

**MOORE HAVEN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 04, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL
299 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, MOORE HAVEN, FLORIDA, 33471.**

Council Members Present:

Wayne Browning, Mayor
Marcus “Marc” Decker, Vice Mayor, Financial Officer
Alisha Beck
Bradley Smith
RaShonda Croskey

Others Present:

Ashley Wills, City Clerk
Larry Tibbs, City Manager
Brad Simmons, Public Works Superintendent
Steve Ramunni, Attorney

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL:

Given by Browning.

ITEM 2: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Invocation given by Beck. Pledge lead by Croskey.

ITEM 3: ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None.

ITEM 4: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MEETING MINUTES:

June 16, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: By Decker to approve June 16, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Croskey.
Motion carried.

July 07, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: By Beck to approve July 07, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Smith.
Motion carried.

July 21, 2026, Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: By Croskey to approve July 21, 2026, Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes seconded by Beck. Motion carried.

ITEM 5: FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #363, PENALTIES FOR LATE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS:

Ramunni reads Ordinance #363 aloud.

MOTION: By Beck to approve the first reading of Ordinance #363, seconded by Smith. Motion carried. **Vote:4-1**

ITEM 6: DISCUSSION CONCERNING CHAPTER 115-UTILITIES-ELECTRICITY AND HISTORY OF ELECTRIC RATES AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF MOORE HAVEN:

Tibbs states I want to give an update on what has changed on the electric. There is a section titled 115.9 titled Commercial services that was established a long time ago. It states A Commercial unit's general service demand rate shall apply if the measured monthly demand is 20kw or more for 3 or more months out of the past 12 months. If that is the case, there is a separate rate schedule for general service demand. We did update the rates for Ordinance #350 back in 2022 for general service along with other rates. We do have 32 demand meters in place throughout the City. In 2022 the Council directed staff to look at the electric rates and bring back alternatives for rate increases since there has not been one since October of 2005. We Contacted FMPA for assistance and they come before the Council with alternatives. The Council did select a 7% increase for the electricity rate. We enacted Ordinance #350 to implement those rates; it had the first reading on May 17th and the second reading on June 7th. Once the Ordinance passes FMPA will prepare required filing with the Floria Public Service Commissions for the approval of the rates.

Browning states even if we wanted to change it, we couldn't without FMPA.

Tibbs states we would have to go back for authorization for FMPA to do a rate study to see what can be changed and we would have to do an Ordinance.

Ramunni states what is the time period between rate studies.

Tibbs states possibly 3 or so months to complete it, and then they would come back with different parameters.

ITEM 7: REPORT OF OFFICERS:

CITY MANAGER:

None.

CITY ATTORNEY:

Ramunni states there was a lawsuit filed against the City, from a person who allegedly was the person who was hurt while riding their bike. That is something PRM would handle, so I had Wills send it over for their review.

CITY CLERK:

None.

CRAIG A. SMITH

None.

CAS GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

None.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT:

Simmons states we did receive the tractor from John Deere. We just ended meter reading so we will continue to get back to mowing.

ITEM 8: APPROVAL OF THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51,204.68:

MOTION: By Croskey to approve the bills in the amount of \$51,204.68, seconded by Beck. Motion carried.

ITEM 9: CITIZENS COMMENTS/GENERAL CONCERNS, SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES:

Citizen Murry states I want to thank Tibbs for coming to the School Board to help us understand the billing. Just for clarity I'm not asking for the rates to be changed on the demand, what we were asking for was a waiver of some sort for the demand fee until we get back to financial stability.

Citizen Martinez states I'm here because I'm interested in the Marina. At first, I was interested in renting it but after thinking about it I want to ask the City to consider allowing me to operate the Marina. Before I put a proposal together, I would like to understand Marina's current situation. I'm just asking for information and options regarding the Marina and if the City would consider leasing the Marina.

Tibbs states as far as long term the plan to expand the Seawall another 500ft into the Caloosahatchee, in this past Legislative session we did receive about half the money in a grant to do it. We are not trying to get the Legislator to approve the other half, there will probably be some future development for the Marina. In the short term I'm not sure if there are any plans on uses for it. I know the Granger Group that purchased the parcel across from it will be coming tomorrow to continue to discuss that project.

Ramunni states what's the timing on the grant that was just approved.

Tibbs states we are just starting the grant agreement; it will possibly be another 6 to 8 months to get an agreement to get moving on it. So, probably a couple years.

Beck states my personal opinion on it is, Martinez has been a trusted business owner in the City for over 10 years. I don't want to hold him back on what it could be now, on hopes that someone will come in and do something with it. I would like Martinez to get with Tibbs to discuss this further and possibly come back with a proposal.

Ramunni states it would have to be bid out to allow others the opportunity as well. As I mentioned before you'll can start the Seawall now, because you have the grant coming and you can use CaPFA money to finish it. Then you would have more of a money-making entity.

Citizen Dominguez states I'm trying to put a mobile home on my property; I have to replace a mobile home that caught fire by accident. Due to the setbacks, I am over by 6ft, and I want to ask for variance.

Ramunni states there is an application for variance that would have to be filled. That will then go to our planner to review. Then it will come back before the City.

Citizen Murphy states I have a Church on Ave C, we have outgrown the sanctuary, and we are wanting to build on. We found out we must have a special exemption. So, we are asking if this can be waived so we can start our building processes.

Ramunni states the special exemption has to go through a public hearing, and it's a two-step public hearing process. It is the same process the application must be submitted, and it goes to the planner for review. The Board can expedite it because the Council also sits as the local planning agency.

Wills states I directed them to come to the meeting first, because I did not want to charge them since it has been a Church for so long. I did not know if there was something previous before the zoning changed and they may have been grandfathered in.

Ramunni states if you send it to the planner and for some reason it doesn't need it, then that would be a way to bypass the fee. But, we do have to follow the format.

Citizen Debault states I'm just following up from a previous meeting in regard to the jake braking on the bridge and getting signs up to eliminate the violation of the Ordinance.

Wills states they are FDOT's roads. So, we have to wait for their approval to put them back up because they are the ones who removed them. There is a new representative that just took over the FDOT contracts, and I can email him to get information.

Citizen Debault states I have had others ask me to bring up the fact that there has always been one or two vessels at the Marina docks and we have always generated revenue from that. This year

there has not been much revenue on it, the people who were using the docks are saying they don't want to pay since the rate was raised and no amenities were added. That may be an issue that might need to be reviewed.

ITEM 10: MAYOR AND COUNCIL TO GIVE REPORTS:

Decker states do we have a timeline of when these high lots are going to be cut.

Simmons states the letters have been sent out from Code Enforcement, no one responds back. If we start cutting them ourselves, we will have to put a lien on their property.

Ramunni states you can still process the returned letter and get the Courts authority to do what we need to do.

ITEM 11: DISCUSS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IF NEEDED:

None.

ITEM 12: ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: By Croskey to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Beck. Motion carried.

Ashley Wills, City Clerk
Meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Wayne Browning, Mayor

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM, IF ANYONE WISHES TO LISTEN TO THE MEETING IN ITS ENTIRETY, DIGITAL RECORDINGS ARE AVAILABLE.