



## Fort Myers Beach Town Council

Town Hall Council Chambers  
2731 Oak Street  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Minutes

Wednesday, September  
24, 2025

5:01 PM

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Members present: Mayor Allers, Vice Mayor Atterholt, Council Member King, Council Member Safford and Council Member Woodson.

#### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ellen Vaughan, resident, encouraged the council to increase the millage rate because the town needed services.

Tom Torgerson, resident, advocated for a millage rate increase. It was not the time to cut services and he did not think it was in the best interest of the town. He supported reinvesting and recovery of the island.

#### III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

##### A. Resolution 25-278; Final FY26 Ad Valorem Millage Rate

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH, ADOPTING THE FINAL AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATE FOR THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA AT \_\_, WHICH IS \_\_ FOR EACH \$1,000 OF ASSESSED VALUATION AND IS \_\_% GREATER THAN THE ROLLED-BACK RATE OF .8954 MILLS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026, COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2025 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SUFFICIENT FUNDS FOR THE GENERAL FUND; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mayor Allers read the title of the resolution. Finance Director Joe Onzick utilized PowerPoint for his presentation. Slides included the Millage Rate Required Announcement, Overview, Changes as Result of 1st Budget Hearing, Additional Changes Since 1st Budget Hearing, State Appropriations, Bridge Loan Status, FY25-FY26 Position Change Comparison, General Fund Revenue by Source as Percent of Whole, General Fund Expense by Category as Percent of Whole, General Fund Expense Categories by Year, General Fund Expenses by Department, All Funds Revenue by Source as

Percent of Whole, Use of Reserves, Grant Revenue, Transfers, All Funds Expense by Category as Percent of Whole, All Funds Expense Categories by Year, All Funds Expense Budgets by Fund, Capital Budget Items, FDEM FEMA Project Loan, Fund Balance Projection by Fund, Debt Service, FDEM FEMA Project Loan, \$10 Million Capital Improvement Revenue Note, DEO Bridge Loan, Florida State Revolving Fund, Millage Rate, Millage Rates & Required Votes, Staff Recommendations, Emergency Fund Status, Recommendation and Recommended Amendments.

Vice Mayor Atterholt summarized the presentation.

Town Manager Will McKannay noted that adding revenue to the emergency fund should be a priority. Mayor Allers agreed and added that it would be reckless not to continue to save for the future.

Public comment:

Ellen Vaughan, resident, encouraged all to approve the vote.

Tom Torgerson, resident, agreed.

Public comment closed.

Mayor Allers moved to approve the staff recommendation to set the fiscal year 2026 millage rate at 1.150, which is a 28.43% increase over the rolled-back rate from the previous fiscal year, seconded by Council Member Safford.

Vice Mayor Atterholt confirmed that the \$1.2 million worth of cuts were reflected in the budget, and the increase would be used to either support the emergency fund and/or potential matching grants.

Budget Manager Kassandra Penner read the title of the resolution, which included the millage and the percentage rate.

The motion failed, 4-1 by roll call vote, with Council Member King dissenting.

A discussion was held regarding the emergency fund.

Vice Mayor Atterholt moved to approve the resolution with the millage rate set at 1.0294 mills, which is 14.96% greater than the rolled-back rate from the previous fiscal year, seconded by Council Member Safford.

The motion carried, 4-1, with Council Member King dissenting.

B. Resolution 25-279; Final FY26 Budget

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2026; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

Mayor Allers read the title of the resolution. Director Onzick stated the additional revenue would be \$177,149, with \$88,574 transferred to the emergency fund and \$88,575 transferred to grant matching. He recommended that the town council approve the amended changes on slides 34 and 35 to reflect the lower millage rate.

Mayor Allers moved to approve the resolution for the final fiscal year 26

budget, based on the change of \$88,574 to transfer to the general fund and \$88,574 added to the emergency fund reserve, based on Director Onzick's comments, seconded by Council Member Safford.

No public comment.

The motion carried, 4-1, by roll call vote, with Council Member King dissenting.

C. Resolution 25-280; Final FY26 Fee Schedule

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FORT MYERS BEACH, ADOPTING THE FINAL FEE SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2025 AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2026; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

Mayor Allers read the title of the resolution. Director Onzick's presentation included the FY26 Final Fee Schedule Changes and Additional Final Fee Schedule Changes Not Previously Included.

Emergency Services Director Thomas Yozzo confirmed that residents would be permitted to park anywhere, as long as it was legal, with the increase in parking permits.

No public comment.

Council Member Safford moved to approve the resolution based on the amendments with the building fees, seconded by Council Member Woodson. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**IV. FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member King moved to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Allers. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Minutes adopted as presented, March 17, 2025. Motion by Council Member King and seconded by Council Member Woodson. Passed 5-0.



Amy Baker (Oct 15, 2025 08:43:54 EDT)

Amy Baker, Town Clerk