



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

5:01 PM

TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2ND FLOOR | 360 SOUTH COUNTY RD | PALM BEACH, FL 33480

Danielle H. Moore, Mayor
Bobbie D. Lindsay, President
Lew Crampton, President Pro Tem
Julie Araskog
Ted Cooney
Bridget Moran

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

COMMENTS

1. MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS
2. PUBLIC - 3 MINUTE LIMIT

For those unable to attend in person: [Submit a written comment](#) [Register to comment virtually](#)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

GENERAL BUSINESS

3. **116-2025** A Resolution Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida Adopting The Final Millage Rate And Levying Ad Valorem Taxes For The Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2025, And Ending September 30, 2026; Setting Forth Certain Information Regarding The Rolled-Back Millage Rate; Directing The Town Manager Or The Deputy Town Manager, Finance And Administration To Adjust The Adopted Millage Rate In The Event Of Changes In The Assessment Roll And Taxable Value; Providing An Effective Date.
4. **117-2025** A Resolution Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, Adopting A Final Budget And Appropriating Funds For The Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2025, And Ending September 30, 2026; Providing For An Effective Date.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

5. **118-2025** A Resolution Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Florida, Authorizing Participation In A Lawsuit Seeking, Among Other Things, To Declare That Senate Bill 180's

Imposition Of A Blanket Statewide Prohibition On The Exercise Of Home Rule Authority Over Land Use And Zoning Regulations, Is Unconstitutional And Should Be Enjoined, And Retaining Weiss Serota Helfman Cole + Bierman, PL To Prosecute The Lawsuit; And Providing For An Effective Date.

ADJOURNMENT

Access this meeting video on the 'Public Meetings' page at www.townofpalmbeach.com.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, they will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made for such purposes, which shall include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Disabled persons needing accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the Town Clerk's Office at (561) 838-5416 at least one day prior to the meeting.

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: September 18, 2025

To: Town Council

Via: Kirk W. Blouin, Town Manager

From: Robert Miracle, CPA Deputy Town Manager, Finance and Administration

Re: A Resolution Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida Adopting The Final Millage Rate And Levying Ad Valorem Taxes For The Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2025, And Ending September 30, 2026; Setting Forth Certain Information Regarding The Rolled-Back Millage Rate; Directing The Town Manager Or The Deputy Town Manager, Finance And Administration To Adjust The Adopted Millage Rate In The Event Of Changes In The Assessment Roll And Taxable Value; Providing An Effective Date.
116-2025

Date: 9/9/2025

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests that the Town Council adopt Resolution No. 116-2025 to approve the final millage rate for FY26 and adopt Resolution No. 117-2025 to approve the final budgets for FY26.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Attached for your review and consideration are Resolution No. 116-2025 and Resolution No. 117- 2025 which will adopt the final millage rate and budgets for FY26.

At the September 8th public hearing Town Council adopted the tentative FY26 millage rate and budgets. The FY26 millage rate approved at the September 8th, 2025 public hearing of 2.6110 is the same as the FY25 millage rate and 7.4% more than the “rolled back rate” of 2.4310 mills. We are recommending adoption of Resolution No. 116-2025 and Resolution No. 117-2025 which will constitute the Town’s final action on these matters for FY26.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priorities:

Governmental Leadership and Innovation, Safe and Resilient Community, Community Culture and Character, Mobility and Transportation, Environmental Stewardship

Strategic Focus Areas:

Sound Fiscal Management

Cooperative Relationships

Water Resources

Emergency Management

Quality of Life

Community Preservation

On-island Mobility

Management of Environmental Threats

Sustainable Management of Town Assets

Collaborative Town Government

FUNDING

No Funding

RESOLUTION NO. 116-2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA ADOPTING THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE AND LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING THE ROLLED-BACK MILLAGE RATE; DIRECTING THE TOWN MANAGER OR THE DEPUTY TOWN MANAGER, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION TO ADJUST THE ADOPTED MILLAGE RATE IN THE EVENT OF CHANGES IN THE ASSESSMENT ROLL AND TAXABLE VALUE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach held a public hearing, on September 8th, 2025, on the proposed millage rate and tentative budgets for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, and has approved the proposed millage rate and tentative budgets; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach proposes by Resolution No. 117-2025 to adopt a final budget and make appropriations for various funds for the Town of Palm Beach for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the budgets as proposed will require that the sum of \$85,754,136 be raised and collected by an ad valorem tax levy.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL of the Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, as follows:

Section 1: The sum of \$85,754,136 shall be raised and collected for the Town of Palm Beach by ad valorem taxes for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026 as follows:

1. There is hereby levied on all non-exempt taxable property within the Town of Palm Beach an ad valorem tax of 2.6110 mills for operational purposes.
2. Such millage shall be levied upon the dollar amount of the assessed valuation of all non-exempt taxable property in the Town of Palm Beach as determined by the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser and as shown by the 2025 assessment roll for the Town, allowing homestead and other lawful exemptions. All such taxes so specified and levied are ordered extended upon the assessment roll to show the tax attributable to all taxable property, and shall be collected by the Palm Beach County Tax Collector as provided by law.

Section 2: The ad valorem taxes hereby levied are for the purpose of raising funds,

revenues, and monies to be used, set aside, and expended for the functions and purposes of the municipal government of the Town of Palm Beach pursuant to the provisions of the Town Charter and the laws of the State of Florida.

Section 3: The following information is set forth as required by Section 200.065 (2) (d), Florida Statutes:

1. The operating millage rate of 2.6110 levied herein is 7.4% more than the rolled back rate of 2.4310 mills.

Section 4: Pursuant to Section 200.065(5), Florida Statutes, the Town Manager, or in his absence the Deputy Town Manager, Finance and Administration, is hereby authorized and required to adjust the adopted millage rate set forth herein if the taxable value within the jurisdiction of the Town of Palm Beach as certified by the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser is at variance from the taxable value shown on the assessment roll to be extended. The adjustment shall be such that the taxes computed by applying the adopted rate against the certified taxable value are equal to the taxes computed by applying the adjusted adopted rate to the taxable value on the roll to be extended. However, no adjustment shall be made to the levies required by law to be a specific millage amount. The Town Manager or the Deputy Town Manager, Finance and Administration shall certify to the Property Appraiser the aggregate change in the assessment roll and taxable value, if any, from that certified.

Section 5: This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED in a special, adjourned session of the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach assembled on September 18, 2025.

Danielle H. Moore, Mayor

Bobbie Lindsay, Town Council President

Lewis S.W. Crampton, Council President
Pro Tem

Julie Araskog, Town Council Member

ATTEST:

Edward A. Cooney, Town Council Member

Kelly Churney, CMC, Town Clerk

Bridget Moran, Town Council Member

RESOLUTION NO. 117-2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A FINAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on September 8, 2025, on the Town of Palm Beach's proposed millage rate and its tentative budget for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach adopted a tentative budget and the proposed millage rate necessary to fund the tentative budget; and

WHEREAS, a further public hearing was held to adopt a final millage rate and finalize the budget.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL of the Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, as follows:

Section 1: The budget for the Town of Palm Beach as attached, marked Exhibit A, incorporated herein and by this reference made an integral part hereof, is hereby adopted as the final budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026, pursuant to Town Charter and Town Code of Ordinances.

Section 2: Funds are hereby appropriated in accordance with the provisions of the Town Charter, Article VII, Financial Matters, Section 7.01.

Section 3: The Town Manager is hereby authorized to approve requested intrafund transfers throughout the fiscal year as may be needed to ensure the continuity of municipal operations.

Section 4: All funds appropriated for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year which are encumbered, but unexpended as of the last day of the fiscal year shall be deemed reappropriated for the same purposes for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED in a special, adjourned session of the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach assembled on September 18, 2025.

Danielle H. Moore, Mayor

Bobbie Lindsay, Town Council President

Lewis S.W. Crampton, Council President
Pro Tem

Julie Araskog, Town Council Member

ATTEST:

Edward A. Cooney, Town Council Member

Kelly Churney, CMC, Town Clerk

Bridget Moran, Town Council Member

BUDGET SUMMARY
TOWN OF PALM BEACH - FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

**THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH
 ARE 4.0% MORE THAN LAST YEAR'S TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES.**

General Fund 2.6110

		SPECIAL	DEBT	CAPITAL	ENTER-	INTERNAL		TOTAL
ESTIMATED REVENUES	GENERAL	REVENUE	SERVICE	PROJECTS	PRISE	SERVICE	TRUST	ALL
	FUND	FUND	FUND	FUND	FUND	FUND	FUND	FUNDS
Taxes:	Millage per \$1,000							
Ad Val Taxes - Operating	2.6110	\$85,754,136	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$85,754,136
Sales and Use Taxes		6,930,000	0	0	0	0	0	6,930,000
Licenses and Permits		5,873,500	0	0	9,666,500	0	0	15,540,000
Intergovernmental Revenue		1,357,517	0	0	1,884,493	0	0	3,242,010
Charges for Services		11,284,560	0	0	19,452,293	11,342,112	0	42,078,965
Fines and Forfeitures		1,668,000	0	0	45,000	0	0	1,713,000
Contributions		109,000	0	0	5,000	0	18,862,401	18,976,401
Special Assessments		0	3,856,110	723,038	462,155	0	0	5,041,303
Interest		1,939,667	900,000	250	2,701,000	1,100,000	625,000	21,470,000
Miscellaneous		1,367,500	200,000	0	0	729,000	250,000	0
TOTAL SOURCES		\$116,283,880	\$4,956,110	\$723,288	\$5,052,648	\$30,992,793	\$12,217,112	\$40,332,401
Transfers In		9,688,024	8,125,000	6,569,189	22,720,326	0	2,329,817	6,316,608
Fund Balances/Reserves/Net Assets		1,360,000	0	0	96,704,094	4,626,895	5,248,286	0
TOTAL REVENUES, TRANSFERS & BALANCES		\$127,331,904	\$13,081,110	\$7,292,477	\$124,477,068	\$35,619,688	\$19,795,215	\$46,649,009
EXPENDITURES								
General Government		\$14,117,213	\$11,511,110	\$7,500	\$263,782	\$2,492,016	\$16,778,796	\$46,649,009
Public Safety		47,952,490			2,497,000	2,855,614	1,924,242	
Physical Environment		20,147,579			112,046,714		500,000	
Transportation		1,593,647			8,275,000			
Culture and Recreation		6,281,450			200,000	10,399,798	30,000	
Economic Development			1,570,000	4,165,000		1,440,000		
Principal Retirement					558,155			
Interest and Fees				3,119,977		559,238		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$90,092,379	\$13,081,110	\$7,292,477	\$123,840,651	\$17,746,666	\$19,233,038	\$46,649,009
Transfers Out		37,239,525			636,417	17,873,022	0	0
Fund Balances/Reserves/Net Assets		0	0	0	0	0	562,177	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES, TRANSFERS, RESERVES AND BALANCES		\$127,331,904	\$13,081,110	\$7,292,477	\$124,477,068	\$35,619,688	\$19,795,215	\$46,649,009

The tentative, adopted, and/or final budgets are on file in the office of the above referenced taxing authority as a public record.

RESOLUTION NO. 118-2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN A LAWSUIT SEEKING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO DECLARE THAT SENATE BILL 180'S IMPOSITION OF A BLANKET STATEWIDE PROHIBITION ON THE EXERCISE OF HOME RULE AUTHORITY OVER LAND USE AND ZONING REGULATIONS, IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND SHOULD BE ENJOINED, AND RETAINING WEISS SEROTA HELFMAN COLE + BIERMAN, PL TO PROSECUTE THE LAWSUIT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 2(b) of the Florida Constitution provides that municipalities "shall have governmental, corporate and proprietary powers to enable them to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions and render municipal services," and authorizes municipalities to exercise any power for municipal purposes except as otherwise provided by law; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2(b) of Article VIII of the Florida Constitution and Chapters 163 and 166, Florida Statutes, municipalities have broad authority to adopt comprehensive plans, enact land development regulations, issue development permits, and impose temporary moratoria in furtherance of local public health, safety, and welfare, including for purposes of orderly growth, environmental protection, disaster recovery, and community resiliency; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2025, Senate Bill 180 ("SB 180"), titled "Emergencies," was signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis and became effective immediately as Chapter 2025-190, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, among other things, Section 28 of SB 180 prohibits all local government initiated ordinances that impose "more restrictive or burdensome" comprehensive plan amendments, land development regulations, or procedures concerning review, approval, or issuance of site plans, development permits, or development orders (collectively, "Land Use and Zoning Regulations") for the period commencing retroactively from August 1, 2024, through October 1, 2027, even if such amendments, regulations or procedures are in no way related to any hurricane or other emergency and even if such amendments, regulations, or procedures were duly enacted prior to the enactment of SB 180; and

WHEREAS, Section 28 of SB 180 also bans local moratoria on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of property damaged by a hurricane during the same timeframe; and

WHEREAS, Section 18 of SB 180 further prohibits local governments that are located in counties that are entirely or partially within 100 miles of the track of any future hurricane from enacting "more restrictive or burdensome" Land Use and Zoning Regulations, and moratoria on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment

of any property, damaged or not, for a period of one year after the storm makes landfall; and

WHEREAS, SB 180 is unconstitutional and invalid because, among other things, it: (a) embraces more than one subject and matter properly connected therewith in violation of Article III, Section 6 of the Florida Constitution; (b) includes a defective title in violation of Article III, Section 6 of the Florida Constitution; (c) requires municipalities and counties to spend in the aggregate an amount that exceeds an insignificant fiscal impact without including a finding that the law fulfills an important state interest as required by Article VII, Section 18 of the Florida Constitution; (d) constitutes a sweeping intrusion on home-rule authority, threatening local ability to enact land use, zoning, flood-resiliency, and environmental protections, contrary to Article VIII, Section 2(b) of the Florida Constitution to a degree that renders the constitutional provision hollow; and (e) contains provisions that classify political subdivisions on a basis that is not reasonably related to the subject of the law in violation of Art. III, Section 11 (b) of the Florida Constitution; and

WHEREAS, for example, despite SB 180 being titled "Emergencies," SB 180 contains various matters that are not connected and/or are unrelated to emergencies, including Section 18 and 28's total ban on any "more restrictive or burdensome" Land Use and Zoning Regulations, and Section 18's prohibition on moratoria on construction, reconstruction, and redevelopment of property, even if the property is intact and was not damaged by a hurricane or other emergency event; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of SB 180 also impose expenditure obligations upon municipalities and counties that, as conceded in the Florida Legislature's own staff analysis, exceed the threshold amount for an unfunded mandate, despite the lack of any finding in SB 180 that the law fulfills an important state interest; and

WHEREAS, Section 18 of SB 180 infringes upon municipal home rule authority by prohibiting municipalities from enacting Zoning and Land Use Regulations if they are located within a county that is entirely or partially within 100 miles of the track of a hurricane for one year in a completely indiscriminate manner that disregards the size, intensity, or impact of a hurricane on the municipality, whether a proposed Zoning and Land Use Regulation has even a *de minimis* impact on hurricane recovery efforts, or even if the Zoning and Land Use Regulations are necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare from the effects of a hurricane; and

WHEREAS, Section 18 of SB 180 further usurps the municipal home rule authority guaranteed by the citizens of Florida in the Florida Constitution by imposing blanket prohibitions on any moratoria on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of property for one year whenever a future hurricane falls within 100 miles of the county where the municipality is located, regardless of the necessity or impetus behind such moratoria; and

WHEREAS, Section 28 of SB 180 similarly prohibits municipalities from enacting

Zoning and Land Use Regulations for the entire state of Florida retroactively from August 1, 2024, through October 1, 2027, without any rational justification; and

WHEREAS, SB 180's vague prohibitions on moratoria on construction, reconstruction, and redevelopment of properties and Land Use and Zoning Regulations that are "more restrictive or burdensome," and other ambiguous provisions render SB 180 incomprehensible, create uncertainty, chill local governance, and encourage preemptive, potentially frivolous, litigation to force local governments into repealing legislation, even if it might otherwise be a valid exercise of home rule authority; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach, Florida (the Town) desires to authorize the participation of the Town in a lawsuit seeking declaratory, injunctive, and other appropriate relief from the provisions of SB 180, which impose a blanket statewide prohibition on the exercise of home rule authority relating to Land Use and Zoning Regulations, based upon the any appropriate legal theories, including, without limitation, those set forth herein, subject to the participation of at least ten local governments (the "Lawsuit"); and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Town to participate in the Lawsuit and to urge other local governments to join as plaintiffs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL of the Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, as follows:

Section 1: The above-stated recitals are hereby adopted and confirmed.

Section 2: Authorization to Participate in Lawsuit. The Town Council hereby authorizes the participation of the Town in the Lawsuit, subject to participation of at least ten local governments.

Section 3: Legal Representation and Fee Structure. Weiss Serota Helfman Cole+Bierman, PL (the "Firm") is retained to represent the Town in the Lawsuit, at both the trial and appellate levels. The Firm will charge a flat fee, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, of \$10,000 to represent the Town in the Lawsuit in the trial court, which shall be payable within ten days of the effective date of this Resolution. The Town shall also pay \$5,000 to the Firm to represent it in any appeal related to the Lawsuit that is filed at the District Court of Appeal within 30 days of the filing of such appeal, and \$5,000 to the Firm to represent it in any appeal that is filed at the Florida Supreme Court within 30 days of the filing of such appeal. The Town acknowledges that the Firm will be representing other local governments in the Lawsuit and waives any conflicts related to such representation. The Town also acknowledges that the Firm may represent other entities, private or public, at the Town and that the representation of the Town in this Lawsuit alone, because it is part of a coalition, will not constitute a conflict of

interest and, to the extent it does, waives such conflict of interest.

Section 4: **Urge Participation.** The Town invites and urges other local governments to join as plaintiffs in the Lawsuit and to coordinate their efforts with the Town.

Section 5: **Transmittal.** The Clerk is directed to distribute this Resolution to all local governments in Palm Beach County. The Clerk is further directed to distribute this Resolution to the Firm.

Section 6: **Implementation.** The appropriate Town officials are authorized to execute all necessary documents and to take any necessary action to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

Section 7: **Effective Date.** That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon execution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED in a regular, adjourned session of the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach assembled on September 18, 2025.

Danielle H. Moore, Mayor

Bobbie Lindsay, Town Council President

Lewis S.W. Crampton, Council President
Pro Tem

Julie Araskog, Town Council Member

ATTEST:

Edward A. Cooney, Town Council Member

Kelly Churney, CMC, Town Clerk

Bridget Moran, Town Council Member