

**MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
CITY COUNCIL  
JANUARY 5, 2026  
5:30 PM  
CITY HALL ANNEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Council of the City of Destin met at an executive session with the following members and staff present:

**Council Present**

Mayor Bobby Wagner	Councilmember Dewey Destin
Councilmember Torey Geile	Councilmember Kevin Schmidt
Councilmember Terésa Hebert	Councilmember Jim Bagby
Councilmember Sandy Trammell	Councilmember Rodney Braden

**Staff Present**

City Manager Larry Jones  
City Clerk Rey Bailey  
City Attorney Kimberly Romano Kopp  
Litigation Attorney William G. Warner, Esq.

**Others Present**

Court Reporter

**CALL TO ORDER**

1. EXECUTIVE ATTORNEY-CLIENT SESSION: Pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes, the City's Special Counsel will be seeking the advice of the City Council regarding settlement negotiations and/or strategy related to litigation expenditures concerning the pending litigation:

*CLAUDE PERRY ENTERPRISES, LLC and MARLER HARBOR  
PROPERTY, LLC, v. CITY OF DESTIN, Case No. 2025-CA-002694-  
F Okaloosa County, Florida Circuit Court 2025)*

**Mayor Wagner convened the meeting and announced that:**

*"This session of the Destin City Council is hereby convened as noticed by publication in a newspaper of general circulation, The Daily News, on Wednesday, December 31, 2025."*

**The City Attorney states as follows:**

*"Pursuant to §286.011(8), Florida Statutes, at this time, I would like to request that we adjourn to executive session so that I, the attorney of record for the City of Destin in:*

**CLAUDE PERRY ENTERPRISES, LLC and MARLER HARBOR  
PROPERTY, LLC, v. CITY OF DESTIN, Case No. 2025-CA-002694-  
F Okaloosa County, Florida Circuit Court 2025)**

*may receive the council's advice regarding the strategy to be used in this case and the type of expenses to be incurred."*

*The entire session would be recorded by a court reporter, the transcript would be filed with the City Clerk, and available to the public at the conclusion of the litigation discussed today. A copy of the published notice of this executive session is hereby identified as Exhibit A and will be attached to the transcript of this executive session.*

*In addition to the Mayor Pro Tem and City Council members in attendance tonight, the following individuals will attend the session:*

**Attorneys for the City:** **William G. Warner, Esq**  
**Warner Law Firm, P.A.**  
**519 Grace Avenue**  
**Panama City, Florida 32401**

**Kimberly Romano Kopp, Esq., LEED AP**  
**Romano Kopp Law, PA.**  
**P.O. Box 5524**  
**Destin, Florida 32541-0445**

**City Manager** **Larry Jones"**

**The City Attorney (Cont.)**

*"At this time will the mayor and council members in attendance please identify yourselves for the record?"*

The following members of the city council each announced their presence:

Councilmember Rodney Braden  
Councilmember Sandy Trammell  
Councilmember Jim Bagby  
Mayor Bobby Wagner  
Councilmember Terésa Hebert  
Councilmember Torey Geile  
Councilmember Kevin Schmidt

**The City Attorney (Cont.)**

*I estimate that this executive session will take approximately 30 minutes. At the conclusion of the executive session, the Council will reconvene the public hearing, accept any motions if applicable, and the mayor will end the session.*

Mayor Wagner states that:

*“At this time, we will recess the public portion of tonight’s meeting and convene the executive session.*

Individuals whose names are not listed in the published notice left the room and the executive session convened.

Once the closed session ended and the City Clerk has returned, the mayor states:

*“We will now reconvene the public portion of this meeting and I will accept any motions from the council.”*

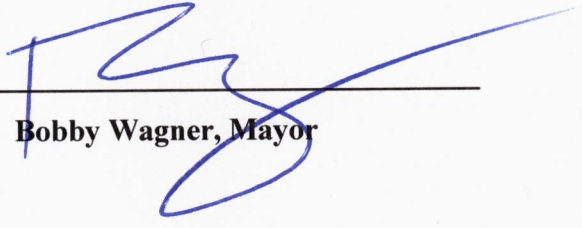
**Motion by Councilmember Hebert, seconded by Councilmember Geile, to formally reject the proposed offer passed 7-0.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**


**Having no further business at this time, the mayor adjourned the meeting at 5:55 PM.**

**ADOPTED THIS 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026**

**By:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Bobby Wagner, Mayor**

  
**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Rey Bailey, City Clerk**