



CITY OF OKEECHOBEE

**55 SE THIRD AVENUE
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974**

JULY 7, 2026

6:00 PM

LIST OF EXHIBITS

Mayor

Dowling R. Watford, Jr.

Vice Mayor

Monica Clark

Council Members

Noel Chandler

Bob Jarriel

David McAuley

Exhibit 1	June 16, 2026, Minutes
Exhibit 2	Proposed Property Tax Reform presentation
Exhibit 3	Legislative issues memo
Exhibit 4	FLC Voting Delegate form
Exhibit 5	Contract Change Order for B&B Site Development
Exhibit 6	PRM Group Health Insurance Memo
Exhibit 7	Dependent Care Contributions Memo
Exhibit 8	School Resource Officer Program Review Memo



CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA
JUNE 16, 2026, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Watford called the regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Okeechobee to order on June 16, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, located at 55 Southeast (SE) 3rd Avenue (AVE), Room 200, Okeechobee, Florida (FL). The invocation was offered by Mayor Watford; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Chandler.

II. ATTENDANCE

City Clerk Lane Gamiotea called the roll. Members physically present to establish a quorum: Mayor Dowling R. Watford, Jr., Vice Mayor Monica M. Clark, Council Members Noel A. Chandler, Robert "Bob" Jarriel, and David R. McAuley.

III. AGENDA AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. There were no modifications made to the published agenda, although Exhibit 8 was added and noted with its item.
- B. Motion by Council Member Chandler, seconded by Council Member Jarriel to adopt the agenda as published. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**
- C. No comment cards were received for public participation for issues not on the agenda.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS

A. Mayor Watford called for a November 3, 2026, General City Election to be held by reading the following Proclamation into the record as follows, as presented in **Exhibit 1**: **"Whereas, under and by virtue of the provisions of the City of Okeechobee Charter, Code of Ordinances Chapter 26 titled Elections, and FL State Laws, it is the duty of the Mayor to Proclaim and Call a General City Election at least 30-days before the first day qualifying begins. The Proclamation shall specify the Office(s) to be filled; the cause of the vacancy of such Office(s); qualifying period dates, time(s), and location; dates, times, and methods of casting votes by the electors; and the date of the expiration of the terms of such Office(s); and Whereas, the City Clerk shall publish the Proclamation in the local newspaper at least twice, during the 30-days before the first day qualifying begins in which the General City Election will be held; and Whereas, qualifications to run for Office(s) in the General City Election: Candidates must be a City registered voter; must have resided continuously within the City Limits for at least one (1) year preceding the date of filing to run for Office(s); pay the required fees and file all required documents with the City Clerk during City Qualifying Week, beginning at noon, August 3, 2026, through but not later than noon, August 7, 2026. Now, Therefore, I, Dowling R. Watford, Jr., as Mayor of the City of Okeechobee, FL do hereby Proclaim and Declare that a General City Election be held on November 3, 2026, by the qualified electors of the City who have registered to vote by October 5, 2026, for the purpose of electing three (3) City Council Members whose terms expire on January 4, 2027. The three (3) Candidates with the highest votes will serve as City Council Members for four (4) years, beginning January 4, 2027, and ending January 6, 2031, following such Election and until their successors are elected and qualified. Voting shall be held from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M., on Election Day, November 3, 2026, at the City Voting Precinct; during Early Voting to be held from 8:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., daily from October 24, through 31, 2026, at the Okeechobee County Supervisor of Elections Office; or Vote-by-Mail as provided by State Law."**

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member McAuley, seconded by Vice Mayor Clark to:

- A. Dispense with the reading and approve the following Minutes for:
 - 1. May 11, 2026, Special Meeting [as presented in **Exhibit 2**];
 - 2. May 19, 2026, Regular Meeting [as presented in **Exhibit 3**];
 - 3. June 2, 2026, Regular Meeting [as presented in **Exhibit 4**]; and
- B. Approve the May 2026 Warrant Register [in the amounts of General Fund, \$702,127.73; Appropriations Grant Fund, \$489,133.45; Other Grant Capital Fund, \$209,829.28; Capital Improvement Projects Fund, \$29,334.00; and Public Facilities Improvement Fund, \$22,969.05; as presented in **Exhibit 5**].

Motion Carried Unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Motion by Council Member Jarriel, seconded by Vice Mayor Clark to approve the Lighting Emitting Diode (or LED) Lighting Agreement with Florida Power and Light to install five 30-foot light fixtures on [new roadways] Northeast (NE) 13th AVE and NE 3rd Street (ST) [in Park ST Commerce Center, as presented in **Exhibit 6**]. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

VI. NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

- A. Continued. City Administrator Ritter noted there will be a Change Order issued to B&B Site Development, Inc., for their construction and paving Contract within Park ST Commerce Center for the electrical conduit beneath the road. The Florida Department of Commerce Grant Agreement No. D0339 funds will cover the cost. Additionally, he reminded/clarified the current contract is for Phase I. The remainder of the roadways are in Phase 2. Project information has been sent to RMPK Funding to apply for new Grant funds.
- B. Motion by Council Member Jarriel, seconded by Council Member McAuley to [award a paving project, No. 4, for Fiscal Year 2025-26 as provided in the Piggyback Agreement from Okeechobee County Request for Proposal No. 2024-01] to C.W. Roberts Contracting, Inc., to resurface Northwest (NW) 5th AVE, from NW 9th to 11th ST; NW 3rd AVE, from NW 9th to 13th ST; SE 13th AVE, from NE Park/State Road 70 East to SE 8th ST; SE 7th ST, from SE 9th to 13th AVE; SE 15th ST, from SE 8th Drive to 9th AVE; and SE 6th AVE, from SE 4th to 7th ST, in an amount not to exceed \$486,450.25 [as presented in **Exhibit 7**]. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

VII. CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE

A copy of the written update was added to the official Minute File, labeled as **Exhibit 8**.

- Advised the Landscape Maintenance and Installation Services Request for Proposal has been reviewed and is ready for the City Clerk's Office to advertise.
- Attended the June 9, 2026, Code Enforcement Special Magistrate Hearing remotely.

VIII. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

- Thanked incoming City Administrator Whitehead for her diligent work by meeting individually with the City Council and staff to help ensure a smooth transition in July.
- Gave a status update on the City Hall Hardening Project; the windows and exterior doors are currently being installed. The stucco and painting will be touched up, and exposed conduits will be covered. All should be completed by mid-July.
- The Public Safety Building Design Build Contract continues to progress and will eventually be brought to the City Council for approval.

IX. COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Council Member Chandler commented he is good and helping at his church's Vacation Bible School this week.
- Council Member Jarriel stated he was sad that tonight could be Administrator Ritter's last City Council meeting and expressed his gratitude for all the hard work he has put in over the last five years.
- Council Member McAuley thanked the Public Works staff for cleaning the drainage ditch and rebuilding its bank in his neighborhood following a recent downpour of rain.
- Vice Mayor Clark thanked Administrator Ritter for his work over the last five years.

Mayor Watford:

- Reminded all of the Revolutionary War speaker at the Okeechobee County Library, 2:00 P.M., on June 30, 2026; and the Independence Day event at the Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center, gates open at 12:00 P.M., on July 4, 2026.
- Thanked Administrator Ritter for his work as the City Administrator, as a City Council Member, and for his community involvement.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items, Mayor Watford adjourned the meeting at 6:23 P.M.

Submitted By:

Lane Gamiotea, CMC, City Clerk

Please take notice and be advised that when a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, s/he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. City Clerk media are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk.



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City Council Regular Meeting Agenda Item

Subject: Update from the Okeechobee County Property Appraiser on Proposed Property Tax Reform

Date: July 7, 2026

From: Denise Whitehead, Incoming City Administrator

Presented By: Mickey Bandi, Okeechobee County Property Appraiser

Background:

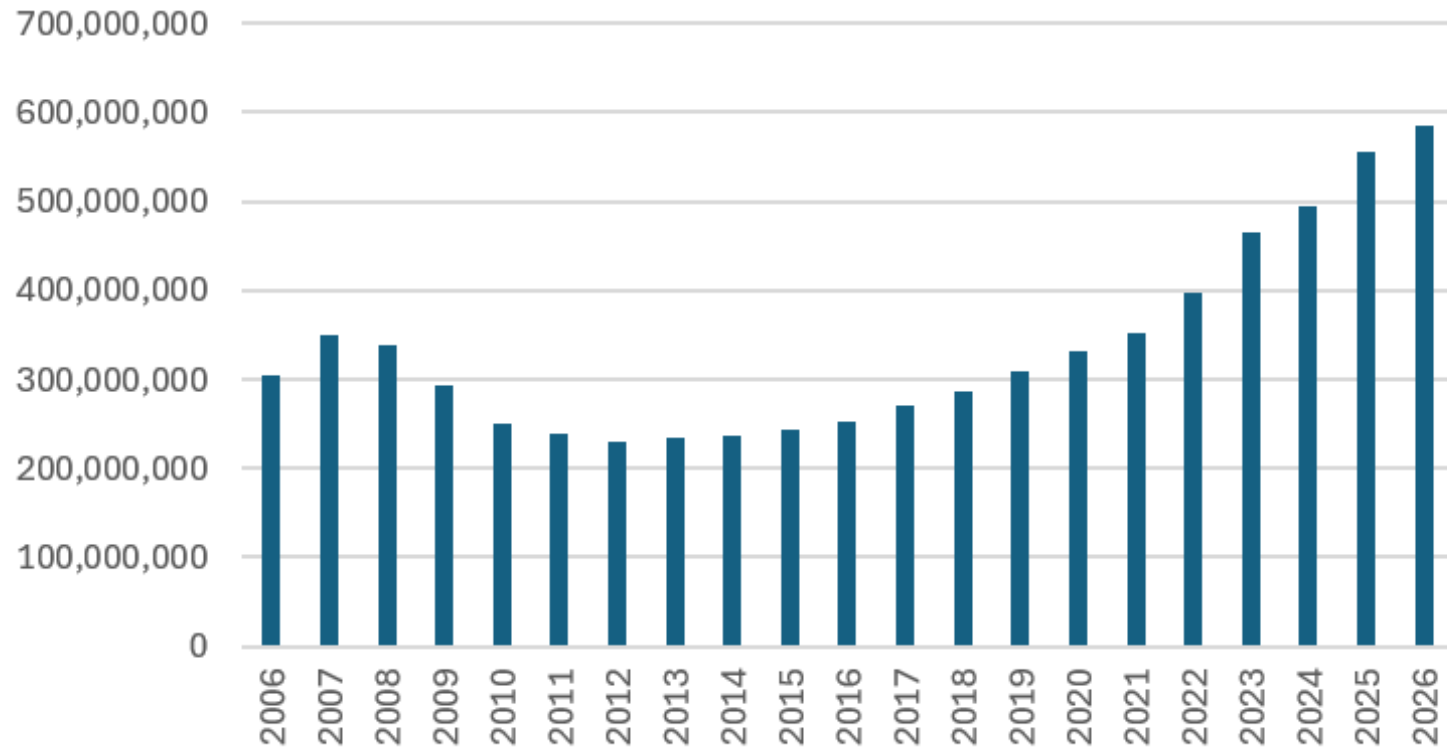
The purpose of this item is to provide the City Council with an overview of legislative issues related to the proposed legislation on Florida Property Tax Reform.

Okeechobee County Property Appraiser, Mickey Bandi, will be present to review the proposed legislation that will be on the ballot in November 2026, address the specific impact to the City of Okeechobee and be available to answer any questions from the City Council.

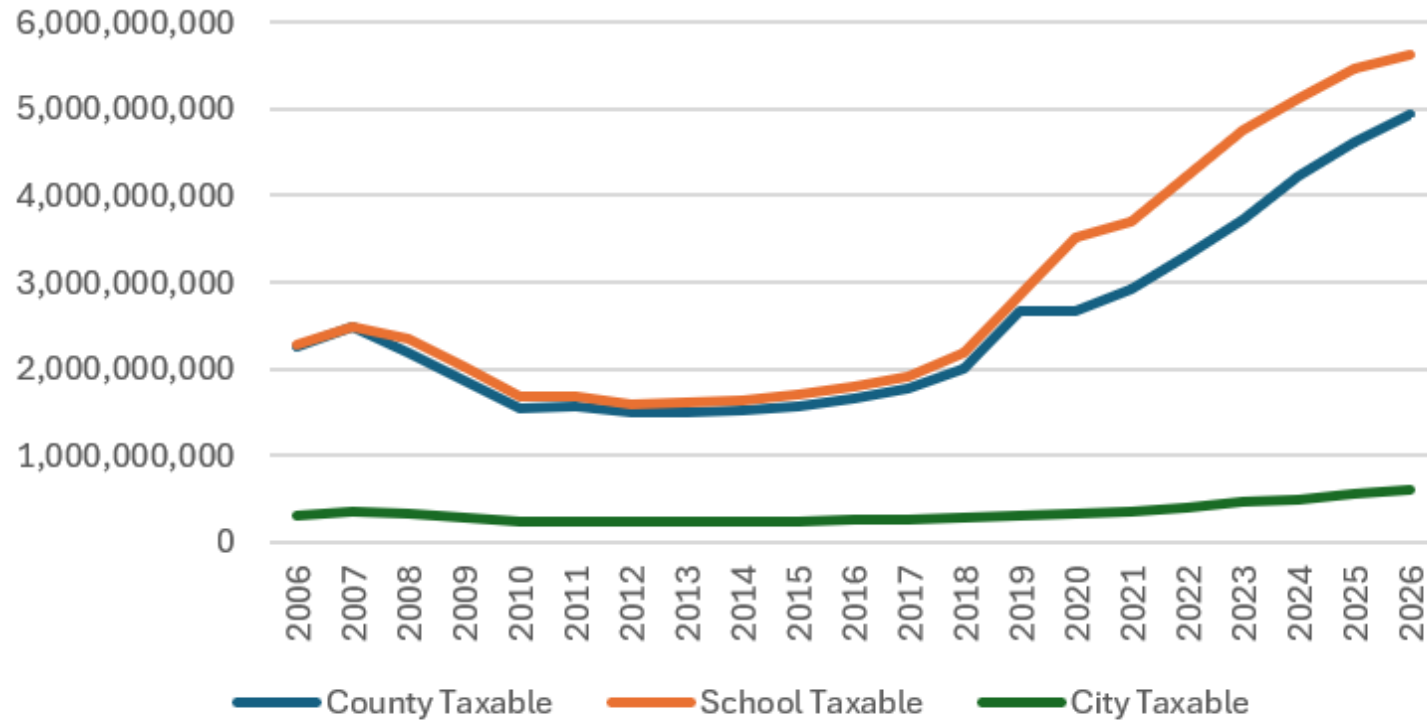
CITY OF OKEECHOBEE TAX ROLL PRESENTATION

JULY 7, 2026

Historical City Taxable

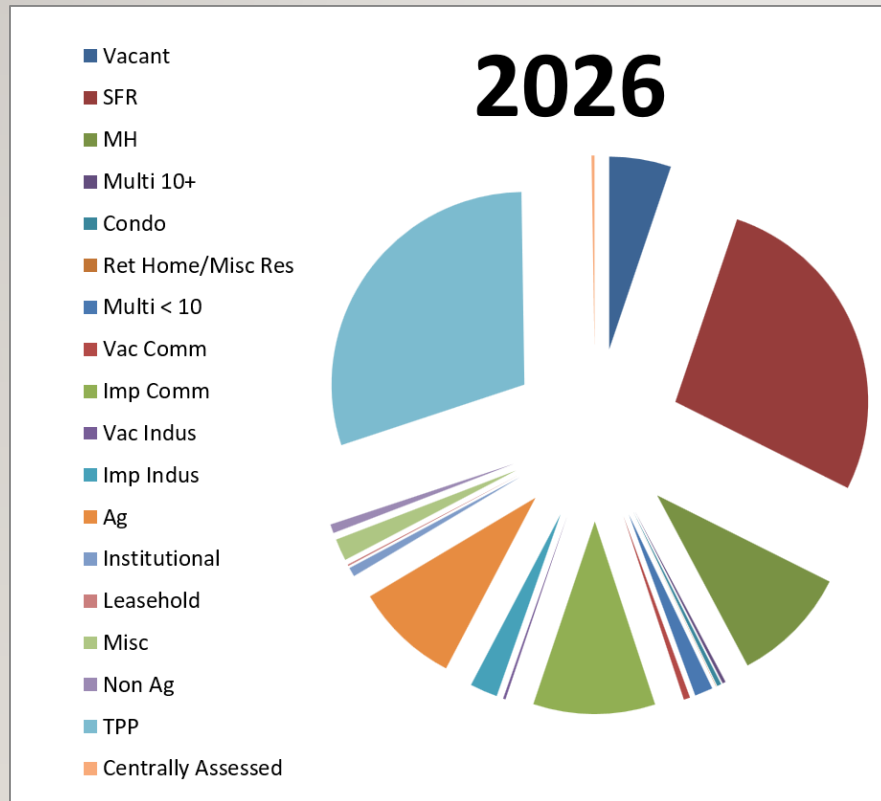


Historical Taxable Values by Taxing District

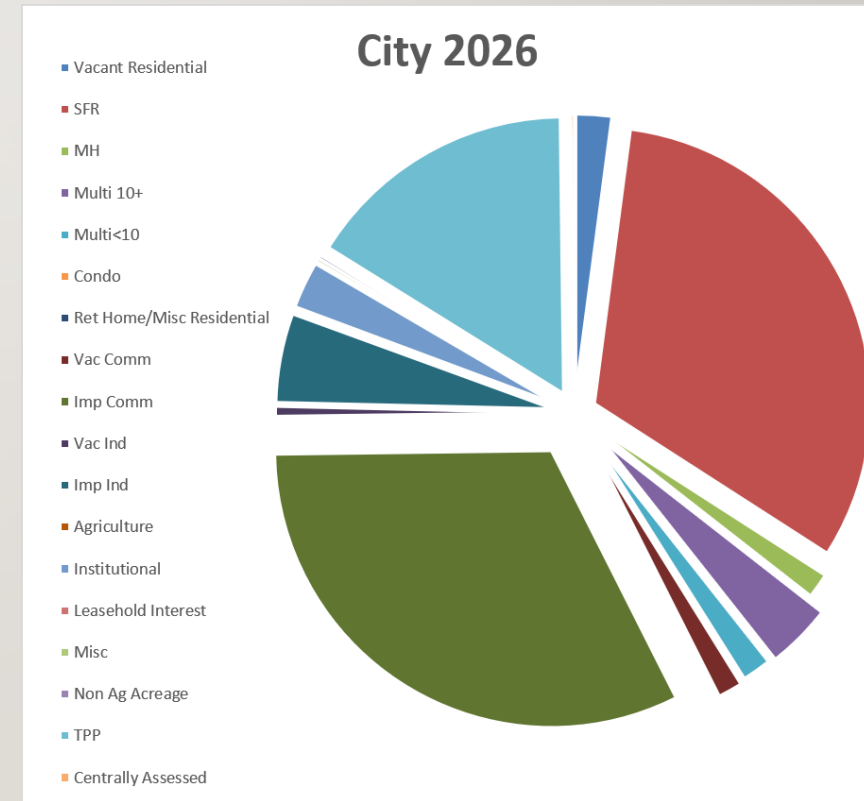


MAKEUP OF TAX ROLLS FOR 2026

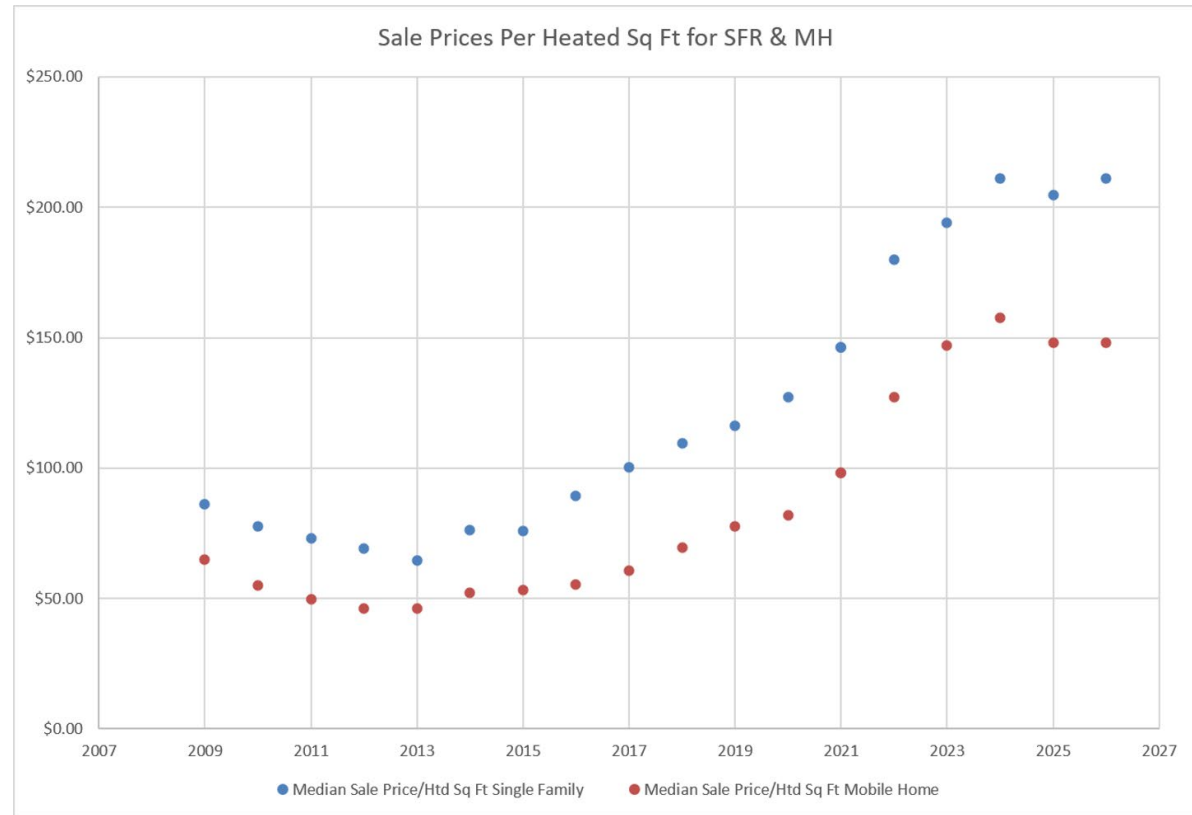
COUNTY TAX ROLL



CITY TAX ROLL



COUNTY- WIDE DATA



COUNTY-WIDE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION & 10% LIENS

Year	# Liens Filed	Lien Amount	Year	# Liens Filed	Lien Amount
2003	2	\$5,583	2015	4	\$7,779
2004	1	\$2,726	2016	2	\$2,228
2005	3	\$15,086	2017	7	\$37,577
2006	6	\$26,391	2018	9	\$33,591
2007	16	\$100,979	2019	22	\$72,618
2008	7	\$19,955	2020	5	\$4,119
2009	30	\$145,801	2021	12	\$34,045
2010	16	\$68,010	2022	11	\$85,165
2011	3	\$3,617	2023	4	\$10,846
2012	5	\$9,324	2024	3	\$1,981
2013	5	\$11,266	2025	17	\$43,799
2014	5	\$6,151	2026	7	\$52,943

DUTIES OF THE PROPERTY APPRAISER

- The Property Appraiser is an elected county officer, as established by Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida. The duties of the office are to determine the value of all property within the county, including improved and vacant real property, tangible personal property, and agricultural property. The Property Appraiser is also responsible for maintaining property ownership records and parcel ownership maps, and for administering tax exemptions such as homestead exemption, widows, widowers, blind exemptions, and disability and non-profit exemptions.
- The Property Appraiser's is not a division or a department of the Board of County Commissioners. Authority comes from the Florida Statutes as administered by the Governor and Cabinet. The Florida Department of Revenue is charged with the oversight of the Property Appraiser's operations and performs biennial in-depth audits of the integrity of values.

Property Appraiser

	2002	2007	2014	2018	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Property Appraiser	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Chief Deputy	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-
Finance/HR Manager									1
Assistant Property Appraiser/Director of Assessments	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1
Senior Appraiser	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Data Manager	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Deed Processor	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Receptionist/Exemptions Clerk	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TPP Clerk	1	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.33	0.5	0.5
Real Property Clerk	2	2	0.5	1	1	1	0.33	0.25	0.25
HX Fraud/Other Projects				0.5	0.5	0.5	0.33	0.25	0.25
Mapper	1	2	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ag Appraiser	-	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Field Appraiser	4	4	2	3.5	4.5	4.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
	15	18	10	11	13	13	13	13	13

NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS FIRE, GARBAGE, EMS & STREET LIGHTING

- Ad Valorem is Latin for “according to value”
- Non-Ad Valorem assessments are based on some metric besides value (size or total units), for example all sfr in the unincorporated area pay the same Fire, Garbage, and EMS rate regardless of value, but commercial and industrial pay on a per square foot range.

FS 193.626

- Extends “Save our Homes” provisions to mobile home parks under certain circumstances.
- Requires 75% of the mobile home lots located in a mobile home park are subject to written rental agreements for a term of at least one year and all ad valorem taxes levied on the property are required in the written mobile home lot rental agreements to be passed through, in proportionate shares, to the respective mobile homeowners pursuant to section 723.031 (5)(c).
- Unlike Homestead Exemption failure to qualify in a subsequent year only allows the property to increase 10% not triggering a revaluation to Just Value.



AMENDMENT 3 OR HB 1F/HJR 203

- Jan 2026 Current Exemption is at \$51,411 for Non-School millage
- Jan 2027 Exemption goes to \$150k for Non-School millage
- Jan 2028 Exemption goes to \$250k for Non-School millage
- These Exemptions only apply to Non-School millages, and starting Jan 2029 will be indexed for inflation.
- Existing personal exemptions remain (Veterans, seniors, widow(er), first responders etc. along with Save Our Homes.
- For Residencies established after Jan 2027 there is a 5-year waiting period. For them exemptions will stay at \$50k, however the doughnut is removed. On Jan 2030, counties and municipalities may reduce this with a 2/3 vote upon finding the reduction “is warranted for a critical local need.”
- Non-Homestead caps will go from 10% to 5% on Non-School millages.

AMENDMENT 3 OR HB 1F/HJR 203 ASSESSMENT NOT TAX DOLLAR DIFFERENCES

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
332,696,411	351,992,688	396,381,129	465,382,664	494,865,581	556,488,458	585,221,912

Current count	Current Taxable	Value lost, 150k level	parcels left at 150k level	Value lost, 250k level	parcels left at 250k level	Value lost, 500k level	parcels left at 500k level	over 500k
1,147	\$105,308,194	\$69,395,056	438	\$26,436,039	150	\$9,111,444	5	\$365,655
		Cumulative 2027		Cumulative 2028		Cumulative ?		
		\$69,395,056		\$95,831,095		\$104,942,539		



	Total Assessed Value	Homestead Exempt Value	Gov Exempt Value	Institutional Exempt Val	Other Exempt Property	Taxable Value-All Property
1977	\$52,376,358	\$4,702,690	\$6,765,610	\$2,184,020	\$155,080	\$42,604,434
1978	\$63,277,294	\$4,925,430	\$7,787,950	\$2,846,290	\$192,610	\$42,604,434
1979	\$63,918,577	\$4,095,460	\$4,610,610	\$6,027,620	\$225,600	\$43,456,537
1980	\$83,584,777	\$9,808,140	\$8,425,600	\$3,368,590		\$55,989,407
1981	\$102,040,940	\$14,162,210	\$9,564,190	\$4,020,660	\$181,830	\$67,335,340
1982	\$99,942,775	\$17,932,270	\$9,532,850	\$4,056,270	\$229,270	\$66,827,745
1983	\$103,635,530	\$19,007,098	\$7,800,832	\$4,299,431	\$306,737	\$70,880,718

HISTORICAL OKEECHOBEE COUNTY TAX ROLL DATA





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City Council Regular Meeting Agenda Item

Subject: Key Legislation Affecting Florida Municipalities

Date: July 7, 2026

From: Denise Whitehead, Incoming City Administrator

Presented By: Taylor Connell, Finance Director

Background:

The purpose of this item is to provide the City Council with an overview of legislative issues that have the potential to impact the City.

Property Tax Reform

CS/HJR 1-F – Property Tax Constitutional Amendment

Purpose

Proposes a constitutional amendment that would significantly reform Florida's property tax system, subject to approval by at least 60% of voters in the November 2026 General Election.

Potential City Impact

If approved by voters, the amendment could significantly reduce future property tax revenues and slow long-term revenue growth, creating additional budget challenges for municipalities.

SB 4-F – Property Tax Administration

Purpose

Implements statutory changes necessary to administer the proposed constitutional amendment contained in CS/HJR 1-F.

Key Provisions

Revises how maximum county and municipal millage rates are calculated. Updates statutory references related to property tax administration. Simplifies certain reporting requirements related to maximum millage rates. Authorizes an expanded ballot summary for the proposed constitutional amendment.

Potential City Impact

Most provisions have little practical effect unless CS/HJR 1-F is approved by voters. If adopted, the bill changes how future millage rates are calculated and administered.

Relationship Between the Two Bills: CS/HJR 1-F proposes changes to the Florida Constitution that require voter approval. SB 4-F contains the statutory changes needed to implement those constitutional changes if the amendment is approved.

Property Tax Reform Expanded Summary

CS/HJR 1F: Save our Homes from Excessive Property Taxes. If approved by the voters, this proposed amendment will increase the homesteaded property tax exemption and restrict how cities and counties can use Ad Valorem tax revenue. The amendment will require 60% of voter approval in November to pass.

CS/HJR 1F includes the following:

1. Increase the non-school homestead exemption from \$50,000 to \$150,000 beginning January 1, 2027. This will affect budget year FY 2027-28 and tax year 2027.
2. Increase the non-school homestead exemption to \$250,000 beginning January 1, 2028. This will affect budget year FY 2028-29 and tax year 2028.
3. Beginning January 1, 2029, the non-school homestead exemption amount of \$250,000 will be adjusted annually for inflation.
4. Reduce the cap on annual assessment increases for non-homestead properties from 10% to 5%.
5. Allow property tax revenue to fund the following:
 - a. Provide for public safety, including law enforcement, fire service, and emergency medical service;
 - b. Provide funding for education and public schools;
 - c. Finance or refinance infrastructure, including expenditures on road and bridge construction and maintenance and stormwater control;
 - d. Finance or refinance natural resource projects, including flood control measures;
 - e. Issue local bonds for uses consistent with this paragraph and to make debt service payments for existing obligations;
 - f. Fund the operations and administration of county officers and commissioners established under Article VIII and municipalities, and the expenditures approved by such county officers or county or municipal governing bodies, except those expenditures prohibited by general law.
 - g. Homesteads established after January 1, 2027, shall receive a non-school homestead exemption of \$50,000 for five years before qualifying for the \$250,000 exemption. The \$50,000 non-school homestead exemption will be adjusted for inflation in the same manner as the other non-school homestead exemptions.

The most recent analysis of the City of Okeechobee's tax base, as prepared by the Okeechobee County Property Appraisers Office (OCPA) on May 29, 2026, estimates Okeechobee's 2026 total taxable value at \$585,221,912. Approximately 18% of this

value is attributable to homesteaded properties. Using the OCPA estimated value, we can estimate that HJR 1F will have the following impact of Okeechobee’s taxable value through FY 2029-30:

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29
Adj. Taxable Value	\$ 556,448,458	\$ 585,221,912	\$ 528,839,292	\$ 515,242,480
Est. Rollback Mil Rate	5.9602	5.6671	5.6671	5.6671
Est. Ad Valorem Rev.	\$ 3,183,882	\$ 3,183,850	\$ 2,847,135	\$ 2,773,934
Est. CS/HJR 1F Impact			(\$303,550)	(\$376,751)

Additional Legislative Items to Consider

HB 1329 Local Government Finances

Background

HB 1329 continues Florida's emphasis on increasing transparency and public accountability in local government budgeting and financial management.

Major Provisions

- **Budget Transparency:** Requires tentative budgets to be posted online at least five days before budget hearings. Final adopted budgets must remain publicly available online for at least five years.
- **Budget Reduction Exercise:** Requires counties and municipalities to conduct a public workshop evaluating a hypothetical 10% reduction in General Fund expenditures. The purpose is to demonstrate strategic prioritization rather than requiring actual reductions.
- **Budget Calendar:** Requires publication of an annual budget development calendar identifying major milestones.
- **Employee Compensation Reporting:** Quarterly publication of compensation information for all funded positions.
- **Impact Fees:** Adds new requirements including updated impact fee studies, plan-based methodologies, additional public notice, limitations on fee increases, refund procedures for overpayments.

Potential City Impacts

Administrative workload will increase, particularly for Finance, Human Resources, and Development Services. Some reporting practices currently performed internally may require additional public posting and documentation.

SB 948 Florida Starter Homes Act

Background

The Legislature continues efforts to increase housing supply by limiting local regulatory barriers.

Major Provisions

Expands opportunities for starter homes, workforce housing, streamlined approvals. Limits local government authority over certain development standards.

Potential City Impacts

Could increase residential development applications. May require updates to land development regulations.

HB 1389 Affordable Housing

Background

HB 1389 expands the Live Local Act passed in previous legislative sessions. The Legislature continues to prioritize affordable housing production by reducing local barriers to qualifying developments.

Major Provisions

Requires approval of qualifying affordable multifamily housing developments within commercial and industrial zoning districts under specified circumstances. Restricts local governments from requiring rezonings, imposing lower building heights than surrounding development, increasing setbacks, creating additional land use restrictions. Expands affordable housing tax exemptions. Broadens anti-discrimination provisions applicable to local governments. Requires affordability restrictions to remain for at least thirty years.

Potential City Impacts

The City may have less flexibility when reviewing qualifying developments. Future land development decisions may rely more heavily on objective design standards rather than discretionary review. General Services staff should anticipate additional affordable housing applications utilizing these provisions.

HB 967 Electronic Payments

Background

HB 967 establishes a statewide minimum requirement for electronic payment systems.

Major Provisions

Effective January 1, 2027 requires local governments to accept electronic payment methods, provide online payment capability, maintain exceptions only where prohibited by law.

Potential City Impacts

The City does not currently accept electronic payments. Software upgrades are required to meet this legislative action.

SB 1444 Religious Gatherings and Home-Based Businesses

Background

The Legislature continues expanding state preemption over local land use regulations.

Major Provisions

Limits municipal regulation of religious gatherings, certain home occupations, parking standards associated with qualifying uses

Potential City Impacts

May reduce local flexibility when addressing neighborhood compatibility issues.
Planning and code enforcement staff should review existing ordinances for consistency.

Risk Level to the City of Okeechobee

Bill		Risk/Impact
CS/HJR 1-F / SB 4-F	Property Tax Reform	High (Potential Revenue Impact)
HB 1329	Local Gov Finances	Moderate (Budget & Reporting Requirements)
SB 948	FI Starter Homes Act	Moderate (Land Use)
HB 1389	Affordable Housing	Moderate (Land Use & Development)
HB 967	Electronic Payments	Low (Operational/Technology)
SB 1444	Rel. Gatherings & Home Businesses	Low to Moderate (Potential Policy Changes)



To: Key Official

From: Eryn Alcorn, Florida League of Cities

Date: June 18, 2026

Subject: 2026 Annual Conference Voting Delegate Information

The Florida League of Cities Annual Conference will be held at the Diplomat Beach Resort in Hollywood, Florida, from August 13-15, 2026. This conference will provide valuable educational opportunities to help Florida's municipal officials serve their citizenry more effectively.

We ask that each member municipality sending delegates to the Annual Conference **designate one elected official to serve as its Voting Delegate** and cast the municipality's votes at the Annual Business Meeting which will be held on **Saturday, August 15, 2026**. The Voting Delegate designated by each municipality will vote on all official business matters brought before the League membership and requiring a vote during the Business Meeting. Matters such as the election of League leadership, adoption of resolutions and any other official business matters affecting the League may be voted on during the Business Meeting.

In accordance with the League's by-laws, the number of votes allocated to each municipality is determined based upon population. The League will use the latest Florida Estimates of Population as published by the University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research.

Annual Conference registration materials were sent to each municipality via the League's e-newsletter and are available online at flcities.com.

If you have any questions about voting delegates, please email ealcorn@flcities.com.
Voting delegate forms must be received by the League no later than July 31, 2026.

Attachments: Form Designating Voting Delegate

**2026 Annual Conference
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
August 13-15, 2026
Hollywood, Florida**

It is important that each member municipality sending delegates to the Annual Conference of the Florida League of Cities designate one of its elected officials to cast the municipality's votes at the Annual Business Meeting. League By-Laws require each municipality to select one person to serve as the municipality's Voting Delegate.

Municipalities do not need to adopt a resolution to designate a voting delegate. Instead, please fill out this form and return it to the League office so that your voting delegate may be properly identified. **Voting delegate forms must be received by the League no later than July 31, 2026.**

Designation of Voting Delegate

Name of Voting Delegate: _____

Title: _____

Delegate Email: _____

Municipality of: _____

AUTHORIZED BY:

Name

Title

Return this form to:
Eryn Alcorn
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Post Office Box 1757
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757
Email: ealcorn@flcities.com

B&B Site Development, Inc.
1505 C South Parrott Avenue
Okeechobee, Florida, 34974
Phone: 863-763-6053
Email: bbsitedevelopment, Inc.



Proposal

6/11/2026

To: City of Okeechobee
Atten: Gary Ritter
Ref: FPL Street Lighting Conduit
Project: Park Street Commerce Phase I and II
Loc: City of Okeechobee, Florida

Installation of listed FPL street light conduits and handboxes,
cost based on email received along with construction drawing on 5/6/26 1:42pm.

1,030 LF of 2" sch. 40 per drawing		\$	12,360.00
Install sweeps and install 5 - 17" hand boxes		\$	1,200.00
Pick up and deliver Okee Yard or St Lucie		\$	400.00
Survey		\$	2,400.00
Additional work requested	Add	\$	16,360.00
General conditions	Add	\$	1,636.00
Total Additional add to contract Change order #___		\$	17,996.00

Accepted By: _____ Date: _____
Owners Representative

Accepted By: _____ Date: _____
Contractors Representative



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Watford & City Council

DATE: June 26, 2026

FROM: HR Generalist Prince

SUBJECT: PRM Group Health Insurance

The premium structure for the current plan year, October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, for employee coverage only is as follows:

Plan	Premium	City Premium Cost PEPM	HSA Contribution	Total City Cost PEPM
PPO 03769	\$ 1,115.00	\$ 1,115.00	\$ -	\$ 1,115.00
PPO 03559	\$ 1,044.00	\$ 1,044.00	\$ 71.00	\$ 1,115.00
HSA 05180/05181	\$ 965.00	\$ 965.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,115.00
HSA 05172/05173	\$ 777.00	\$ 777.00	\$ 338.00	\$ 1,115.00

The PRM renewal rate for the next plan year is an increase of 2.5%, which is below the PRM group average increase of 5.5%. This would bring the maximum premium per employee per month to \$1,142.00. Financial impact to the City to continue to offer employee only health insurance coverage at no cost to the employee, at the current number of employees, would be \$17,496.00 for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

The premium structure for the next plan year, October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, for employee coverage would be as follows:

Plan	Premium	City Premium Cost PEPM	HSA/Other Contribution	Total City Cost PEPM
PPO 03769	\$ 1,142.00	\$ 1,142.00	\$ -	\$ 1,142.00
PPO 03559	\$ 1,070.00	\$ 1,070.00	\$ 72.00	\$ 1,142.00
HSA 05180/05181	\$ 989.00	\$ 989.00	\$ 153.00	\$ 1,142.00
HSA 05172/05173	\$ 796.00	\$ 796.00	\$ 346.00	\$ 1,142.00

Product	BlueOptions (PPO) 03769	BlueOptions (PPO) 03559	BlueOptions HDHP (HSA) 05180/1		BlueOptions HDHP (HSA) 05172/3	
Cost Sharing - Member's Responsibility						
Deductible (Per Person / Family Aggregate)	\$500 / \$1,500	\$750 / \$2,250	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$5,000 / NA	\$5,000 / \$10,000
Coinsurance (BCBSF pays / Member pays)	80% / 20%	80% / 20%	100% / 0%	100% / 0%	90% / 10%	90% / 10%
Out of Pocket Maximum (Per Person/Family Aggregate)	\$1,500 / \$4,500	\$3,000 / \$6,000	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$6,850 / NA	\$6,850 / \$13,700
Office Services						
Family Physician / Specialist	\$15/\$15 Copay	\$20/\$35 Copay	DED+0% / DED+0%	DED+0%/DED+ 0%	DED+10%/DED+ 10%	DED+10% DED+10%
Preventive Services						
Office Services (Primary / Specialist)	\$0 Copay	\$0 Copay	\$0 Copay	\$0 Copay	\$0 Copay	\$0 Copay
Medical / Surgical Care at a Facility						
Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC)	DED + 20%	\$100 Copay	DED + 0%	DED + 0%	DED + 10%	DED + 10%
Inpatient Hospital Facility						
Option 1	DED + 20%	\$750 Copay	DED + 0%	DED + 0%	DED + 10%	DED + 10%
Option 2	NA	\$1,000 Copay				
Outpatient Hospital Facility						
Option 1	DED + 20%	\$150 Copay	DED + 0%	DED + 0%	DED + 10%	DED + 10%
Option 2	NA	\$250 Copay				
Emergency and Urgent Care						
Emergency Room Facility (per visit) (Surgery performed or with admit)	DED + 20%	\$100 Copay	DED + 0%	DED + 0%	DED + 10%	DED + 10%
Urgent Care Centers	\$15 Copay	\$35 Copay				
Diagnostic Testing (e.g., Lab, x-ray)						
Independent Clinical Laboratory	20%	\$0 Copay	DED + 0%	DED + 0%	DED + 0%	DED + 0%
Independent Diagnostic Testing Center	\$15 Copay	\$50 Copay			DED + 10%	DED + 10%



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Watford & City Council

DATE: June 26, 2026

FROM: HR Generalist Prince

SUBJECT: Dependent Care Contributions

To aid with reducing the bi-weekly cost of dependent health care to the employee, we are asking the Council to consider continuing to contribute \$300.00 per employee per month towards dependent health premiums.

With the 2.5 % increase in health premiums for October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026, the bi-weekly cost to employees for dependent health care would be as follows:

Plan: PPO 03769	Premium	City Monthly Contribution	Employee Monthly Contribution	Employee Bi-Weekly Contribution
Additional for Spouse	\$ 1,710.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,410.00	\$ 650.77
Additional for Dependent	\$ 1,138.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 838.00	\$ 386.77
Additional for Family	\$ 2,496.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 2,196.00	\$ 1,013.54
Plan: PPO 03559	Premium	City Monthly Contribution	Employee Monthly Contribution	Employee Bi-Weekly Contribution
Additional for Spouse	\$ 1,602.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,302.00	\$ 600.92
Additional for Dependent	\$ 1,066.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 766.00	\$ 353.54
Additional for Family	\$ 2,339.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 2,039.00	\$ 941.08
Plan: HSA 05180/05181	Premium	City Monthly Contribution	Employee Monthly Contribution	Employee Bi-Weekly Contribution
Additional for Spouse	\$ 1,480.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,180.00	\$ 544.62
Additional for Dependent	\$ 985.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 685.00	\$ 316.15
Additional for Family	\$ 2,160.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,860.00	\$ 858.46
Plan: HSA 05172/05173	Premium	City Monthly Contribution	Employee Monthly Contribution	Employee Bi-Weekly Contribution
Additional for Spouse	\$ 1,192.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 892.00	\$ 411.69
Additional for Dependent	\$ 793.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 493.00	\$ 227.54
Additional for Family	\$ 1,740.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 664.62



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Okeechobee City Council
Mayor Dowling R. Watford, Jr.
Vice Mayor Monica Clark
Noel Chandler
Bob Jarriel
David McAuley

City Council Regular Meeting Agenda Item

Subject: Review of School Resource Officer Program

Date: July 7, 2026

From: Denise Whitehead, Incoming City Administrator

Presented by: Donnie Hagan, Police Chief

Background:

The purpose of this item is to provide the City Council with an overview current and anticipated budgetary needs related to the School Resource Officer Program

Currently, the Okeechobee City Police Department provides one full time School Resource Officer to Okeechobee Christian Academy. There are three other schools located within the City Limits, Central Elementary, Okeechobee Freshman Campus (soon to be Okeechobee Achievement Academy), and Rock Solid Christian Academy.

Public Schools:

Each public school is **required** by Florida State Statute **1006.12 (Safe-School Officers at Each Public School)** to partner with law enforcement agencies or security agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school officers at each school facility within the district, including charter schools. The cost associated with a school resource officer is determined through a cooperative agreement between the law enforcement agency and the school district. Previously, the City of Okeechobee entered into a Cooperative Agreement with the Okeechobee County School District to provide funding for 50% of the cost of the School Resource Officers assigned to Central Elementary School and the Okeechobee Freshman Campus.

Both public schools within the City limits were under a Cooperative Agreement with the City of Okeechobee to provide School Resource Officers through the end of the 2022/2023 school year. Beginning with the 2023/2024 school year both schools were covered by the Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office.

Private Schools:

Private Schools have the option of providing a school resource officer under Florida State Statute 1002.01(20) (Safe-School Officers). This statute designates that the private school is responsible for the full cost of implementing any such option, which includes all training costs.

There are currently two private schools within the City limits, Rock Solid Christian Academy who receives a School Resource Officer through an agreement with the Okeechobee County Sheriff Office, and Okeechobee Christian Academy who receives an SRO through an agreement with the Okeechobee City Police Department. The current two year agreement provides this service at a quarterly rate of \$24,25.83 through the end of the 2026/2027 school year. The contract designates the cost of the SRO assigned to OCA for the 2026/2027 school year total to be \$100,079.59.

Staff have completed an analysis of the actual cost to provide the SRO to OCA at approximately \$120,000.

The Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office have approached Police Chief Hagan about the possibility of the City resuming responsibility of one of the Public Schools within the City Limits. Chief Hagan reported this would require the hiring of an additional position within the City Police Department during the 2026/2027 Fiscal Year that would allow for training and placement in the school for the start of the 2027/2028 school year. The position would attend required training in July 2027.

The budget being presented on July 21, 2026, will include three months of salary for the proposed position as well as proposed reimbursed costs to add one public school to the City Police Department School Resource Officer staff.