



CITY OF OKEECHOBEE

55 SE THIRD AVENUE
OKEECHOBEE, FL 34974

SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

6:00 PM

FINAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING OFFICIAL AGENDA

Mayor

Dowling R. Watford, Jr.

Vice Mayor

Monica Clark

Council Members

Noel Chandler

Bob Jarriel

David McAuley

Mission Statement:	The mission of the City of Okeechobee is to provide accommodating services that enhance the quality of life for our citizens and businesses in a fiscally sound manner.
Vision Statement:	The City of Okeechobee will maintain a vibrant and prosperous community built on our heritage, history, unique character, and small-town atmosphere.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ATTENDANCE

III. AGENDA AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. Requests for any modifications to the agenda.
- B. Motion to adopt the agenda as published or amended.
- C. Public participation for any issues not on the agenda requires an Agenda Item Form or Comment Card. Citizen comments are limited to 3 minutes per speaker unless otherwise approved by the Mayor.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Motion to dispense with the reading and approve the September 3, 2026, Minutes (**Exhibit 1**).
- B. Motion to approve the August 2026 Warrant Register (**Exhibit 2**).

VI. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Motion to read by title only, approve the first reading, and adopt proposed Ordinance No. 1333, amending the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map by reclassifying Lots 1 to 4 and 7 to 12, of Block 80, CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, PB 5, PG 5, Okeechobee County public records; 1.61+/- acres, located between NE 4th to 5th Avenues and NE 6th to 7th Streets; from Single-Family Residential to Industrial; Small Scale Map Amendment Application No. 26-001-SSA submitted by Mr. Jeffrey Sumner, Agent on behalf of the property owner, Diamond R. Fertilizer Co., Inc. Planning Board and Planning Staff recommend approval (**Exhibit 3**).

Close the Public Hearing

VII. OPEN THE FISCAL YEAR 2026/27 FINAL READING PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Mayor announces the purpose of this Public Hearing is to consider the final reading of ordinances for the proposed Millage Rate levy and proposed Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027.

- B. Mayor announces the proposed Millage Rate levy represents the rollback rate of 5.8321 computed pursuant to Florida Statutes (FS) 200.065(1).
- C. Motion to read by title only, approve the second reading, and adopt proposed Ordinance No. 1331, levying a Millage Rate of 5.8321 on all real and tangible personal property for proposed Fiscal Year October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027. **(Exhibit 4).**
- D. Motion to read by title only, approve the second reading, and adopt proposed Ordinance No. 1332, adopting the annual Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027 **(Exhibit)**.

Close the Final Budget Public Hearing

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Motion to read by title only, approve the first reading, and set October 20, 2026, as the final Public Hearing for proposed Ordinance No. 1334 rezoning Lots 1 to 4 and 7 to 12, of Block 80, CITY OF OKEECHOBEE, PB 5, PG 5, Okeechobee County public records; 1.61+/- acres, located between NE 4th to 5th Avenues and NE 6th to 7th Streets; from Residential Single Family-One to Industrial, Rezoning Petition No. 26-001-R submitted by Mr. Jeffrey Sumner, Agent on behalf of the property owner, Diamond R. Fertilizer Co., Inc. The proposed use is to expand the existing Diamond R business, including storage and retail sales **(Exhibit 5)**.
- B. Motion to enter into an agreement with Proctor Construction Company, LLC to improve the Public Safety Building (Grant Agreement #FM1252) in the amount of \$687,430.00 not to exceed \$703,157.00 **(Exhibit 6)**.
- C. Motion to adopt a new Budget Transfer Policy **(Exhibit 7)**.
- D. Motion to authorize staff to identify and secure a qualified backup Code Enforcement Magistrate for the City **(Exhibit 8)**.
- E. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-09 authorizing the execution and acceptance of Agreement No. BEL16 with Florida Department of Transportation for maintenance and beautification along State Roads within the City Limits **(Exhibit 9)**.

IX. CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE

X. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

XI. COUNCIL COMMENTS

XII. ADJOURN MEETING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if any person desires to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this proceeding, such an interested person will need a record of the proceeding, and for such purpose may need to ensure 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 recordings are for the sole purpose of backup for official records of the Clerk. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk's Office in person or call 863-763-9814, Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1 no later than four business days prior to proceeding. **BE ADVISED** that should you intend to show any document, picture, video, or item to the Council in support of or opposition to any item on the agenda; a copy of the document, picture, video, or item must be provided to the City Clerk for the City's records.