MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE STUART CITY COMMISSION
DECEMBER 8, 2025
AT 4:00 PM
COMMISSION CHAMBERS
121 SW FLAGLER AVE.
STUART, FLORIDA 34994

CITY COMMISSION

Mayor Campbell Rich
Vice Mayor Christopher Collins
Commissioner Eula R. Clarke
Commissioner Laura Giobbi
Commissioner Sean Reed

ADMINISTRATIVE

Interim City Manager, Louis J. Boglioli III
City Attorney, Lee J. Baggett
City Clerk, Mary R. Kindel

ROLL CALL

4:00 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Rich, Vice Mayor Collins, Commissioner Clarke, Commissioner Giobbi, and Commissioner Reed

INVOCATION

Pastor James Harp, Stuart Alliance gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. ARTS MOMENT - GERTRUDE WALDEN DAYCARE CENTER PERFORMANCE

Thelma Washington, Director of Gertrude Walden, introduced the VPK class who sang Jingle Bells, We Wish You a Merry Christmas, and Feliz Navidad.

Joly Boglioli, Interim City Manager, thanked Mayor RIch for his year as Mayor and presented him with a gift.

2. SELECTION OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR

4:17 PM Motion: To appoint Christopher Collins, the Vice-Mayor as the Mayor effective today.
MOVED BY: Laura Giobbi
SECONDED BY: Eula Clarke
Motion approved unanimously.

Commissioner Giobbi made a motion for the Vice-Mayor and Mayor Collins passed the gavel to Commissioner Rich to second the Motion.

4:17 PM Motion: Motion for Commissioner Sean Reed, to be the Vice Mayor.
MOVED BY: Laura Giobbi
SECONDED BY: Christopher Collins
Motion approved unanimously.

***** 2025 - 2026 Mayor Christopher Collins *****
***** 2025 - 2026 Vice-Mayor Sean Reed *****

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Michelle Smith - Stuart; Commented on the board being divided and may be better served with more experience in leadership and would be better served with more experience in leadership.
2. Janine Alexander - Gainsville; Applauded the courage of Sean Reed and Chris Collins in removal of City Manager Mortell and for assisting her in getting needed paperwork.
3. Mark Brechbill - Stuart; Thanked Commissioner Rich for his time as Mayor, commented that if a Mayor was to resign, it is up to the board whether the Vice-Mayor becomes Mayor.
4. Betty Brinkley - Stuart; Prayed that the Commissioners would be nice to one another and come together, believes Sean Reed will do a great job.

PRESENTATIONS

3. SERVICE AWARDS - DECEMBER 2025

Jordan Grose	10 years of Service	Police Department	Present
Mike DeFrank	25 years of Service	IT Department	Not Present

4. 2026 CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Stephanie Hughey and Paula Sesta, Public Works Department, presented the winners and each contestant took a photo with Mayor Collins.

COMMENTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Giobbi

- Expressed her thanks to the residents. City employees, volunteers, etc. for their support and positive impact. Commented on keeping the homeless population in mind and to consider working on a plan for homeless in 2026.
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Vice Mayor Reed

- Commented that he enjoyed participating in the Stuart Christmas Parade.
- Stated he was interested in hosting a Town Hall meeting at the 10th Street Community

Center to educate the community on how to navigate the City's website and research information. Commissioners agreed and City Attorney Baggett noted that Town Halls are not noticed as a public meeting and are not required to have an agenda or minutes.

- Requested that Item #14 be moved before Item #10 on the Agenda.

Commissioner Clarke

- Thanked the residents for their input, positive or negative.
- Complimented the staff and all involved for the well done Christmas Parade.
- Thanked the outgoing Mayor, incoming Mayor and Vice-Mayor.
- Commented on the Seminole Street improvements and thanked the CRA for their hard work on the project.
- Provided small Christmas gifts to fellow Commissioners and staff.
- Commented on the Arts Moment offered at meetings and stated she would like it to continue.
- Wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Rich

- Commented favorably on the Christmas Parade.
- Reported his tour of the Dhar Air Plant at Withem Field and provided some statistics about the facility.
- Commented on the responsibility of being Mayor and offered well wishes to Mayor Collins, stated when he does well, the Commission does well.

Mayor Collins

- Thanked Commissioner Rich for his professionalism and desire to keep order.
- Commented on the Christmas Parade, thanked staff and the Police and Sheriff's Department for keeping all safe.
- Expressed his desire, as Mayor, to have individual meetings with each Commissioner.
- Commented on the Christmas Tree Lighting event and noted that he felt a City official should be the person to light up the tree instead of sponsors.
- Interested in inviting Major Cory Bell of the Army Corp to give a presentation on legislative matters that he gave at a Martin County Meeting, would like to extend an invitation.

COMMENTS BY CITY MANAGER

Interim City Manager Boglioli

- Wished all Happy Holidays.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4:58 PM MOTION: Approval with Item #14 going before Item #10, and pulling Agenda Item #7 from Consent Calendar.
MOVED BY: Eula Clarke
SECONDED BY: Laura Giobbi
Motion approved unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Non-Agenda Related) (3 Minutes Max.)

1. Joseph Tummineli - Port St. Lucie; Commented on the leadership for the future of the City and the selection of a new City Manager.
2. Kevin Hempel - Stuart; Commented on drainage issue at 512 Cortez and how his home floods; trouble receiving communication back from an engineer.
3. Janine Alexander - Gainsville; Commented about an arrest back in 2015 that took her livelihood away.
4. Rod Peterson - Stuart; Congratulated Mayor and Vice Mayor. Commented on the Stypmann drainage issues and wanting awareness for residents. [Milton Leggett, Public Works Director, stated he plans to meet with Captec along with CRA project and keep the Commission informed.]
5. Candace Callahan - Stuart; Commented on the different events that have taken place since the last meeting. Apologized for the mishap on the Christmas tree lighting.
6. Michelle Smith - Stuart; Commented about her disappointment with Brightline not happening, the Christmas parade and felt that personal events being brought forth in a public forum should be handled behind closed doors.
7. William Rudge - Stuart; Congratulated Mayor Collins and thanked him for taking his emails seriously.
8. Betty Brinkley - Stuart; Commented on the Moore's Cemetery and asked that the Commissioners not allow East Stuart be taken over by outsiders.
9. Robin Cartwright - Stuart; Asked that Item #15 have public comment and thanked Stuart Police Department for their responsiveness due to death threats being made towards her. Stated not only should the commissioners have civility, but the public should too. [Mayor Collins denounced any threat of violence and death threats, and hopes that citywide we all remember we are neighbors]
10. Caryn Hall - Stuart; Commented about getting a phone call from Port Saint Lucie Police Department per Stuart Detective Jacobson.
11. Robert Stancavich - Stuart; Commented that Magistrate Paul Nicoletti should not be Magistrate as he was a City employee previously and cannot be impartial.

Commissioner Clarke stated that Magistrate should provide a quarterly report to the Commission.

Attorney Baggett reported that the Commission has seen his case and provided a history.

Mayor Collins asked for a D&D on the Stancavich case with all the details.

Commissioners continued discussion. Majority not in favor of a D&D, recommended Mr. Stancavich meet with the City Attorney.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

5. APPROVAL OF 11/24/2025 CCM MINUTES (RC)

6. APPROVAL OF THE 2026 MEETING CALENDAR (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 106-2025; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE CITY OF STUART PUBLIC MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2026; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

*** **PULLED ITEM #7** ***

7. JORDAN CONNORS GROUP, INC. LOBBYING SERVICES CONTRACT (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 112-2025; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA WAIVING THE COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR LOBBYING SERVICES WITH THE JORDAN CONNORS GROUP, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $75,000.00 PER YEAR; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

5:57 PM MOTION: Approve Consent Calendar pulling Item #7.
MOVED BY: Eula Clarke
SECONDED BY: Laura Giobbi
Motion approved unanimously.

*** **ITEM #7 PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR** ***

7. JORDAN CONNORS GROUP, INC. LOBBYING SERVICES CONTRACT (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 112-2025; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA WAIVING THE COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR LOBBYING SERVICES WITH THE JORDAN CONNORS GROUP, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $75,000.00 PER YEAR; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

City Attorney Baggett provided history of the contract and timeline,

Jordan Connors explained different appropriations and spoke about representation in Tallahassee.

6:30 PM MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Campbell Rich
SECONDED BY: Eula Clarke
Motion approved unanimously.

COMMISSION ACTION

8. FIRST AMENDMENT TO FEC REAL ESTATE LEASE (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 90-2025; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A FIRST AMENDMENT TO REAL ESTATE LEASE BETWEEN FLORIDA EAST COAST RAILWAY, LLC AND THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA FOR ADDITIONAL LEASED RIGHT-OF-WAY SPACE FOR BEAUTIFICATION, PARKING, AND DRAINAGE RETENTION PURPOSES; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

City Attorney Baggett spoke on the history of the lease for the railroads and stated that FEC would like to amend the lease, add an extra parcel, and bring the lease amount up to value.

Interim City Manager Boglioli stated that the parking spaces along the railroad are FEC property and the City would not have use of them without a lease.

6:10 PM MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Eula Clarke
SECONDED BY: Campbell Rich
Motion approved unanimously.

9. APPOINTMENTS OF CITY COMMISSIONERS TO COMMUNITY BOARDS (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 107-2025; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS OF CITY OF STUART COMMISSIONERS AS CITY REPRESENTATIVES TO SPECIFIED LOCAL COMMUNITY BOARDS FOR THE 2026 CALENDAR YEAR; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

All Commissioners agreed to continue on their current boards for the year 2026.

6:10 PM MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Eula Clarke
SECONDED BY: Campbell Rich
Motion approved unanimously.

***** ITEM #14 MOVED FROM D&D TO BE DISCUSSED BEFORE ITEM #10 *****

14. DIRECTION OF THE EAST STUART HISTORICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

City Attorney Baggett provided the history on the East Stuart Historical Advisory Committee (ESHAC) and an explanation of what the City requirements are for boards under the Code of Ordinances.

Pinal Gandhi-Savdas, Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Director, reviewed the meetings held and purpose of the board. She explained the restrictions the board faced and suggested the City sunset or dissolve the board.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Albert Brinkley - Stuart; Believes that the board members should have been notified this was happening. He stated that he believes ESHAC was carrying out the City's agenda and not their own agenda. Stated that the majority of ESHAC did not live in East Stuart.
2. Betty Brinkley - Stuart; Stated that they wanted the park, not the skate park. She stated the Commission was just using them for their own agenda.
3. Michelle Smith - Stuart; Offered assistance in making East Stuart like Hobbstown, New Jersey (a section of Bridgewater).
4. Mark Brechbill - Stuart; Commented that maybe some of the ESHAC members could fill a seat on the Community Redevelopment Board (CRB).

6:53 PM Motion: Approve to put an agenda item to dissolve the ESHAC Board on the second meeting in January 2026.
MOVED BY: Laura Giobbi
SECONDED BY: Campbell Rich
Motion approved unanimously.

10. ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS / RATIFICATION OF TERMS (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 108-2025; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, APPOINTING AND RATIFYING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS AND ADOPTING THE MEMBER TERMS FOR THE 2026 CALENDAR YEAR; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Commissioners discussed their appointment selections to Advisory Boards.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Gail Goldy - Stuart; Expressed her concern regarding Commissioner Rich disparaging Philip Deberard. She feels he will make a great asset to the City of Stuart Boards.
2. Gwen Hall-Brinkley - Stuart; Asked how people apply for a position on a Board, and why there is no awareness to the public when a position is open.

7:22 PM MOTION: Approve Deanna Peterson and Lance Vogl to an at-large member position in the LPA, Mayor Collins appoints Paul Grosso to the LPA as his liaison, Commissioner Giobbi appoints Christina Ouilette as her liaison to the LPA. At-large appointments for the CRB are Philip DeBerard and Frank McChrystal. Commissioner Clarke appoints Caitlynne Palmieri as a member of the LPA and carry over the ESHAC members to 2026.
MOVED BY: Laura Giobbi
SECONDED BY: Sean Reed
VOTE: Motion passed 4/1.
YES: Laura Giobbi, Sean Reed, Eula Clarke, Christopher Collins
NO: Campbell Rich

11. ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE TO COMMUNITY ONCOLOGY REVITALIZATION ENTERPRISE VENTURES, LLC (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 109-2025; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT, INCLUDING ANY AMENDMENTS, ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA AND FLORIDA CANCER SPECIALISTS & RESEARCH INSTITUTE, LLC FOR LEASE OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 301 S.E. OCEAN BLVD., SUITE 102 TO COMMUNITY ONCOLOGY REVITALIZATION ENTERPRISE VENTURES, LLC FOR THE BALANCE OF THE LEASE TERM, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

7:38 PM MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Laura Giobbi
SECONDED BY: Eula Clarke
Motion approved unanimously.

12. FSP GRANT WITH FIND FOR SAINT LUCIE RIVER RAILROAD BRIDGE (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 110-2025; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA SUPPORTING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (USDOT) FED-STATE PARTNERSHIP FOR INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL PROGRAM (FSP) APPLICATION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE ST. LUCIE RIVER RAILROAD BRIDGE, AUTHORIZING THE CO-APPLICATION WITH THE FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT (FIND), ACCEPTANCE IF APPROVED, AND EXECUTION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Interim City Manager Boglioli provided history on the grant and the benefits of the grant application.

Michael Kennedy, Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Commissioner, offered his assistance to answer any questions.

Vice Mayor Reed commented that it was a project where the taxpayers paid for ninety percent (90%) of it.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Merritt Matheson - Stuart; Commented that this is the most important item to come before the Commission in years. It is the only single track and expressed the need.
2. Robert MacKeen - Stuart; In favor of bridge.
3. Helen McBride - Stuart; Questioned the amount the taxpayers are paying.
4. Janet Zimmerman - Jupiter; Executive Director of the FIND, and expressed her appreciation for the support of the Commission.

7:49 MOTION: Approve.
MOVED BY: Eula Clarke
SECONDED BY: Campbell Rich
Motion approved unanimously.

13. AIHC COMPENSATION FOR INTERIM CITY MANAGER (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 111-2025; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN COMPENSATION FOR THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER WHILE ACTING IN A HIGHER CAPACITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Karen Chambers Cuffy, Human Resources Programs Analyst, recommended that the City provide 10 percent compensation to the Interim City Manager for acting in a higher capacity.

7:56 PM MOTION: Approve.
8:24 PM MOTION: Amended to approve with a 10% increase.
MOVED BY: Eula Clarke
SECONDED BY: Laura Giobbi
VOTE: Motion passed 4/1.
YES: Eula Clarke, Christopher Collins, Campbell Rich, Laura Giobbi
NO: Sean Reed

CLERK'S NOTE: Original motion for Resolution No. 111-2025 was amended at 8:24 PM with a vote to add 10% increase.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

***** MOVED ITEM #14 BEFORE ITEM #10 IN COMMISSION ACTION*****

14. DIRECTION OF THE EAST STUART HISTORICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

15. COMMISSION ACTION TO APPROVE A RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF A CITY MANAGER; ESTABLISHING TARGET DATES; AN INTERVIEW METHODOLOGY; AND A SALARY RANGE

Interim City Manager Boglioli, reviewed the options with the Commission, with a goal date of a new hire in March 2026.

Discussion included the job posting, job description, and timeline.

City Attorney Baggett reminded the board that he cannot participate on the committee as the City Attorney.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Robin Cartwright - Stuart; Commented on the nomination of the applicant and suggested another position be assigned to solve the existing cases happening in the City.
2. Mark Brechbill - Stuart; Commented on whether we should create a position in house to train the next person in that position.
3. Michelle Smith - Stuart; Asked about the process of picking people from the community to observe the hiring.

4. Joseph Tumminelli - Stuart; Met with resident Robin Cartwright and discussed the position proposals, provided his background and thinks it is imperative that the decision by this board is a good one.

Mayor Collins commented on the Magistrate and that he would like an agenda item on whether we will maintain Magistrate Nicoleitti as Magistrate.

City Attorney Baggett requested clarification on Agenda Item #13, Resolution No. 111-2025, authorizing an increase in compensation to the Interim City Manager, requested to amend the motion and to identify a percentage. (Noted in Agenda Item #13.)

8:24 PM MOTION: Amend the original motion of Resolution 111-2025 adoption to a 10% increase.
MOVED BY: Eula Clarke
SECONDED BY: Laura Giobbi
VOTE: Motion passed 4/1.
YES: Laura Giobbi, Campbell Rich, Christopher Collins, Eula Clarke
NO: Sean Reed
Motion approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

8:26 PM

Mary R. Kindel, City Clerk	**Christopher Collins, Mayor**

Minutes to be approved at the Regular Commission Meeting this 12th day of January, 2026.