



**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
of THE MARY ESTHER CITY COUNCIL  
July 22, 2024 - 6:00 PM**

195 Christobal Road – North, Mary Esther, FL 32569

**CITY COUNCIL PRESENT**

Chris Stein, Mayor  
Bernie Oder, Councilmember  
Kenneth Woods, Councilmember

April Sutton, Mayor Pro Tem  
Larry Carter, Councilmember  
Richard Lawson, Councilmember

**CITY STAFF PRESENT**

Jared Cobb, City Manager  
Hayward Dykes, City Attorney  
Dillon Morris, City Clerk  
Sheila Ortyl, Library Director

Kelvin Cherry, Code Compliance Officer  
Heather Day, Finance Director  
Shawn Lindsey, Public Works Director  
Tyler Reed, Community Development Director

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Chad Rewis, OSCO Captain

**1. INVOCATION**

No invocation was given.

**2. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stein at 6:01 PM.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Stein led the pledge of allegiance.

**4. ROLL CALL**

The City Clerk called the roll as reflected above.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Stein made a motion to move item 6.2 in front of item 6.1. Mayor Pro Tem Sutton initiated the motion, seconded by Councilmember Woods. The motion passed 5-0.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>PASSED (5-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Mayor Pro Tem April Sutton
<b>SECOND:</b>	Councilmember K.C. Woods
<b>AYES:</b>	Larry Carter, Bernie Oder, April Sutton, Richard Lawson, K.C. Woods
<b>NAYS:</b>	None

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6.1. 4 Lane Drive Variance Request**

Community Development Director, Tyler Reed, led the discussion about an eighteen-foot (18') front setback variance request for the proposed Patriot Technologies building at 4 Lane Drive, Mary Esther, Florida.

Mayor Stein asked for a motion to approve an eighteen-foot (18') front setback variance request for the proposed Patriot Technologies building at 4 Lane Drive, Mary Esther, Florida. Councilmember Woods initiated the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sutton. The motion passed 5-0.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>PASSED (5-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember K.C. Woods
<b>SECOND:</b>	Mayor Pro Tem April Sutton
<b>AYES:</b>	Larry Carter, Bernie Oder, April Sutton, Richard Lawson, K.C. Woods
<b>NAYS:</b>	None

**6.2. Proposed FY 2025 Budget and 5-Year Community Investment Plan**

City Manager, Jared Cobb, led the discussion of the proposed financial year 2025 budget and 5-year community investment plan.

Mayor Stein read the following for the public record:

- The fiscal year 2024 millage rate is 5.0261.
- The fiscal year 2025 rolled-back rate is 4.7665.
- The proposed fiscal year 2025 millage rate is 5.0261.
- Budget hearings are scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, and Tuesday, September 24, at 6:00 pm at Mary Esther City Hall.

Mayor Stein asked for a motion to set the fiscal year 2025 tentative millage rate at 5.0261. The motion was initiated by Mayor Pro Tem Sutton, seconded by Councilmember Carter. The motion passed 5-0.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>PASSED (5-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Mayor Pro Tem April Sutton
<b>SECOND:</b>	Councilmember Larry Carter
<b>AYES:</b>	Larry Carter, Bernie Oder, April Sutton, Richard Lawson, K.C. Woods
<b>NAYS:</b>	None

**7. OTHER COMMENTS**

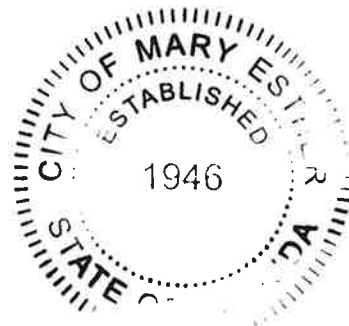
Mayor Pro Tem Sutton discussed the city hosting a candidate meet and greet for the upcoming election and her visit to the Freedom Tech Center.

Councilmember Oder discussed Shalimar Mayor Mark Franks becoming the NWFLC 2nd Vice President and a broken sewer line caused by the fiber companies in the area.

**8. ADJOURN**

The council meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Minutes approved at the August 5th, 2024 meeting.



*Dillon Morris*  
Dillon Morris, City Clerk