



UMATILLA CITY COUNCIL BUDGET HEARING MEETING

September 15, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Council Chambers, 1 S. Central Avenue, Umatilla, Florida 32784

AGENDA

Please silence your electronic devices

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

At this point in the meeting, the Umatilla City Council will hear questions, comments and concerns from the public.

Please write your name and address on the paper provided at the podium. Zoning or code enforcement matters which may be coming before the Council at a later date should not be discussed until such time as they come before the Council in a public hearing. Comments, questions, and concerns from the public regarding items listed on this agenda shall be received at the time the Council addresses such items during this meeting. Public comments are generally limited to three minutes.

MINUTES

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes
- September 1, 2026, City Council Budget Workshop Minutes

PUBLIC HEARING / ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS

2. Resolution No. 2026-26, Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2026-2027
3. Resolution No. 2026-27, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

ADJOURNMENT

Individuals with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk at least two (2) working days in advance of the meeting date and time at (352)669-3125. F.S. 286.0105 If a person decides to appeal any decision or recommendation made by Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he will need record of the proceedings, and that for such purposes, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Any invocation that may be offered before the official start of the Council meeting is and shall be the voluntary offering of a private citizen to and for the benefit of the Council pursuant to Resolution 2014-43. The views and beliefs expressed by the invocation speaker have not been previously reviewed or approved by the Council and do not necessarily represent their individual religious beliefs, nor are the views or beliefs expressed intended to suggest allegiance to or preference for any particular religion, denomination, faith, creed, or belief by the Council or the City. No person in attendance at this meeting is or shall be required to participate in any invocation and such decision whether or not to participate will have no impact on his or her right to actively participate in the public meeting.

The City of Umatilla is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



UMATILLA CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING

September 1, 2026 at 5:00 PM

Council Chambers, 1 S. Central Avenue, Umatilla, Florida 32784

MINUTES

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

CALL TO ORDER

Having been duly advertised as required by law, Mayor Creech called the Budget Workshop Meeting to order at 5:02 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance, and delivered the invocation.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Christopher Creech, Mayor
Katherine Adams Council Member
Fred Fetterolf, Council Member
Bear Crockett, Council Member

NOT PRESENT

Zack Durbin, Vice Mayor

ALSO PRESENT

Aaron Mercer, City Manager
Adam Bolton, Assistant City Manager
Jennifer Cotch, City Attorney
Jessica Burnham, City Clerk
Regina Frazier, Finance Director
Vaughan Nilson, Public Works Director
David Seeley, Chief of Police
Amy Stultz, Library Director
Misti Lambert, Programs and Compliance Manager

AGENDA REVIEW

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA BY COUNCIL MEMBER CROCKETT; SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER FETTEROLF. MOTION PASSED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

MINUTES REVIEW

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - July 7, 2026, City Council Budget Workshop Minutes
 - July 21, 2026, City Council Budget Workshop Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS TO APPROVE JULY 7TH AND JULY 21ST CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES; SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER FETTEROLF. MOTION PASSED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Budget Presentation

Ms. Frazier presented an update on the City's Stormwater Assessment Study. She explained that the current stormwater rate has remained unchanged since 2008, while operating, maintenance, and regulatory costs have increased. The study was completed to establish a sustainable, cost-based funding approach beginning in Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Ms. Frazier reviewed the study's analysis of stormwater program costs, current billing practices, assessment requirements, and parcel data. The proposed methodology bases assessments on impervious area and establishes 3,610 square feet as one Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). Residential properties would be placed into tiers based on building footprint, while other properties would be assessed based on measured impervious area.

Ms. Frazier discussed the stormwater services funded through the assessment, including street sweeping, drainage maintenance, baffle box maintenance, and planned improvements such as the Ogden Ditch replacement or lining. The study identified approximately 1,455 parcels and 2,270 total ERUs citywide. Ms. Frazier presented the proposed five-year average rate of approximately \$176 per ERU annually, or approximately \$14.67 per month, with projected annual rates varying based on program costs. She explained that the updated rate is intended to provide sufficient funding for stormwater operations, maintenance, and assessment-related costs.

Ms. Frazier concluded the presentation and answered questions from the City Council.

Discussion ensued regarding the adoption of the stormwater assessment, solid waste assessment, and fire assessment fees scheduled for September 10. The discussion also included potentially freezing capital projects until after November, noting that most of the projects are funded through the Infrastructure Fund rather than the General Fund.

Staff discussed the importance of ensuring administrative transfers are being completed as budgeted and that airport fuel revenue is properly reflected in the Airport Fund budget. Additional discussion addressed stormwater preparedness, including the possibility of piggybacking on Clermont's contract for site services and the need to identify and obtain a vacuum truck.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Creech opened public comment

No one spoke

Mayor Creech closed public comment

CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING / ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS

NEW BUSINESS

REPORTS

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:39 p.m.

Christopher R Creech, Mayor

Jessica Burnham, CMC, FCRM
City Clerk



CITY OF UMATILLA AGENDA ITEM STAFF REPORT

DATE: September 4, 2026

MEETING DATE: September 15, 2026

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 2026-26, Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

The City of Umatilla's Tentative Millage for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 was set at 7.3522 during the meeting held on September 10, 2026. Under Florida Statute, if a local government does not adopt the roll-back rate, the government is required to advertise a Notice of Proposed Tax Increase. Since the City's proposed millage rate is equal to the roll-back rate, only a Notice of Budget Hearing is required to be advertised.

The roll-back rate calculates taxable property values which generate the same total revenue as in the previous year. The roll-back rate this year is 7.3522.

The TRIM notices mailed to property owners reflected a millage rate of 7.3522 as well as the proposed Stormwater, Solid Waste and Fire Assessment rates. The newspaper advertisement reflected the same millage rate of 7.3522 as well as the Stormwater, Solid Waste and Fire Assessment rates as approved on September 10, 2026.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve Resolution No 2026-26, Final Millage Rate Resolution

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Millage of 7.3522 generates \$2,462,677

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution No. 2026-26, Final Millage Rate for FY 2026-2027
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RESOLUTION 2026 – 26

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF UMATILLA, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATE FOR THE CITY OF UMATILLA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027, PROVIDING FOR COLLECTION OF TAXES, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, a portion of the revenue for the City’s Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2026 and ending September 30, 2027 must be raised from the levy of an ad valorem tax on each dollar of taxable property in the City of Umatilla, Florida; and,

WHEREAS, the gross taxable value for operating purposes not exempt from taxation within Lake County has been certified by the Lake County Property Appraiser to the City of Umatilla as \$352,587,293.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Umatilla of Lake County, Florida, that:

1. The Fiscal Year 2026-2027 final operating millage for the City of Umatilla is 7.3522 mills which is the rolled-back rate.
2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY ADOPTED at a Public Hearing this 15th day of September, 2026, by the City Council of the City of Umatilla, Lake County, Florida.

TIME ADOPTED: _____

Christopher R. Creech
Mayor

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form:
STONE & GERKEN, PA

Jessica Burnham, CMC, FCRM
City Clerk

Jennifer Cotch
City Attorney



CITY OF UMATILLA AGENDA ITEM STAFF REPORT

DATE: September 4, 2026

MEETING DATE: September 15, 2026

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 2026-27, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

The Tentative Budget was adopted by the Council on September 10, 2026. No changes have been made since then.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve Resolution No 2026-27, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Total Budget of \$27,609,811

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution No. 2026-27, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027
 2. Exhibit A, Budget Summary
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RESOLUTION 2026 – 27

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF UMATILLA, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Umatilla of Lake County, Florida, held a public hearing in the Umatilla City Council Chambers, on September 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Umatilla of Lake County, Florida, set forth the appropriations and revenue estimates included in Exhibit A for the Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 in the amount of \$27,609,811, or as much thereof as may be authorized by law are required for the operation of the government of the City of Umatilla.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Umatilla, Lake County, Florida, that:

1. The Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Final Budget is adopted by the Umatilla City Council.
2. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to maintain and amend the budget so as to reflect the anticipated revenue and the appropriation of, and the expenditure of, all grant funds and casualty loss insurance reimbursements committed to or received by the city subsequent to September 1, 2026 and prior to October 1, 2027, in accordance with direction of the City Council as to the appropriation and expenditure of such grants as and when received.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY ADOPTED at a Public Hearing this 15th day of September, 2026, by the City Council of the City of Umatilla, Lake County, Florida.

Christopher R. Creech
Mayor

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form:
STONE & GERKEN, PA

Jessica Burnham, CMC, FRMA
City Clerk

Jennifer Cotch
City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

BUDGET SUMMARY

CITY OF UMATILLA - FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	ENTERPRISE FUNDS	TOTAL
CASH BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD	\$2,910,425	\$2,601,787	\$1,338,614	\$7,057,713	\$13,908,539
ESTIMATED REVENUES:					
Ad Valorem Taxes - Millage 7.3522	1,713,253	1,301,574	-	-	3,014,827
Sales and Use Taxes	76,933	-	452,875	-	529,808
Franchise Fees	414,700	-	-	-	414,700
Utility Service Taxes	584,500	-	-	-	584,500
Communications Services Tax	182,706	-	-	-	182,706
Licenses and Permits	125,000	-	-	-	125,000
Intergovernmental	563,536	-	-	671,000	1,234,536
Charges for Services	63,500	1,298,000	-	4,826,410	6,187,910
Fines and Forfeitures	9,000	500	-	-	9,500
Miscellaneous	223,130	6,500	-	46,000	275,630
Other Financing Sources	1,088,830	53,325	-	-	1,142,155
	5,045,088	2,659,899	452,875	5,543,410	13,701,272
Total Estimated Revenues and Cash Balances Brought Forward	\$7,955,513	\$5,261,686	\$1,791,489	\$12,601,123	\$27,609,811
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES:					
General Government	1,900,528	-	-	-	1,900,528
Public Safety	1,919,958	774,182	-	-	2,694,140
Physical Environment	147,543	-	-	3,256,805	3,404,348
Transportation	564,624	-	335,279	1,408,787	2,308,690
Culture & Recreation	904,581	-	-	-	904,581
Economic Environment	-	941,504	-	-	941,504
Debt Service	-	10,079	65,385	983,700	1,059,164
Other Uses	53,325	236,720	-	756,750	1,046,795
Total Expenditures / Expenses	5,490,559	1,962,485	400,664	6,406,042	14,259,750
Reserves	2,464,954	3,299,201	1,390,825	6,195,081	13,350,061
Total Appropriated Expenditures/ Expenses and Reserves	\$7,955,513	\$5,261,686	\$1,791,489	\$12,601,123	\$27,609,811

The tentative, adopted and/or final budgets are on file in the office of the above referenced taxing authority as a public record.