



CITY OF BARTOW

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M. (EST)

OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE

CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 450 NORTH WILSON AVE., BARTOW, FL 33830

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. INVOCATION – Rev. Jerome Davis, St. Johns Missionary Baptist Church
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
4. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
 - a. Issuance of proclamation recognizing September 16, 2025 as National IT Professionals Day. Being accepted by Frank Canovaca, City of Bartow IT Director & staff.
 - b. Issuance of proclamation recognizing September 2025 as Race Equity Awareness Month. Being accepted by Community Relations Committee Co-Chairperson Gloria Washington.
 - c. Issuance of proclamation recognizing September 14, 2025 as Star Spangled Banner Day. Being accepted by Kellie Sage, Regent, Bartow Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Bartow Chapter DAR Representative.
 - d. Issuance of proclamation recognizing September 17-23, 2025 as Constitution Week. Being accepted by Kellie Sage, Regent, Bartow Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Bartow Chapter DAR Representative.
 - e. Issuance of proclamation recognizing September 2025 as Hunger Action Month. Being accepted by Rusty Music, Bartow Community Service Center.
 - f. Issuance of proclamation recognizing September 13-20, 2025 as Disability Voting Rights Week. Being accepted by Lisa Peterson.
 - g. Issuance of proclamation recognizing September 2025 as Suicide Prevention and Action Month. Being accepted by Ava Crossman, Representative of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.
 - h. Presentation of Beautification Awards by Parks & Recreation Manager Kyle Lasek.
5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – At this time, the Commission will receive comments from the public regarding matters not appearing on this agenda.

6. CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

7. REPORTS OF CHARTER OFFICERS

a. City Manager Communications

1. Discuss Deputy Chief of Police Recruitment effort
2. Discuss City Brand/Logo selection process

b. City Attorney Communications

1. Update from recent meeting with Polk County Supervisor of Elections

c. Legislative updates

8. AGENDA MODIFICATION/APPROVAL

9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – At this time, the Commission will receive comments from the public regarding matters that appear on this agenda, not otherwise scheduled for a separate Public Hearing.

10. HEARINGS – FIRST AND SECOND READINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Public hearing and adoption of Resolution No. 25-4235-R – A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF BARTOW.

b. Public hearing and adoption of Resolution No. 25-4236-R – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA; COMPRISING THE ANNUAL RESOLUTION TO REIMPOSE STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT AND SERVICE ASSESSMENTS AGAINST ASSESSED PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF BARTOW FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025; APPROVING THE RATES OF ASSESSMENT; APPROVING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL; CONFIRMING AND AMENDING THE PRELIMINARY RATE RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

c. Public hearing and adoption of Resolution No. 25-4237-R – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA; COMPRISING THE ANNUAL RESOLUTION TO REIMPOSE FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENTS AGAINST ASSESSED PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF BARTOW FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025; APPROVING THE RATES OF ASSESSMENT; APPROVING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL; CONFIRMING AND AMENDING THE PRELIMINARY RATE RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

d. PUBLIC HEARING, ADOPTION OF PROPOSED TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE AND PROPOSED TENTATIVE BUDGET

1. Convene Public Hearing
2. Introduction – City Manager Herr
3. Discussion and Comment
 - a. Proposed Tentative Millage Rate
 - b. Proposed Tentative Budget
4. Amendment(s) of Proposed Tentative Budget (if any)
5. Re-computation of Proposed Tentative Millage Rate (if any)
6. Adoption of Tentative Millage Rate - Resolution No. 25-4238-R – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A TENTATIVE GENERAL MILLAGE RATE FOR THE 2025 TAX YEAR, DECLARING THE PERCENT BY WHICH SAID MILLAGE RATE EXCEEDS THE ROLLED-BACK RATE; CHARACTERIZING SAID PERCENT AS THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
7. Statutory Millage Disclosure (Sec. 200.065(2)(c) F.S.)
8. Adoption of Tentative Budget – Resolution No. 25-4239-R – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE 2026 FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING THAT A COPY OF SAID BUDGET SHALL BE FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9. Announce date and time to adopt Final Millage Rate and Final Budget.
10. Adjourn Public Hearing.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of August 18, 2025 City Commission Regular Meeting minutes.
- b. Approval to reappoint Board Member Gordon Greene and Board Member Sandy Mendez to the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board for four-year terms ending September 30, 2029.
- c. Consideration and approval of Lease Agreement with Polk County for use of former Polk County Fire Rescue building at 2475 East Clower Street by City of Bartow Fire Department.
- d. Consideration and Approval of Temporary Construction Easements and Permanent Easements for Polk County Water Cooperative construction of pipeline components through the Bartow Executive Airport property.

- e. Approval of City Commissioner absence(s) for August 18, 2025 excusal(s): None.

12. OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS

- a. OLD BUSINESS – NONE

- b. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review and consideration to proceed with the annexation of Bartow Executive Airport into the city limits of the City of Bartow.
2. Consideration and approval of suspension of Section 42-92 of the Code of Ordinances to allow for a professional fireworks display on November 1, 2025 for Bartow Ford's Concert on the Lot event.
3. Ranking and approval to appoint a new board member to the Recreation Advisory Committee and approval to extend the term of that seat to January 2029.

13. RESOLUTIONS

- a. RESOLUTION NO. 25-4241-R – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF A STATE ROAD 60 SCENIC HIGHWAY; TO SEEK AN OFFICIAL SCENIC HIGHWAY DESIGNATION BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

14. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- a. GARY BALL
- b. LEO E. LONGWORTH
- c. TRISH PFEIFFER
- d. LAURA SIMPSON
- e. TANYA TUCKER

15. ADJOURNMENT

Please be advised that if you desire to appeal from any decisions made because of the above hearing or meeting, you will need a record of the proceedings and in some cases a verbatim record is required. You must make your own arrangements to produce this record. (Florida Statute 286.0105). The City Commission may continue the public hearing(s) to other dates and times as it deems necessary. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time, and place of any continuation of these or continued public hearings may be announced during the hearing and that no further notices regarding this matter will be published. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 450 N. Wilson Avenue, P.O. Box 1069, Bartow, Florida 33831-1069 or phone (863) 534-0100 within 2 working days of your receipt of this meeting notification; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771. Posted at City Hall, Bartow Public Library, the City's website: www.cityofbartow.net and Facebook page on August 29, 2025.