TOWN OF WINDERMERE

Town Council Tentative Budget Hearing Minutes

September 3, 2026

Present were Mayor Pro Tem Tony Davit, Council members CT Allen, Tom Stroup, Mandy David, and Brandi Haines. Also present was Town Manager Robert Smith, ATM/PWD Elliott-Moore, and Town Clerk Dorothy Burkhalter. Mayor Andy Williams was absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Davit called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

1. OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Davit opened the floor to the public. Mrs. Leslie Brabec of 520 Ridgewood Drive introduced herself. She questioned if the Town prepared a proposed budget should the Property Tax amendment referendum be passed in November. Mayor Pro Tem Davit stated both budgets, annual and one with 10% reductions have been prepared. Some discussion followed.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Financial

i. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget

Manager Smith asked the Town Council if there were any questions from the workshop as the presentation is the same. Member David explained the Parks and Recreation would like to bring a recommendation to the Town Council for fee increases for the Tennis and Park passes. She stated that she would like to place this item on the next Town Council agenda. After some discussion followed consensus was to allow this item to be placed on the next Town Council agenda. Member Stroup commented that he would like to add Christmas lights back into the budget. He commented that donations could help offset the expense. Discussion followed regarding holiday lights, Light Up Windermere, Food Truck nights, committee funding, and needs not wants.

b. Council Actions

i. Motion to tentatively adopt proposed millage rate of 3.7425 mills per thousand

Member Davit made a motion to tentatively adopt the proposed millage rate of 3.7425 mills per thousand. Member Allen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Allen – aye, Stroup – aye, Davit – aye, David- aye, and Haines – aye. Motion carried 5-0.

ii. Motion to consent to balanced proposed budget:
Revenues - $12,464,394.17
Expenses - $12,464,394.17

Member David made a motion to consent to the balanced proposed budget of $12,464,394.17. Member Haines seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Haines – aye, David – aye, Davit – aye, Stroup – aye, and Allen – aye. Motion carried 5-0.

iii. Motion to set date, time, and location of Final Budget Hearing:

September 16, 2026 – 6:00pm, Town Hall – 520 Main Street, Windermere, FL 34786

Member Haines made a motion to set the Final Budget Hearing for Monday September 16, 2026, 6:00pm, in the Town Hall located at 520 Main Street, Windermere, FL 34786. Member David seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Allen – aye, Stroup – aye, Davit – aye, David- aye, and Haines – aye. Motion carried 5-0.

iv. Motion for Assessments

1. Motion to approve Solid Waste Assessment: $518,920.18

Member Allen made a motion to approve the Solid Waste Assessment: $518,920.18. Member David seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Haines – aye, David – aye, Davit – aye, Stroup – aye, and Allen – aye. Motion carried 5-0.

2. Motion to approve Stormwater Fund Assessment Roll: $376,525.18

Member David made a motion to approve the Stormwater Fund Assessment Roll: $376,525.18. Member Haines seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Allen – aye, Stroup – aye, Davit – aye, David- aye, and Haines – aye. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Motion to approve Fire Assessment: $1,157,624.4

Member Stroup made a motion to approve the Fire Assessment: $1,157,624.4. Member David seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Haines – aye, David – aye, Davit – aye, Stroup – aye, and Allen – aye. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Motion to approve The Willows Street Light Assessment $17,861.76

Member Haines made a motion to approve the streetlight assessments of $17,861.76. Member Allen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: Allen – aye, Stroup – aye, Davit – aye, David- aye, and Haines – aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Davit adjourned the hearing at 6:34pm.

Dorothy Burkhalter, MMC, FCRM
Town Clerk

Loren "Andy" Williams, Mayor