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Mayor Keith A. James  
Commission President Christina Lambert (District 5)  
Commissioner Cathleen Ward (District 1)  
Commissioner Shalonda Warren (District 2)  
Commissioner Christy Fox (District 3)  
Commissioner Joseph A. Peduzzi (District 4)

City Administrator Faye W. Johnson  
City Attorney Kimberly Rothenburg  
City Clerk Shaquita Edwards

**City of West Palm Beach  
Special City Commission  
Agenda  
Wednesday, September 24, 2025  
5:01 PM**

In accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons in need of a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding shall, within three days prior to any proceeding, contact the City Clerk's Office, 401 Clematis Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33401, (561) 822-1210.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

## 2. CIVILITY AND DECORUM

The City of West Palm Beach is committed to civility and decorum by its officials, employees and members of the public who attend this meeting. The City Code, Secs. 2-31(8), 2-31(18) and 2-31(22), provides in pertinent part:

- Officials shall be recognized by the Chair and shall not interrupt a speaker.
- Public comment shall be addressed to the City Commission as a whole and not to any individual on the dais or in the audience.
- Displays of anger, rudeness, ridicule, impatience, lack of respect and personal attacks are strictly prohibited.
- Unauthorized remarks from the audience, stamping of feet, whistles, yells and similar demonstrations shall not be permitted.
- Offenders may be removed from the meeting.
- Any person desiring to address the Commission **shall** file a written request with the city clerk prior to consideration of the matter by the Commission or prior to the public comment portion of a meeting. The person wishing to speak **shall** complete a comment card for each agenda item the person wishes to address, which **shall** include the person's full name, address, and the numbered agenda item. The person will not be recognized if the comment card is not completed.

### 3. PUBLIC HEARING

- 3.1. Public Hearing of Resolution No. 234-25(F) adopting the final FY 2025/2026 operating and debt service millage rates; and

Resolution No. 235-25(F) adopting the final FY 2025/2026 operating budget.

**Originating Department:**

Finance

**Ordinance/Resolution:**

RESOLUTION NO. 234-25(F): A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA ADOPTING FINAL AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATES OF 8.1308 MILLS FOR GENERAL OPERATING PURPOSES WHICH IS 5.39 PERCENT MORE THAN THE CALCULATED "ROLLED-BACK RATE" OF 7.7152 AND 0.0580 MILLS FOR GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT SERVICE FOR A TOTAL OF 8.1888 MILLS AND LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING "ROLLED-BACK RATES"; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

RESOLUTION NO. 235-25(F): A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA ADOPTING FINAL ESTIMATES OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2026, APPROPRIATING THE USE OF FUNDS SHOWN THEREIN AS MAY BE NEEDED OR DEEMED NECESSARY TO DEFRAY ALL EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES OF THE CITY FOR SUCH FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Staff Recommended Motion:**

**Resolution No. 234-25(F) setting the final millage rate must be considered first, and Resolution No. 235-25(F) adopting a final budget will be considered after the millage rate resolution. The Resolutions must be considered separately.**

Resolution No. 234-25(F) Motion: I move approval of Resolution No. 234-25(F) adopting a final ad valorem millage rate of 8.1308 mills for general operating purposes, which is 5.39 percent more than the calculated rolled-back rate of 7.7152 and a millage rate of 0.0580 mills for general obligation debt service, for a total millage rate of 8.1888 mills.

**Roll Call Vote**

Resolution No. 235-25(F) Motion: I move approval of Resolution No. 235-25(F) adopting a final budget for fiscal year 2025/2026.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Background Information:**

Section 200.065 Florida Statutes requires that a taxing authority hold two (2) public hearings to adopt the annual operating budget. At the First Public Hearing held on September 8, 2025, the City Commission commented on the budget and then adopted a tentative millage rate and tentative operating budget.

On September 8, 2025, the first public hearing was held, and the City Commission approved the tentative millage rates and operating budget.

The second public hearing, on September 24, 2025, was noticed by publication in the Palm Beach Post on September 21, 2025. The City Commission will hear public comment on the millage rates and the budget and may make revisions prior to final adoption of the millage rates and the budget for the fiscal year 2025/2026.

Resolution No. 234-25(F) adopts the FY 2025/2026 final ad valorem millage rates of 8.1308 for operating purposes and 0.0580 mills for debt service on voter approved general obligation debt for an aggregate millage rate of 8.1888. The operating millage is 5.39% above the “rolled-back rate” of 7.7152.

Resolution No. 235-25(F) adopts the final estimates of revenue and expenses for the fiscal year commencing on October 1, 2025, and ending on September 30, 2026, as its annual budget, appropriating the use of funds therein as may be needed or deemed necessary to defray all expenses and liabilities of the City for such fiscal year.

The total City-wide budget for all funds is \$783,389,859 (excluding the CRA and ECR) for the fiscal year 2025/2026. The operating millage mentioned previously relates only to the General Fund budget, which totals \$283,563,050. The budget is balanced on the millage rates discussed above.

**Fiscal Note:**

Approval will authorize budget appropriations for FY2026 Revenue and Expenditures.

#### **4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Public comments are limited to 3 (three) minutes. Anyone wishing to address the Commission should complete a "Comments by the Public" card and present it to the City Clerk prior to the Public Comments. When you are called to speak, please go to the podium and state your name and address for the record prior to addressing Commission. The Commission will not discuss the matter nor respond to the comment this evening. Comments made will become part of the record and may be addressed at a later date.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

\*Pursuant to Resolution No. 179-95, adopted according to the provisions of Section 286.0115, Florida Statutes, members of the Commission shall disclose on the record: 1) ex-parte communications - verbal or written; 2.) written communications shall be placed in the record; and 3) site visits, investigations, etc. shall be disclosed.

NOTICE: If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Commission at this meeting, that person will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purposes, may need to ensure that a verbatim records of the proceedings be made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. The City of West Palm Beach does not prepare or provide such record.