

City of Live Oak
City Council Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2025

1

The Live Oak City Council met Tuesday, August 26, 2025, 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 Matt Campbell, Councilmember Tommie Jefferson, Councilmember Vanessa Robinson, Councilmember Gladys Owens, Councilmember David Alford, Mayor Frank Davis, City Clerk John Gill, City Manager Larry Sessions, and City Attorney Todd Kennon.

Council Pro-tem Jefferson called the meeting to order.

Councilmember Vanessa Robinson led the Invocation followed by Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

City Clerk John Gill proceeded with announcements, Wednesday 8/27 at 11:00am The Chamber of Commerce is hosting Legislative Wrap-up followed with a city hall walk through at 3:30. September 8th will be the first TRIM Hearing at 5:30, September 9th is the regular city council meeting, and September 23rd is the final TRIM Hearing.

Council Pro-tem Jefferson proceeded to public comments. Mr. Moses Clepper spoke regarding the budget. Council Pro-tem Jefferson closed the floor for public comments.

Council Pro-tem Jefferson moved to the presentation and discussion of the 2025-26 FY budget. Finance Director Joanne Luther approached to answer any question and to inquire regarding a final millage rate. Council advised that they plan to stay at the previously approved maximum millage rate of 9.25 mills.

Councilmember Jefferson inquired about adding Spruce Street to the budget for road pavement. Public Works Director Lee stated that the street was not added to the budget due to only two residents living on the street. Mr. Lee stated that streets with more residents are the focus for paving projects.

Council proceeded with discuss about the increased funding for the Suwannee County Police Athletic League program from \$6,000 to \$8,000.

Councilmember Robinson proceeded to discussion regarding a raise for the City Clerk. Councilmember Robinson advised she would like to bump the raise from \$5,000 to \$8,000.

Councilmember Robinson also asked about the audit of the city's financial policies and procedures that the council requested in June following the cyber-attack that cost the city \$450,000. Ms. Luther advised it was included in the budget as part of the \$260,000 for auditing services to the finance department line. Mr. Sessions stated that the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust paid the city \$350,000 on the claim for the loss.

Councilmember Owens proceeded with discussion of the city cemetery lot fees to be increased, Mr. Gill advised that an ordinance can be drafted to have the rate increased. Councilmember Campbell stated that he would like to see what other cemeteries charge.

With there being no further business, the workshop was adjourned.

Councilmember Matt Campbell
City Council President

Attest: Mr. John Gill
City Clerk