City of Marco Island Florida

51 Bald Eagle Drive Marco Island, Florida cityofmarcoisland.com



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, May 19, 2025 5:30 PM

Community Meeting Room

City Council

Chair: Erik Brechnitz Vice-Chair: Stephen Gray

City Council: Rene Champagne, Tamara Goehler, Deb Henry, Darrin Palumbo, Bonita Schwan

City Manager: Mike McNees Assistant City Manager: Casey Lucius City Attorney: Alan L. Gabriel City Clerk: Joan Taylor

1. Call to Order

Chair Brechnitz called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Present: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

Also Present

Michael McNees, City Manager Casey Lucius, Assistant City Manager Joan Taylor, City Clerk Alan L. Gabriel, City Attorney Tracy Frazzano, Police Chief Chris Byrne, Fire Chief Guillermo Polanco, Finance Director Daniel J. Smith, Community Affairs Director Justin Martin, Public Works Director Jose Duran, Information Technology Director Jeff Poteet, Water & Sewer General Manager Joe Parrilli, Fleet & Facilities Manager Angela Johenning, Purchasing & Risk Manager Martin Luna, Video/Broadcast Technician Jim Kornas, Recording Specialist Citizens and Visitors

3. Invocation

Offered by the Reverend Scott Kerens of the Marco Presbyterian Church.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance - Led by Delaney Dolan of Tommie Barfield Elementary School (TBE)

Ms. Delaney Dolan led the meeting's attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Approval of the Agenda

City Manager Mike McNees requested that "Appropriation of Funds for Marco Island Youth Baseball, Inc." be added to the Agenda. Upon the Council's approval, this item was designated as Special Agenda Item 15e under Resolutions & City Council Items.

MOTION by Councilor Palumbo, seconded by Councilor Goehler, that the Agenda be Approved as Amended. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

6. Approval of the Minutes

a ID 25-4402 Approval of the Pre-Budget Policy Workshop Minutes of April 30, 2025

Attachments: City Council Pre-Budget Policy Workshop Minutes of April 30, 2025

MOTION by Councilor Champagne, seconded by Councilor Palumbo, that the Pre-Budget Policy Workshop Minutes of April 30, 2025, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

b. <u>ID 25-4400</u> Approval of the Special-Called Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2025

Attachments: Special-Called City Council Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2025

MOTION by Vice-Chair Gray, seconded by Councilor Schwan, that the Special-Called Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2025, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

c. <u>ID 25-4128</u> Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2025

Attachments: City Council Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2025

MOTION by Vice-Chair Gray, seconded by Councilor Palumbo, that the City Council Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2025, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

7. Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilor Henry requested that Agenda Item 7c (Award of Contract to Douglas.N. Higgins, Inc.) be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Vice-Chair Gray requested that Agenda Item 7a (Authorize the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order to Commercial Design Services) be removed from the Consent Agenda.

[Editorial note: the record of the Council's decision on these items is now reflected in these Minutes under Agenda Item 16 (Items Removed from the Consent Agenda)]

MOTION by Councilor Palumbo, seconded by Vice-Chair Gray, that the Consent Agenda be Approved as Amended. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

[Approval of the Consent Agenda Approved the Routine Item Listed Below]

b. <u>ID 25-4436</u> Authorize the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order to Commercial Design Services (CDS) in the Amount of \$67,956.77, under State of Florida Contract Number 56120000-24-NY-ACS, to Purchase Furniture, Seating, and Labor Needed to Outfit the Collection and Distribution Work Center - Jeffrey E. Poteet, General Manager, Water & Sewer Department

Attachments: Commercial Design Services Proposal

8. Proclamations and Presentations

a. ID 25-4465 Recognition of the City's Reclaimed Water Production Facility as the 2025

Recipient of the Florida Water Environment Association's David W. York Reuse Award for the Most Outstanding Reuse Program in Florida - Jeffrey

E. Poteet, General Manager, Water & Sewer

Mr. Dustin Chisum, P.E., Secretary/Treasurer of the Florida Water Environment Association (FWEA), presented Marco Island Water & Sewer General Manager Jeff Poteet and members of his Reclaimed Water Production Team, the FWEA's David W. York Reuse Award for the Most Outstanding Water Reuse Program in Florida.

b. <u>ID 25-4390</u> Proclamation - Marco Island Woman's Club

Attachments: Proclamation

City Council Chair Erik Brechnitz recognized the many dedicated years of service by the Marco Island Women's Club by presenting a Proclamation to Ms. Sue Purvis, President, Ms. Maureen Chodaba, recent past President, and several members of the Club.

c. <u>ID 25-4434</u> Proclamation - Owl Watch Volunteers Appreciation Day

Attachments: Proclamation

City Council Chair Erik Brechnitz proclaimed May 19, 2025 as Owl Watch Appreciation Day by recognizing Ms. Brittany Piersma, Field Biologist, and Ms. Lori Beall, Program Director, both of the Audubon of the Western Everglades, along with a number of Marco Island citizen Owl Watch volunteers, for their work in protecting burrowing owls and educating the public on issues that threaten the safety of burrowing owls on Marco Island.

9. Citizens' Comments on Items Not Scheduled for Public Hearing and Items Other Than Those Appearing on the Agenda

Mr. Rick Woodworth (N. Barfield Dr.), Partner, Clean Marco Waters LLC, commented on the City's recognition by the Florida Water Environment Association (FWEA) earlier in the meeting (Agenda Item 8a). He then outlined the testing process and results that his organization recently obtained and filed with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the Marco Island City Council, and the City Staff. He urged the City to initiate action to pursue the most environmentally-friendly wastewater treatment technologies available.

Mr. Bob Roth (Barbarosa Ct.), Partner, Clean Marco Waters LLC, supported Mr. Woodward's request.

Mr. Robert Vetrano (Tahiti Rd.) requested that the City amend its existing noise ordinance to enhance the quality of life for residential home owners who live near short-term rental properties on the Island.

Ms. Pam Gill (N. Collier Blvd.) requested insight on the parties responsible for replacing and maintaining buoys at Residents Beach, and she conveyed her safety concerns with the lighting restrictions that beachfront condos are encouraged to comply with during turtle nesting season.

10. City Manager's Report

City Manager Mike McNees requested that the Council support the scheduling of a City Council Workshop

to review the chronology and history of the City's actions to address the Island's water quality since the City received its original notification of impairments for Total Nitrogen (TN) and Total Phosphorous (TP) from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

Council Chair Brechnitz, on behalf of the Council, requested that the proposed Workshop be scheduled as soon as possible.

11. City Attorney's Report

ID 25-4125 City Attorney's Report

Attachments: City Attorney Report

City Attorney Alan Gabriel noted the availability of his firm's Monthly Report, and he outlined the results of his initial review of a petition filed by the Committee to Improve the Quality of Marco Island Reuse Water for a new Ordinance.

A Motion was brought forward for the Council's consideration.

No members of the public came forward to comment upon this item.

MOTION by Councilor Goehler, seconded by Vice-Chair Gray, that a request to the City Attorney to draft a City of Marco Island proposed Ordinance embodying the elements of the submission provided by the Committee to Improve the Quality of Marco Reuse Water, Inc., be Approved. MOTION FAILED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL VOTE:

Yes: 2 - Councilor Goehler and Vice-Chair Gray

No: 5 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

12. Departmental Reports

ID 25-4126 Monthly Departmental Reports

Attachments: Finance

2025 - First Six Months Budget Status 2025 - Second Quarter Budget Status

Internal Services
Community Affairs

Fire-Rescue

Councilor Henry requested that Community Affairs Director Dan Smith and staff generate proposals to address the waiting list for pickleball memberships at the Marco Island Racquet Center prior to the return of the Island's 2025 - 2026 seasonal residents and visitors. Councilor Schwan noted that the Parks & Recreation Staff was already working on generating recommendations on this topic.

Councilor Palumbo congratulated the Marco Island Water & Sewer Department on its recognition by the Florida Water Environment Association (FWEA) earlier in the evening (see Agenda Item 8a).

Councilor Palumbo asked Marco Island Water & Sewer General Manager Jeff Poteet to outline the events leading to the City's recent receipt of a letter from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

(FDEP) regarding the deployment and management of reuse water in the City's medians.

Chair Brechnitz offered his perspective on providing Marco Island residents with opportunities to obtain pickleball memberships at the Marco Island Racquet Center. He requested that City Manager McNees reach out to Collier County leadership to discuss potential opportunities to modify the deed restrictions associated with the Marco Island Racquet Center. Councilor Henry shared her thoughts on the ability for Marco Island residents to enjoy unrestricted access to parks within the Collier County parks system.

13. Quasi-Judicial Public Hearing

None.

14. Ordinances

A. Public Hearings

None.

B. First Readings

<u>ID 25-4461</u> Ordinance - First Reading - Amending Sec. 30-526 of the Land

Development Code (LDC) - Signs in Commercial, Public Use and Community Facility Districts, Adding Electronic Signs and Kiosks in Public Use (P) Zoning Districts and City Controlled Access Easements, and Section 30-530 - Definitions, Adding a

Definition for Kiosk - Daniel J. Smith, AICP, Director -

Community Affairs/Growth Management

Attachments: Ordinance 25-04

Staff Report

Sec. 30-526 Signs in Commercial, Public Use & Community Facility

Districts

Sec. 30-530 Definitions

City Clerk Joan Taylor read Ordinance 25-04 into the record by title only.

Marco Island Community Affairs Director Daniel Smith reviewed the proposed amendment to Section 30-526 of the City's Land Development Code (LDC), and the Council recognized the participation and requests of a private donor in helping to improve the communication of City events and activities at Mackle Park and Veterans Community Park.

Public Comment

Mr. Brad Henson, Member of the Marco Island Planning Board, endorsed the benefits of the proposed government information sign amendment to the LDC, and he recommended that the Council specify this change as a Conditional Use to better meet the criteria of the City's LDC and the requests of the private donor.

Ms. Sheila Yahwitz (N. Collier Blvd.) expressed support for the modifications proposed by the Council.

MOTION by Councilor Palumbo, seconded by Councilor Henry, that Ordinance 25-04 - Amending Sec. 30-526 of the Land Development

Code (LDC) - Signs in Commercial, Public Use, and Community
Facility Districts; Adding "Governmental Informational Signs" in
Public Use in City Parks, and; Sec. 30 - 530 - Definitions, Adding a
Definition for a "Governmental Information Sign", be Approved on
First Reading. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

15. Resolutions & City Council Items

a. ID 25-4453 Award of Contracts to Juniper Landscaping of Florida, LLC and Superior

Landscaping & Lawn Service, Inc. for City Landscape Maintenance -

Angela Johenning, Purchasing & Risk Manager

Attachments: Bid Tabulation

Superior Landscaping

Juniper Landscaping

City of Marco Island Purchasing & Risk Manager Angela Johenning reviewed the approach that was undertaken to solicit and review contractor bids for the maintenance of the City's landscaped areas for the next three years (beginning October 1, 2025).

Public Comment

Mr. Rick Woodworth (N. Barfield Dr.) requested insight on whether proper containment of grass clippings to minimize yard waste being depositing into storm sewers and canals was addressed with the proposed landscape contractor firms.

MOTION by Vice-Chair Gray, seconded by Councilor Goehler, that the Award of Contracts to Juniper Landscaping of Florida, LLC and Superior Landscaping & Lawn Service for City Landscape Maintenance, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

b. <u>ID 25-4358</u> Resolution - Creating the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee -

Joan Taylor, City Clerk

Attachments: Resolution 25-15

Memo to City Council

City Clerk Joan Taylor read Resolution 25-25 into the record by title only. She then reviewed the direction provided by the Council at its March 5, 2025 meeting regarding this Committee, and she outlined the Committee process modifications that have been addressed to comply with the State and the Council's requirements.

No members of the public came forward to offer comment.

Recognizing the current state of Marco Island representation at the Collier County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and the status of projects already committed for funding through the MPO, the Council elected to take no action on Resolution 25-25 at this time.

c. <u>ID 25-4460</u> Discussion - Electric Bicycles (e-bikes) - Tracy Frazzano, Police Chief

Attachments: Discussion Item Electric Bicycles May 2025 Meeting

MPO Memo Survey of Florida E-Bike Laws And Ordinances

Marco Island Bicycle Paths 2024

Marco Island Police Chief Tracy Frazzano provided the Council with an overview of the State's classifications, requirements, and restrictions related to bicycles and e-bikes, and she shared a number of recommendations for the Council's consideration should the Council wish to enact an ordinance regulating their use on Marco Island.

Public Comment

Ms. Christine Dowell (Biscayne Way) shared her understanding of what could be regulated under the State's statutes, and she shared her observations and experiences relative to e-bike usage on Marco Island.

Mr. Mike Josephs (Wintergreen Ct.) expressed his belief that e-bikes are here to stay, and that the City needs to educate residents, visitors, and business owners to ensure safe operation on the Island.

The Council provided input to the City Attorney and the City Staff on elements to include in a potential ordinance, and City Attorney Alan Gabriel was asked to draft an ordinance to regulate bicycle and e-bike usage on Marco Island for future Council consideration.

At 8:21 p.m., Chairman Brechnitz called for a 10 minute recess. The meeting resumed at 8:31 p.m.

d. <u>ID 25-4440</u> Salary Survey Findings and Recommendations - Casey Lucius, Ph.D.,

Assistant City Manager

Attachments: Salary Study Findings Memo

2025 Salary Study Data

Summary Comparison Data Salary Survey

Summary Comparison Data with 4% Adjustment

Position Actuals with 4%

Marco Island Compensation Guidelines

City Manager Goals 2025

Assistant City Manager Casey Lucius shared the results of the City's recent non-bargaining employee salary survey by comparing salary ranges (minimums, midpoint, and maximums) for each pay grade versus six comparable Florida municipalities and two counties.

No members of the public came forward to offer comment.

MOTION by Councilor Palumbo, seconded by Councilor Schwan, that authorization for the City Manager to adjust the salary ranges of non-bargaining employees by 4%, and increase non-bargaining employee salaries by 4% effective May 5, 2025, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL VOTE:

Yes: 6 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo and Councilor Schwan

No: 1 - Chair Brechnitz

e. (Special Item) Appropriation of Funds for Marco Island Youth Baseball, Inc.

City Manager Mike McNees reminded the Council of its direction to assist and support Marco Island Youth Baseball Inc.'s (M.I.Y.B.) negotiation with the Collier County Public School Board in facilitating M.I.Y.B.'s desire to assume responsibility for the upgrading and maintenance of the baseball field on the grounds of Tommie Barfield Elementary School.

[Editorial Note: for reference, see Agenda Item 9 (Citizens' Comments) of the February 18, 2025 City Council Meeting, and Citizens' Comments from the City Council Meetings of February 3, March 3, March 17, and May 5, 2025]

Public Comment

Mr. Vince Gentilie (S. Barfield Dr.), President of M.I.Y.B., thanked the Council and the City Staff for its support, and he outlined the status of the project and his organization's progress in raising private donations to complete the project.

> MOTION by Councilor Palumbo, seconded by Councilor Schwan, that authorization of the City Manager to appropriate \$200,000.00 from the City's reserve to support Marco Island Youth Baseball, Inc's project to restore and upgrade the baseball field on the grounds of Tommie Barfield Elementary School, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL VOTE:

Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

16. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

7a. ID 25-4435 Authorize the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order to Commercial Design Services (CDS) in the Amount of \$131,247.39, under State of Florida Contract Number 56120000-24-NY-ACS, to Purchase Furniture, Seating, and Labor Needed to Outfit the Second Floor of the City Annex Building - Jeffrey E. Poteet, General Manager, Water & Sewer Department

Attachments: Commercial Design Services Proposal

Budget Transfer - Annex Furniture

Vice-Chair Gray queried Marco Island Water & Sewer General Manager Jeff Poteet on several elements of the planned expenditure.

No members of the public came forward to offer comment.

MOTION by Vice-Chair Gray, seconded by Councilor Henry, that the authorization of the City Manager to issue a purchase order to Commercial Design Services (CDS) in the amount of \$131,247.39 under State of Florida Contract Number 56120000-24-NY-ACS, to purchase furniture, seating, and labor needed to outfit the second floor of the City Annex Building, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

ID 25-4442 7c. Award of Contract to Douglas N. Higgings, Inc. for the North Marco Water Main Improvements in the Amount of \$458,340.00 - Jeffrey E. Poteet, General Manager, Water & Sewer Department

Attachments: Douglas N. Higgins, Inc. Bid Document

Bid Tabulation

Councilor Henry noted the difference between the bid submitted by the proposed contract awardee and the other bidding companies, and she requested insight from City of Marco Island Water & Sewer General Manager Jeff Poteet on the contract's language regarding the proposed awardee's submission.

No members of the public came forward to offer comment.

MOTION by Vice-Chair Gray, seconded by Councilor Schwan, that authorization for the City Manager to award a contract to Douglas N. Higgins, Inc. for the North Marco Water Main Improvements in the amount of \$458,340.00, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Henry, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Schwan and Chair Brechnitz

17. Council Communications & Future Agenda

Vice-Chair Gray requested clarification on the process to ensure that the City's Level of Service Study be comprehended in the City's 2026 Fiscal Year budget. He also requested that an item be added to the City's Future Agenda.

Vice-Chair Gray also complimented Audubon of the Western Everglades Field Biologist Brittany Piersma on her contributions to the preservation of burrowing owls and other native wildlife on Marco Island.

Councilor Schwan briefly summarized the results of her participation in a Collier County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Weekend Institute event, and she shared statistics regarding pedestrian and bicycle/e-bike injuries and fatalities in Florida.

[Editorial Note: Councilor Schwan's "Florida Transportation Fast Facts" document may be found on the City's website at www.cityofmarcoisland.com > Menu > Agendas and Minutes > City Council > 5/19/25 > Meeting Details]

Councilor Schwan also advised the Council that discussions regarding a potential consolidation of the Lee and Collier County Metropolitan Planning Organizations are underway at this time.

Councilor Palumbo commented on the citizen concern regarding noise raised earlier in the meeting (see Agenda Item 9 (Citizens' Comments)), and he thanked Vice-Chair Gray for requesting that the City's Noise Ordinance be placed on the City's Future Agenda.

Council Palumbo encouraged his colleague Councilors to personally observe and experience the mini-roundabout on Yellowbird Street and 6th Avenue for potential future Council discussion.

Councilor Palumbo expressed his interest in being open to a re-vamp of the City Advisory Committee structure to enhance City Council engagement and improve City Staff resource allocation efficiency.

Councilor Palumbo concluded by voicing his support for the 4% compensation adjustment for non-bargaining employees approved earlier in the meeting (Agenda Item 15d).

Councilor Henry expressed her support for reviewing the number of on-going City Committees, but she shared her concern with having a City Council liaison assigned to each City Committee.

Councilor Henry thanked the City Staff for its effort and engagement during the Council's earlier Budget Policies Workshop, and she encouraged Marco Island's citizens to attend upcoming 2026 Fiscal Year budget development workshop sessions.

Councilor Henry reminded the Council and all present to consider attending: 1) the Memorial Day observance at Veterans Community Park on Monday, May 26th at 11:00 A.M., and; 2) the Marco Island Center for the Arts "Roast" of City Manager Mike McNees on Saturday, May 31st beginning at 5:30 P.M.

Councilor Goehler complimented her colleague Councilors and the City Staff on the success of the Council's earlier Budget Policies Workshop. She also requested that her White Paper proposing the solicitation of bids for Advanced Water Treatment (AWT) solutions that she added to the Future Agenda at the Council's May 5th meeting be brought before the Council at its next (June 2, 2025) meeting.

Councilor Champagne, Councilor Henry, and Chair Brechnitz expressed their belief that potential bid solicitations for Advanced Water Treatment (AWT) solutions should be withheld pending the results of the Council's upcoming Water Quality Workshop (see City Manager's Report (Agenda Item 10)).

Councilor Champagne concluded by echoing Councilor Henry's request that residents and visitors to Marco Island consider attending the Memorial Day observance at Veterans Community Park on Monday, May 26th beginning at 11:00 A.M.

ID 25-4127 Future Agenda Items

Attachments: Future Agenda

Vice-Chair Gray requested that his White Paper on proposed modifications to Marco Island' Noise Ordinance be placed on a Future Agenda.

18. Council Reports - None

None.

19. Citizens' Comments

No members of the public came forward to offer comment during this portion of the meeting.

20. Adjournment

There being no further business before the	Council, Chair Brechnitz adjourned the meeting at 9:12 P.M.
Erik Brechnitz, Council Chair	
ATTEST:	
Joan Taylor, City Clerk	_
PREPARED BY:	