



# TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting  
Held on June 9, 2026

## CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 09:31 AM in the Town Council Chambers.

**Members Present:** Bridget Moran, Ted Cooney, Lewis Crampton, Danielle Moore, Julie Araskog, Nicki McDonald

**Staff Present:** Carolyn Stone, Bob Miracle, Paul Brazil, Kelly Churney, and Town Attorney Joanne O'Connor

## INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Clerk Churney led the invocation, and Council President Cooney led the pledge of allegiance.

## APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Pro Tem Crampton asked to remove the item titled "FDOT Updates" for discussion.

**A motion was made by Council Member Araskog and seconded by Council President Pro Tem Crampton to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.**

1. Minutes of the May 12, 2026, Town Council Meeting
2. Minutes of the May 13, 2026, Town Council Development Review Meeting
3. Approval of the Major Matters from the May 27, 2026, Architectural Commission Meeting
4. Approval of the Landmarks Preservation Commission Action Regarding a Landmark Adjustment for 4 Golfview Road

5. **67-2026** A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, Approving the Acceptance of a Donation of \$265,000 for the Construction of Wells Park.
6. **64-2026** A Resolution Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, Authorizing The Town Of Palm Beach, Ex Post Facto, To Submit The FY2025 Presidential Residence Protection Assistance (PRPA) Grant Application For Reimbursement Of Qualifying Law Enforcement Personnel Overtime Costs Incurred For Presidential Protective Activities.
7. **66-2026** A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, awarding RFP No. 2026-035, Financial Audit Services to CBIZ CPAS P.C. in the amount of \$518,000 for a five-year contract period based on satisfactory performance and annual budget authorization.
8. **69-2026** A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, awarding RFQ No. 2026-008, Marine Resource Assessment and Monitoring Services to Coastal Eco-Group Inc. and Coastal Protection Engineering LLC for a five-year period based on satisfactory performance and budget authorization.
9. Request to Hear Proposed Ordinance No. 017-2026, prior to 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday, June 10, 2026, Town Council Development Review Meeting agenda.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Town Clerk Churney indicated that the item titled "Traffic Signals along Cocoanut Row at Pendleton Avenue and Seabreeze Avenue" had been withdrawn. She also announced that the item titled "Discussion of Potential West Palm Beach Projects (Flagler Drive)" had been deferred to July 14, 2026.

A motion was made by Council Member Araskog and seconded by Council Member Moran to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.

#### **ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH**

#### **COMMENTS**

##### **11. MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mayor Moore recognized employee service milestones and retirements. She announced upcoming summer technology open houses at Town Hall to assist residents with technology-related questions and devices. She also recognized several recent accomplishments by Town staff, including the Town being named a Top Workplace in South Florida for the third consecutive year, awards received by Fire Rescue personnel and the Honor Guard, and a scholarship awarded to a Town employee. Mayor Moore thanked the Town's leadership and staff for their dedication and contributions to the organization's success. Mayor Moore recognized philanthropist Charles Bronfman as the donor of the Gerald "Gerry" Goldsmith Scholar Award. She thanked Mr. Bronfman and his attorney, Patricia LeBeau, for their generosity and for their collaboration with Town staff to support the scholarship program.

Council President Pro Tem Crampton commended the Preservation Foundation for its new

program supporting local small businesses and helping them remain in Town despite increasing costs and competition from larger corporate entities. He encouraged continued collaboration among the Preservation Foundation, Town staff, and the business community to identify opportunities and resources to help preserve the Town's unique small-business character.

Council Member Araskog thanked the donors who provide scholarships for children of Town employees and recognized the community's generosity. She praised the Fire Rescue Department for its professionalism and responsiveness, commended the Preservation Foundation's efforts to support local businesses, and noted concerns about parking availability for customers of longstanding Town businesses. She also encouraged residents to utilize the Town's hurricane preparedness resources and wished everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

Council Member McDonald commented on the proposed Property Tax state constitutional amendment to increase Florida's homestead exemption, noting its potential financial impacts on municipalities and emphasizing the importance of providing residents with factual information so they can make informed decisions before the November election. She also recognized Public Works Director Paul Brazil upon his retirement, highlighting his leadership of numerous major Town infrastructure and capital improvement projects, his role in developing and mentoring staff, and his lasting contributions to the Town over more than two decades of service. Council Member Araskog thanked Mr. Brazil as well.

Mayor Moore reported that she has remained in regular communication with Congresswoman Frankel and Sheriff Bradshaw regarding FAA-related issues and concerns associated with Mar-a-Lago. She stated that Congresswoman Frankel is actively engaged on the matter and that Sheriff Bradshaw indicated he anticipates the road in front of Mar-a-Lago will be open when the President is not in town during the next season, barring any unforeseen circumstances.

## **12. PUBLIC - 3 MINUTE LIMIT**

There was no public comment.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **13. Presentation of The Donald Singer Memorial Scholarship (Citizens' Association)**

Mayor Moore recognized Mr. Charles Bronfman for his generosity in providing funding for the Goldsmith Scholar Award, which was presented to Grady Messner at the May 2026 Town Council Meeting. Mayor Moore noted that the Citizens Association scholarship is now known as the Donald Singer Memorial Scholarship in honor of Donald Singer's dedication to education and community service. She announced that Liam Rothrock was this year's recipient.

#### **14. Presentation of the Palm Beach Civic Association Scholarship**

She announced that Grady Messner was the recipient of the Palm Beach Civic Association Scholarship.

#### **15. Presentation of the Thomas Mettler Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Mayor Moore highlighted the legacy of former Town official Thomas Mettler and the scholarship established in his honor to support children of Town employees pursuing higher education. She then announced the 2026 Mettler Scholarship recipients: Kendall Churney, Chase Colby, and Adeline Roach.

## **16. MATTERS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

### **10. FDOT Updates**

Julie Parham provided an update on FDOT roadway projects that include proposed bike lanes and sharrows along South Ocean Boulevard, South County Road, and Royal Palm Way, and outlined Town concerns regarding cyclist and driver safety, traffic congestion, roadway constraints, and the visual impact of additional signs and pavement markings. Town Council members generally preferred minimizing sign pollution, with several favoring pavement markings over additional signage if bicycle accommodations are required. Council also discussed concerns regarding the enforcement of bicycle regulations, the impact of large cycling groups, and the possibility of routing cyclists along South Ocean Boulevard rather than South County Road.

***There was a general consensus to support staff's efforts to seek relief from FDOT, reduce visual clutter, increase spacing between any required signs or markings, and preserve the Town's scenic character while maintaining bicycle access.***

Julie Parham presented an opportunity for the Town to pursue an FDOT Landscape Beautification Grant to enhance portions of South Ocean Boulevard through additional landscaping and tree canopy improvements. Council members expressed strong support for exploring the grant opportunity, coordinating the effort with ongoing South End planning and zoning initiatives, and engaging residents, landscape professionals, and the Citizens Association in developing a long-term beautification plan. Discussion focused on potential matching funds, future maintenance obligations, project costs, budget considerations, and opportunities to leverage volunteer expertise and private participation. There was no public comment.

***There was a general consensus for staff to continue evaluating the grant opportunity, develop a conceptual plan, and return with additional details as part of future budget and planning discussions.***

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **17. Signalization of South County and Via Bethesda Intersection**

Director Paul Brazil presented the staff's recommendation to replace the previously proposed pedestrian hybrid beacon at Via Bethesda with a fully signalized intersection coordinated with the existing signals at Pine Walk and Breakers Row. He explained that a coordinated traffic signal would improve safety for golfers, maintenance vehicles, pedestrians, and motorists crossing South County Road while minimizing traffic disruptions through synchronized signal timing. Council members generally supported the full signal option, citing longstanding safety concerns, difficulties entering South County Road from nearby streets, speeding, and uncontrolled golf cart crossings. Discussion also addressed project costs, funding sources, potential Breakers participation, seasonal usage, traffic impacts, signal timing, and opportunities to optimize operations. There were no public comments.

***There was a general consensus that staff pursue the fully signalized and coordinated intersection option and continue evaluating funding opportunities.***

*\*Note: A short break was taken at 10:57 a.m., and the meeting resumed at 11:03 a.m.*

#### **18. Boards/Commissions Tranche 1 – Code of Conduct and Minutes**

Deputy Town Manager Carolyn Stone presented the staff's follow-up to the Town Council's prior discussion regarding boards and commissions, including a proposed Code of Conduct and potential revisions to meeting minutes. Council members generally supported the Code of Conduct, recommending minor revisions related to consistency, preparedness, civility, and training, while emphasizing the importance of clear expectations for board and commission members. The Council also supported transitioning to action minutes with brief summaries rather than detailed narrative minutes, citing efficiency and ease of access to meeting recordings. Looking ahead, Council members expressed interest in reviewing board histories, terms, vacancies, appointment processes, alternates, voting procedures, board responsibilities, and the potential creation of a Zoning Board of Adjustment as part of the ongoing board and commission evaluation process. There was no public comment.

*\*Note: A short break was taken at 12:17 p.m., and the meeting resumed at 12:21 p.m.*

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **19. US Polo Assn Palm Beaches Marathon Request for FDOT Letter of No Objection TIME CERTAIN 11:00 AM**

Deputy Town Manager Carolyn Stone presented a request from the Palm Beaches Marathon organizers for a letter of no objection to FDOT for the December 13 marathon event in downtown West Palm Beach. She noted that race organizers had addressed concerns raised during prior years by keeping the Royal Park Bridge open throughout the event and limiting impacts to the Flagler Bridge through intermittent soft closures while maintaining emergency vehicle access. Council members expressed appreciation for the improved coordination and earlier notice, acknowledged that the revised traffic plan would better accommodate access to and from Palm Beach, and supported the request. There was no public comment.

**A motion was made by Council President Pro Tem Crampton and seconded by Council Member Araskog to send a letter of no objection to the US Polo Assn Palm Beaches Marathon for their request. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.**

Race owner Ken Kennerly thanked the Town Council and staff for their collaboration on the Palm Beaches Marathon and noted that race organizers have incorporated Town feedback, including a staggered start and keeping the Royal Park Bridge open during the event. He emphasized the organization's commitment to minimizing impacts on residents while continuing to grow the marathon and strengthen community relations.

**A motion was made by Council Member Moran and seconded by Council Member Araskog to reorder the agenda to hear the Preservation Foundation Dinner Dance item at this time. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.**

### 23. Preservation Foundation Dinner Dance

Deputy Town Manager Carolyn Stone presented a request from the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach for an exception to the Town's special event permit setup requirements to accommodate the extended tent installation needed for its annual Dinner Dance at Phipps Ocean Park in February 2027. Council members expressed support for the request, noting that the new venue would reduce traffic impacts compared to prior locations and agreed the exception was appropriate given the event's existing authorization under the Capital Grant Operating Agreement. There was no public comment.

**A motion was made by Council Member Araskog and seconded by Council President Pro Tem Crampton to approve the Preservation Foundation Dinner Dance request with the additional hours for setup. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.**

### 20. Discussion on Mar-a-Lago Club Helipad TIME CERTAIN 11:15 AM

Town Attorney Joanne O'Connor presented a proposed amendment to the Mar-a-Lago Declaration of Use that would allow the helipad to remain in place during President Donald Trump's second term and, thereafter, for limited emergency use by President Trump or First Lady Melania Trump while they remain designated Secret Service protectees residing at Mar-a-Lago. The discussion focused on permitted and prohibited uses, emergency-use definitions, enforcement mechanisms, penalties, revocation authority, FAA restricted-access designation, and the eventual removal of the helipad. Council members asked questions about the definitions of protectees and government aircraft, emergency use, Secret Service oversight, liability and enforcement responsibilities, and termination provisions. Several members noted Sheriff Bradshaw's support for retaining the helipad as a security resource, and staff and the applicant's attorney, Harvey Oyer, clarified revisions to strengthen the restrictions and enforcement provisions. Overall, Council members expressed support for the amended agreement and the safeguards it includes. Public comment was heard from Bruce Taylor, 6 Lagomar Road, and Lou Schieffelin, speaking on behalf of Blair Brandt, both of whom supported the request.

Council Member Araskog requested clarification regarding permitted helipad uses and, after receiving clarification from staff and the applicant, expressed support for the revised agreement and thanked those involved for addressing the Town's concerns while accommodating security needs.

**A motion was made by Council President Pro Tem Crampton and seconded by Council Member McDonald to approve the request for the Mar-a-Lago helipad to remain in place during the time it is President Trump's primary residence, incorporating all the conditions and restrictions on use contained in the revised 5th Amendment of the Declaration of Use Agreement. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.**

At the request of Council members, Harvey Oyer provided an update on ongoing discussions with the FAA regarding temporary flight restrictions and restricted-access designation of the Mar-a-Lago helipad. He reported that requests to lift temporary flight restrictions when President Trump is not in residence have been denied for security reasons, but confirmed that the Secret Service will pursue FAA designation of the helipad as a restricted-access landing site as required by the agreement.

## 21. Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce Request to Use Mar-a-Lago

Deputy Town Manager Carolyn Stone and Town Attorney Joanne O'Connor presented a request from the Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce to temporarily modify the Mar-a-Lago traffic management plan to allow attendees of its monthly breakfast meetings to park onsite rather than use off-site shuttles during the two-year period that the Breakers is unable to host the events. Chamber President Doug Evans explained that the breakfasts are the organization's primary fundraising and networking events and that alternative venues are either unavailable or cost-prohibitive. While several Council members expressed support for the Chamber and recognized its importance to the business community, significant concerns were raised regarding traffic congestion, security screening delays, bridge openings, impacts on South End residents, and the precedent that would be set by modifying the traffic management agreement. Police Chief Nick Caristo advised that allowing approximately 450 attendees to arrive directly at Mar-a-Lago during morning peak traffic hours would likely create substantial traffic and operational challenges. Following the discussion, the majority of Council members expressed concerns about waiving the shuttle requirement despite their support for the Chamber's mission. There was no public comment.

**A motion was made by Council President Pro Tem Crampton and seconded by Council Member Moran to deny the Palm Beach Chamber's request to modify the Town's Traffic Management Agreement with Mar-a-Lago to forgo using shuttles at the upcoming chamber breakfasts. The motion was carried 4-1, with Council President Cooney dissenting.**

## 22. Traffic Signals along Cocoanut Row at Pendleton Avenue and Seabreeze Avenue

*Please note: This item was withdrawn upon the approval of the agenda.*

## 24. 70-2026 A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving the award of RFQ No. 2026-020, Progressive Design-Build Services for Town of Palm Beach Mid-Town Seawall Replacement Project to Murray Logan Construction, LLC, and authorize the Town to begin negotiations

Jason Debrincat presented the staff's recommendation to ratify the selection committee's ranking of Murray Logan Construction as the top-ranked firm for the Midtown Seawall Replacement Project under the progressive design-build procurement process. He explained that the item was procedural in nature and would authorize staff to begin negotiations before returning to Council with proposed costs, schedules, and project details. Council members expressed strong support for the selection, citing Murray Logan's qualifications and successful work on the Town Marina project. Discussion focused on the project's public outreach efforts, landscape and aesthetic considerations, construction methods designed to minimize noise and vibration impacts, opportunities for value engineering during design, and the importance of regular Town Council updates throughout the project. Overall, Council members voiced confidence in the selection and the progressive design-build approach for this significant resiliency project. There was no public comment.

**A motion was made by Council President Pro Tem Crampton and seconded by Council Member McDonald to approve Resolution No. 070-2026. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.**

## 25. Master Fee Schedule Proposed Changes Regarding Building Permit Fees as Related to

## New Legislation

Director Wayne Bergman presented proposed amendments to the Town's Master Fee Schedule and permitting processes required by recently enacted state legislation, including House Bills 803 and 399. He explained that the new laws prohibit municipalities from calculating building permit fees based on construction value and impose numerous new deadlines for permit review, inspection, and issuance. To comply, staff developed more than 60 new permit fee categories and several compliance fees based on factors such as square footage, linear footage, equipment size, and fixture counts, while also updating planning and zoning fees. Bergman emphasized the significant administrative burden these state-mandated changes will place on staff and permitting software systems, and noted that additional adjustments may be necessary as implementation proceeds. Council members acknowledged the extensive effort required to prepare the new fee structure and expressed appreciation for the staff's work in responding to the legislative changes. There was no public comment.

### **25.1 63-2026 A Resolution Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, Adopting Revised Fees Related To The Planning, Zoning & Building Department**

**A motion was made by Council President Pro Tem Crampton and seconded by Council Member Araskog to approve Resolution No. 063-2026. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.**

- 26. Discussion of Potential West Palm Beach Projects (Flagler Drive)**  
*[This item will be deferred to the July 14, 2026, Town Council meeting]*

***Please note: This item was deferred to July 14, 2026, upon the approval of the agenda.***

- 27. Update on Property Tax Amendment**

Deputy Town Manager Bob Miracle provided an overview of the proposed state constitutional amendment on property tax relief and its potential impacts on the Town and other Florida municipalities. He explained that the amendment would increase homestead exemptions, reduce the non-homestead assessment cap from 10% to 5%, and could significantly reduce local government revenues beginning in fiscal year 2028. Miracle outlined preliminary estimates showing a multi-million-dollar impact on Town revenues and emphasized that the effects would compound over time. Council members discussed the need for public education and voter outreach, concerns about impacts on municipal services throughout Florida, and the possibility that additional state legislation could further restrict local revenue options. While noting that the Town of Palm Beach is better positioned than many municipalities to absorb the changes, Council members expressed concern about the broader consequences for local governments, public safety services, and home rule, and supported efforts to provide residents with factual information about the amendment and its implications. There was no public comment.

## ORDINANCES

### **28. FIRST READING**

#### **28.1 18-2026 An Ordinance Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, Amending The Town Code Of Ordinances At Chapter 42 – Environment, Article V – Noise By Amending Section 42-197 To Remove The Prohibition On Gasoline Powered Leaf Blowers; By Amending Section 42-198 To**

Conform The Title To The Substance Of The Code Provision; By Amending Section 42-199 To More Clearly Outline Permitted Hours Of Construction, And To Further Define Construction Work, And To Prohibit Construction Work From December 24 Through January 1 Of Each Year; And By Repealing And Replacing Section 42-230 To Provide A Standalone Regulation Governing Hours Of Lawn Maintenance Work, To Define Lawn Maintenance Work And Quiet Lawn Maintenance Work, To Permit Lawn Maintenance Work On Town-Observed Holidays That Are Not Federal Holidays Subject To Certain Restrictions, To Modify The Hours And Work Permitted On Saturdays In Summer, And To Identify Tree Trimming And Lawn Maintenance Work In Or Along Public Rights-Of-Way As Essential Services Of The Town.

**TIME CERTAIN: 12:15 PM**

Town Attorney Joanne O'Connor introduced Ordinance 18-2026, which proposes revisions to the Town's construction and lawn maintenance regulations, including creating separate code sections for construction and landscaping hours, clarifying permitted work hours, incorporating the annual holiday construction shutdown, and updating provisions affected by state preemption of gas-powered leaf blower regulations. Council discussion first focused on construction hours, particularly whether quiet interior construction work should be permitted on Saturdays during the season. Council members expressed differing views, with some supporting limited Saturday quiet work to help projects progress more efficiently and others emphasizing residents' desire for quiet weekends and concerns about the cumulative impacts of construction activity. Public comment was heard from Colin Goldsmith, who supported quiet work on Saturdays during the summer.

Town Attorney Joanne O'Connor presented proposed revisions to lawn maintenance hours, including separating lawn maintenance regulations from construction hours, limiting holiday restrictions to federal holidays, and modifying the scope of work permitted on Saturdays during the summer. Council members discussed whether hedge trimming should be included with tree trimming as permitted Saturday work and raised questions about equipment types, noise impacts, and resident concerns. Representatives of the landscaping industry, including Colin Goldsmith, Scott Lewis, Mitchell Taylor, and Bruce Armstrong, expressed support for making the current temporary summer hours permanent, citing labor shortages, weather-related delays, traffic improvements, and operational challenges. They emphasized that Saturday tree and hedge trimming provides the flexibility needed to complete work efficiently and maintain properties. Following the discussion, Council members remained divided on Saturday work allowances.

**A motion was made by Council Member Araskog and seconded by Council President Pro Tem Crampton to refer the issue of allowing quiet work on Saturdays to the Ordinances, Rules, and Standards Committee for discussion in November. The motion was carried 3-2, with Council Members Moran and McDonald dissenting.**

**A motion was made by Council President Pro Tem Crampton and seconded by Council Member McDonald to approve Ordinance No. 18-2026, as amended, to provide that lawn maintenance work occur from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, with arrival permitted at 7:00 a.m. and no noise activities before 8:30 a.m. The motion was carried 4-1, with Council Member Araskog dissenting.**

**28.2 19-2026** An Ordinance Of The Town Council Of The Town Of Palm Beach, Palm

Beach County, Florida, Amending Chapter 18, Buildings And Building Regulations, Article Iv, Florida Building Code, Division 1, Generally, By Amending Sections 18-237, Agreed Maximum Time Schedule For Completion Of Major Construction, Table 1, Construction Schedule, And 18-238(A), Agreed Maximum Time Schedule For Completion Of Minor Construction; Providing For Severability; Providing For The Repeal Of Ordinances In Conflict; Providing For Codification; And Providing An Effective Date.

Council President Cooney read Ordinance No. 019-2026. Director Wayne Bergman discussed the ordinance amendment required by recently enacted state legislation that changes the duration of single-family residential building permits. He explained that permit durations must now be tied to the Florida Building Code cycle, resulting in permits lasting between 12 months and up to three years, depending on when they are issued. Council members expressed frustration with the state-mandated changes and questioned whether the shorter permit durations could result in additional extension fees for homeowners. Staff acknowledged the concern and agreed to evaluate potential options to reduce unintended impacts on residents and return with recommendations. Council members also noted concerns about the legislation's effect on local control and home rule. There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Council President Pro Tem Crampton and seconded by Council Member Moran to approve Ordinance No. 019-2026. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

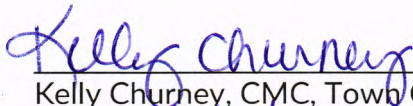
#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Araskog and seconded by Council President Pro Tem Crampton to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously, 5-0.

APPROVED:

  
Edward A. Cooney, Town Council President

APPROVED:

  
Kelly Churney, CMC, Town Clerk  
Date: 7/14/26

