

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH**  
**CITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Holiday Inn – Pelican Sandpiper Room**  
401 2nd Street, Indian Rocks Beach, Florida 33785  
**Tuesday, September 9, 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:** Acting City Manager Dan Carpenter, City Clerk Lorin Kornijtschuk, and, City Attorney Matthew Maggard

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

**1. PRESENTATIONS.**

**A. REPORT OF Pinellas County Sheriff's Office**

- The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office provided its monthly report.

**B. REPORT OF Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District**

- Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District provided its monthly report.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

- **Elizabeth Flynn, 914 Harbor House Dr** -- Reported on Action 2000 and Keep the Beaches Beautiful completion of Butterfly Garden replanting on September 6th; announced Oktoberfest on October 11th from 12-6 PM at Cole Park; noted September is library sign-up month; announced Friends of IRB Library story time on October 15th at 11 AM at Kolb Park Gazebo; expressed concerns about abandoned properties post-hurricane and loss of small-town character due to development patterns.

- **Kelly Cisarik, 448 Harbor Drive S** -- Inquired about lessons learned from Phase 1 underground utilities regarding transformer resilience in saltwater environments; requested Duke Energy presentation on storm preparedness improvements for upcoming Phase 2 installation.
- **Don House, 2104 Beach Trail** -- Raised concerns about public comment procedures on agenda items; requested that public comments be allowed on all agenda items as in previous meetings.
- **John Pffhanstiehl, 448 Harbor Drive S** -- Expressed appreciation for Acting City Manager Dan Carpenter's performance.

### 3. REPORTS OF:

#### A. City Attorney - Matthew Maggard

- No report

#### B. Acting City Manager - Dan Carpenter

- Reminded commission of the first budget reading scheduled for September 10th at 6:00 PM.
- Reported successful move of city employees back to City Hall on Thursday-Friday of the previous week, with Code Enforcement moving over the weekend and library operations beginning Monday.
- Updated on library restoration progress: books being evaluated after nearly one year in air-conditioned storage, volunteers assisting with setup, awaiting shelving installation.
- Announced the city's Halloween Fest on October 25th from 10 AM to 1 PM at Kolb Park.
- Provided updates on major projects:
  - **Beach Renourishment:** County project scheduled October-December, affecting area from Belcher Road to Pass-a-Grille.
  - **Aqua Fence:** State-funded project in survey and design phase, infrastructure work around City Hall required, will not be completed for the current hurricane season, but ready for next year.
  - **Underground Utilities Phase 2:** City portion complete to 16th Avenue North, Duke Energy inspection pending, tentative November start date for Duke's portion of work.
- Confirmed paid parking discussion scheduled for the October meeting with information packets distributed to commissioners.
- Noted increased code enforcement for overnight items left on the beach post-turtle season.

#### C. City Commission

- **Commissioner Bigelow:** No report.
- **Commissioner Bond:** No report.
- **Vice Mayor Wilson:** Reported on Florida League of Cities conference attendance; noted upcoming specialized information packets on Florida taxation proposals; announced reappointment to Development Code Compliance and Redevelopment Policy Committee with first meeting September 26th.
- **Commissioner King:** No report.
- **Mayor Houseberg:** Noted beach renourishment project is underway.

#### 4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

No additions or deletions to the agenda.

#### 5. CONSENT AGENDA:

**A. APPROVAL OF** August 12, 2025, Special City Commission Meeting Minutes.

**B. APPROVAL OF** August 12, 2025, Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes.

**C. AUTHORIZE** the City Manager to sign a one-year renewal agreement with Public Risk Management (PRM) of Florida for property, casualty, and workers' compensation, and flood coverages for FY 2025-26.

**D. RESCHEDULING** March 10, 2026, Regular City Commission Meeting to Wednesday, March 25, 2026, due to the IRB General Election.

**E. RESCHEDULING** November 11, 2025, Regular City Commission Meeting to Wednesday, November 12, 2025, due to Veterans' Day.

**Motion:** Vice Mayor-Commissioner Wilson motioned to approve the consent agenda consisting of items 5 A – 5 E.

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

#### **Unanimous approval by acclamation**

#### 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

##### **A. ABT CASE 25-2025 - QUASI-JUDICIAL PROCEEDING - 1401 GULF BOULEVARD - GROUPERS ON THE GULF**

City Clerk Kornijtschuk presented the application for 2 COP (beer and wine) licenses for Groupers on the Gulf, submitted by Noah Reed on August 15th. Review by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office revealed no offenses. Planning consultant approval has already been obtained.

##### **Public Comment:**

- **John Thayer, 1819 Bay Boulevard** -- Expressed support for Groupers on the Gulf as a community asset.

**Motion:** Commissioner Bond motioned to approve the alcohol beverage license.

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

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

**Nay:** None

#### **MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 5-0**

## 7. OTHER LEGISLATIVE MATTERS:

**A. RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10** - A resolution calling for a general election for the purpose of electing qualified candidates to fill the vacancies of the Mayor-Commissioner Seat and two City Commissioner Seats for two-year terms; establishing a candidate qualifying period; authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections; establishing a polling place for the March 10, 2026 Election.

City Attorney Maggard presented the resolution for first reading.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Motion:** Vice Mayor-Commissioner Wilson motioned to approve Resolution No. 2025-10 calling for a general election on March 10, 2026.

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

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

**Nay:** None

### **MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 5-0**

## 8. OTHER BUSINESS:

### **A. APPROVAL OF Employment Agreement for Ryan Henderson as City Manager**

City Attorney Maggard presented the negotiated employment agreement with key terms:

- Requested salary: \$182,000
- Requested retirement contribution: 15% (compared to 10% for all other city employees)

**Public Comment:**

- **Don House** -- Objected to proceeding without proper public notice, citing lack of public comment on previous agenda item.

**Commission Discussion:**

- Commissioner King expressed concerns about both the salary level and the 15% retirement contribution, setting a precedent above that of other employees' 10%.
- Commissioner Bond inquired about retirement contribution caps and structure.
- Acting City Manager Carpenter confirmed that all city employees receive a 10% employer contribution.
- Commissioner Bigelow suggested negotiating the retirement contribution.
- City Attorney Maggard indicated Henderson's priority was the \$182,000 salary and would likely accept a 10% retirement contribution.
- Vice Mayor Wilson noted other benefits (car allowance, relocation) appeared reasonable as part of the total compensation package.

**Motion:** Vice Mayor-Commissioner Wilson motioned to approve the employment agreement with modification of retirement contribution to 10% (matching other city employees), keeping all other terms unchanged.

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

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

**Nay:** None

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 5-0**

**9. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Motion:** Vice Mayor-Commissioner Wilson motioned to adjourn at 6:48 p.m.

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

**Unanimous approval by acclamation**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:48 P.M.**