

City of Live Oak

City Council Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2026

The Live Oak City Council met Tuesday, August 25, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. in City Hall located at 101 SE White Ave., Live Oak, Florida 32064. The following officials were present: Council President Vanessa Robinson, Councilmember Adam Collins, Councilmember Matt Campbell, Councilmember Gladys Owens, Mayor Frank Davis, City Clerk John Gill, City Manager Larry Sessions, and City Attorney Todd Kennon. Absent: Councilmember David Alford.

Council President Robinson called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Finance Director Tammie Girard presented the updated 2026-27 operational budget, incorporating department requests, outside agency requests, and infrastructure estimates discussed during the prior workshop.

Public Comment: Addison Snyder addressed the council regarding Flock camera technology. He expressed concerns about privacy, data collection, potential misuse, and the balance between public safety and individual liberties.

Budget Finalization and Revenue Review: The Finance Director explained that the expenditure figures reflected requests previously authorized for inclusion. Revenue projections and year-end entries were still being finalized, so a balanced budget was not yet ready for presentation.

Helvenston Infrastructure Project: Approximately \$5.2 million was placed in the proposed budget for preliminary infrastructure work on Helvenston Street. Funding is expected primarily from infrastructure and road-improvement funds, including state revenue-sharing funds. The proposed work covers approximately one-half mile from the TD Bank area to Railroad Ave. and includes road demolition and utility infrastructure work. Grant funding will also be pursued.

Infrastructure Priorities: Council discussed concentrating available infrastructure funding on Helvenston first because of its connection to stormwater needs. Pinewood remains a planned project and may receive funding as additional resources, including anticipated FEMA funds, become available.

Road Improvements and Sixth Street: Council confirmed that previously planned Sixth Street work remains scheduled and is not being displaced by the Helvenston allocation. The Finance Director also reviewed the recurring road-improvement funding received through state revenue sharing.

Utility Repairs and Potholes: Council discussed how costs are allocated when water or sewer repairs require roadway excavation and restoration. Staff explained that funding depends on the type of work and may be allocated through water, sewer, or applicable road-improvement accounts. Members also emphasized the need to continue addressing potholes.

Budget Reserves and Year-End Accounting: The Finance Director clarified that the prior-year reserve figure shown in the comparison represented the amount used to balance that budget, not the city's total reserves. Delayed audit and year-end journal entries were affecting completion of current revenue estimates.

Staffing and Code Enforcement: Council reviewed staffing needs related to planning, building, and code enforcement. A proposed full-time position would be funded between two departments. Members also discussed whether additional code-enforcement support may be needed in the future.

District Projects and Routine Street Needs: Council discussed smaller district projects such as speed bumps and pothole repairs. Staff advised that routine items of this type can generally be handled within existing street budgets and do not require separate budget approval.

Flock Camera Contract: Council discussed the existing Flock camera contract because related expenditures are included in the upcoming budget. City Attorney Kennon explained renewal or non-renewal should be placed on a council agenda for discussion and possible action. If the council votes not to renew, the appropriate resolution can then be prepared.

Operating Expenditure Budget: The council reached consensus for the finance director to proceed

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using an operating expenditure budget of \$52,348,200. The finance director stated that a balanced budget would be presented at the next budget hearing.

Adjournment: With no further budget items presented, the workshop was adjourned.

Councilmember Vanessa Robinson
Council President

Attest: John Gill
City Clerk