



**VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES,
VILLAGE HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
226 CYPRESS LANE VILLAGE OF PALM SPRINGS, FLORIDA
MARCH 12, 2026, AT 6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bev Smith called the Village Council Regular meeting to order at 6:30 PM

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Bev Smith, Vice Mayor Kim Schmitz, Mayor Pro Tem Gary Ready, Council Member Johnnie Tieche, and Council Member Patti Waller.

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Manager Michael Bornstein, Village Attorney Glen Torcivia, Village Clerk Kimberly M. Wynn, Assistant Village Manager Kim Glas-Castro, Police Chief Ronaldo Silva, as Sergeant-In-Arms, Assistant Police Chief Peter Buhr, Planning, Zoning, and Building Director Iramis Cabrera, Assistant Utilities Director Paul Ward, Public Works Director Felipe Lofaso, Assistant Public Works Director Timothy Crespo, Risk Manager Sylvia Ward, and Finance Director Mara Frederikson.

INVOCATION

Village Manager Bornstein led the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Village Council led the Pledge of Allegiance

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS OR MODIFICATIONS, AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The staff requested Items 14, Recognizing Let's Move Palm Beach County Month Proclamation, and Item 18, Recognizing the Irish American Heritage Month Proclamation, be moved to the Consent Agenda. The applicant requested that Item #19, Proposed Resolution No. 2026-08 — Hours of Operation Variance (PSV26-07) — China Star Restaurant — 4064 Forest Hill Boulevard, Suite #7 postponed to the April 9, 2026, Village Council Meeting.

Council Member Waller moved to approve the amended agenda as presented and Mayor Pro Tem Ready seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approve February 12, 2026, Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes:
Approve February 12, 2026, Village Council Meeting Minutes.**

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

- 2. **Reappointment to the Community Redevelopment Association Board (CRA): Motion to reappoint Mrs. Marta Padron to the CRA Board to represent the Lake Worth Corridor for a four (4) year term that expires November 21, 2029.**

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

SUMMARY: Currently, there is a vacancy on the Community Redevelopment Board for a representative in the Lake Worth Beach Corridor area due to the expiration of Mrs. Marta Padron's term as of November 21, 2025. The CRA Board includes five Village Council members and two community members, one from each district. Board members must either live or do business within the CRA boundaries.

Mrs. Padron has expressed an interest in continuing to serve on the Board and is an asset to this Board as a Member. If appointed, she would serve a four (4) year term effective as of November 21, 2025, that ends November 20, 2029.

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal impact to the Village.

- 3. **Appointments to the Library Advisory Board: Motion to appoint Ms. Maria Izzo for the remainder of a term ending May 14, 2026. Pursuant to Resolution No. 2020-08, the appointee will serve the remainder of that term and will then be eligible to serve an additional full three (3) year term. If appointed, the term would expire on May 14, 2029. Ms. Leanna Knight is recommended for appointment for the second vacancy to fill an unexpired term ending May 14, 2027.**

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

SUMMARY: There are currently two (2) vacancies on the Library Advisory Board. Ms. Maria Izzo and Ms. Leanne Knight have expressed interest in serving on the Board. Ms. Maria Izzo is recommended for appointment for the remainder of the term ending May 14, 2026. Pursuant to Resolution No. 2020-08, the appointee will serve the remainder of that term and will then be eligible to serve an additional full three (3) year term. If appointed, the term would expire on May 14, 2029.

Ms. Leanna Knight is recommended for appointment for the second vacancy to fill an unexpired term ending May 14, 2027.

If the appointments are approved, there will be no remaining vacancies on the Library Advisory Board.

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal impact on the Village.

4. **Reassignment of Junior and Senior Alternates on the Planning and Zoning Advisory Board:** Motion to approve reassigning Ms. Brenda Browning as Junior Alternate and Mr. Brian Ruscher to Senior Alternate on the Planning and Zoning Advisory Board. The Board will remain a full Board with this adjustment if approved by the Village Council.

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

SUMMARY: It has been requested by the Senior Alternate member, Ms. Brenda Browning, of the Planning and Zoning Advisory Board, to become the Junior Alternate member. Mr. Brian Ruscher, currently the Junior Alternate member, has agreed to the change, subject to approval by the Village Council.

The Planning and Zoning Advisory Board will remain composed of five (5) regular members and two (2) alternate members.

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal impact to the Village.

5. **Resolution No. 2026-09 Amendment to the FY 2026 Fee Schedule:** Motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-09 for an amendment to the Fee Schedule for FY 2026 to correct minor typographical and formatting errors and to incorporate the Utilities Department Fee Schedule.

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

SUMMARY: The Staff requests approval to amend the Village Fee Schedule to correct minor typographical and formatting errors and to incorporate the Utilities Department Fee Schedule into the consolidated document. These updates are administrative in nature and do not create new fees but formally adopt existing utilities rates.

Fiscal Impact: The additional revenue received is expected to offset operating expenses and promote a clean and safe community.

6. **Approval of Employee Medical, Dental & Other Benefits (FY 2026) Budget Funded):** Motion for the approval of the staff's recommendation to remain with Cigna Health Insurance for medical benefits and other insurance benefits. Funding is available from the FY 2026 Budget.

Staff: Ashley Saingilus, Human Resources Director

SUMMARY: Recently, the RSC Insurance Brokerage, INC (d/b/a The Gehring Group), the Village's contracted benefits broker, went out to BID for medical benefits.

Staff is recommending that the Village remain with Cigna for the third year in a row with an increase of 13.9% for both premier and base medical plans. The increase allows the medical plan to remain the same with no changes in plan features. There will be no increase in employee costs. The increase is due to both a direct and indirect response to the insurance market as well as high

claim amounts incurred.

If approved, the Village would stay with Cigna beginning April 1, 2026, and ending March 31, 2027, for medical benefits. Our employees will continue to be provided with a high level of insurance benefits.

Fiscal Impact: The proposed cost/rates for employee benefit premiums are included within the FY 2026 Budget. Funding will be proposed within the FY 2027 Budget to be considered by the Village Council during the upcoming budget process. The Village will not expend more than the amount in the approved Budget as it may be adopted / amended each year for these goods and services over the term of this contract.

7. **Agent of Record–Employee Benefits Broker Services Agreement – Piggyback – RSC Insurance Brokerage, Inc. (d/b/a The Gehring Group): Approval of Employee Insurance Agreement with RSC Insurance Brokerage, Inc. via Piggyback of City of Parkland Contract.**
Staff: Ashley Saingilus, Human Resources Director

SUMMARY: The Village relies on RSC Insurance Brokerage, Inc. to provide employee health, dental, vision, and other benefits.

Staff recommend approving RSC Insurance Brokerage, Inc.'s employee insurance pricing by piggybacking the City of Parkland's RFP #2025-03 contract, including all terms and pricing. The agreement with the Village of Palm Springs will be retroactive to October 1, 2025, and remain in effect for two years, with the option to renew for up to three additional one-year terms.

The Village has received excellent service and quality products from this vendor.

Fiscal Impact: Funding to support this service is available within the FY 2026 Budget - General Fund and Water & Sewer Enterprise Fund. The Village will not expend more than the amount within the approved budget as it may be adopted/amended each year for these goods and services over the term of this contract.

8. **Resolution No. 2026-06 to Submit the Major Projects Grant Application for Davis Road from Canal Road to 2nd Avenue North and Lakewood Road from Davis Road to Military Trail - FDOT: Motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-06 to submit the Major Projects Grant Application for \$5,000,000 through the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for roadway, stormwater, sidewalk, ADA, and mobility improvements along Davis Road from Canal Road to 2nd Avenue North, and Lakewood Road from**

Davis Road to Military Trail.

Staff: Felipe Lofaso, Public Works Director

SUMMARY: The Village is in the planning phase of improving the infrastructure on Davis Road between Canal Road and 2nd Avenue North, as well as Lakewood Road from Davis Road to Military Trail. The Village's Vision Zero Action Planning and Mobility Planning efforts guide improvements to the road, drainage system, and pedestrian facilities.

The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) provides grants for projects that improve mobility and support safer roadway networks. The Public Works Department is submitting a grant application for \$5,000,000 for roadway, stormwater, sidewalk, ADA, and mobility improvements along Davis Road (2nd Avenue N to Canal Road) and Lakewood Road (Davis Road to Military Trail).

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is funding the Major Projects grant through the Metropolitan Planning Organization. The staff are now asking the Village Council for support for this project.

Fiscal Impact: If approved, the Village may receive a total of \$5,000,000 from the MPO's Major Projects grant program to be utilized to fund construction-related improvements on Davis Road and Lakewood Road.

9. **Change Order #1 to Task Order #311 to Foster Marine Contractors for the 2nd Avenue North Area Drainage Improvements Project: Motion to approve Change Order #1 to Task Order 311 to Foster Marine Contractors for the 2nd Avenue North Drainage Improvements.** Staff: Felipe Lofaso, Public Works Director

SUMMARY: The Village is currently in the process of closing out the 2nd Avenue Area Drainage Improvements project. The project began construction approximately 10 months ago and has reached Final Completion. During construction, numerous unforeseen conditions arose relating to underground utility conflicts, differing soil conditions, and associated restoration work that resulted in additional project costs being incurred. Change Order #1 is being presented to memorialize these project costs and effectively balance the contract to close the project out. The original contract amount was \$3,999,194.20 and Change Order #1 will be in the amount of \$87,405.76, for a total final contract amount of \$4,086,599.96. The additional funding will be utilized from Account #01441-56300.

Fiscal Impact: Change Order #1 to Foster Marine Contractors will be an amount of \$87,405.76, to be paid from Account #01441-56300 (Task Order #311). The original contract amount was \$3,999,194.20.

10. **Authorize Equipment Purchase - Cooperative Purchase through Sourcewell Contract 110421-ALT with Altec Industries, Inc. for the Purchase of a**

Bucket Truck: Approve a Cooperative purchase of a new Altec AT37G Articulating Telescopic Aerial Device (bucket truck) for the Public Works Department at a cost not to exceed \$170,564.00 with the Sourcewell approved vendor Altec Industries, Inc. Funding is available within the FY26 approved budget.

Staff: Felipe Lofaso, Public Works Director

SUMMARY: The Public Works Department is actively engaged in the maintenance of Village facilities, parks and rights of way. These assets often require the use of an aerial lift to safely and efficiently reach tall heights to trim trees, change lights, pressure clean, install banners, amongst many other activities. Additionally, the Water Utilities Department utilizes the bucket truck for related water/sewer work. An integral part of this responsibility is having the proper tools and equipment to carry out these maintenance responsibilities efficiently and safely. The Department recently auctioned the bucket truck utilized in operations as it was beyond its useful life and has budgeted for FY26 to purchase a new bucket truck.

In accordance with Section 58-7 of the Purchasing Code, Alternative Purchasing Methods, the Sourcewell Contract completed a competitive selection process for aerial lift equipment (Contract No. 110421-ALT). Staff recommend the purchase of a new AT37G Articulating Telescopic Aerial device for the Public Works Department at a cost not to exceed \$170,564.00 with the Sourcewell approved vendor Altec Industries, Inc. Within the FY26 approved budget, Village Council approved the purchase of a new bucket truck for \$150,000.00. The sales proceeds from the auctioned bucket truck were \$16,000.00, therefore the shortfall amount of \$4,564.00 will be pulled from the 01441-56400 account.

Fiscal Impact: The Equipment Purchase with Altec Industries, Inc. will be at a cost not to exceed \$170,564.00 and funded through account #01441-56400 as approved in the adopted FY26 budget. The original approved budget was for \$150,000.00, and the sales proceeds for the auctioned bucket truck were \$16,000.00.

11. **Approval of Contract Agreement (IFB #2026B-01) with National General Construction: Motion to approve an Agreement with National General Construction for the CDBG funded Lakewood Gardens Park Improvements Project (IFB# 2026B-01) in an amount not to exceed \$148,225.00.**

Staff: Felipe Lofaso, Public Works Director

SUMMARY: The Village of Palm Springs receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) federal funding each year through the Palm Beach County Department of Housing and Economic Development. For fiscal year 2026, the Village is scheduled to receive a total of \$129,228.00. The funding is being directed to park improvements to Lakewood Gardens Park in the form of

removing and replacing the old, dilapidated fencing, creation of pervious on-street parking spaces along Beverly Road, and safety improvements along Lakewood Road.

On December 17, 2025, the Village received a total of seven bid proposals from interested contractors. After reviewing the bid proposals, it was determined that National General Construction was the lowest, most responsive and responsive bidder to the solicitation. Staff are recommending an award to National General Construction in the amount of \$148,225.00.

Fiscal Impact: The project is being federally funded through the CDBG program in an amount not to exceed \$148,225.00, account #01441-56300. The original FY26 budgeted amount for this project was \$140,000.00.

12. **Proclamation Recognizing Ethics Awareness Month – March 2026**

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

End of Consent Agenda...

Council Member Johnnie Tieche motioned for the approval of the consent agenda as presented and Vice Mayor Schmitz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

13. **Palm Beach County Municipal Vulnerability Assessment Update**

Staff: Felipe Lofaso, Public Works Director

SUMMARY: The Village of Palm Springs partnered with Palm Beach County to create a plan for community resiliency against flooding from sea level rise, heavy rainfall, and storm surge. The Palm Beach County Municipal Vulnerability Assessment uses local data to evaluate risks to community assets and meets State law requirements (FL Statute Section 380.093). Funding comes from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Resilient Florida Grant Program. Palm Beach County worked with FDEP to develop vulnerability assessments for six municipalities, including Palm Springs. Tetra Tech, the County’s consultant, led the assessment and is presenting the draft report for the Village.

Public Works Director, Mr. Felipe Lofaso introduced Tetra Tech Attorney Ms. Erin Deady to present the results of the Palm Beach County Vulnerability Assessment. Tetra Tech, a company working with Palm Beach County, shared a draft report with the Council. The report uses local information to look at risks to important parts of the community, like roads and public buildings, that could be affected by sea level rise, heavy rainfall events, and storm surge.

The item will be presented to Council within a month to discuss strategies and recommendations and seek approval. Mayor Smith offered the public and Council an opportunity to comment.

Mayor Pro Tem Ready asked about the difference in the period of flooding between El Nio and El Nina. He also asked since some of the storm drains belonged to Lake Worth Drainage District and some to the Village of Palm Springs is their priority.

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal impact on this item.

14. Recognizing Lets Move Palm Beach County Month Proclamation — March 2026

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

MOVED TO THE CONSENT AGENDA AS ITEM 12.A.

15. Recognizing the Finance Department for receiving the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Award

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

SUMMARY: The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Village of Palm Springs for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. The report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the program's high standards, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment for a government and its management.

The GFOA established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program (Certificate Program) in 1945 to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare annual comprehensive financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure, and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal. This is the 37th annual award that the Village has received.

Finance Director Mara Frederikson was present to accept the GFOA award. She mentioned that this is the Village's 37th year receiving recognition.

16. Recognizing Government Finance Professionals Week Proclamation March

16–20, 2026

Staff: Mara Frederiksen, Finance Director

On March 16-20, 2026, the FGFOA is sponsoring Government Finance Professionals Week. It is a weeklong series of activities aimed at recognizing government finance professionals and the vital services that they provide for local government and the community in which they serve. During this week, government finance professionals throughout the state will be recognized and acknowledged for their hard work, dedication and leadership.

Ms. Frederiksen was present to accept the proclamation.

17. Recognizing Procurement Month Proclamation — March 2026

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

Mrs. Sylvia Ward, Risk Manager (former Procurement Manager) and Ms. Frederiksen were present to accept this proclamation.

18. Recognizing Irish American Heritage Month Proclamation — March 2026

Staff: Kimberly Wynn, Village Clerk

MOVED TO THE CONSENT AGENDA AS ITEM 12.B.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Smith offered the public an opportunity to comment. There were none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

19. *(ITEM POSTPONED TO APRIL 9, 2026, PUBLIC HEARINGS)* Proposed Resolution No. 2026-08 — Hours of Operation Variance (PSV26-07) — China Star Restaurant — 4064 Forest Hill Boulevard, Suite 7: Motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-08 for the application submitted by Benjamin Sers, (“Agent”), for China Star Restaurant request a variance (PSV 26-07) to allow a three (3) hour deviation from Section 34-891(1) of the Village Code of Ordinances to permit China Star Restaurant to operate until 2:00 am, for the property at 4064 Forest Hill Boulevard Suite #7.

Staff: Iramis Cabrera, PZB Director

SUMMARY: Mr. Benjamin Sers, agent for China Star Restaurant, is requesting a variance relief (**PSV26-07**) to deviate from Section 34-891(1), "Hours of operation and hours of construction activity", which specifies that no commercial use shall commence business activities before 7:00 a.m., nor continue such activities later than 11:00 p.m. The applicant requests a three-hour deviation to allow the existing restaurant to be open until 2:00 a.m.

The applicant has leased the tenant space in the plaza for nearly a year and now seeks to extend their business hours to 2:00 a.m. The restaurant currently

occupies 1,000 square feet, offers takeout only, and does not sell alcoholic beverages.

Staff determined that the proposed variance is consistent with surrounding businesses that operate with extended hours.

Granting the Variance requested will not confer on the applicant any special privilege, nor deprive them of rights commonly enjoyed by other businesses in the plaza.

The proposed three-hour extension aligns with the general intent and purpose of the Variance requested and will not be injurious to the area involved or otherwise detrimental to public welfare.

Staff support the applicant's request to extend hours of operation, given the current ownership and the lack of alcohol sales. If the restaurant changes ownership and/or proposes selling alcohol, the extended hours will cease unless the village council grants a new variance.

Fiscal Impact: The proposed request is not expected to provide a direct fiscal impact on the Village. However, if approved, it would require various village services that would result in increased expenditure for the village.

ACTIONS AND REPORTS

VILLAGE MANAGER COMMENTS

Palm Beach County Fire Chief Martinez reported on PBC events: 355 calls, 44-second turnout, and 5:42 response time for emergency calls.

Drought is ongoing. If you see someone burning, please discourage this behavior. Annual reports will be presented at the next meeting. Chief Martinez may give a 10-minute presentation at that meeting. Fire Ops, an event to experience real-life fire rescue, will be held on April 25th from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Martinez also described current programs, including AED and Stop the Bleeding.

VILLAGE COUNCIL COMMENTS

The Council gave their reports.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Mayor Smith adjourned the Village Council Regular Meeting at 7:08 p.m.

The undersigned is the Village Clerk of Palm Springs, Florida, and the information provided herein is the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on **March 12, 2026**. The minutes were formally approved and adopted by the Village Council on **April 9, 2026**.

Kimberly M. Wynn

Village Clerk

**NEXT REGULAR
MEETING: THURSDAY,
APRIL 9, 2026, AT 6:30 PM**