

**AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
INVERNESS, FLORIDA, CITY HALL, 212 WEST MAIN STREET
May 19, 2026 - 5:30 PM**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Any person who decides to appeal any decision of the Governing Body with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to provide that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based (Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes).

Accommodation for the disabled (hearing or visually impaired, etc.) may be arranged with advance notice of seven (7) days before the scheduled meeting, by dialing (352) 726-2611 weekdays from 8 AM to 4 PM.

ENCLOSURES*

- 1) INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ROLL CALL**
- 2) PLEASE SILENCE ELECTRONIC DEVICES**
- 3) ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**
- 4) PRE-SCHEDULED APPEARANCES / RECOGNITIONS**
 - a) Creative Arts & Culture Alliance - Check Presentation
- 5) PUBLIC HEARINGS / WORKSHOPS**
 - a) Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Development - 5 Year CIP Workshop
- 6) OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

The public is invited to speak. (Speaking time limit: Individual - 3 minutes; Group/Organization - 5 minutes)
- 7) CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**
- 8) CONSENT AGENDA**

**AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
INVERNESS, FLORIDA, CITY HALL, 212 WEST MAIN STREET
May 19, 2026 - 5:30 PM**

- a) Bill Listing*
- b) Council Minutes* - 05.05.2026
- c) Oak Ridge Cemetery Lot Repurchase*

9) CITY CLERK'S REPORT

10) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Whispering Pines Park Lease - Update
- b) Summer Sizzlin Event
- c) Project and Program Updates
 - Mannings Bar Property
 - Fifth Third Bank Project
 - Longwood Gardens Project
 - School Zone Cameras
 - Other

11) MAYOR & COUNCIL SUBJECTS / REPORTS

- a) Mayor Plaisted
- b) Councilwoman Bega
- c) Councilwoman Hepfer
- d) Councilwoman Lizanich
- e) Councilman Davis
- f) Councilman Craig

12) NON-SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT

(Speaking time limit: Individual - 3 minutes; Group/Organization - 5 minutes)

13) ADJOURNMENT

**AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
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May 19, 2026 - 5:30 PM**

- a) **DATES TO REMEMBER**
Memorial Day Observance
Monday, May 25, 2026
(All City Parks, City Fire Department, Utilities, & Law Enforcement Operate)
- Summer Sizzlin' Family End of School Bash
Thursday, May 28, 2026 from 5:30pm – 7:00pm
Depot Pavilion
- Inverness City Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2026 @ 5:30pm
IGC – Council Chambers

Agenda Memorandum - *City of Inverness*

May 19, 2026

TO: Elected Officials
FROM: Eric Williams, City Manager
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Development - 5 Year CIP Workshop
CC: Susan Jackson, City Clerk, Aidan Marshall, Assistant City Manager, Alexis Koter, Finance Director

Enclosures:

As the Council is aware, the annual budget development process begins each year shortly after October 1st. On December 16th, Council adopted the Fiscal 2027 Budget Development Schedule. On April 7th, 2026, Council met to discuss a budgetary overview for the current fiscal year, as it relates to the development of the upcoming fiscal year budget.

The first step in the process is for Council to hold a workshop for the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This evening, the aforementioned workshop will focus on guiding the next steps in the development of the budgeting needed for the next several budget cycles as it relates to Capital Improvement Projects within the City. The planning of these is an important part of the budgetary cycle, as the City must take into account not only the needs of the City, but also critical evaluation of National and State economy and changes within the legislature that could impact City revenues.

Recommended Action:Workshop

1. Open the workshop
2. Allow staff to present
3. Council deliberates and provides input on the budget development process.

If you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at your convenience.

Eric. C. Williams
City Manager

CASH REQUIREMENTS REPORT

VENDOR DOCUMENT	INVOICE	VOUCHER	DESCRIPTION	DUE DATE	DUE 09/30/26
			TOTALS FOR ACE HARDWARE CO OF INV INC		207.18
			TOTALS FOR AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION		507.25
			TOTALS FOR AUTOZONE		58.31
			TOTALS FOR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS		22,389.86
			TOTALS FOR CORE & MAIN LP		1,341.92
			TOTALS FOR GLOBAL EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC.		249.18
			TOTALS FOR GOODING & BATSEL, PLLC		4,734.45
			TOTALS FOR H.W. LOCHNER, INC.		8,931.71
			TOTALS FOR HAYDEN COFFMAN MUSIC, LLC.		3,000.00
			TOTALS FOR INFOSEND, INC.		70.21
			TOTALS FOR JASON AGUILAR'S LANDSCAPING		845.21
			TOTALS FOR JK JOHNS ROOFING & SHEET METAL, INC.		1,200.00
			TOTALS FOR LELAND COMPANIES, LLC.		82.96
			TOTALS FOR LOCAL PRO ENTERTAINMENT, INC.		2,000.00
			TOTALS FOR MAULDIN & JENKINS LLC		15,700.00
			TOTALS FOR RUBIN, RICHARD		1,750.00
			TOTALS FOR MT CAUSLEY, INC		14,177.81
			TOTALS FOR PAT'S PUMP & BLOWER, LLC		112.24
			TOTALS FOR ULINE, INC.		719.73
			TOTALS FOR UNIFIRST CORPORATION		104.44
			REPORT TOTALS		78,182.46

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Stacey Iddings **

May 5, 2026
5:30 PM

The City Council of the City of Inverness met on the above date in Regular Session at 212 W. Main Street, with the following members present:

President Lizanich
Vice President Bega
Councilwoman Hepfer
Councilman Craig
Councilman Davis
Mayor Plaisted

Also present were Asst. City Manager Marshall, City Attorney Hartley, Staff Members, and City Clerk Jackson.

The Invocation was given by Mayor Plaisted and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the City Council.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilman Davis. The motion carried.

PRE-SCHEDULED APPEARANCES

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS / WORKSHOP

None

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

Steve Jones expressed concerns with the electronic sign for Whispering Pines Park. It changes too fast and cannot be read.

Lala Sanders reiterated objection to medical marijuana dispensaries. She read a newspaper article from 2025.

Debbie Wheatley commented there are more dispensaries than chain grocery stores.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Bill Listing*
 - Recommendation – Approval
- b) Council Minutes* – 04/21/2026
 - Recommendation - Approval

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilman Davis. The motion carried.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

10)a) Summer of 250 – Patriotic Evening* with Assistant City Manager Marshall referencing the upcoming 250 yr. anniversary of America and introduced Parks & Rec Director Worley to provide a presentation of additional information for several events that have been scheduled. The City is preparing to launch Summer 250, beginning June 1, an exciting seasonal celebration leading up to America's 250th Anniversary. This summer-long event series will bring residents and visitors together through family-friendly activities, community celebrations, entertainment, local partnerships, and events designed to showcase the very best of Inverness. Events include Small Town Slam wrestling, light pole decorating, kid's \$1.00 days at the Valerie Theatre, live entertainment such as Hayden Coffman, and of course fireworks. This year will also offer event merchandise. Summer 250 will showcase our parks, downtown spaces, and other key areas throughout the community, giving families opportunities to enjoy memorable events close to home while encouraging visitors to explore our city, support local businesses, and experience why Inverness is truly Small Town Done Right. This celebration will be built through strong public private partnerships, community organizations, local businesses, and volunteers. These partnerships will help expand programming, reduce costs, increase participation, and create a stronger economic impact throughout the entire summer season. Recently recognized as the #2 Small Town in the South, Inverness has the perfect opportunity to turn Summer 250 into a celebration of patriotism, community pride, and small-town energy. He stated there will be something for everyone. Brannen Bank's 100th anniversary was mentioned. City Council stated their appreciation to staff for the hard work. **No action required.**

10)b) Small Town Big Impact – Volunteer Initiative* with Asst. City Manager Marshall requesting Parks & Rec Director Worley to provide details of the initiative. The City of Inverness is excited to introduce a new City of Inverness Volunteer Program designed to give residents a direct and meaningful way to be part of the energy, events, beautification, and community that make Inverness Small Town Done Right. This initiative will create new opportunities for residents to get involved, meet neighbors, build relationships, support City programs, and have an impact throughout the community. Whether assisting with special events and festivals, helping with parks and recreation programs, participating in beautification and cleanup projects, or supporting special City initiatives. Volunteers will play an important role, as the program is designed to be simple, welcoming, and well-organized with an easy registration process, clear role descriptions, and staff support to ensure they feel prepared, appreciated, and connected. The program will be promoted through the City website, social media, community events, local meetings, and partnerships with civic groups, churches, and community organizations. There will be many opportunities to meet new people and give back to the community. **Council provided consensus to move forward with the program.**

10)c) Project/Program Updates (*Verbal*)

- WPP New Entrance Project is nearing completion for June and in budget.
- Pine Ave. Stormwater and Parking Expansion is moving along with no issues to be completed in June.
- National Day of Prayer with Parks & Rec Director Worley providing details.

- Other with Assistant City Manager Marshall addressed the boat ramps and the lake levels. The City is constantly monitoring the situation. There are concerns with the 44 East boat ramp and a severe drop off that has been exposed due to the low water level.

COUNCIL/MAYOR SUBJECTS

Mayor Plaisted stated it was good to be back home from his recent trip. Very excited with all that is coming soon and welcomed Assistant City Manager Marshall.

Councilman Davis thanked Parks & Rec Director Worley for this evening's presentation and the staff's hard work that makes Council's job easier. Spoke of the upcoming budget and the Enhanced Law Enforcement agreement. He would like a detailed report of what is included in the enhanced service, as there are citizens curious.

Councilman Craig is looking forward to all that is coming and thanked staff for the hard work. He provided details of a YMCA program that teaches children to swim.

Councilwoman Hepfer thanked staff and is happy the events are family friendly and free. She attended a recent ribbon cutting for the Storybook Trail in Whispering Pines Park. Great.

Councilwoman Bega spoke of the wonderful presentation by Parks & Rec Director Worley this evening. Welcomed the Mayor home. Noted this week at Citrus High School is Teacher Appreciation Week. The lake levels are very concerning.

Council President Lizanich spoke of recent CCCCCF grant awards of approx. \$300,000. Congratulated Assistant City Manager Marshall on a good job for his first meeting. Thanked Parks & Rec Director Worley and staff for all they do.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

Debbie Wheatley spoke of water concerns and the potential AI project in Lecanto.

Lala Sanders continued with her earlier comments referencing the newspaper article. Spoke of possibly volunteering, the upcoming National Day of Prayer, and the recent Fallen Officers memorial event last Friday.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

City Clerk

Council President

Agenda Memorandum – *City of Inverness*

May 19, 2026

TO: Elected Officials
FROM: City Clerk
SUBJECT: Repurchase of Cemetery Lot

With reference to the following Oak Ridge Cemetery, the rightful owner requests that the City Council consider buying the lot for the original purchase price of \$985.00. All documents have been reviewed and found to be in order.

Please contact my office should questions arise or further discussion is necessary.

Thank you.

Agenda Memorandum - *City of Inverness*

May 19, 2026

TO: Elected Officials
FROM: Eric Williams, City Manager
SUBJECT: Whispering Pines Park Lease - Update
CC: Susan Jackson, City Clerk, Aidan Marshall, Assistant City Manager, Woody Worley, Parks & Recreation Director
Enclosures: 1. WPP Lease Update

This past December, the City held a public workshop focused on the history and the future of the park. The illumination of the fact that the City does not own the park generated much community feedback that the City needed to take steps to one day own the lands comprising Whispering Pines Park. Without ownership, the City's ability to bond for capital improvements, pursue grant funding, and exercise full management discretion remains significantly limited.

In response to community input and considering the best path forward for the park, the City Council provided direction to pursue a direct lease with the State of Florida, with the intent of ultimately seeking ownership of the park. Discussion with the state commenced and through the process certain information related to the legal description and current ownership of portions of the park have come to light.

Referencing the attached, this evening Council will receive an update on the status of the ongoing pursuit of a new lease with the State of Florida for the lands known as Whispering Pines Park.

It is recommended that the Council receive the update from staff and discuss the particulars therein.

Recommended Action

1. Allow staff to present
2. Council deliberate the matter
3. Provide any needed additional consensus direction based upon the presentation.

If you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at your convenience.

Eric. C. Williams
City Manager

Whispering Pines Park

Ownership, History & Path Forward



Park History & Governance

Origins & Early Development

Ownership

State of Florida → leased to FL Division of Forestry

1965

Easement granted for recreational use

1974

Park plan developed; EDA Grant secured

1977

Official groundbreaking ceremony

1979

New park facilities opened to public

Management & Sublease

1981

County funding agreement established

1983

County assumed management responsibilities

1984

County funding increased

1991

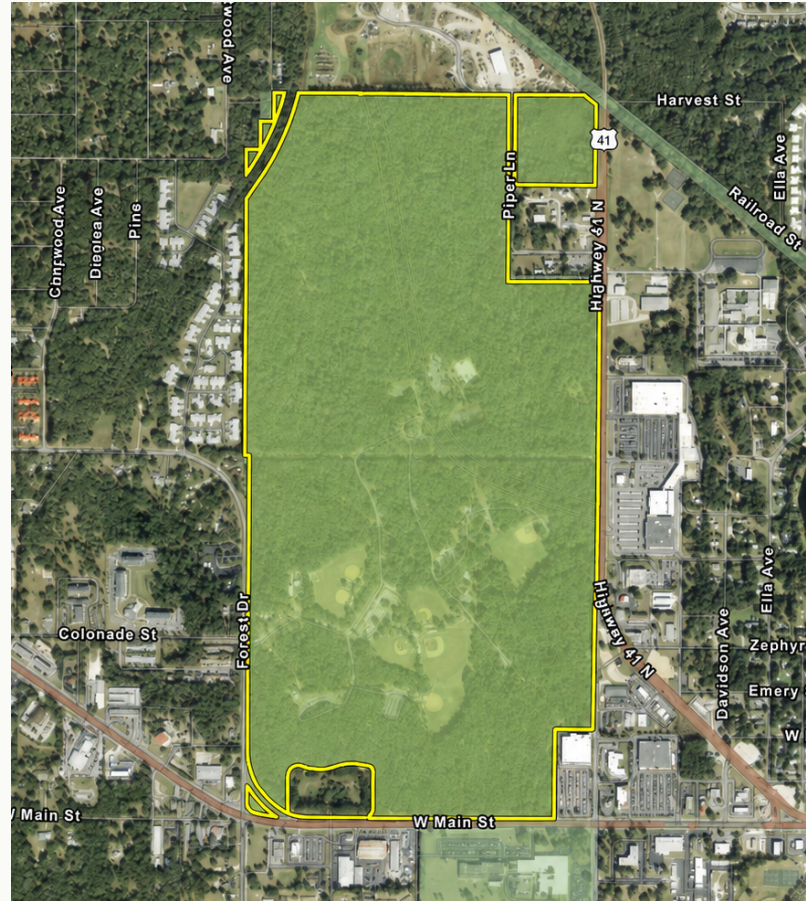
Current sublease executed (City)

Present

City operates park but does not own the land

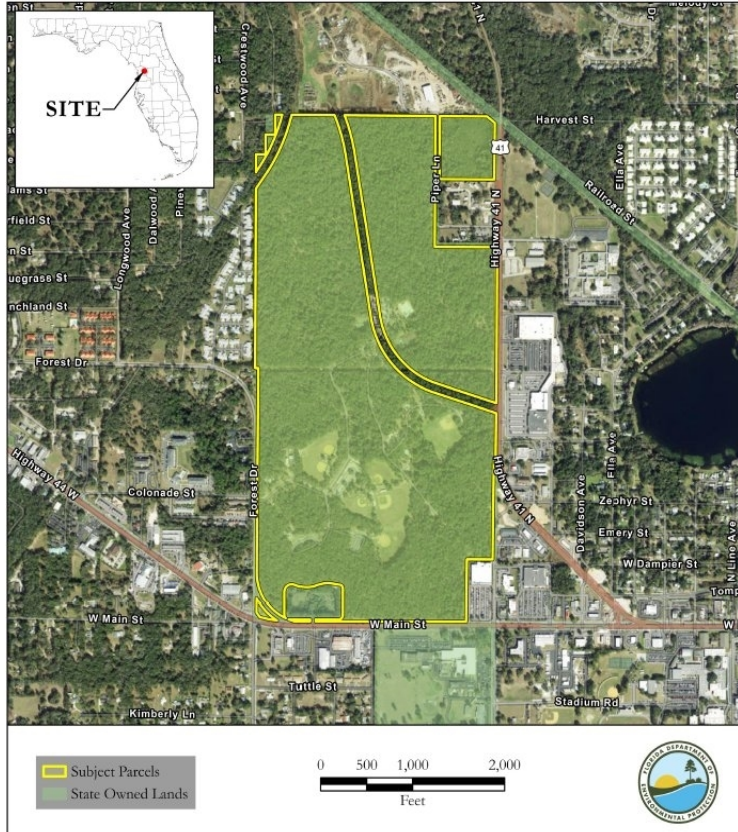
Whispering Pines Park Map Through the Decades

Ownership Map as Understood Until Recently



Complication & Path to Ownership

THIS PAGE AND ANY FOLLOWING PAGES ARE ATTACHED ONLY FOR STATE OF FLORIDA TRACKING PURPOSES AND FORM NO PART OF THE INSTRUMENT AND ARE NOT TO BE RELIED ON BY ANY PARTY.



The Complication

Direct lease revealed a corridor bisecting park through its most-used areas, not clearly owned by State or City.

Path Forward — Local Legislation

- › Pursuing a local bill through the Florida Legislature
- › Legislation would convey ownership directly to the City
- › Resolves both the lease AND right-of-way issues in one permanent step

Agenda Memorandum - *City of Inverness*

May 19, 2026

TO: Elected Officials
FROM: Eric Williams, City Manager
SUBJECT: Summer Sizzlin Event
CC: Susan Jackson, City Clerk, Aidan Marshall, Assistant City Manager, Woody Worley, Parks & Recreation Director
Enclosures: 1. Summer Sizzlin 2026

As the Council is aware, the City has been hosting Teen's Night Out for the youth in the community for almost 5 years. Teen's Night Out is an opportunity for the kids to come out once a month and enjoy music, food, games, activities, and just have fun all for free. The City partners with organizations and members of the community to be able to provide all of this at no expense to the kids or families. Last year, City Staff introduced an event, tied with Teen's Night Out, that happens just a few days before the kids are out for summer break.

Summer Sizzlin is a community-focused family event designed to connect children and families with local organizations and opportunities available throughout the summer and early fall seasons. The Summer Sizzlin Event is open to kids of all ages and will provide an opportunity for kids and their families to come together in a fun, safe, and engaging environment while learning about the many programs and services offered within the community. Local organizations, churches, youth sports leagues, recreational programs, and community groups have been invited to participate by showcasing their activities, camps, programs, volunteer opportunities, and registration information for upcoming seasons.

The event is intended to serve as a one-stop community resource fair where families can discover opportunities for youth involvement, enrichment, recreation, mentorship, athletics, and social engagement. By bringing these groups together in one location, the City aims to strengthen community partnerships while encouraging youth participation in positive and healthy activities. In addition to information booths and displays, the event will feature free food, games, activities, and entertainment for the kids and their families. Interactive activities and family-friendly games will create an exciting atmosphere that encourages attendance and community interaction.

Recommended Action — (Verbal)

No action is required at this time.

If you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at your convenience.

Eric C. Williams



SUMMER



Sizzlin'



THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

5:30 - 7 PM | DEPOT PAVILION

300 N. Apopka Ave, Inverness FL 34450

AN ALL AGES, FREE SUMMER BASH FOR FAMILIES!

YOUTH & SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS
(SPORTS REGISTRATIONS, SUMMER PROGRAMS, ETC.)

FACE PAINTING & BALLOON ART

GAMES & ACTIVITIES

FOAM PARTY

& MORE!



Agenda Memorandum - *City of Inverness*

May 19, 2026

TO: Elected Officials
FROM: Eric Williams, City Manager
SUBJECT: Project and Program Updates

- Mannings Bar Property
- Fifth Third Bank Project
- Longwood Gardens Project
- School Zone Cameras
- Other

CC: Susan Jackson, City Clerk

Enclosures:
