

LAKELAND CITY COMMISSION**Regular Session
August 4, 2025**

The Lakeland City Commission met in Regular Session in the City Commission Chambers. Mayor Bill Mutz and Commissioners Chad McLeod, Bill Read, Stephanie Madden, Sara Roberts McCarley, Mike Musick, and Guy LaLonde were present. City Manager Shawn Sherrouse, City Attorney Palmer Davis, Finance Director Mike Brossart, and Deputy City Clerk Heather Bradman were present.

CALL TO ORDER - 9:00 A.M.**PRESENTATIONS**

Lakeland Downtown Development Authority (Julie Townsend, LDDA Executive Director). Julie Townsend and staff presented an update on LDDA programs and events.

Commissioners praised LDDA's role in sponsoring "The Squeeze," promoting downtown Lakeland, and attracting visitors from across Florida. Commissioner Read noted the pet-friendly environment and restaurant offerings; Commissioner LaLonde remarked on the organization's positive evolution.

Beautification Awards (Stacy Smith)

- Residential: Nguyen HOA Vuong Thi & Trinh Thang Quoc - 1832 West Lake Parker Drive
- Commercial: Aida Palms - 140 Aida Street

Stacy Smith noted the upcoming rose replacements in the Bicentennial Rose Garden, shared that the Doris Sanders Learning Center is interested in restarting the student program at Hollis Garden, and highlighted Hollis Garden's upcoming 25th anniversary.

PROCLAMATIONS

- Florida Water Professionals Month

REQUESTS TO APPEAR FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC - None**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered routine by the City Commission and will be enacted by one motion following an opportunity for public comment. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a City Commissioner or Citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence. For items listed with an asterisk (*) under the Community Redevelopment

Agency portion of the agenda, the City Commission shall be deemed to be acting in its capacity as the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Lakeland when approving the consent agenda.

Motion: Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Chad McLeod seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Mayor Bill Mutz called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (with any amendments)

*City Commission Minutes - 07/18-21/25

*Utility Committee Minutes - 07/18/25

Action: The Commission approved this item as part of the Consent Agenda.

REPORTS AND RELATED ITEMS

Legislative Committee 07/21/25

Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley presented this report to the Commission. She suggested a minor edit in the minutes regarding the focus areas for the upcoming year.

Motion: Commissioner Mike Musick moved to approve the report. Commissioner Stephanie Madden seconded.

Commissioners praised Commissioner Roberts McCarley for her leadership and improvements to the Legislative Committee. She credited teamwork with staff and City Manager Shawn Sherrouse and valued representing Lakeland this year. They emphasized that some legislative “failures” benefit the City and its residents.

Action: Mayor Bill Mutz called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

EQUALIZATION HEARINGS

Recess/Convene: The Commission recessed the Regular Session and convened as the Equalization Board.

City Attorney Palmer Davis explained that the City Charter requires that prior to recording a lien against private property, the City Commission convene as the Equalization Board and grant those property owners the opportunity to object to the recording of the lien or ask any questions they might have. If someone present received

a notice to appear before the City Commission regarding a lot cleaning/clearing or demolition assessment, this is the time to address the Commission.

Lots Cleaning and Clearing

Motion: Commissioner Bill Read moved to approve the assessment roll. Commissioner Chad McLeod seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

Commissioner Roberts McCarley noted that many lot-cleaning cases involve out-of-town property owners and asked how they are notified. Palmer Davis explained that notices are sent to the tax billing address, and unpaid amounts are added to the next year's tax bill.

Action: Mayor Bill Mutz called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn/Reconvene: The Equalization Board adjourned, and the City Commission reconvened in Regular Session.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinances (Second Reading)

Ordinance 6102; Proposed 25-022; Submitting to the Electors of the City of Lakeland Amendments to the City Charter Recommended by the Charter Review Committee (1st Rdg. 07-21-25)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA RELATING TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND; SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY AT THE NOVEMBER 4, 2025, GENERAL ELECTION VARIOUS AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY CHARTER AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CITY OF LAKELAND CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis presented this item. He reviewed the Charter Review Committee's (CRC) recommended amendments, including a change to the voting threshold required to sell Lakeland Electric (LE).

Motion: Commissioner Stephanie Madden moved to remove the proposed changes set forth in Section 8, subsections (d), (e), and (f). Commissioner Guy Lalonde seconded.

Discussion:

- Commissioner Madden expressed concern that the recommendation lacked legal consultation and failed to account for the long-term revenue and quality-of-life implications of selling the City's utilities. She noted LE contributes \$32 million annually to the General Fund, which, combined with \$60 million in property tax revenue, barely covers public safety operating costs. She cautioned the change could make it easier to sell LE, impacting jobs, rates, and community control.
- Mayor Mutz agreed, also cited the improbability of a sale and the risk of distracting from other priorities.
- Commissioner LaLonde concurred with Commissioner Madden, describing the proposed change as lowering the bar for a sale and shifting power from residents to politicians.
- Commissioners McLeod and Roberts McCarley opposed removal, emphasizing respect for the CRC's unanimous vote and the importance of allowing voters to decide.
- Commissioner Read supported the motion, recalling past consideration of the matter.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for further comments from the Commission and the audience on this Charter item.

Terry Coney spoke on behalf of the Charter Review Committee. He stated that the Committee did not reach its recommendation lightly. There was extensive discussion about whether the threshold should be two-thirds of actual voters or two-thirds of all registered voters. He emphasized that every member of the Committee understood the importance of Lakeland Electric to the City, and that not a single member had any interest in selling it.

Palmer Davis explained that this motion would keep the current provisions in what is currently numbered Section 9, Limitations on Power of City Commission, unchanged. This means the voting thresholds required to sell Lakeland Electric, Water, or Wastewater would remain as they are now.

Commissioner Madden confirmed with City Attorney Davis that if the City were to receive a potential offer for sale in the future, the City Commission could seek to amend the voting thresholds contained in the Charter at that time. Per state law, amending a municipal charter is a two-step process: first, the City Commission adopts an ordinance proposing a charter change; second, the change is submitted to the voters in a referendum. In this case, the proposed change originated from the Charter Review Committee, but the City Commission has the authority to initiate such changes on its own and propose whatever threshold it deems appropriate. Any change would then require approval by a simple majority of voters participating in the referendum.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Guy LaLonde, Mike Musick, Stephanie Madden, Bill Read, and Mayor Bill Mutz voted aye. Commissioners Sara Roberts McCarley and Chad McLeod voted nay. Ayes – five. Nays – two. The motion carried, 5-2.

Mayor Mutz asked the Commission if there were any other Charter items they wanted to discuss before voting on Proposed 25-022. Commissioner Read said he liked the current mayoral and commission term limits.

Commissioner Mike Musick left the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

Palmer Davis explained the CRC proposed increasing the total allowable service on the Commission from three complete terms to a possible five terms (no more than three as a commissioner and two as mayor).

Motion: Commissioner Read moved to retain the current limits. There was not a second. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Terry Coney provided background on how the Charter Review Committee reached its decision to recommend a two-term limit for the mayor. Former Mayor Howard Wiggs and former City Commissioner Don Selvage requested to speak at one of their meetings. Both expressed that if a person elected as mayor had already served three terms as a commissioner, limiting them to only one term as mayor would hinder their ability to advance their own agenda.

The Commission moved on to discuss Section 15, Special Meetings. The current Charter provision allows a special meeting of the Commission to be called by the Mayor, the City Manager, or any three commissioners. Commissioner Roberts McCarley raised concerns about potential abuse in calling special meetings if a special meeting could be called by any single commissioner. No motion was made to change the new language proposed by the Charter Review Committee.

Regarding district boundaries, Palmer Davis presented the new map proposed by the Charter Review Committee balancing district populations in compliance with state law. Changes included extending the NE district south and adjusting SW and NW boundaries.

Motion: Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley moved to advance all Charter Review Committee recommendations in the ordinance to the ballot, except for the previously approved removal of proposed changes contained in renumbered Section 8, subsections (d), (e), and (f). Commissioner Chad McLeod seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for further comments from the Commission and the audience on this Charter item. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Chad McLeod, Stephanie Madden, Sara Roberts McCarley, Guy LaLonde, and Mayor Bill Mutz vote aye. Ayes – five. Nays – one. The motion carried, 5-1, with Commissioner Read voting nay.

Resolution 6003; Proposed 25-042; Lots Cleaning and Clearing

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO ASSESSMENTS; DETERMINING THE NECESSITY FOR HAVING CLEANED AND CLEARED CERTAIN PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY OF LAKE LAND; PROVIDING FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF LIENS AGAINST SUCH PROPERTY FOR EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE CLEANING AND CLEARING THEREOF; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis presented this item.

Motion: Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Guy LaLonde seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Guy LaLonde, Sara Roberts McCarley, Stephanie Madden, Bill Read, Chad McLeod, and Mayor Bill Mutz voted aye. Ayes – six. Nays – zero. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 6004; Proposed 25-043; Adopting the 2025 Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy Update

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE LAND, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE 2025 POLK COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis presented this item.

Motion: Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Chad McLeod seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Chad McLeod, Bill Read, Stephanie Madden, Sara Roberts McCarley, Guy LaLonde, and Mayor Bill Mutz voted aye. Ayes – six. Nays – zero. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 6005; Proposed 25-044; Intent to Vacate a Portion of Public Right-of-Way Located East of S. Florida Avenue, South of E. Main Street, West of S. Tennessee Avenue and North of E. Lemon Street

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE LAND, FLORIDA RELATING TO PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY; MAKING FINDINGS; DECLARING THE CITY COMMISSION'S INTENTION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF A PUBLIC ALLEYWAY LOCATED EAST OF S. FLORIDA AVENUE, SOUTH OF E. MAIN STREET, WEST OF S. TENNESSEE AVENUE AND NORTH OF E. LEMON STREET, SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATION OF A PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis presented this item.

Before moving forward with this resolution, Commissioner Madden went back to make comments on Proposed 25-043. David Cox, Emergency Manager, discussed the Polk County Local Mitigation Strategy, noting that priorities are well represented, and agencies are aligned in their efforts. When asked if there were any significant gaps, he responded there were none.

Commissioner Madden acknowledged his expertise, and City Manager Sherrouse provided additional background on Mr. Cox, noting that while major gaps are minimal, his current work focuses on addressing smaller gaps and strengthening partnerships with other agencies. Mr. Womble from Polk County was also in attendance.

The Commission resumed attention to Proposed 25-044.

Motion: Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Guy LaLonde seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Guy LaLonde, Sara Roberts McCarley, Stephanie Madden, Bill Read, Chad McLeod, and Mayor Bill Mutz voted aye. Ayes – six. Nays – zero. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 6006; Proposed 25-045; Providing Ballot Titles and Ballot Summaries for Charter Amendments Proposed by City of Lakeland Charter Review Committee

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE LAND, FLORIDA RELATING TO AN ISSUE ELECTION; FINDING THAT ALL APPLICABLE PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CALLING OF AN ISSUE ELECTION HAVE BEEN SATISFIED; CALLING AN ISSUE ELECTION FOR NOVEMBER 4, 2025 TO CONDUCT A REFERENDUM ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LAKE LAND CITY CHARTER RECOMMENDED BY THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE; PROVIDING BALLOT TITLES AND BALLOT SUMMARIES FOR THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis presented this item. He noted that Section 4 contained ballot questions related to the sale of Lakeland Electric and would need to be removed.

Motion: Commissioner Stephanie Madden moved to approve the resolution with the removal of the ballot language question related to the sale of Lakeland Electric. Commissioner Guy LaLonde seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Chad McLeod, Bill Read, Stephanie Madden, Sara Roberts McCarley, Guy Lalonde, and Mayor Bill Mutz voted aye. Ayes – six. Nays – zero. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 6007 Proposed 25-046; Eliminating the Real Estate & Transportation Committee

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE LAND, FLORIDA RELATING TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES; MAKING FINDINGS; ELIMINATING THE REAL ESTATE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE; REPEALING RESOLUTION 4814; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis presented this item.

Motion: Commissioner Bill Read moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Guy LaLonde, Sara Roberts McCarley, Stephanie Madden, Bill Read, Chad McLeod, and Mayor Bill Mutz voted aye. Ayes – six. Nays – zero. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 6008; Proposed 25-047; Authorizing the Execution of a Quit-Claim Deed to TWBF Properties, LLC for 2-Foot-Wide Strip of Property Located Immediately West of 701 N. Florida Avenue

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE LAND, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF ANY CITY INTEREST IN AND TO AN APPROXIMATELY 2-FOOT-WIDE STRIP OF PROPERTY LOCATED IMMEDIATELY WEST OF 701 N. FLORIDA AVENUE AND EAST OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE FOR N. FLORIDA AVENUE; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A QUIT CLAIM DEED TO TWBF PROPERTIES, LLC TO

**FORMALLY RELEASE THE CITY'S INTERESTS; MAKING FINDINGS;
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Palmer Davis presented this item.

Motion: Commissioner Bill Read moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Chad McLeod seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Chad McLeod, Bill Read, Stephanie Madden, Sara Roberts McCarley, Guy Lalonde, and Mayor Bill Mutz voted aye. Ayes – six. Nays – zero. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY REDEVLEOPMENT AGENCY – None

CITY MANAGER

Approval of Task Authorization SCS-25-1 with Stantec for South Wabash Avenue Eminent Domain Right of Way Survey

The Public Works Department is currently in the Right-of-Way Acquisition Phase for the South Wabash Avenue Extension project. The South Wabash Avenue Extension project runs from Harden Boulevard to Ariana Street and is approximately 2.7 miles long. It consists of a two-lane roadway with one lane on each side, center turn lanes, landscaped medians and a twelve-foot asphalt trail along the entire route.

This task authorization is for Stantec to complete several survey tasks that are required for eminent domain. The scope of work is listed below. It meets all legal requirements for the use of eminent domain to complete property acquisition if it is needed.

South Wabash Avenue Right of Way Survey Scope of Work:

- Stake proposed alignment for Wabash Avenue
- Reference proposed alignment for Wabash Avenue
- Section Corner Verification
- Prepare Control Map for Alignment and Sections
- Signed and Sealed Control map showing alignment and Section Corners
- Digital Auto Cad file of Alignment Control Map

The entire project consists of sixteen right of way parcels of land. Three parcels have been acquired; thirteen parcels remain to be acquired. These remaining parcels encompass the entire length of the project.

The total not-to-exceed cost associated with this Task Authorization is \$123,785.37. Funding for this work is provided in the Fiscal Year 2025 South Wabash Avenue Extension line item of the Transportation Capital Improvement Plan. All services pursuant to this Task Authorization will be performed in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Continuing Agreement for Municipal Engineering Services between the City and Stantec previously approved by the City Commission on October 1, 2021.

Staff recommended the City Commission authorize the appropriate City officials to execute the Task Authorization SCS-25-1 with Stantec for the South Wabash Avenue Eminent Domain Right of Way Survey in the not-to-exceed amount of \$123,785.37.

City Manager Shawn Sherrouse presented this item.

Motion: Commissioner Chad McLeod moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Stephanie Madden seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

Commissioner Madden inquired whether, during eminent domain proceedings, the City contacts property owners to negotiate and inform them about the project. Staff confirmed that owners have the opportunity to discuss their property and that Homeowner Associations (HOAs) and new homeowners are notified. The eminent domain process is separate from other project issues, but staff has frequent communication with HOA representatives, who are fully aware of the project.

Action: Mayor Bill Mutz called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Change Order with Cedar Trails Landfill for Additional Disposal of Biosolids

This is a change order to Purchase Order 300818 in the amount of \$150,937.50. This change order is for the utilization of the Cedar Trails Landfill. The change order is needed because biosolids from the Northside Wastewater Treatment Plant, that usually go to the Glendale Facility for treatment, are having to be sent to the Cedar Trails Landfill since the biosolids do not meet the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) land application requirements. The Glendale Facility has undergone unforeseen process issues requiring the need to take some of the biosolids loading off the process until issues can be resolved.

The biosolids produced by the Wastewater Treatment Division typically have two methods for disposal. The most economical disposal of biosolids is to utilize land application sites where the biosolids are used as fertilizer. The second method is to deposit them at a landfill. The biosolids are sent to the landfill when the standards for land application are not met. To meet land application standards, the biosolids from the Northside Wastewater Treatment Plant are typically transferred to the Glendale Facility

for treatment for land application purposes. In instances where land application standards are not met, then, the biosolids are transferred to the Cedar Trails Landfill.

At the Glendale Facility, a large amount of grit has built up in the biosolids digesters over time causing the system to encounter process issues impacting optimal temperature retention time. Taking some of the loading off the Glendale Facility allows the biosolids retention time to get back down to normal operational levels. At normal operational levels, the Glendale Facility can accept Northside's biosolids and achieve optimal treatment which meet FDEP land application requirements.

The cost of disposing biosolids at Cedar Trails Landfill to date is \$274,000. The proposed change order is \$150,937.50. This estimate is derived from 3,450 additional tons of biosolids at a rate disposal of \$43.75 per ton yet to be hauled to Cedar Trails Landfill in FY 2025.

Staff recommended that the City Commission approve the change order to Purchase Order 300818 with Cedar Trails Landfill for biosolids disposal in an amount not-to-exceed \$150,937.50. This amount is included in the Wastewater FY 2025 Operating and Maintenance Budget. Cedar Trails Landfill is the only landfill that will receive the City's biosolids, and Purchasing has approved them as a sole source vendor.

City Manager Shawn Sherrouse presented this item. Staff noted a correction to the agenda item amount, updating it to \$274,000.

Motion: Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Stephanie Madden seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

Commissioner LaLonde asked about the potential for converting biosolids into energy. Water Utilities Assistant Director Joe Costine responded that while current technology is not financially feasible, it remains under consideration for the future.

Shawn Sherrouse added that at a recent Bonnet Springs event, discussions with Genifuel indicated that while costs are prohibitive now, emerging technology could eventually allow other sources to be used in fuel generation as part of the electric utility.

Action: Mayor Bill Mutz called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Shortlists for RFP 2025-RFP-032 Group Medical Administration Services Only and RFP 2025-RFP-033 Pharmacy Benefit Manager Services

On September 6, 2022, the City Commission approved a three-year contract with UnitedHealthcare, Inc., for Health Plan and Prescription Drug Benefit services. The contract includes two optional one-year renewal periods. Administrative services fees

were guaranteed through the initial term, ending on December 31, 2025, unless renewal options are exercised.

In 2023, the Florida Legislature enacted Senate Bill 1550, known as the Prescription Drug Reform Act, which mandates Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) pass on all prescription-drug manufacturer rebates to health plans and utilize “pass-through pricing,” meaning the amount paid by health plans must match the amount reimbursed to pharmacies by the PBM. Effective July 1, 2023, contracts executed or renewed must include both rebate and pricing pass-through provisions.

To ensure statutory compliance and secure competitive pricing and overall value for the City, the Purchasing Division issued two new Requests for Proposals on May 13, 2025:

- 2025-RFP-032 - Group Medical Administrative Services Only (ASO)
- 2025-RFP-033 - Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) Services.

A Selection Committee evaluated and scored responses. The City’s Broker of Record, Risk Strategies (also known as the Gehring Group), provided a comparative analysis of the three ASO submittals and recommended that all three firms be invited for interviews. Proposers were asked to present on key areas such as account services team, disease management programs, clinic integration strategies, discount options, and final and best offers.

On July 22, 2025, the following ASO firms presented to the Selection Committee:

- RFP 2025-RFP-032 - Group Medical ASO
 - Aetna Life Insurance
 - Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company
 - UnitedHealthCare Services, Inc.

PBM proposals were requested in two formats: integrated with ASO services and as standalone programs. ASO proposers were required to include PBM services in their submittals. The following six PBM proposals were received:

- RFP 2025-RFP-033 - PBM Services
 - Aetna Life Insurance
 - Cigna Health and Life Insurance Co.
 - UnitedHealthcare Services, Inc
 - TruScripts
 - CVS Health
 - WellDyne

Due to higher pricing, TruScripts was not invited to present to the Selection Committee. The remaining five firms participated in presentations before the Selection Committee on July 22, 2025.

On July 22, 2025, the proposers presented their proposals and answered questions from the Selection Committee. Following independent review and scoring by the Selection Committee, the final rankings were as follows:

RFP 2025-RFP-032 – ASO Proposals Firm Name

1. UnitedHealthcare Services Inc.
2. Cigna Health & Life Insurance Co.
3. Aetna Life Insurance Co.

Business Location

Minnetonka, MN
Tampa, FL
Plantation, FL

RFP 2025-RFP-033 – PBM Proposals Firm Name

1. UnitedHealthcare Services, Inc.
2. Cigna Health & Life Insurance Co.
3. Aetna Life Insurance Co.
4. CVS Health
5. WellDyne

Business Location

Minnetonka, MN
Tampa, FL
Plantation, FL
Woonsocket, RI
Lakeland, Florida

Staff recommended that the City Commission approve the shortlists and final rankings and authorize staff to proceed to the next phase of the selection process whereby a contract will be brought back to the City Commission for approval.

Shawn Sherrouse presented this item.

Motion: Commissioner Chad McLeod moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Guy LaLonde seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Mayor Bill Mutz called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Shawn Sherrouse expressed his appreciation to Deputy City Manager Rob Hernandez and Assistant City Manager Ashley Stathatos for stepping in for him during Friday's Agenda Study. He was able to watch the meeting remotely.

CITY ATTORNEY

Ordinances (First Reading)

Proposed 25-025; Vacation of a Portion of Public Right-of-Way Located East of S. Florida Avenue, South of E. Main Street, West of S. Tennessee Avenue and North of E. Lemon Street

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA RELATING TO PUBLIC RIGHTOF- WAY; MAKING FINDINGS; VACATING A PORTION OF A PUBLIC ALLEYWAY LOCATED EAST OF S.

FLORIDA AVENUE, SOUTH OF E. MAIN STREET, WEST OF S. TENNESSEE AVENUE AND NORTH OF E. LEMON STREET, SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATION OF A PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT; AUTHORIZING THE RECORDING OF A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The foregoing is the title of an ordinance read for the first time by short title only. The Commission will hold the second reading and public hearing on August 18, 2025.

Proposed 25-026; Application of C-1 (Pedestrian Commercial) Zoning on Approximately 0.98 Acres Located North of Lakeland Park Center Drive and West of Hopewell Avenue

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ZONING; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR C-1 (PEDESTRIAN COMMERCIAL) ZONING ON APPROXIMATELY 0.98 ACRES LOCATED NORTH OF LAKELAND PARK CENTER DRIVE AND WEST OF HOPEWELL AVENUE; PROVIDING CONDITIONS; FINDING CONFORMITY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The foregoing is the title of an ordinance read for the first time by short title only. The Commission will hold the second reading and public hearing on August 18, 2025.

Proposed 25-027; Small Scale Amendment #LUS25-004 to the Future Land Use Map to Change Future Land Use Designation from Residential Medium (RM) to Public Buildings/Grounds/Institutional (PI) on Approximately 3.16 Acres Located at the Northeast Corner of W. 10th Street and Kettles Avenue

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR SMALL SCALE AMENDMENT #LUS25-004 TO A CERTAIN PORTION OF THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE LAKELAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: OUR COMMUNITY 2030, CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM RESIDENTIAL MEDIUM (RM) TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS/GROUNDS/INSTITUTIONAL (PI) ON APPROXIMATELY 3.16 ACRES LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF W. 10TH STREET AND KETTLES AVENUE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The foregoing is the title of an ordinance read for the first time by short title only. The Commission will hold the second reading and public hearing on August 18, 2025.

Proposed 25-028; Change in Zoning from MF-12 (Multi-Family Residential) to PUD (Planned Unit Development) to Allow a 100-Unit, Multi-Family Residential Development for the Elderly on Approximately 3.16 Acres Located at the Northeast Corner of W. 10th Street and Kettles Avenue

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ZONING; MAKING FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE IN ZONING FROM MF-12 (MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO PUD (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT) ZONING TO ALLOW A 100-UNIT MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ELDERLY ON APPROXIMATELY 3.16 ACRES LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF W. 10TH STREET AND KETTLES AVENUE; PROVIDING CONDITIONS; FINDING CONFORMITY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The foregoing is the title of an ordinance read for the first time by short title only. The Commission will hold the second reading and public hearing on August 18, 2025.

Proposed 25-023; Adopting Impact Fee Study and Revised Fees for Transportation Facilities (1st Rdg. 07-21-25)

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO IMPACT FEES; AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 5535, AS AMENDED, THE "CITY OF LAKE LAND IMPACT FEE ORDINANCE FOR TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES"; MAKING FINDINGS; ADOPTING UPDATED TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEE STUDY; PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION AND IMPOSITION OF AMENDED TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEES; FINDING CONSISTENCY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The foregoing is the title of an ordinance read for the first time by short title only. The Commission will hold the second reading and public hearing on August 18, 2025.

Proposed 25-024; Adopting Impact Fee Studies and Revised Fees for Fire, Law Enforcement and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Facilities (1st Rdg. 07-21-25)

ORDINANCE NO. 5536, AS AMENDED, THE "CITY OF LAKE LAND CONSOLIDATED IMPACT FEE ORDINANCE"; MAKING FINDINGS; ADOPTING CERTAIN IMPACT FEE STUDIES; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION AND IMPOSITION OF AMENDED CITY OF LAKE LAND PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL FACILITIES IMPACT FEES, CITY OF LAKE LAND FIRE PROTECTION FACILITIES IMPACT FEES, AND CITY OF LAKE LAND LAW ENFORCEMENT FACILITIES IMPACT FEES; ADOPTING AMENDED FEE SCHEDULES; FINDING CONSISTENCY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The foregoing is the title of an ordinance read for the first time by short title only. The Commission will hold the second reading and public hearing on August 18, 2025.

Miscellaneous

***Agreement with Florida Department of Law Enforcement for Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant**

This is an Agreement with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) for a grant award from the U.S. Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to the Lakeland Police Department in the amount of \$21,550. The Agreement does not require any matching funds from the City and is a cost reimbursement agreement whereby FLDE will reimburse the City for approved expenditures. The approved expenditures under the Agreement are fifty water-filled traffic barricades and a ballistic testing machine.

Water-filled traffic barricades provide a mobile, reusable, and quickly deployable security solution to prevent unauthorized vehicle access to crowds at events in order to protect pedestrians. Using water-filled barricades allows for strategic and flexible road closures, improving safety while accommodating pedestrian traffic and access for emergency vehicles, bicycles, and ATVs. This grant purchase would also contribute to portions of the City's Vision Zero comprehensive traffic safety plan.

A ballistic testing machine allows for the secure, controlled test-firing of firearms and will improve the accuracy, speed, and consistency of forensic evidence collection. Currently, officers must manually test-fire recovered firearms (often in unknown and potentially unsafe conditions) to obtain shell casings to be entered into the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network. The machine will remove significant safety risks to officers while improving the accuracy, speed, and consistency of forensic evidence collection to better support the prosecution of firearm-related crimes.

Staff recommended that the City Commission approve the Award Agreement with FDLE for a grant award from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program.

Action: The Commission approved this item as part of the Consent Agenda.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – None

UTILITY**Resolutions****Resolution 6009; Proposed 25-048; Establishing Fuel Charge Effective September 1, 2025**

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ELECTRIC UTILITY; MAKING FINDINGS; ESTABLISHING THE FUEL CHARGE FOR ALL CUSTOMER CLASSES FOR METERS READ ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, 2025; AMENDING TIME OF DAY FUEL CHARGE FOR APPLICABLE RATE CLASSES; REPEALING RESOLUTION 5997; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Palmer Davis presented this item.

Motion: Commissioner Stephanie Madden moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Chad McLeod seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Upon roll call vote Commissioners Sara Roberts McCarley, Stephanie Madden, Bill Read, Chad McLeod, and Mayor Bill Mutz voted aye. Ayes – five. Nays – zero. The motion carried. Commissioner Guy LaLonde was absent at the time of the vote.

Miscellaneous

***Agreement with Classic Controls, Inc. for McIntosh Gas Turbine 2 Unit Actuators**

This is a proposed Agreement with Classic Controls, Inc. for the supply and installation of three Rexa actuators for Lakeland Electric's McIntosh Gas Turbine 2 (MGT2) Unit. The existing air operated actuators, which are original to the Unit are over 25 years old are beginning to cause operational issues during startup and normal operation. These actuators control the Inlet Guide Vanes (IGV) and two Fuel Gas Throttle valves, all of which are critical to the Unit's performance.

The City's Purchasing Department has approved the procurement of the actuators from Classic Controls, Inc. as a sole source purchase since it is an exclusive provider of Rexa products. Lakeland Electric staff determined that the Rexa actuators are the only products to meet the specific needs of MGT2 because its control valves are air actuated instead of having a hydraulic system like most gas or steam turbines. The Rexa actuators are electrically operated and have a self-contained hydraulic reservoir to provide the physical actuation, which will provide increased precision and reliability to support the safe and efficient operation of the Unit.

Upon approval by the City Commission, the City will issue a Purchase Order for the actuators, which are anticipated to be delivered and installed during MGT2's February 2026 outage due to the long lead time for delivery taking approximately 26 weeks. The purchase will be governed in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the City's Purchase Order and Classic Controls, Inc.'s quote dated July 23, 2025. Each actuator includes a one-year warranty on parts and a two-year workmanship/performance warranty. The total cost for the actuators and installation is \$185,635, which is included in Lakeland Electric's FY25 and FY26 budgets.

Staff recommended that the City Commission issue a Purchase Order to Classic Controls, Inc. for the replacement of the IGV and two Fuel Gas Throttle Valve actuators for Lakeland Electric's MGT2 and authorize the appropriate City officials to execute all corresponding documents on behalf of the City.

Action: The Commission approved this item as part of the Consent Agenda.

***Agreement with ErgoFlex Systems, Inc. d/b/a Xybix Systems, Inc. for Replacement of Workstations for Lakeland Electric's McIntosh Power Plant Control Center**

This is a proposed Agreement with ErgoFlex Systems, Inc. d/b/a Xybix Systems, Inc (Xybix) for replacement of seven workstations and associated control room furnishings for Lakeland Electric's McIntosh Power Plant. The existing workstations in the Control Center, which are 25 years old, have sustained significant wear and tear. These workstations are used 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to operate all the units at the McIntosh Plant site including Unit 5, MGT2 and MREP. The proposed workstations will incorporate the latest ISO design standards, as well as ensure compliance with current NERC physical and cyber security standards.

The City's Purchasing Department has approved the procurement of the workstations from Xybix pursuant to a piggyback contract with the State of Florida, Department of Management Services Contract No. 43190000-22-NASPO-ACS for Public Safety Communications Products, Services and Solutions. Upon approval by the City Commission, the City will issue a Purchase Order for the workstations, which are anticipated to be delivered and installed during Unit 5's Fall outage in November 2025. The purchase of the workstations will be governed by the terms and conditions set forth in the City's Purchase Order, the State of Florida Contract and the Xybix Quote dated July 17, 2025. The total cost of the workstations, including installation, is \$174,386.24 and is included in Lakeland Electric's FY25 budget.

Staff recommended that the City Commission approve this Agreement with Xybix for the purchase of replacement of workstations for Lakeland Electric's McIntosh Power Plant and authorize the appropriate City officials to execute all corresponding documents on behalf of the City.

Action: The Commission approved this item as part of the Consent Agenda.

Agreement with Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay, Inc. for Sponsorship Services for Development of a Junior Achievement Discovery Center

This is a proposed Agreement with Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay, Inc. (Junior Achievement) to provide sponsorship services for the development of a Discovery Center at Tenoroc High School located at 4905 Saddle Creek Road in Lakeland through a public/private partnership to create innovative educational opportunities and foster competitive job skills for students.

This sponsorship opportunity aligns with Lakeland Electric's long-term workforce pipeline and education strategy, which will introduce 5th grade students to financial literacy, civil responsibility, and utility careers. Such a sponsorship opportunity ensures that Lakeland Electric will maintain a visible presence in a high-impact educational

initiative with strong community and business interest. It also reinforces Lakeland Electric's role as a public power provider by demonstrating how municipal utilities operate. This sponsorship opportunity will help educate 20,000 Polk County students annually on utility services, city infrastructure, and public service careers.

Pursuant to this Agreement, Lakeland Electric will have the right to select and brand a storefront inside the Junior Achievement Discovery Center, comprised of approximately 200 square feet, which includes exterior signage and an interior buildout over the next 6-12 months, along with the assistance of Junior Achievement's educators, designing part of Junior Achievement's in-school curriculum that is tailored to Lakeland Electric. Lakeland Electric's curriculum would focus on providing information to students about how a utility is operated as a business, as well as available career paths in a utility.

The Junior Achievement Discovery Center – Polk County is projected to open during the 2026–27 school year, pending construction timelines. The term of the Agreement is for a period of five years, effective August 4, 2025, subject to City Commission approval and contains two additional five-year renewal terms subject to mutual written agreement of the parties. In accordance with the Agreement, the City will pay a \$20,000 annual sponsorship over a five-year term for a total of \$100,000. The cost of the sponsorship for the first two years of the initial term is budgeted in Lakeland Electric's existing FY25 and FY26 sponsorship budget. The cost for the remaining term and any renewals would be subject to budget approval by the City Commission in subsequent budget years. In addition, the interior buildout of the storefront associated with the sponsorship will require additional funding, the cost of which has not yet been determined. However, any such additional cost will require prior approval by authorized City staff and be available in Lakeland Electric's sponsorship budget.

Staff recommended that the City Commission approve the Agreement with Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay, Inc. for sponsorship services and associated build out of the storefront for the development of a Junior Achievement Discovery Center and authorize the appropriate City officials to issue a Purchase Order and execute all corresponding documents related to the Agreement.

Deputy City Attorney Ramona Sirianni presented this item.

Motion: Commissioner Stephanie moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Bill Read seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

Commissioner Roberts McCarley expressed excitement about having this program available locally for students. Commissioner Madden commended Cathryn for her presentation on Friday. Mayor Mutz noted that his discussions through ConnectEd highlighted the value of hands-on applications that bring real-world concepts into the

classroom, adding that exposing fifth graders to a broad range of career options is exciting.

Junior Achievement also conducts the Great American Teach-In in elementary and middle schools, providing students with opportunities to learn practical, real-life skills through dynamic learning experiences.

Action: Mayor Bill Mutz called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Fifth Amendment to Advanced Metering Infrastructure Agreement with Sensus USA, Inc.

This is a proposed Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with Sensus USA, Inc. (Sensus) for Advanced Metering Infrastructure for the purpose of providing software and hardware services in furtherance and support of Lakeland Electric's Smart Grid program. In September 2010, the City Commission approved an Agreement with Sensus to provide its FlexNet Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system, which provides Lakeland Electric with the network backbone to support all the AMI deployed throughout its service territory, as well as support the Water Department's transition to Smart Metering. The Agreement was for an initial term of 15 years, with the option to extend the term upon mutual written agreement of the parties.

Staff has evaluated its options with regard to extending the Agreement and determined that an extension of the Agreement is the most cost-effective and best option for the City. The FlexNet system provides the City with a 900 MHz radio frequency and call sign that allows for centralized base station aggregation. Such centralized base station aggregation means the City has its own designation and frequency that communicates from the City's towers directly to the meters, which is unique to the Sensus network and not available from other providers that use much shorter range technology. Additionally, any change in provider would require a fleet-wide replacement of all the City's end use metering for both Lakeland Electric and the Water Department.

Accordingly, Lakeland Electric is requesting to amend the Agreement to provide for a five-year term extension, effective September 16, 2025, subject to City Commission approval. This Fifth Amendment also includes two additional five-year extensions upon mutual written agreement of the parties. The original contract pricing will remain in effect, with an annual increase subject to the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), with any such increase capped at 3% per year. The cost for 2025 was \$298,450.16, which was included in Lakeland Electric's FY 25 budget.

The total cost for the five-year term is estimated to be a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,632,048.00 (assuming a 3% CPI increase), with the estimated cost of \$307,403.66 for 2026 included in Lakeland Electric's FY26 budget. The cost for the remaining term of the Agreement will be subject to budget approval by the City Commission in subsequent budget years. Any future renewals, if exercised, will be subject to budget approval by the City Commission in subsequent budget years. Except as otherwise set forth in this

Fifth Amendment, all other terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement and subsequent amendments thereto shall remain in full force and effect.

Staff recommended that the City Commission approve this Fifth Amendment with Sensus and authorize the appropriate City officials to execute all corresponding related documents

Motion: Commissioner Stephanie Madden moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Guy LaLonde seconded.

Mayor Bill Mutz asked for comments from the Commission and the audience. There were no comments.

Action: Mayor Bill Mutz called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE - None

MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COMMISSION

Commissioner Chad McLeod noted that school starts next week and the countdown is on.

Commissioner Bill Read reminded the public to be cautious of pedestrians and school bus stops.

Commissioner Stephanie Madden announced that tomorrow is National Night Out, during which all seven commissioners will visit as many locations as possible. She described it as a great opportunity to show appreciation for first responders and to engage with neighborhood groups about issues important to them. She encouraged residents whose neighborhoods are not hosting an event to reach out to the Lakeland Police Department.

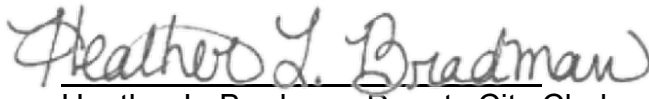
Commissioner Sara Roberts McCarley also reminded drivers to use caution in school zones. She shared upcoming orientation dates and recapped her recent trip to Jacksonville for the FMEA conference, where she attended a panel featuring leaders from OUC, Jacksonville, and Tallahassee. She expressed interest in seeing Lakeland Electric participate in such panels, given their strong performance. She also reported on the Metropolitan Committee, a transportation planning organization, and shared visitor data from the Florida Children's Museum showing that 45% of attendees come from outside Lakeland, with a large portion from outside Polk County. She noted that National Night Out weather is expected to hold until later in the day, announced the opening of Randy Roberts Scholars applications on the first day of school, and mentioned community classroom initiatives.

Commissioner Guy LaLonde shared that his son visited from Missouri and commended neighborhood association coalitions for creating opportunities for children to participate

in events. He congratulated his daughter and her team from Noah's Ark Special Olympics for placing fourth and expressed excitement for National Night Out.

Commissioner Read also welcomed his two grandchildren in attendance.

CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT – 11:41 A.M.


Heather L. Bradman, Deputy City Clerk

