

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Sam Couvillon, Zack Thompson, Juli Hayes, Abigail Guzman, Danny Dunagan
OFFICIALS ABSENT: Barbara Brooks
STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Lackey, Angela Sheppard, Abb Hayes, Alisa Grayson

Mayor Couvillon called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and served as the presiding officer.

Tommy Hunt, Public Works Department, provided the invocation after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Joshua Silavent, 3232 Hope Road, shared information about the Gainesville-Hall County Black History Society (GHCBHS) and the upcoming Juneteenth Celebration three-day events. He expressed appreciation for the Gainesville Police Department, Council and GHCBHS members.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes: May 29, 2025 Work Session

Minutes: June 3, 2025 Mayor/Council Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes accepting edits as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Thompson

Motion seconded by Council Member Hayes

Votes favoring the motion: Thompson, Hayes, Guzman, Dunagan

Absent: Brooks

Resolutions

- A. BR-2025-23 Acquisition of Land and Easement Rights to Construct the Airport Connector Segment of the Highlands to Islands Trail
- B. BR-2025-24 Axon Contract for Body Worn Cameras, Fleet Cameras, and Tasers
- C. GR-2025-03 Authorization to Apply for and Accept an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Area Development Grant

City Manager Bryan Lackey provided a brief overview of the resolutions.

Motion to adopt the resolutions as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Dunagan

Motion seconded by Council Member Guzman

Votes favoring the motion: Thompson, Hayes, Guzman, Dunagan

Absent: Brooks

BUDGET HEARING:

City Attorney Abb Hayes opened the budget hearing and confirmed the public notice had been advertised.

Fiscal Year 2026 Recommended Budget

City Manager Bryan Lackey stated he was excited to present the proposed budget noting it was a full roll-back and only one budget hearing. He thanked Council, Deputy City Manager Angela Sheppard, Chief Finance Officer Jeremy Perry, the Finance staff and Department Directors for all their hard work and support. Before presenting the budget, he shared a snapshot of the city's Fiscal Year 2025 successes and a video of the city's initiatives which are also available on the city's website. He thanked the communications team for preparing the information.

He used a power point to supplement the presentation with the following notable highlights:

- Proposed budget of \$38,872,141 (a 3.26% increase over FY2025 adopted budget)
- Budget amount scheduled for approval at the July 1, 2025 Council Meeting
- Millage rates delayed due to legislative updates
- Budget fund balance of \$4.3M for Capital Projects
- 5% COLA for employees
- One additional position for IT Department
- Adoption of the millage rate scheduled for the August 19, 2025 Mayor/Council Meeting

Public Comments Regarding Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

City Attorney Abb Hayes opened the floor for comments. There being none, the hearing was closed.

Mayor Couvillon expressed appreciation for staff and all their hard work in preparing the budget.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:25 PM

/ag

W. Samuel Couvillon, Mayor

Alisa Grayson, City Clerk