



CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2026
6:30 PM
6738 Dixon Street
Milton, FL 32570

1. Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 06:36 PM.

Members Present:

Council Member Ward IV, Seat II Casey Powell
Council Member, Ward I, Seat I Mike Cusack
Council Member, Ward II, Seat I Marilyn Farrow
Council Member, Ward III, Seat I Gavin Hawthorne
Council Member Ward III, Seat II Robert Leek
Council Member Ward I, Seat II Tom Powers
Council Member, Ward IV, Seat I Ashley Fretwell
Council Member Ward II, Seat II Larry McKee

Members Absent:

Mayor Heather Lindsay

Members of the Public in Attendance

Cindy Smith, Donna Long, Vernon Compton, Betsy Lundsford, Pam Mitchell,
Jerry Mitchell, Theresa Messick, Jimmy Messick, Carol B Rich, D'Asia Streeter,
Kathryn Streeter

Staff in Attendance

City Manager, Ed Spears
City Clerk, Molly Turnes
IT Systems Analyst, Alex Gregoire
Planning Director, Jacob Hullett
Public Works Director, Joe Cook
PIO, Bethany Anderson
Events Coordinator, Jay Conrad
Ec. Dev. Director, Stephen Prestesater
ACM, Sandra Woodbery
Chief of Police, Jennifer Frank

2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

Mother Leanne Beaumont,
St. Mary's Episcopal Church

3. Approval of Minutes

Item # 2026-3828

February 10, 2026 Regular Council Meeting

ACTION: Motion to Approve with correction by Gavin Hawthorne; second by Ashley Fretwell;
Motion passed - 8:0

YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Correction to the minutes: Item# 2026-3833 Councilman Hawthorne seconded the withdrawal of the motion

4. Approval of Agenda

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Larry McKee; second by Gavin Hawthorne;
Motion passed - 8:0

YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOVED Item# 2026-3922 Longleaf Alliance - Request to Harvest Ground Cover from Work Session to the Regular Council Agenda under Invited Speaker #2

8 Items added to consent agenda:

- Item# 2026-3930 July 4th Fireworks Display (option 2 & explore expansion options)
- Item# 2026-3892 Budget Calendar
- Item# 2026-3918 Lowe's Community Grant Letter of Support (City to send 2 support letters for PD & Cultural Center)
- Item# 2026-3931 Grants & Contracts Financial Coordinator Position Description and Salary Range
- Item# 2026-3924 Land Swap 6.32 Acres
- Item# 2026-3932 Emergency Gas Main to Asphalt Plant on Sterling Way
- Item# 2026-3899 Milton Marina Initial Term Sheet
- Item# 2026-3926 Request for Approval of Expenditure of Contraband Forfeiture Funds

5. Public Announcements, Awards, Proclamations & Recognitions

Item # 2026-3830
2026 Red Cross Proclamation

Mayor Pro-Tem Farrow read the Red Cross Proclamation and presented to the Red Cross representative.

Item # 2026-3896
2026 Flood Awareness Week

Mayor Pro-Tem Farrow introduced the Flood Awareness Week Proclamation and Ethan Brosnaham read the Proclamation for Flood Awareness Week.

6. Public Hearings

No Public Hearings

7. Invited Speakers

Item# 2026-3922 Longleaf Alliance - Request to Harvest Ground Cover was moved from the work session

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Gavin Hawthorne; second by Casey Powell;

Motion passed - 8:0

YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilyn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Vernon Compton reported to Council

Public input was provided by: Pam Mitchell

Item # 2026-3917

Randy Roy, NAS Whiting Field

Randy Roy from NAS Whiting Field reported to council

Public input was provided by: David Farrow

8. Persons to Appear

No persons to appear

9. General Consent Agenda

Item # 2026-3829
General Consent Agenda

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Tom Powers; second by Casey Powell;

Motion passed - 8:0

YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilyn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee

NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

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Item # 2026-3894
SEPA - Lennar Gulf Coast Event 2026 (3/25)
Passed on consent

Item # 2026-3927
SEPA - Refuge Church Easter Eggstravaganza 2026 (4/4)
Passed on consent

Item # 2026-3893
Directional Signage Request for Greater Pensacola Behavior
Passed on consent

10. Ordinances & Resolutions

Item # 2026-3910
Ordinance #01-26 Revising Membership Requirements for the CIB (First Reading)

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Casey Powell;
second by Gavin Hawthorne;
Motion passed - 8:0

YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn
Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek,
Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

City Manager Ed Spears read Ordinance 01-26 for first reading

Item # 2026-3911

Ordinance # 02-26 Revising Membership & Qualifications Requirements for BOA (First Reading)

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Larry McKee; second by Gavin Hawthorne;
Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

City Manager Ed Spears read Ordinance 02-26 for first reading

Item # 2026-3912

Ordinance # 03-26 Revising the Membership & Qualification Requirements for HPB (First Reading)

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Gavin Hawthorne; second by Ashley Fretwell;
Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

City Manager Ed Spears read Ordinance 03-26 for first reading

Item # 2026-3913

Ordinance # 04-26 Revising the Membership & Qualifications Requirements for PB (First Reading)

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Tom Powers; second by Mike Cusack;
Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek, Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

City Manager Ed Spears read Ordinance 04-26 for first reading
Item # 2026-3925
Resolution #2026-03 Budget Amendment FY26

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Mike Cusack; second
by Casey Powell;
Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn
Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek,
Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

City Manager Ed Spears read Resolution 2026-03
Item # 2026-3920
Resolution #2026-04 Yard of the Season Beautification Program

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Casey Powell;
second by Gavin Hawthorne;
Motion passed - 8:0
YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilynn
Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek,
Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

City Manager Ed Spears read Resolution 2026-04

11. City of Milton Events

Item # 2026-3930
July 4th Fireworks Display (action item)
Passed on consent agenda

12. Finance, Planning Board

Item # 2026-3892
FY2027 Budget Calendar (action item)
Passed on consent agenda

13. Administration, Historic Preservation Board

Councilwoman Farrow reported to council

Item # 2026-3919

Board Vacancy: General Employee Pension Board (informational item)
Informational item only

Item # 2026-3918

Lowe's Community Impact Grant Letters of Support (action item)
Passed on consent agenda

Item # 2026-3931

Grants and Contracts Financial Coordinator - Position Description and Salary
Range (action item)
Passed on consent agenda

14. Parks & Recreation, Community Improvement Board

Councilman Hawthorne reported to council

15. Public Works

Councilman Leek reported to council and spoke on reformatting the agenda/
meetings

Item # 2026-3921

Acceptance TH-57C Sea Ranger & Transfer T-28B (action item)

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Tom Powers; second
by Larry McKee;

Motion passed - 8:0

YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilyn
Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek,
Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion 1 To accept the TH-57C Sea Ranger

Motion 2 Engineering work for base up to \$50k

(Motion 2 was withdrawn by Powers and Powell)

Economic Development Director, Stephen Prestesater & Public
Works Director, Joe Cook reported to council.

Public input was provided by: Pat Lundsford, Mike Folsman,
Jerry Mitchell, Pam Mitchell, Vernon Compton, Ken Weeks,
David Farrow

Item # 2026-3924

Land Swap 6.32 Acres for Access Road (action item)
Passed on consent agenda

Item # 2026-3929

2026.01 ITB Effluent Sprayfield 2 & Pipeline Clearing/Grubbing (action item)

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Gavin Hawthorne;
second by Casey Powell;
Motion passed - 8:0

YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilyn
Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek,
Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Awarded to **Gulf Coast Utility Contractors, LLC** as the lowest
and most responsible bidder in the amount of **\$1,504,200.00**.

Item # 2026-3932

Emergency Gas Main to the new Asphalt Plant on Sterling Way (action item)

Passed on consent agenda

16. Board of Adjustments, Stormwater

Councilman McKee brought up Item# 2026-3929 - and discussed clearing other
sprayfields.

City Manager Ed Spears explained that because the acreage is zoned
agricultural, no permit is required for clearing and grubbing on the other
sprayfields.

Public input was provided by: David Samples

PW Director, Joe Cook reported to council

Item # 2026-3907

Multi-Jurisdictional Floodplain Mitigation Plan & Plan for Public Information
(informational item)

ACTION: Motion to Approve by Mike Cusack; second
by Larry McKee;
Motion passed - 8:0

YEAS: Casey Powell, Mike Cusack, Marilyn
Farrow, Gavin Hawthorne, Robert Leek,
Tom Powers, Ashley Fretwell, Larry McKee

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

**Council adopted the Multi-Jurisdictional Floodplain
Mitigation Plan**

Jacob Hullett & Ethan Brosnahan reported to council

Item # 2026-3899

Milton Marina (action item)

Passed on consent agenda

17. Growth, Development & Annexation, Tourist Development Council

Councilman Powers reported to council

18. LEAP, Youth Council

No report

19. Public Safety

No report

Item # 2026-3902

Wrecker Rotation List & RFP (action item)

Discussed at work session and will be brought to the April 14, 2026, meeting as an ordinance.

Item # 2026-3926

Request for Approval – Expenditure of Contraband Forfeiture Funds (action item)

Passed on consent agenda

20. Mayor Report: ECRC, TPO

No report

21. City Attorney's Report

No report

22. City Manager's Business

City Manager Ed Spears reported to council

23. Public Input

No additional public input

24. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 08:11 PM.

Mayor

Date

City Clerk

Date