

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