



**OCOEE CITY COMMISSION**

Ocoee Commission Chambers  
1 N. Bluford Avenue  
Ocoee, Florida

December 16, 2025

MINUTES

6:15 PM

**REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

• **CALL TO ORDER 6:15 PM**

**Mayor Johnson** called the regular session to order at 6:15 PM in the Commission Chambers of City Hall. The invocation was led by **Ages Hart**, *Ocoee Resident*, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by **Mayor Johnson**. **City Clerk Sibbitt** called the roll and declared a quorum present.

**Present:** Mayor Johnson, Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner Wilsen, Commissioner Firstner, and Commissioner Oliver

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** City Manager Shadrix, City Attorney Geller, and City Clerk Sibbitt

• **PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS 6:17 PM**

**Ocoee Music Festival Dash of the Century 5K Beneficiary Check Presentation – Beth Otts** with Chick-fil-A provided a brief overview of the 2025 Ocoee Music Fest 5K event and thanked City staff, sponsors, and the Community for their support. She then presented a check to Terrie Scott of A Heart to Give, Inc., who shared the organization’s mission and website information.

**Healthy West Orange Trails Connection (HWOTC) 2025 Program Update – Patrick Panza**, *Bike/Walk Central Florida Operations Director*, provided the City Commission with a progress update on the Healthy West Orange Trails Connection program, outlining the foundational background, framework, and planning and analysis efforts to date. He concluded by presenting the proposed 2026 implementation plan.

• **STAFF REPORTS AND AGENDA REVIEW - None**

• **PUBLIC COMMENTS 6:36 PM**

The following persons addressed the City Commission:

- **Dr. Jim Moyer**, *Orange Soil and Water Conservation District 2 Representative*, gave an update on the Orange Soil and Water Organization, including the number of representatives and the need for community involvement. He also shared his concerns regarding Starke Lake, which **Mayor Johnson** addressed
- **Doug Gomber**, *Ocoee Resident*, spoke on the softball fields and inquired about specific clauses that can be included in the sales contract. **City Attorney Geller** addressed his inquiry.

City Commission Regular Meeting  
December 16, 2025

• CONSENT AGENDA 6:43PM

Consent Agenda Motion

Motion: Move to adopt Consent Agenda Items #1-3; Moved by Commissioner Wilsen, seconded by Commissioner Firstner; Motion carried 5-0.

1. Approval of Minutes from the Regular City Commission Meeting held December 2, 2025.  
(City Clerk Sibbitt)
2. Approval of City of Ocoee Participation in Healthy West Orange Trails Connection (HWOTC) FY26 Cost-Sharing. (Concurrency & Commitment Coordinator McFarlane)
3. Approval of Educational Affiliation Agreement with Valencia College. (Deputy Fire Chief Van Camp)

• FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE - None

• SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE – PUBLIC HEARING – None

• PUBLIC HEARING 6:44 PM

4. Approval of Resolution of Intent to Use the Uniform Method of Collection for Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessment. (Utilities Director Bolling)

**Utilities Director Bolling** provided a summary outlining the requirement to connect to the sewer system and the proposed approach to assist the 41 downtown customers who are required to connect to the City's sewer system under state law and the 2016 Bond, which funded much of the downtown sewer construction. The City has also secured a \$700,000 Florida Springs Protection Grant to cover construction costs for connecting the 41 private properties. A condition of the grant requires all affected customers to comply with state law and complete the sewer connection.

To assist residents with this fee, the Utilities Department is evaluating payment options for Commission consideration. One option is a non-ad valorem tax assessment, which would allow participating customers to make installment payments through their tax bill.

**Commissioner Wilsen** inquired whether the assessment remains with the property if a resident sells their home, and **Utilities Director Bolling** addressed her question. **Mayor Johnson** inquired if this connection extends to Starke Lake. **Utilities Director Bolling** addressed his inquiry and advised that the majority of this request is for Floral Street and Bluford Avenue only at this time. **Commissioner Oliver** asked what the sewer capital fee is mandated by the Code. **Utilities Director Bolling** addressed his inquiry.

**City Attorney Geller** read the title of the resolution.

*The public hearing was opened. As no one wished to speak, the public hearing was closed.*

**Motion: Move to approve Resolution No. 2025-15 For Intent to Use the Uniform Method of Collection for the Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessment; Moved by Commissioner Wilsen, seconded by Commissioner Firstner; Motion carried 5-0.**

• **REGULAR AGENDA 6:52 PM**

5. Approve Staff to Negotiate a Single-Source Vendor Contract with Cover The Tees to Upgrade the Driving Range at Forest Lake Golf Club. **(Parks and Leisure Services Director Johnson)**

**Parks and Leisure Services Director Johnson** explained the City's acquisition of Forest Lake Golf Club, along with City staff's plan to develop an operational plan and present proposed upgrades at a future workshop meeting. He advised that internal staff discussions have included a master plan identifying elements that would introduce entertainment, technology, and family-friendly gathering spaces to the golf course, while still preserving the experience for the everyday golfer. Staff has identified a single-source vendor "Cover The Tees" with the specialized expertise and experience necessary to deliver the structural components of the driving range upgrades.

**Commissioner Oliver** stated that he would like the agreement to include a provision requiring the vendor to use qualified local contractors to assist with the construction.

**Motion: Move to approve Staff to Negotiate a Single-Source Vendor Contract with Cover the Tees to Upgrade the Driving Range at Forest Lake Golf Club; Moved by Commissioner Kennedy, seconded by Commissioner Oliver; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Mayor Johnson** requested \$2500 from Contingency Funds to support the Blueline Gala and secure a table. **Police Chief Ogburn** provided a summary of the program. **Commissioner Kennedy** shared that he personally contributed a table donation to the organization using his discretionary funds.

**Motion: Move to approve \$2500 from Contingency Funds for a table donation at the Blueline Gala; Moved by Commissioner Wilsen, seconded by Commissioner Firstner; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Mayor Johnson** provided an update on upcoming City closures and events in December and January. He also praised the success of the Jolly Jamboree, commending all staff involved, as well as City management and staff for their efforts in planning and coordinating the event.

**City Commission Regular Meeting  
December 16, 2025**

**• COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS 7:02 PM**

**Commissioner Kennedy – Commented on the following: 7:02 PM - 7:05 PM (the clock was stopped from 7:02 PM – 7:05 PM)**

1) Inquired about the progress with traffic issues involving the surrounding Orange County Schools and asked for an update on a representative from Orange County Public Schools attending a Commission Meeting to discuss this issue. **Police Chief Ogburn** addressed his inquiry.

**Commissioner Wilsen – Commented on the following: 7:05 PM – 7:06 PM**

- 1) Announced that a plaque honoring former Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member Gordon Applegate will be installed at the skatepark tomorrow at 4:30 PM.
- 2) Announced that the Police Department offers lockboxes for homes, allowing first responders access to a key during emergencies. Eligibility is subject to certain criteria.
- 3) Stated that the Dinner with Santa and Jolly Jamboree events were both great events, with great community response.
- 4) Wished everyone Happy Holidays.

**Commissioner Firstner – Commented on the following: 7:07 PM – 7:07 PM**

- 1) Expressed his happiness with the City's holiday décor and thanked City staff.

**Commissioner Oliver – Commented on the following: 7:07 PM – 7:07 PM**

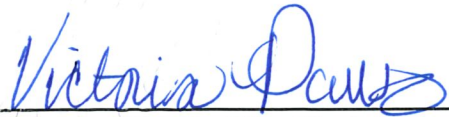
- 1) Announced that he has a meeting with an Orange County School Board representative in January and asked for permission to mention the school traffic issue, during their meeting.
- 2) Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

**Mayor Johnson – Commented on the following: 7:07 PM – 7:11 PM**


- 1) Inquired about the number of Community Service Aids (CSA) on patrol and asked if they could be moved to a certain area. **Police Chief Ogburn** addressed his inquiry. **City Manager Shadrix** stated that he will speak with the Police Chief regarding this request and proper protocol for crossing guards.
- 2) Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

**• ADJOURNMENT 7:11 PM**

**Attest:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
~~Melanie Sibbitt, City Clerk~~  
Victoria Parks, Acting City Clerk

**City of Ocoee**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rusty Johnson, Mayor