Attorney Report. Attorney Walker had nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner asked for [15.]Commissioner Reports. [15.a.]Commissioner Nugent stated he would be gone from the 13th, so he would miss the next meeting. He doesn't like missing meetings, and also, he appreciates everything the sheriff's department's been doing. The city has been running really smooth right now. He appreciates what Assistant City Manager – Utilities Sparks had been doing. They have been putting poles in. He states that the poles look really good. The lines were real straight. He appreciated that. [15.b.]Commissioner Overstreet had nothing to report. [15.c.]Mayor Pro Tem Milner stated on the consent agenda he mentioned the medical director position. They have not had a medical director. It was actually required by state statute. When he was at the county, they had the late Dr. Pete Gianas but Dr. Matt Odom has volunteered to serve as their medical director for the City of Starke, as required by Florida statute. He also mentioned that Dr. Matt Odom would not be getting paid. He was glad for the firefighters, that they would have close contact now with a doctor, particularly ER, as Fire Chief Jason Clemons could tell you, because the majority of stuff that our public safety personnel do, they were triaging and tertiary care, and Dr. Odom would be great at that. He was really thrilled that Dr. Odom was on board with them for that. Mayor Por Tem Milner stated our next regularly scheduled meeting is two weeks from tonight on the 18th. He asked City Clerk Allen-Thompson to remind them of the dates for the budget hearings. City Clerk Allen-Thompson stated September 3rd and 15th.

Mayor Pro Tem Milner entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Overstreet made a motion. Commissioner Nugent seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 PM.