

*2nd Reading*

**AGENDA MEMORANDUM  
INDIAN ROCKS BEACH CITY COMMISSION**

**MEETING OF:** November 12, 2025 **AGENDA ITEM:** 6 A

**SUBMITTED BY:** Ryan Henderson, City Manager *RnH*

**AUTHORIZED BY:** Ryan Henderson, City Manager *RnH*

**SUBJECT:** **ORDINANCE NO. 2025-05;** Appropriating funds for operating expenses and adopting a budget amendment for the City of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida, for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

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**BACKGROUND:**

On September 18th, 2024, the City Commission approved Ordinance No. 2024-02 appropriating funds for operating expenses and adopting a budget for the City of Indian Rocks Beach for fiscal year 2024/25. The total approved budget for fiscal year 2024-25 was \$10,593,730, of which \$5,381,270 was allocated to the City's general fund, and \$1,763,290 to the solid waste fund.

The budget may be amended in two ways: an informal budget transfer, requested by department heads and approved by the City Manager, that transfers dollars between line items within a department or from one department to another; or a budget amendment which increases expenditures, or the spending level of a fund, as requested by the City Manager and approved by the City Commission.

**ANALYSIS:**

There are several budget amendments recommended for FY 2025. Both the general fund and solid waste fund accounts are included in the recommended 2025 budget amendments. The general fund budget amendments include final expenditure amounts relating to the reconstruction of the city hall complex and the public services building after the 2024 hurricanes Helene and Milton. The solid waste fund budget amendments include costs associated with Hurricane Helene and Milton, and debris removal. The following page details all requested FY 2025 budget amendments by general ledger code and amount.

**FY 2025 BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

**GENERAL FUND**

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
001-539-000-034-200	\$105,000.00	PW Building Maintenance Contractual
001-539-000-044-000	\$145,000.00	PW Rentals and Leases
001-539-000-046-200	\$881,700.00	PW Building Maintenance Repair & Maintenance
001-539-572-046-300	\$1,060,000.00	PW Parks Repair & Maintenance
001-571-000-052-100	\$100,000.00	Library Books & Media
001-515-000-031-100	<u>\$400,000.00</u>	Planning SD Damage and Permitting
	<b>\$2,691,700.00</b>	

**SOLID WASTE FUND**

<u>Account #</u>		
402-534-000034-100	\$3,075,000.00	Solid Waste Disposal
402-534-000-044-000	\$25,000.00	Solid Waste Rentals & Leases
	<b>\$3,100,000.00</b>	

In total, \$5,791,700 in budget amendments is being requested for FY 2025.

**MOTION:**

That **ORDINANCE NO. 2025-05**, appropriating funds for operating expenses and amending the budget for the City of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida, for Fiscal Year 2024-25, be **approved** on **second** reading.

**CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH  
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-05**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR OPERATING EXPENSES AND ADOPTING A BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, on September 18, 2024, the City Commission approved Ordinance No. 2024-02, appropriating funds for operating expenses and adopting a budget for the City of Indian Rocks Beach for fiscal year 2024-25;

**WHEREAS**, the total approved budget for fiscal year 2024-25 was \$10,593,730, of which \$5,381,270 was allocated to the City's general fund and \$1,763,290 was allocated to the City's solid waste fund;

**WHEREAS**, two City funds are included; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA THAT:**

**Section 1.** The budget for fiscal year 2024-25 hereby amended by providing for supplemental appropriations in the amount of \$5,791,700 which are further identified in Exhibit "A" attached hereto. The budget is being amended to reflect the unbudgeted expenditures made as of September 30, 2025.

**Section 2.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon final adoption by the City Commission.

**ADOPTED ON FIRST READING** at a meeting of the City Commission of the City of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida, held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lorin A. Kornijtschuk

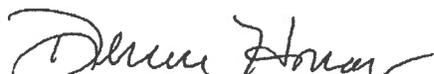
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Denise Houseberg, Mayor/Commissioner

**PUBLISHED** the 22nd day of October 2025, in the Tampa Bay Times.

**ADOPTED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING** at a meeting of the City Commission of the City of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida, held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lorin A. Kornijtschuk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Denise Houseberg, Mayor/Commissioner

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew Maggard, City Attorney

EXHIBIT <b>A</b>
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**FY 2025 BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

**GENERAL FUND**

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
001-539-000-034-200	\$105,000.00	PW Building Maintenance Contractual
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402-534-000-044-000	\$25,000.00	Solid Waste Rentals & Leases
	<b>\$3,100,000.00</b>	

In total, \$5,791,700 in budget amendments is being requested for FY 2025.

2nd Reading  
Approval

Approved at the December 9, 2025, City Commission Meeting

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH**  
**CITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Civic Auditorium/Commission Chambers**  
1507 Bay Palm Blvd., Indian Rocks Beach, Florida 33785  
**Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:**

- Commissioner Hilary King
- Commissioner John Bigelow
- Commissioner Jude Bond
- Vice Mayor-Commissioner Janet Wilson
- Mayor-Commissioner Denise Houseberg

**Also present:** City Manager Ryan Henderson, City Clerk Lorin Kornijtschuk, Public Works Director Dean Scharmen, and City Attorney Matthew Maggard.

For continuity, items are listed in agenda order, although not necessarily discussed in that order.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

City Attorney Matthew Maggard administered the oath of office to newly appointed City Manager Ryan Henderson. Mr. Henderson took the oath, swearing to support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States, the State of Florida, and the City of Indian Rocks Beach.

**1. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Proclamation - Veterans Recognition**

Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg read a proclamation recognizing local veterans and their service to the country.

**B. Report of Pinellas County Sheriff's Office**

Ord 2025-05  
Approved @  
2nd reading  
Nov 12, 2025

A representative from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office reported on activities for the month. Deputies responded to 731 events, with the most common being directed patrols, house checks, and beach patrols. A total of 163 traffic stops were conducted. Crime statistics remain favorable, with most incidents being domestic-related. One noise complaint was addressed at Cocos during their Crab Fest weekend event, which was resolved appropriately. No further issues were reported.

### **C. Report of Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District**

Fire Chief Ken Grimes reported a busy month with 26 EMS calls and 14 fire calls. Two significant fire incidents occurred:

- **Boat Fire:** A boat fire near the marina was successfully extinguished using the department's fireboat with fire pump capability. Multiple agencies responded, including the Largo Fire Department and the Clearwater Fire Department. Flames were visible from the north bridge. The response prevented potential spread to nearby structures.
- **Holiday Inn Fire:** A dryer fire in the laundry room produced smoke and required multiple units to respond.

Chief Grimes highlighted a successful stroke call where the patient was transported to a comprehensive center within the critical three-hour window, potentially reversing the stroke effects. He emphasized the importance of rapid response times.

### **Station Updates:**

- The department is working on relocating stations along the beach
- Exploring the acquisition of property at Church of the Isles for the northern station location
- Considering Tiki Gardens' location for the southern station with county cooperation
- Middle station (downtown Indian Rocks Beach) will be renovated in place
- Groundbreaking held Saturday for new mainland station in the Oakhurst area

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- **Theo Wilson, 444 Harbor Drive South**, spoke about the need for contributions to Wreaths Across America for Bay Pine Cemetery. Flags were placed in May but were damaged during the hurricane. The deadline for ordering wreaths is December 1st, with delivery scheduled by December 13th. Flyers with the website were made available.
- **Nellie Johnson, 215 15th Avenue**, inquired about recycling services, questioning whether recycling materials are actually being separated from regular garbage despite the city paying approximately \$500,000 for the service. Public Works Director Dean Scharmen clarified that the city provides solid waste

services on Monday and Thursday (red and white trucks) and has a separate contract for recycling services.

- **Elizabeth Flynn, 914 Harbor House Drive**, provided updates on behalf of the Friends of Indian Rocks Beach Library:
  - Received an anonymous donation of \$5,000 from an IRB resident in memory of Jean Scott for purchasing library books
  - Awarded \$10,000 McDonald's Golden Grant (requested \$2,500) to fund a 12-month Florida Explorer Story Hour program focusing on literacy and the local marine ecosystem
  - Will partner with local conservation and science organizations
  - Grant presentation scheduled for November 19th at 11:00 A.M.
  - Previously received \$15,000 from Rotary Club for children's area; working with the club, librarian Lee Miller, and the city on allocation
  - Library work is in progress; goal to reopen end of year or early 2026
  - Not currently accepting used book donations

Ms. Flynn also raised safety concerns about golf carts on Gulf Boulevard, including unlicensed carts, minors driving, open containers, and dangerous passing maneuvers. She requested better education about golf cart regulations.

- **Steve Calamacy**, representing the VFW (non-resident, lives in Seminole), thanked the city for its integration and participation in VFW activities, including the recent concert, and presented recognition to the Commission for their support.

**Public comment was closed by Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg.**

### **3. REPORTS OF:**

#### **A. City Attorney -- Matthew Maggard**

City Attorney Maggard reported significant developments in litigation:

##### **Modco of Kentucky Inc. Case:**

- Judge granted the city's motion for summary judgment today
- Case dismissed with prejudice (cannot be refiled)
- Jury trial scheduled for later this year was cancelled
- Case challenged the constitutionality of the city's short-term rental ordinance
- The possibility of appeal to the Second District Court of Appeals exists, but Attorney Maggard expressed confidence in prevailing if appealed
- City may discuss seeking attorney's fees and potential waiver of appeal rights

### **Magistrate Appeals:**

- Multiple magistrate orders have been appealed to the circuit court's appellate division
- Three-judge panel appointed
- Briefs have been filed
- Oral arguments not anticipated (only one case in history allowed oral arguments)
- Awaiting decisions, which are expected to be issued simultaneously

### **Short-Term Rental Enforcement Update:**

- Enforcement proceeding with voluntary compliance increasing
- Special magistrate hearings held in October, more scheduled for tomorrow
- Two additional hearing dates are being scheduled for January
- Fines and penalties are significantly reduced for those who voluntarily come into compliance before special magistrate hearings
- Enforcement prioritizes properties with no compliance efforts, then those that fell out of compliance
- Limited staff capacity means citations are issued systematically, not all at once
- Previous non-enforcement does not constitute a waiver of ordinance requirements

Vice Mayor-Commissioner Wilson inquired about other pending lawsuits questioning the constitutionality. Attorney Maggard confirmed federal court cases remain pending or on hold, with the AP6 case in active litigation and a Bert Harris claim also filed by AP6. A shade meeting may not be necessary at this time.

### **B. City Manager -- Ryan Henderson**

City Manager Henderson addressed the Commission for the first time in his official capacity:

- Thanked the Commission for their confidence in appointing him
- Acknowledged the privilege of serving as city manager
- Completed three weeks; met numerous neighbors
- Invited residents to meet him after the meeting

### **Recognition:**

- Recognized former City Manager Greg Mims for leaving the organization better than he found it. He praised the staff Mr. Mims assembled
- Thanked previous Finance Director Dan Carpenter for preparing him for the role and wished Mr. Carpenter success in his new position

### **Upcoming Initiatives:**

- **Paid/Managed Parking:** Will bring item to Commission in December to determine next steps for early 2026 rollout

### **"Neighbor Service" Initiative:**

- Announced organizational shift from "customer service" to "neighbor service"
- Staff will refer to community members as "neighbors" rather than citizens, residents, or customers
- Language change reflects the philosophy that "we're all in this together."
- Will see implementation throughout city communications (e.g., "neighbor comments" instead of "public comments")
- Emphasized preserving and enhancing what makes Indian Rocks Beach special

## **C. City Commission**

### **Commissioner King:**

- Informed residents about Pinellas County grant of \$813 million+ for hurricane recovery
- Grant covers Hurricanes Idalia, Helene, and Milton
- Categories include:
  - Reimbursement for displacement rent
  - Offsetting costs not covered by insurance or FEMA
  - Rebuild assistance, particularly for elevation projects
- At least 29 Indian Rocks Beach residents have applied

### **Vice Mayor-Commissioner Wilson:**

- Attended the second meeting of the Development Code Compliance and Redevelopment Committee for the Florida League of Cities
- Priority issues include housing within the Live Local Act and ADU legislation
- Specifically reviewing Senate Bill 180 for potential amendments
- Completed advocacy training sessions with Jennifer Webb (former House Representative, District 69, 2018-2020) through Suncoast League of Cities
- Will participate in the Tallahassee delegation in January
- Training will enable effective advocacy for both Suncoast League and individual city issues

**Commissioner Bond:** No report.

### **Commissioner Bigelow:**

- Reported significant construction activity on Harbor Drive North and South
- Code enforcement addressed Sunday construction violations
- Modular home delivery scheduled for Harbor Drive North the following day
- The house will require a crane for placement

- City Manager Henderson confirmed awareness; company is Safe Side Homes

**Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg:**

Announced upcoming holiday events:

- **December 5th:** Annual Tree Lighting at 12th Avenue, 7:00 P.M.
- **December 7th:** Street Parade, 1:00 P.M.
- **December 20th:** Boat Parade, 7:00 P.M.

**4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:** None.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

City Attorney Maggard read the Consent Agenda items:

- A. Approval of October 14, 2025, Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes
- B. Proclamation: Veterans of Foreign Wars "Buddy" Poppy

**Motion:** Vice Mayor-Commissioner Wilson motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as written.

**Second:** Commissioner King.

**Ayes:** Bigelow, Bond, King, Wilson, Houseberg

**Nay:** None

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 5-0**

**6. OTHER LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

**A. Ordinance No. 2025-05 -- PUBLIC HEARING / SECOND READING Appropriating funds for operating expenses and adopting a budget amendment for the City of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida, for Fiscal year 2024-25**

City Attorney Maggard read the ordinance title: Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Indian Rocks Beach, Pinellas County, Florida, appropriating funds for operating expenses and adopting a budget amendment for fiscal year 2024 through 2025 and providing for an effective date.

Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg opened the public hearing. No questions were raised by the Commission or the public.

**Public comment was closed by Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg.**

1st Reading  
Approval

Approved at the November 12, 2025, City Commission Meeting

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH**  
**CITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Civic Auditorium/Commission Chambers**  
1507 Bay Palm Blvd., Indian Rocks Beach, Florida 33785  
**Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**ROLL CALL**

**Present:**

- Commissioner Hilary King
- Commissioner John Bigelow
- Commissioner Jude Bond
- Vice Mayor-Commissioner Janet Wilson
- Mayor-Commissioner Denise Houseberg

**Also present:** Acting City Manager Dan Carpenter, City Clerk Lorin Kornijtschuk, Public Works Director Dean Scharmen, Administrative Assistant Mishelle Hargett, and City Attorney Matthew Maggard.

For continuity, items are listed in agenda order, although not necessarily discussed in that order..

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**1. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Report of Pinellas County Sheriff's Office**

The Sheriff's representative reported no significant uptick in criminal activity, with only occasional trespassing or vehicle-related arrests at beach accesses. No reports of open carry incidents were observed.

**B. Report of Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District**

No representative was present.

**C. Presentations by IRB Home and Action 2000**

- **Sarah McIntyre**, President of IRB Home, announced collaboration with the City and Action 2000 on Halloween 2025, each organization contributing \$3,000 toward the event. She thanked City staff for their partnership and support.
- **Paul Zagami**, President of Action 2000, also presented a check for \$3,000 for Halloween and thanked the City for their partnership in preserving and beautifying Indian Rocks Beach.
- **Added Presentation – Proclamation Honoring City Clerk Lorin Kornijtschuk**  
Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg presented a proclamation honoring City Clerk Lorin Kornijtschuk upon earning the Certified Municipal Clerk designation, recognizing her dedication and service to the City. City Clerk Kornijtschuk expressed appreciation to the Commission and staff for their support.

Ord 2025-05 Approved @ 1st reading  
Oct 14, 2025

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Michelle Hargett, 1901 1st Street, thanked Acting City Manager Dan Carpenter for his service to the City and dedication to the Finance Department.
- Nancy Obarski, 708 Beach Trail, discussed concerns regarding Pinellas County's handling of easements for beach renourishment, citing property rights and communication issues with the Army Corps of Engineers. She urged the city to challenge the Corps' policy going forward.
- Don House, 2104 Beach Trail, spoke about community relations with short-term renters and emphasized treating visitors as welcome guests.
- John Pfanstiehl, 448 Harbor Drive S., expressed contrasting concerns over the impact of short-term rentals on residential neighborhoods, citing noise and disruption.

**Public comment was closed by Mayor -Commissioner Houseberg.**

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## 3. REPORTS OF:

### A. City Attorney – Matthew Maggard

1. Requested consideration of City Clerk salary increase per her employment contract, which stipulates a salary review upon completion of her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation. Noted that the City Clerk is a charter seat position with a salary set exclusively by the Commission, and Commissioners had received salary comparison data from surrounding area municipalities.

- Commission discussion emphasized recognition of professional certification and alignment with comparable positions in similar-sized municipalities. Consensus emerged that a salary adjustment to \$100,000 would fairly recognize the achievement while maintaining internal equity.

**Motion:** Vice Mayor-Commissioner Wilson motioned to increase the City Clerk's salary to \$100,000 per year.

**Second:** Commissioner Bigelow seconded the motion.

**Ayes:** Bigelow, Bond, King, Wilson, Houseberg

**Nay:** None

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 5-0**

**2. Executive Session Request:** The City Attorney requested scheduling an executive session to discuss pending litigation. The City Clerk will coordinate availability.

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### B. Acting City Manager – Dan Carpenter

- Welcomed staff and residents back to City Hall after renovations, thanking Public Works Director Dean Scharmen and staff for their efforts.
- Announced *Hallowfest* scheduled for Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at City Hall.
- Acknowledged A2K and IRB Home for event sponsorship.
- Reported tentative mid-November start for the *Beach Renourishment Project* and post-Veterans Day commencement of Duke Energy's work on the *Underground Utilities Project*.

- Discussed post-hurricane rebuilding efforts, noting approximately 40+ demolition permits issued and continued monitoring of unpermitted repairs to maintain floodplain compliance.
- Discussed the floodplain management process, including letters being sent to property owners who may have completed repairs without obtaining required permits. The County is taking a soft approach through December 31st, encouraging voluntary compliance through "after the fact" permits without penalties, though regular permit fees will apply
- Expressed gratitude to the Commission and residents for their support during his tenure as Acting City Manager, marking his final meeting in that capacity.

**Public Works Director Dean Scharmen reported:**

- Beach renourishment was tentatively scheduled to begin on October 13th, but the contractor shifted to Indian Shores and then to Sand Key. The City is now tentatively scheduled for mid-November, with work starting at the north end and progressing south.
- Underground utilities project: The City's work has been completed for approximately 90 days. Duke Energy confirmed that it will begin its portion of the work right after Veterans Day, including street lighting installation.

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**C. City Commission**

- **Vice Mayor-Commissioner Wilson:**
  - Praised the success of Oktoberfest with an amazing turnout.
  - Announced IRB Home's Putt Putt Pub Crawl scheduled for November 15th.
  - Reported on Florida League of Cities legislative committee work, noting she serves on the Development, Code Compliance, and Redevelopment Committee. Described the structure of five committees that develop legislative priorities and policy positions, with staff coordination for Tallahassee visits and lobbying efforts.
  - Announced plans to work with the new City Manager to rejoin the Suncoast League of Cities (Pinellas, Pasco, and Hillsborough counties) to strengthen the City's voice in Tallahassee.
  - Will provide a Property Tax Toolkit next month explaining the impact of proposed legislative tax amendments.
- **Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg:**
  - Reported on discussion with Senator Nick Desigli regarding moving municipal elections to November instead of March, likely to take effect in the election cycle after the upcoming one. She also praised the success of *Oktoberfest 2025*.

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**4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:** None.

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**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of September 9, 2025, Closed Executive Client Session Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of September 9, 2025, Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes
- C. Approval of September 10, 2025, Special City Commission Meeting Minutes
- D. Approval of September 24, 2025, Special City Commission Meeting Minutes
- E. Authorization for Acting City Manager to sign amended Interlocal Agreement with Pinellas

County Building and Development Review Departments.

F. Proclamation: *Breast Cancer Awareness Month*.

**Motion:** Vice Mayor Wilson motioned to approve all Consent Agenda items.

Second: Commissioner Bond.

**Ayes:** Bigelow, Bond, King, Wilson, Houseberg

**Nay:** None

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 5-0**

Mayor-Commissioner Houseberg noted she requested the Breast Cancer Awareness proclamation as a two-time breast cancer survivor. She shared that she was diagnosed with breast cancer when she first became a commissioner and never missed a commission meeting despite undergoing surgeries and treatments, which is why many may not have known about her diagnosis.

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## 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

**A. ABT CASE 26-2025 QUASI-JUDICIAL PROCEEDING- 501 GULF BOULEVARD- F & J MARKET LLC d/b/a GULF MARKET-** 2 APS: Beer; wine. Package sales for off-premises consumption, for the Gulf Market, located at 501 Gulf Boulevard, Indian Rocks Beach, Florida, and legally described HAVEN BEACH SUB BLK 3, LOTS 1, 2 & 3 LESS RD R/W AT SW TOGETHER WITH THAT PART OF CANAL AVE ADJ ON N PER O.R. 5378 PG 1612 [Parcel Number: 12-30-14-37764-003-0010].

City Clerk Kornijtschuk reported compliance with City Code and no objections received.

- **Applicants Falah and Jamie Hussein** addressed questions about the property, explaining that the Shell gas station will handle all fuel tank inspections and compliance with state requirements. They hope to open by November 1st and expressed excitement about serving the community, noting they have successfully operated another location for 35 years.

**Motion:** Vice Mayor Commissioner Wilson motioned to approve the request with the stipulation that repeated or intermittent nuisance activity or unlawful noise may result in revocation.

Second: Commissioner King.

**Ayes:** Bigelow, Bond, King, Wilson, Houseberg

**Nay:** None

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 5-0**

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## 7. OTHER LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

**A. Ordinance No. 2025-05 – PUBLIC HEARING / FIRST READING Appropriating funds for operating expenses and adopting a budget amendment for the City of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida, for Fiscal year 2024-25**

Acting City Manager Carpenter presented the budget amendment for FY 2024-25, explaining it was necessary due to hurricane-related expenditures. The amendment increases the general fund by \$2.691 million and the solid waste fund by \$3.1 million, totaling \$5.791 million in additional appropriations. The City has received over \$3.1 million in reimbursements to date, including property insurance payments and partial FEMA reimbursement (\$1.05 million of a \$3.1 million project). Staff continues working with FEMA and the Department of Emergency Management to secure full reimbursement.





**Public Comment:**

Lee Lieberman, 2507 Bay Boulevard, commended the Commission for their responsiveness, noting that a streetlight he reported at a previous meeting was repaired the next day. He suggested the City consider requesting donations from people who park at churches near beach accesses, as many use the parking without contributing. He also praised the Sheriff's deputies for their service and professionalism.



**Public comment was closed by Mayor -Commissioner Houseberg.**

**Motion:** Vice Mayor Commissioner Wilson motioned to approve Ordinance No. 2025-05 on first reading.

**Second: Commissioner King.**

**Ayes:** Bigelow, Bond, King, Wilson, Houseberg

**Nay:** None

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 5-0**

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## 8. WORK SESSION ITEMS

### DISCUSSION - Paid Parking Implementation

Acting City Manager Carpenter presented information on implementing paid parking throughout the City. The research identified 376 public parking spaces: 182 at Beach Accesses, 106 in the Business District, 22 at the Nature Preserve, 18 at Kolb Park, 46 at City Hall/Public Works, and 9 at Brown Park. Currently, only the Pinellas County-owned lot on 17th Avenue has paid parking (\$2.50/hour), generating over \$220,000 annually, with the City retaining 60% after paying 40%.

The commission needed to provide direction on three key issues: (1) which locations should have paid parking, (2) hours of operation, and (3) hourly rate.

**Acting City Manager Carpenter noted:**

- Current staffing may be insufficient for enforcement, particularly outside normal business hours
- The 71 existing resident-only parking spots should remain unchanged
- If residents with decals are allowed to park free in paid spots, it would reduce potential revenue
- Various cities use different systems, with Park Mobile being common among neighboring municipalities

**Public Works Director Scharmen noted:**

- Enforcement and hours are critical considerations
- Different facilities have different natural operating hours (e.g., Nature Preserve 7 AM to dusk, parks close at specific times, but beach visitors may park nearby)
- Street parking would require delineated spaces if made paid parking
- Significant paving work would be needed around Kolb Park for paid parking implementation

**Public Comment:**

- Daniel Mynsberg, 442 Harbor Drive North, expressed concern that if only beach parking is paid, visitors will park at City Hall and walk to the beach, suggesting all spots should be paid, with residential exceptions.
- Kelly Cisarik, 448 Harbor Drive South, raised concerns about Park Mobile being a private monopoly and noted accessibility issues for those without cell phones or credit cards, suggesting a cash alternative like St. Pete Beach offers. She requested City Hall parking remain free for residents attending meetings.