

City of Port St. Lucie

Special City Council

Meeting Minutes - Draft

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

Shannon M. Martin, Mayor

Jolien Caraballo, Vice Mayor, District IV
Stephanie Morgan, Councilwoman, District I
Dave Pickett, Councilman, District II
Anthony Bonna, Sr., Councilman, District III

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Monday, June 15, 2026	6:00 PM	Council Chambers, City Hall
1.	Meeting Called to Order	
	A Special Meeting of the CITY COUNCIL of the City of Port St. Lucie was called to order by Mayor Martin on June 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., at the Port St. Lucie City Hall, Council Chambers, 121 SE Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, Florida.	
2.	Roll Call	
	Council Members Present:	
	Mayor Martin Councilman Bonna Vice Mayor Caraballo Councilwoman Morgan Councilman Pickett	
3.	Pledge of Allegiance	
	Mayor Martin led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.	
4.	Public to be Heard	
	Reginald Floyd requested a letter of support to establish a St. Lucie/Martin County Chapter of Alpha Phi Fraternity.	
5.	Special Presentation	
5.a	Discussion and Direction Regarding Distribution of Waste Pro Settlement Funds.	2026-564
	(Clerk's Note: A PowerPoint was shown this time.) Charlie Proulx, Finance Deputy Director, advised that after legal action the City was awarded \$24	

million in a settlement and staff was recommending that the full amount be returned to the residents. He explained the detailed analysis used by staff to identify the greatest benefit for the community. He clarified that eligibility was restricted to single family residential improved properties, totaling 95, and over 70,000 were present during the most significant service disruptions while over 17,000 were present at later dates but still contributed to the Cameo site, tax base & lawsuit. He inquired if funds should be reimbursed for prior solid waste expenses and inquired as to how the refund should be distributed.

He explained the methodology behind the slide Mayor Martin designed; if a home had the same owner since 2022 tax roll, they would receive \$364, new properties from 2023-2026 would receive \$64, but if an owner changed homes between 2022-2023, they would receive \$64 but could go through a claims process to receive the additional \$300. He explained that based off models, they were assuming 10% of the 24,676 would make a claim for the additional funds. Councilwoman Morgan questioned the 2026 tax roll, to which Mr. Proulx replied that they used the May 2026 Certificate of Occupancy numbers.

Vice Mayor Caraballo questioned why the funds would not be used to add an additional pickup day to which Mr. Proulx replied that the refund would not be used for a second day of pickup because staff wanted it to be returned in the most fiscally responsible and timely manner. He added that an additional second pickup day was subjective as not every resident would want it. Councilman Bonna & Councilman Pickett voiced that they preferred the methodology submitted by the Mayor and would prefer to refund it through the tax roll. Vice Mayor Caraballo agreed with the methodology but felt that the funds should be refunded by check. The City Council and staff discussed the verbiage that could be used on the TRIM notice and the tax bill.

Vice Mayor Caraballo inquired as to how much the checks would cost to which Mr. Proulx replied \$2/check or a total of \$200,000 in hard costs, which would come from the invested funds generated from the \$24 million. Councilwoman Morgan inquired as to how staff came up with over 81,000 homes to which Mr. Proulx replied that they used the May 2021 tax roll along with May 2022. Mr. Proulx explained that they would have to hire extra staff to handle the influx of calls and processing of checks.

Mayor Martin opened Public Comment.

Annette Rodriguez agreed with the City Council's comments. Tom Luce voiced that he would prefer a water bill credit.

Sandy Orlando Barrios voiced that he would prefer those unclaimed funds & the \$64 be used on a large City project. He stated that ordering an additional bin instead of scheduling a second pickup day would be the more cost-effective option.

Shane Doab voiced that the figures did not reconcile, and some funds could not be accounted for, to which Mayor Martin replied that funds would be held in escrow for the claims process. He added that the attorney fees for the lawsuit should have been paid out in the settlement or through their salary with the City. Mayor Martin reiterated that the entire \$24 million would be distributed to the residents.

Thomas Maresco voiced that only the residents on the 2022 tax roll should receive funds via check.

Cliff Montero urged the City Council to put funds towards infant/children survival swimming programs.

Peter Overhuls agreed that the money should be returned to the residents via tax credit. He suggested that the City Council adopt a lower millage rate.

Matt Pelton agreed that the money should be returned to the residents. He voiced concerns over the City Council's fiduciary responsibility.

Vice Mayor Caraballo replied to Mr. Luce's comment and stated that not all residents paid for City water/sewer. She explained that garbage acted as a service in bulk as a transactional service. She agreed that additional water safety programs were needed.

Vice Mayor Caraballo moved to deny the deposit of the funds into the General Fund. Councilman Pickett seconded the motion which passed unanimously by voice vote.

Councilman Bonna moved to approve using the alternate methodology option submitted by the Mayor. Councilman Pickett seconded the motion. Under discussion, the City Council acknowledged that the Waste Pro issues affected residents differently, resulting in varying degrees of inconvenience and hardship. The City Manager explained that any funds over \$24 million would be returned to the residents. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Vice Mayor Caraballo moved to approve reimbursement via check. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Councilwoman Morgan moved to approve adding the funds to the tax roll. Councilman Pickett seconded the motion. Under discussion, Councilman Bonna & Mayor Martin urged staff to use clear verbiage on the TRIM notices. The motion passed by roll call vote with Mayor Martin, Councilman Bonna, Councilwoman Morgan, and Councilman Pickett voting in favor and Vice Mayor Caraballo voting against.

6. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Sally Walsh, City Clerk

Shanna Donleavy, Deputy City Clerk