

City of Marco Island Florida

*51 Bald Eagle Drive
Marco Island, Florida
cityofmarcoisland.com*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, August 18, 2025

1:00 PM

Special-Called Meeting

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 McNeas

Assistant City Manager: Casey Lucius

City Attorney: Alan L. Gabriel

City Clerk: Joan Taylor

1. Call to Order

Chair Brechnitz called the Special-Called Meeting to order at 1:02 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 McNeas, City Manager
Casey Lucius, Assistant City Manager
Joan Taylor, City Clerk
Alan L. Gabriel, City Attorney
Tracy Frazzano, Police Chief
Chris Byrne, Fire Chief
Sharon Dangles, Acting Finance Director
Daniel J. Smith, Community Affairs Director
Jeff Poteet, Water & Sewer General Manager
Melissa Hinton, Budget Manager (via Zoom teleconference connection)
Raul Perez, Chief Building Official
Martin Luna, Video/Broadcast Technician
Jim Kornas, Recording Specialist
Citizens and Visitors*

Motion to allow for Remote Participation by Marco Island Budget Manager Melissa Hinton

MOTION by Councilor Palumbo, seconded by Councilor Henry, to allow City of Marco Island Budget Manager Melissa Hinton to participate in all matters coming before the Council at this meeting. 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

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Chair Brechnitz.

4. Business

[ID 25-4620](#) Review of Spending Cap Calculation for FY-2026 - Melissa Hinton, Budget Manager, Finance Department

Attachments: [FY26 SPENDING CAP CALCULATION](#)
[FY26 GEN FUND DEDUCTION ANALYSIS](#)
[FY26 BUDGET SUMMARY](#)
[FY26 HOMESTEADED PROPERTY TAX IMPACT ANALYSIS](#)
[FY26 GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET](#)
[FY26 BULDING SVCS FUND OPERATING BUDGET](#)
[FY26 WATER SEWER FUND OPERATING BUDGET](#)
[FY26 Fund 300 5 Year CIP Schedule](#)
[Ordinance 14-08](#)
[Maximum Millage Levy Calculation](#)
[TRIM Key Deliverable Dates](#)

Assistant City Manager Casey Lucius, on behalf of City Budget Manager Melissa Hinton, reviewed the following documents with the Council:

- 1) Spending Cap Calculation for Fiscal Year 2026;
- 2) City of Marco Island FY 2025-26 Budget Summary;
- 3) FY26 General Fund Deduction Analysis, and;
- 4) FY26 Property Impact Tax Analysis Comparison (under several millage rate scenarios)

Ms. Lucius concluded her review by presenting the funding priorities from the Council's April - July, 2025 Budget Workshops that would be impacted by a reduction in the proposed FY 2026 property tax millage rate from 1.6680 mils to 1.4611 mils.

The Council engaged in extensive dialogue and a sharing of perspectives on the City's budget challenges for the 2026 Fiscal Year.

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

MOTION by Councilor Champagne, seconded by Councilor Schwan, that a 1.4611 property tax millage rate for the 2026 Fiscal Year, be Approved. MOTION FAILED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL VOTE:

Yes: 3 - Councilor Champagne, Councilor Henry and Councilor Schwan

No: 4 - Councilor Goehler, Vice-Chair Gray, Councilor Palumbo and Chair Brechnitz

5. Public Comment

The following members of the public came forward to offer comment and insight for the Council's consideration:

- 1) Mr. Rollin Gosney (N. Barfield Dr.)
- 2) Ms. Victoria Myers (Bluebonnet Ct.)
- 3) Mr. John Martini (Nassau Ct.)

The Council directed the City Staff to reconfigure its 2026 Fiscal Year budget recommendation based on tiered options (detailing the items) that lead to a 1.240 millage neutral property tax millage rate.

An additional Special-Called City Council Budget Meeting to review the City's Staff's list of unfunded Council priorities is planned for August 25, 2025 at 2 p.m.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, Chair Brechnitz adjourned the Special-Called Meeting at 2:37 P.M.

Erik Brechnitz, Council Chair

ATTEST:

Joan Taylor, City Clerk

PREPARED BY:

Jim Kornas, Recording Specialist