

**REGULAR MEETING  
DESTIN CITY COUNCIL  
JULY 21, 2025  
ANNEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Council of the City of Destin met in regular session with the following members and staff present:

**Destin City Council**

Mayor Bobby Wagner  
Councilmember Dewey Destin  
Councilmember Terésa Hebert  
Councilmember Sandy Trammell

Councilmember Torey Geile  
Councilmember Jim Bagby  
Councilmember Rodney Braden

**Destin City Staff**

City Manager Larry Jones  
Human Resources Director Jaime Haynes  
System and Network Specialist Antonio Payne  
Executive Asst to the City Manager Sheri Bethea  
Projects/Grants/Contract Manager Jeffrey Cozadd  
Parks & Recreation Director Lisa Firth  
Community Development Director David Prichard

City Clerk Rey Bailey  
Public Works Director Michael Burgess  
Finance Director Krystal Strickland  
Building Official Noell Bell  
City Engineer Robert Tomasek  
Public Information Director Tamara Young  
City Attorney Kimberly Kopp

**CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Bobby Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Pastor Steve Farris of the First Baptist Church of Destin gave the invocation, which was then followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

- **Consent agenda items 3C and 3D pulled for further discussion.**
- **Combined agenda item 6D(1) with agenda item 4A.**
- **Combined agenda item 6D (2) with agenda item 4C**
- **Placed the appointment of Mariam Paulino to the Harbor CRA-AC under agenda item 6B.**

**Motion by Councilmember Braden, seconded by Councilmember Trammell, to approve the agenda, as amended, passed 6-0. Councilmember Schmidt was absent from the meeting.**

## 1. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS / SPECIAL / PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

### A. E-Bike Safety Recommendations - PW/S Committee

Jim Wood, Public Works and Safety Committee Chairman, presented a detailed proposal regarding the regulation of electric bicycles (e-bikes) within the city. He explained that while the city had successfully addressed the e-scooter issue years ago by prohibiting rentals, e-bikes are more likely to persist due to their functionality as a legitimate mode of transportation. His recommendation involved updating the existing e-scooter ordinance (20-18-LC) to include e-bikes explicitly. The proposal called for clarifying the definition to match Florida's statute on e-bike classifications and implementing a speed limit – initially suggesting 12 miles per hour, although Councilmember Bagby expressed a preference for 15 mph. Mr. Wood emphasized using stenciled markings on sidewalks instead of signs to reduce visual clutter and outlined the city's current educational efforts, which include flyers distributed in English and Spanish. He also discussed collaboration with the Okaloosa County Health Improvement Partnership (OHIP), which is examining e-bike issues county-wide. He pointed out the sale of high-powered, non-compliant bikes in the local area, such as 5,000-watt bikes capable of reaching speeds over 40 mph, which fall outside the state's legal e-bike classification and pose enforcement challenges.

During public comments, Pastor Steve Farris mentioned that an older city ordinance once required licensing for bicycles with motors exceeding one horsepower. He suggested that reinstating such a policy might deter residents from purchasing high-speed bikes, promoting safer options.

Councilmember Trammell followed by asking whether other motorized devices, such as electric skateboards and one-wheeled scooters, could be included in the ordinance. Mr. Wood responded that while the current ordinance uses broad terms like "micromobility devices," not all such devices have clear legal definitions, complicating regulation and crash reporting.

Councilmember Geile raised concerns about the way crash data is categorized, particularly between sidewalks and crosswalks. He advocated for combining these categories to better reflect the danger posed by riders entering roadways from sidewalks without yielding. Captain Jason Fulghum from the Sheriff's Office clarified that the data was separated at OHIP's request to help determine whether incidents were more frequent at driveways or road crossings, but acknowledged that all such crashes occur on sidewalks. Captain Fulghum and Mr. Wood both emphasized that many incidents stem from riders' failure to stop or look before entering intersections or driveways—behavior that is currently legal but dangerous.

The conversation then shifted to enforcement feasibility. Captain Fulghum explained that enforcing sidewalk speed limits would be extremely difficult due to the inability of radar and laser tools to reliably measure e-bike speeds, especially with nearby vehicular traffic. Although a deputy was able to register the speed of one e-bike using a laser gun, it was only successful when the e-bike was the sole object within close range. This technological limitation, combined with judicial skepticism of subjective speed assessments, means enforcement would largely rely on rider compliance and education.

Discussions also touched on the legal distinctions between e-bikes and mopeds or dirt bikes. Captain Fulghum clarified that any bike exceeding 28 mph is no longer classified as an e-bike under Florida law, and thus must be registered and licensed as a moped. Councilmembers debated whether

additional local requirement – such as visible classification stickers or helmet rules – could be imposed, but recognized that much of this is already governed by state statute. Several councilmembers supported stricter measures, such as prohibiting earbuds while riding or requiring helmets for all users, not just those under 16.

**Councilmember Bagby moved to direct staff to draft an update to Ordinance 20-18-LC and bring the revised ordinance to the Public Works/Safety Committee meeting in September for its review and recommendation, and then to the city council for their consideration. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hebert and passed 6-0.**

Councilmember Braden expressed his desire to take strong initial action rather than a gradual approach and stressed the importance of acting decisively given the safety risks.

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

### **3. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Harbor Channel Dredging - Task Order for Bidding Documents and CEI
- B. Declaration of City Property as Surplus (Vehicles and Equipment)
- C. Milling, Resurfacing and Re-Striping of Regatta Bay Blvd.
- D. Milling, Resurfacing and Restriping of Airport Road (curve to Main Street)
- E. RFB 25-04-REC, Batting Cage at MSC
- F. RFQ 25-06-CD Crosstown CEI - Master Agreement with Halff Associates
- G. Approval of minutes of June 16, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting
- H. Approval of minutes of July 14, 2025, City Council Budget Workshop

**Councilmember Bagby moved to approve Consent Agenda items 3A, 3B, and 3E through 3H, as printed above; seconded by Councilmember Hebert. Motion passed 6-0.**

Mayor Wagner began the discussion by suggesting they combine Consent Agenda items 3C and 3D in the discussion. He outlined the city's long-term resurfacing and restriping plan and suggested a more intentional approach to adding bike lanes or extended curbs on collector roads such as Airport Road and Main Street. He emphasized that narrowing vehicle lanes, as supported by national and state studies, can help reduce speeding, and proposed implementing these changes during restriping after resurfacing – without reconstructing roads – to create bike and pedestrian space while encouraging slower traffic.

Councilwoman Trammell agreed with the concept but stressed that lane-narrowing effectiveness depends on visual cues, such as coloring bike lanes green, to create the perception of a narrower lane. Councilmember Destin supported examining the idea but noted that Fort Walton Beach's example had not slowed traffic, urging further study before making changes.

Councilmember Bagby inquired about the current lane widths on Airport Road, and Public Works Director Michael Burgess explained that both lanes together measure roughly 22 feet, with ribbon curbs flush to the asphalt.

Councilmember Trammell suggested adding shrubbery between sidewalks and roads to visually narrow lanes and protect pedestrians.

The discussion then turned to the repaving schedule and criteria. Councilmember Destin questioned why Airport Road's resurfacing was moved forward and why only one section would be completed. Mr. Burgess explained that the city has \$1.2 million remaining in the FY25 resurfacing budget, and resurfacing both sections of Airport Road would cost around \$1 million, leaving

insufficient funds for other projects. He also noted that the western section was prioritized due to worsening pavement conditions and water intrusion risks, despite its original schedule for resurfacing between 2028 and 2030. He added that past projects sometimes used inconsistent asphalt thickness, making forecasting difficult.

Councilmember Braden recalled a previous council motion requiring inspectors for road projects and questioned accountability when substandard work is later discovered. He also urged verifying that utilities would not cut into newly paved roads. Mr. Burgess confirmed that inspections are conducted during milling and paving, described the measurement process, and agreed to coordinate with utilities. He noted that stormwater infrastructure is a mix of materials, including some problematic Hardy pipe.

**Councilmember Bagby moved to approve items 3C and 3D with direction to minimize lane widths on Airport Road and add a 3 to 4-foot bike lane, seconded by Councilmember Hebert.**

Councilmember Destin objected to committing to this change before verifying its effectiveness. After further discussions, **Councilmember Bagby offered an amended motion to approve Consent Agenda items 3C and 3D, as printed above, and to direct staff to prepare and return a report outlining the necessary actions and recommendations for the road going forward. Councilmember Hebert provided a second to the motion, which passed 5-1, with Councilmember Braden dissenting.**

Following the vote on the previous motion, Mayor Wagner suggested pursuing a cost-sharing partnership with the county – possibly using the Half Penny Sales Tax – to fund the entire resurfacing. Councilmember Trammell recommended broadening the request beyond the half penny to explore any county support.

**Councilmember Hebert moved to direct staff to work with the county on obtaining assistance for resurfacing and painting, with Councilmember Trammell seconding the motion. Motion passed 6-0.**

#### **4. CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

##### **A. Heffley & Associates, Lobbyist Kelly Horton – Update**

City Lobbyist Kelly Horton reviewed the unusual length of the most recent legislative session, highlighting budget negotiations, the Governor's late budget signing, and several proposed but unsuccessful measures that could have negatively impacted Destin (e.g., changes to tourist development tax, sweeping DOT trust funds). She emphasized successful budget outcomes, including securing \$1 million for the Mattie Kelly Outfall project and support for the Norriego Point funding effort. She also noted progress on the Crosstown Connector, permitting for the boardwalk, and ongoing work with the Governor's resiliency office on the Four-Prong Lake project. She encouraged the council to prepare legislative priorities and budget requests early for the upcoming January session.

Councilmember Geile asked if there was any way municipalities could gain more home rule regarding short-term rentals. Ms. Horton responded that short-term rental legislation is a recurring issue in Tallahassee, and while no major changes occurred this year, she expects new bills on the topic in the next session.

Councilmember Bagby recommended that council members attend Florida League of Cities events and Tourism Day during committee weeks, as those periods are most effective for building relationships with legislators. He stressed that with Destin's 2-mil cap, major projects (beach nourishment, underground tunnel under Hwy 98, Four-Prong Lake) require partnerships with the county and state legislators. Councilmember Bagby supported renewing the city's agreement with Hefty & Associates to continue advocacy efforts in Tallahassee.

**Councilmember Bagby moved to authorize the mayor to execute the agreement between the City of Destin and Heffley & Associates. Under this agreement, the city will pay Heffley & Associates \$10,000 for the remainder of the current fiscal year—at a rate of \$5,000 per month—and continue with a fee of \$5,000 per month for the next fiscal year. This agreement engages Heffley & Associates to assist the city with legislative matters in Tallahassee. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Hebert and passed 6-0.**

#### B. Lease of Dalton Threadgill Park

The City Manager presented a request from the Destin Little League, represented by Mr. Ben Parker, to amend the current lease agreement for Threadgill Park. The amendments would be added to the existing contract rather than replacing it. If the Council agreed, staff would bring back a redlined version showing the proposed changes.

Councilmember Hebert moved to proceed with the amendments, directing staff to work with the Little League and return with a revised agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Geile.

Councilmember Bagby expressed concern over the proposed 20-year lease term, suggesting a 10-year lease with renewable 5-year periods instead. He noted the Little League's plan to secure sponsorship signage, which requires a reasonable lease length to assure businesses their signs will remain in place for years.

Councilmember Trammell asked for clarification on a clause stating the league's \$100,000 planned contributions for upgrades would be based in part on city contributions. Mr. Parker explained this meant maintaining a partnership with the city, not requiring direct matching funds. Councilmember Trammell also confirmed that annual maintenance costs of \$10–15,000 would be covered by the league.

Mr. Parker emphasized the importance of uninterrupted, year-round use of the fields without needing repeated permission, which would allow the league to seize short-notice opportunities like hosting professional player clinics. He supported the idea of a shorter lease if necessary, given the six-month opt-out clause, but prioritized continuous access.

Councilmember Destin voiced reservations about some proposed changes, particularly the 20-year term and changes to permitted uses. He valued retaining city access when the fields were not in use by the league. **He made a substitute motion to extend the lease for five years beyond its current end date, keeping other terms the same, seconded by Councilmember Trammell.**

Councilmember Braden asked staff about the city's costs for utilities, insurance, and maintenance. Parks & Recreation Director Lisa Firth said utilities and insurance were covered by the city, with \$5,000–10,000 budgeted for maintenance such as mowing and fertilizing. Councilmember Braden advocated for greater city financial support for the Little League, contrasting the city's assistance to other organizations.

The Parks & Recreation Director explained that Little League already uses the fields year-round but must request off-season access, typically granted quickly. Insurance is covered for registered players; other uses require standard facility agreements.

Councilmember Bagby suggested adding signage rights and uninterrupted use to Destin's substitute motion to ensure the league could generate sponsorship revenue and operate year-round.

Multiple councilmembers expressed strong support for the Little League while noting the need to maintain city oversight.

After further discussions, Councilmember Destin offered a substitute motion to:

**1. Extend the current lease by five additional years beyond its existing three-year term, resulting in a total of eight years of lease duration.**

**2. Maintain all other terms of the current contract, unless specifically modified as part of this motion.**

**3. Direct city staff to work with the Destin Little League to revise the contract in the following ways:**

- **Grant Little League priority use of the park during the offseason (i.e., when the regular baseball season is not underway).**
- **Allow the league to pursue sponsorship signage as their primary source of revenue, by modifying the sign language in the contract to enable this, while still adhering to applicable city sign codes.**

**The substitute motion was seconded by Councilmember Trammell and passed 6-0.**

Councilmember Destin expressed willingness to support increased funding for the Little League during budget deliberations.

#### C. Establishing the FY 2026 Tentative Millage Rate and Budget Public Hearing Dates

The City Manager introduced Item 4C as a follow-up to last week's city council budget workshop. He noted that council needed to take action on two items: Setting the tentative millage rate with a recommendation to remain at the current rate of 1.6150 mills, and establishing the budget public hearings on the following dates.

- Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.
- Monday, September 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

**Councilmember Bagby moved to set the tentative millage rate for ad valorem taxes at 1.6150 mills which is 4.44% more than the roll-back rate of 1.5463 mills and confirm the date and times of the public hearings for the FY 2026 Budget on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025 at 6:00 PM and September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM; seconded by Councilmember Hebert. Motion passed 6-0.**

Following council's vote on the previous motion, Councilmember Bagby invited the Human Resources (HR) Director to present on the Florida Retirement System (FRS), stressing the need for an immediate decision to allow implementation by October 1 and for HR to begin work within the week to meet the deadline. He clarified the proposal would give staff the option – but not the requirement – to join FRS as well as Social Security.

## Current Thrift Savings Plan

### Current Thrift Plan (TSP) Overview:

Employer Contribution (in lieu of Social Security): 7.5%

Matching Option:

- If employee contributes 5% to their 457 plan
- City matches up to 5% back to the Thrift Plan

### Graduated Vesting Schedule for 5% Match portion

Years of Service	Vested %
Less than 3 years	0%
3 years	20%
4 years	40%
5 years	60%
6 years	80%
7+ years	100%

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## Proposed: Florida Retirement System

### FRS Vesting Schedule

#### 1. Pension Plan Vesting

- 8 years of service

#### 2. Investment Plan Vesting

- 1 year of service

### FRS Contribution Rates

#### Employee:

- Mandatory 3% (for both pension and investment) to FRS
- Social Security contribution 6.2%

#### Employer:

- 13.63% contribution to FRS
  - Social Security contribution 6.2%
-

## Proposed Transition to FRS Timeline 10/01/2025

- **July:** Application submitted to FRS
- **Aug/Sept:** Admin processing & FRS and TSP Ordinances
- **September:** Employee ballots issued. Elect to stay in TSP or join FRS
- **October 1:** FRS contributions begin

### Key Notes

- Employees remaining in TSP will continue contributions and match as usual.
- Employees joining FRS:
  - City stops contributing to the Thrift Plan.
  - City begins contributions to FRS and Social Security.
  - (Proposed) TSP Vesting schedule continues without interruption.

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The HR Director explained the current thrift savings plan setup, the vesting schedule, and how contributions would transition if employees chose FRS. She outlined FRS options, vesting schedules (8 years for pension, 1 year for investment), mandatory employee and employer contributions (including Social Security), and potential costs, noting a total difference of about \$710,093 if all employees opted in.

**Councilmember Bagby moved to allow city employees the option to transition from the current thrift savings plan into the Florida Retirement System (FRS) beginning FY26, starting October 1, 2025; seconded by Councilmember Trammell. Motion passed 6-0.**

A brief discussion followed regarding the possibility of scheduling a third budget workshop. Councilmember Bagby stated that he was indifferent to holding another budget workshop session but was open to it if needed to address minor funding adjustments for recreation or other matters. Councilmember Destin noted that workshops are non-voting sessions, with final decisions made during budget hearings. He acknowledged that workshops can be helpful but did not consider them essential at this stage. No other council members expressed support for scheduling a third budget workshop.

#### D. Comprehensive Paid Parking Solution, authorization to negotiate a contract

According to the City Manager, five proposals were received for the *Comprehensive Paid Parking Solution* RFP, all of which were strong. However, LAZ Parking stood out as the most suitable. Their proposal includes license plate recognition enforcement for fixed lots, with separate mechanisms for on-street and non-lot areas. Multiple payment options would be available (mobile app, website, kiosk, etc.), all managed in-house without subcontractors. They also proposed having an on-site parking enforcement attendant for areas where automated systems are impractical. The request to council was to designate LAZ Parking as the top proposer and authorize staff to begin negotiations, including the possibility of having an on-site officer.

Councilmember Destin supported moving forward with negotiations but raised several concerns. He noted that the proposed compensation model would likely involve payment from a percentage of fines and fees, and emphasized that the program would need to generate enough revenue to be self-sustaining; otherwise, the city would not proceed. He also expressed philosophical reservations about having a non-city employee enforce parking for profit, cautioning that such an arrangement might incentivize issuing more citations. Additionally, he suggested considering Joe's Bayou as a beta site to test the system for both tourists and locals, which could help reduce workload for staff.

Mayor Wagner acknowledged the idea of using Joe's Bayou and emphasized ensuring the system is scalable so it could be expanded to other locations if successful.

The City Manager agreed that scalability would be built into the contract, allowing the program to be expanded to other areas, including Joe's Bayou, if it proved effective.

**Councilmember Trammell moved to authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to negotiate a contract in satisfaction of RFP 25-08-PW – Comprehensive Paid Parking Solution with LAZ Parking with the parking enforcement officer option. Upon completion, the final contract will be submitted to city council for approval. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Hebert. Motion passed 6-0.**

E. Operations Financial Report - Informational Only

F. Announcements

1. Construction work around Sandalwood Drive and Beach Drive is scheduled to begin later this month as part of the Cross Town Connector project. Phase one will include the construction of a new stormwater drainage pond, underground filtration pipe, and drainage inlets. A public engagement plan is in place to keep nearby properties informed, and this first phase is expected to be completed in early 2026.
2. The city's annual Big Truck Event is set for Friday, August 1st at the Community Center, running from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. In early August, the city will also break ground on new pickleball courts, with plans for a large community celebration once they are completed. Staff are coordinating with local pickleball associations to make this a successful event.
3. Safety improvements have been made at Osteen Beach Access, where new signage has been installed warning of strong currents—one sign located at the beach itself and another at the beginning of the trail. Additionally, the city recently hosted a successful undergrounding forum attended by approximately 25 citizens. Representatives from Destin Water Users, Cox, LiveOak Fiber, GigaPower, Okaloosa Gas, and Utility Consultants of Florida participated in the event, working collaboratively to address citizen concerns and identify potential solutions.
4. Mayor Wagner also welcomed about 20 visiting mayors as part of a Florida League of Mayors meeting held in Destin, which included time spent at City Hall and around the city. Lastly, infrastructure upgrades are underway at Morgan Sports Center, where field lights and lighting in the east and west parking lots are

being replaced. New LED fixtures are being installed on existing poles, with completion expected by the end of September.

## 5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Second Reading Ordinance 24-17-CC Property Maintenance Code - Amending Chapter 6 of the Code of Ordinances to create a new Article 5, "Property Maintenance Code."

The City Attorney read proposed Ordinance 24-17-CC by title, and then presented it to the city council on second reading.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESTIN, FLORIDA; AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CREATE A NEW ARTICLE 5, "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE"; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The mayor opened a public hearing to receive comments for or against the proposed ordinance. Having none, the mayor closed the public hearing and turned the matter over to the city council for their discussion and consideration.

**Councilmember Destin moved to amend proposed Ordinance 24-17-CC by adding the following statement to the "Whereas" clauses at the beginning of the ordinance:**

*"It is not the intent of the city to drop in and conduct inspections on a regular basis on any property in Destin without due cause. The property maintenance code is to focus on changes of use, problematic, damaged, or dilapidated structures and properties that may become blighted, unkempt, or determined to be unsafe to occupants or to the general welfare of the public."*

**Motion to amend was seconded by Councilmember Geile and passed 6-0.**

**Councilmember Destin moved to amend proposed Ordinance 24-17-CC to extend the appeal notification period for an aggrieved party to notify the city of an intent to appeal a staff decision to the city council from 5 days to 14 days. Motion to amend was seconded by Councilmember Hebert and passed 6-0.**

The City Attorney announced that proposed Ordinance 24-17-CC will be brought back for second reading at the August 4<sup>th</sup> city council meeting.

- B. Second reading of Ordinance 24-14-LC - Removing Section 20.06.00 of the Land Development Code - "Unsafe Building Abatement."

The City Attorney read proposed Ordinance 24-14-LC by title, and then presented it to the city council on second reading:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESTIN, FLORIDA; REMOVING SECTION 20.06.00 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE "UNSAFE BUILDING ABATEMENT"; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR REMOVAL FROM THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The mayor opened a public hearing to receive comments for or against the proposed ordinance. Having none, the mayor closed the public hearing and turned the matter over to the city council for their discussion and consideration.

**Motion by Councilmember Trammell, seconded by Councilmember Hebert, to approve Ordinance 24-14-LC on second reading passed 6-0.**

- C. Second reading of proposed Ordinance 25-13-PC - Making transportation-related amendments to Chapter 1 - Future Land Use Element, Chapter 2 - Transportation Element, Chapter 9 - Capital Improvements Element, Chapter 12 - Administration, and Chapter 13 - Glossary, of the city's comprehensive plan; deleting the Multimodal Transportation District; providing for goals, objectives, and policies relating to the city mobility plan city mobility fees.

The City Attorney read proposed Ordinance 25-13-PC by title, and then presented it to the city council on second reading:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESTIN, FLORIDA, MAKING TRANSPORTATION-RELATED AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 1 - FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT, CHAPTER 2 - TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT, CHAPTER 9 - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT, CHAPTER 12 - ADMINISTRATION, AND CHAPTER 13 - GLOSSARY, OF THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; DELETING THE MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES RELATING TO THE CITY MOBILITY PLAN AND CITY MOBILITY FEES; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR A BUSINESS IMPACT ESTIMATE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The mayor opened a public hearing to receive comments for or against the proposed ordinance. Having none, the mayor closed the public hearing and turned the matter over to the city council for their discussion and consideration.

**Motion by Councilmember Trammell, seconded by Councilmember Hebert, to approve Ordinance 25-13-PC on second reading passed 6-0.**

- D. Second reading of proposed Ordinance 25-15-CC - Amending Chapter 14 "Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions" of the Code of Ordinances, establishing that solicitation canvassing and/or vending on the beach without a permit is a misdemeanor offense; and providing for penalties consistent with state law.

The City Attorney read proposed Ordinance 25-15-CC by title, and then presented it to the city council on second reading:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESTIN, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; AMENDING CHAPTER 14 "OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; ESTABLISHING THAT SOLICITATION, CANVASSING AND/OR VENDING ON THE BEACH WITHOUT A PERMIT IS A MISDEMEANOR OFFENSE; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES CONSISTENT WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The mayor opened a public hearing to receive comments for or against the proposed ordinance. Having none, the mayor closed the public hearing and turned the matter over to the city council for their discussion and consideration.

**Motion by Councilmember Trammell, seconded by Councilmember Hebert, to approve Ordinance 25-15-CC on second reading passed 6-0.**

**6. COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY ATTORNEY**

A. Councilmember Braden

1) Code Enforcement

Councilmember Braden provided a follow-up on a conversation he had with the City Manager and Captain Fulghum from the Sheriff's Office regarding discussion on the retention of code compliance officers. He highlighted a concern that after the city invests in training code officers, some individuals leave the position shortly thereafter. To address this, he suggested implementing a policy requiring officers who receive city-sponsored training to reimburse the city if they leave within a two-year period. He believes such a measure could help retain well-trained personnel. He also stated that if staff had additional recommendations for improving the retention of quality code enforcement officers, he would be willing to act as the legislative sponsor or make a motion to support such efforts. He expressed his intent to bring the matter back to council for further discussion and input.

The City Manager noted that the concept of a training reimbursement or minimum work period had already been discussed and that staff was actively working on it. He explained that this may be addressed internally through policy and might not require council action. However, if council approval becomes necessary, staff will present the matter for consideration.

2) Appointment of Matthew Sweetser to the Parks and Recreation Committee

**Motion by Councilmember Braden, seconded by Councilmember Trammell, to appoint Matthew Sweetser to the Parks and Recreation Committee passed 6-0.**

E. Councilmember Trammell

In Councilmember Schmidt's absence, Councilmember Trammell announced that she would appoint Mariam Paulino to the Harbor CRA Advisory Committee on his behalf.

**Motion by Councilmember Trammell, seconded by Councilmember Hebert, to appoint Mariam Paulino to the Harbor CRA Advisory Committee passed 6-0.**

C. Councilmember Destin

Councilmember Destin informed the city about a parcel of land across from Clement Taylor Park on Calhoun Street, commonly referred to as the "Old Najarian" property, which had become available for sale. He recommends the city considers obtaining an appraisal of the property. His intention was to explore the feasibility of using the parcel as overflow parking for the park, contingent upon the appraisal and further evaluation supporting such a use.

Councilmember Destin also raised a concern regarding a longstanding drainage issue on Keller Street affecting Mr. Dan Dulles' residence. He referred to a quote he had come across that appeared to present a possible solution to the problem, although he was unsure of its source.

The Public Works Director clarified that one of the quotes had originated from the city's concrete contractor and was based on a design prepared by city staff. However, the project had not

yet moved forward. He also noted that Mr. Dulles had shared some of his own ideas with the contractor during a site visit, which may have influenced the content of the quote. Given the uncertainty surrounding the quote's origin and details, the Public Works Director requested that Councilmember Destin forward it to him so it could be properly reviewed and evaluated.

D. Councilmember Bagby

- 1) City's State Lobbyist Contract - Acted upon earlier in the meeting
- 2) Direct Staff to begin the process to enroll in the Florida Retirement System – Acted upon earlier in the meeting
- 3) Appointment of Andrea Ansley to the Parks and Recreation Committee

**Motion by Councilmember Bagby, seconded by Councilmember Hebert, to appoint Andrea Ansley to the Parks and Recreation Committee passed 6-0.**

E. Councilmember Hebert

F. Councilmember Geile

- 1) Projects Status/Updates

G. Councilmember Schmidt

H. Mayor Wagner

I. City Attorney

- 1) Call for Executive Session to be held on August 4, 2025 at 5:30pm in the following litigation: Ida K. Broski v. City of Destin, Okaloosa County, and Destin Water Users, Inc., 2023 CA 000978 (Okaloosa County, Florida Circuit Court 2023)

**Motion by Councilmember Bagby, seconded by Councilmember Destin, to schedule a Council Executive Session on August 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM to discuss the above case passed 6-0.**

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.**



**Rey Bailey, City Clerk**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bobby Wagner', is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature, the name 'Bobby Wagner, Mayor' is printed in a bold, black font.

**Bobby Wagner, Mayor**