

# MINUTES OF THE TOWN COMMISSION MEETING TOWN OF LADY LAKE, FLORIDA

February 18, 2026

The regular meeting of the Lady Lake Town Commission was held in the Commission Chambers at Lady Lake Town Hall, 409 Fennell Blvd., Lady Lake, Florida, with Mayor Freeman presiding. The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

## 2. ROLL CALL

Commissioner (Ward)	Present
Regan (Four)	YES
Roberts (One)	YES
Sage (Five)	YES
Freeman (Three)	YES

## STAFF PRESENT

Bill Lawrence, Town Manager; Kathy Rosado, Town Clerk; Thad Carroll, Growth Management Director; Becky Higgins, Senior Planner; Lady Lake Police Chief Steve Hunt; Lady Lake Deputy Police Chief Jason Brough; C.T. Eagle, Public Works Director; Joella LeDonne, Finance Director; Tamika DeLee, Human Resources Director; and Carol Osborne, Deputy Town Clerk.

## 3. INVOCATION

Led by Reverend Dr. Kyle Hite – North Lake Presbyterian Church

## 4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## 5. CONSENT — (Public Comment Taken)

- a. Town Clerk — Approval of the Town Commission Meeting Minutes — February 2, 2026
- b. Town Clerk — Approval of the Town Commission Workshop Minutes — February 2, 2026

Upon a motion by Commissioner Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Sage, the Commission approved the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS — (Public Comment Taken)

**a. Parks and Recreation Department** – Consideration of Approval to Host the Annual Tree Raffle and Invest \$10K of Donated Tree Funds to Finance the Project. (Mike Burske)

Parks and Recreation Director Mike Burske stated that the tree raffle allows town residents to enter and win a \$200 gift card to Fairfield Farm Nursery.

Commissioner Sage stated that Fairfield Farms Nursery is not in Lady Lake and inquired if a Lady Lake nursery has been considered.

Mr. Burske stated that a new nursery recently opened in Lady Lake, and he has contacted them. He stated that since they are new to the area, it may be too early for them to accommodate this event.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Sage and seconded by Commissioner Regan, the Commission approved investing \$10K of donated tree bank funds to finance the annual tree raffle.**

**Motion passed by a vote of 4-0.**

**b. Parks and Recreation Department** – Consideration of Approval to Contract with Nidy Sports Construction to Reconstruct the Tennis Court and Pickleball Courts into Six Pickleball Courts, Eliminate Tennis and the Guava Street Athletic Complex Courts, and Resurface the Basketball and Handball Courts at the Complex. (Mike Burske)

Parks and Recreation Director Mike Burske stated that the tennis and pickleball courts at the Guava Street Athletic Complex need resurfacing. The existing tennis courts will be removed and the complex converted to house six dedicated pickleball courts. He stated that the town's pickleball professional, Ralph Jones, has been heavily involved in the redesign and development of the proposed courts' layout. The project will utilize the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance contract.

Commissioner Roberts inquired if this project requires a bid process since this project will be through the NCPA. She inquired if the new courts will be contained in the tennis court areas or if the area will be increased.

Mr. Burske stated that this is a national contract utilized by many colleges and municipalities. He stated that tennis courts will be eliminated and a fence will be installed around the courts. He stated that this is funded through the general fund.

**Upon a motion by Commissioner Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Sage, the Commission approved Contracting with Nidy Sports Construction to reconstruct the Tennis Court and Pickleball Courts.**

**Motion passed by a vote of 4-0.**

## **7. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Regan stated he would like to place the proposed new police department on an upcoming agenda.

Commissioner Sage stated that the commission should not make this decision until we know if the property tax law passes.

Commissioner Roberts and Mayor Freeman concurred.

Mr. Lawrence stated that he and the staff will gather further information regarding pricing and alternative funding sources.

Commissioner Roberts stated that the commission is also waiting for the results of the new wastewater treatment plant study.

Mr. Lawrence clarified that these projects are paid through two separate funds. The wastewater treatment plant is paid with user fees through the Enterprise Fund, and the police station is paid for through the General Fund. He stated that these projects could be constructed simultaneously.

Commissioner Sage stated there was discussion regarding constructing the police station and a new recreation center on the same property.

Mr. Lawrence stated that a potential downtown area for this project was suggested by a developer. The issue is that the town is leasing the building rather than owning it.

Commissioner Sage inquired if there is an update regarding the new recreation building.

Mr. Lawrence stated that this study was completed by Stockton Reeves, and Mr. Burske will present it at a future date.

Mr. Lawrence stated that two of these proposed projects would be paid through the General Fund, and one through the Enterprise Fund.

Commissioner Roberts stated that she and the mayor attended the League of Mayors Regional Roundtable discussion regarding Leadership During Crisis. She stated it was a valuable and helpful presentation in outlining how the commissioners could deal with a crisis in the future.

Mayor Freeman stated that he spoke with Mr. Lawrence regarding formalizing a crisis plan for the town. This will be on a future workshop agenda.

Mayor Freeman stated that Heartland League of Cities will be working with the Florida League of Cities to bring the EMO courses closer to our area, including the mandatory ethics training.

## **8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Town Manager Bill Lawrence stated that the open house for the new Children's Library is Monday, February 23, at 9:30 a.m. A tour of the new Growth Management Department at the library is also open to anyone who wishes to see it.

Mr. Lawrence stated that Town Engineer Jason Shepler will present the study for the new wastewater treatment plant at a Special Commission meeting on Wednesday, March 4, at 2:00 p.m.

#### **9. TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Town Attorney Derek Schroth stated that the oral arguments on the appeal for Grand Oaks is scheduled for July 8 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

#### **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments

#### **11. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.



Kathleen Rosado, Town Clerk



Ed Freeman, Mayor