

**City of Port St. Lucie**  
**Citizen's Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes - Draft**

121 SW Port St. Lucie  
Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, Florida  
34984

Lynette Lockwood, Chair  
Michael Bernard, Vice Chair  
Raymond Pezzi, Member  
Christy Romano, Member  
Ingrid Sarmiento, Member  
James Abbott, Member  
Harry Williams, Member  
Gabby Rothman, Alternate  
Mark Bryant, III, Alternate

**CAC**

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**Wednesday, May 20, 2026**

**1:30 PM**

**Room 366, City Hall**

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1. Call to Order

A Regular Meeting of the CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the City of Port St. Lucie was called to order by Vice Chair Bernard on May 20, 2026, at 1:40 p.m., at Port St. Lucie City Hall, Room 366, 121 Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Michael Bernard, Vice Chair

Raymond Pezzi

Ingrid Sarmiento

James Abbott

Gabby Rothman, Alternate (Arrived at 1:50 p.m.)

Members Not Present:

Lynette Lockwood, Chair

Christy Romano

Harry Williams

Mark Bryant, Alternate

3. Determination of Quorum

It was determined that there was a quorum.

4. Approval of Minutes

**4.a** January 21, 2026 Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting  
Minutes.

[2026-458](#)

There being no discussion, Ms. Sarmiento moved to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Abbott seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. Public to be Heard

There was nothing heard under this item.

6. New Business

**6.a** Budget (Capital Improvement Plan) Update

[2026-459](#)

Carolyn Sturgis, Director, Office of Management and Budget, presented the Capital Improvement Plan Update. (Clerk's Note: A PowerPoint presentation was shown at this time.)

Mr. Bernard questioned why the Mobility Fees were down by 50%, to which Ms. Sturgis responded that construction activity has slowed, resulting in fewer fees collected.

Mr. Pezzi stated that years ago, the Committee reviewed the Mobility/Impact Fees being held by the County that were not being allocated toward City projects and questioned how it was resolved, to which Kate Parmelee, Deputy City Manager, responded that a new agreement was negotiated and collaboration with the County has since improved.

Ms. Sturgis presented the Capital Projects and explained the selection process. Ms. Parmelee stated that projects were also prioritized based on responses from the Citizen's Survey and Citizen's Summit. She added that traffic was identified as the number one issue reported by residents; therefore, infrastructure funding would be a top priority in the budget.

Mr. Pezzi questioned why California, Village Parkway, and St. Lucie West kept getting pushed back, to which Ms. Parmelee responded that those were top priorities, and they were looking at creative funding solutions. She added that there was an innovation team working on traffic to look at it in a multifaceted way.

Mr. Bernard questioned how the half-cent sales tax was distributed to which Ms. Parmelee responded that it was based on population. Mr. Bernard stated that there was a County Finance Board and expressed interest in knowing how the members were selected or who made the decision, as he believed that 3 of the 5 members should be from the City since the City represents two-thirds of the population.

Mr. Bernard stated that 75% of the population of the State of Florida, is

within 3 hours of Port St. Lucie.

(Clerk's Note: At this time, Ms. Sarmiento left the meeting.)

Ms. Sturgis presented Goal 5, High Quality Infrastructure & Facilities, which included road widening and stormwater projects, the sidewalk program, and the annual roadway resurfacing program. Goal 6, Culture, Nature & Recreation, outlining key capital investments including park improvements, playground replacement, parking expansion, lighting upgrades, and facility repairs across several City parks and recreational facilities. Goal 7, High Performing Government, highlighting key capital investments including the City Hall expansion and new parking garage, Council Chambers modernization, a new Facilities Maintenance Building, and the expansion of Utility Systems administrative space and warehouse facilities.

Mr. Pezzi questioned the City's position on AI data centers and noted that many cities are opposed to having generating facilities in their communities. He commented that there is available land and asked whether any entities have approached the City, emphasizing that such facilities cannot be connected to the grid or have costs passed on to residents. Mr. Abbott responded that these projects required special criteria to be considered.

Ms. Rothman informed the Committee that the Stars and Stripes Ribbon Cutting would be held on June 4th at 6:00 pm and that she was very proud of the City. The Committee commended staff on doing a great job and Ms. Parmelee announced that Stephen Okiye, Finance Director, was selected as the recipient of the Hometown Hero Award.

7. Unfinished Business

There was nothing heard under this item.

8. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

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Michael Bernard, Vice Chair

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Calleigh Nazario, City Clerk Administrator