

BIG-C

Barrier Islands Governmental Council

*Belleair Beach
Belleair Shore
Clearwater
Indian Rocks Beach
Indian Shores
Madeira Beach*



*North Redington Beach
Redington Beach
Redington Shores
St. Pete Beach
Treasure Island*

The BIG C Meeting was called to order by President Mayor Dave Gattis at 9:02 a.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at the Treasure Island City Hall, 10451 Gulf Boulevard, Treasure Island, FL 33706.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Gattis led in the pledge of allegiance.

2. Roll Call

BIG C Representatives:

Mayor Dave Gattis
Mayor Anne-Marie Brooks
Mayor Erin Shoos
Mayor Jay Super
Commissioner Rich Cariello
Commissioner Karen Marriott
Mayor Lan Vaughan
Vice Mayor Tammy Vasquez
Mayor Bruce Rector
Mayor Steve Blume
Mayor Diantha Schear

Belleair Beach
City of Madeira Beach
Town of Redington Shores
Town of North Reddington Beach
Town of Redington Beach
City of St. Pete Beach
City of Indian Rocks Beach
City of Treasure Island
City of Clearwater
Town of Belleair Shore
Town of Indian Shores

Also Present:

Fred Irwin
Jerry Sacca
Suzy Sofer
Stan Sofer
Chris Latvala
Charlie Van Zant
Veronica Katz
Ed Katz
Carrie Auerbach
Tina Ponter

President, Sand Key Civic Association
Vice President, Sand Key Civic Association
Commissioner, City of Belleair Bluffs
Resident, City of Belleair Beach
Commissioner, Pinellas County
City Manager, City of Treasure Island
Founder, Barrier Island Strong
Founder, Barrier Island Strong
Resident, St. Petersburg
Town Administrator, Town of Indian Shores

Theresa Cane
Barry Rubin

Christy Herig
Amy Davis
Beth McMullen
Tom McMullen
Margaret Carey
David Glen Jr
Tyler Brennan
Meghan Blancher

Kathy Thornsberry
Kyle Reifler
Jeff Rosenfield
Ken Grimes
Samantha Moullet

Duke Energy
Chief Executive Officer, Pinellas Beach
Chamber
Town of Redington Shores
Community Coordinator, Pinellas County
Resident, Town of Indian Rocks Beach
Resident, Town of Indian Rocks Beach
Town Manager, Town of Redington Shores
Candidate, District 6
Pinellas County Commission
Coastal Ecologist, Tampa Bay Regional
Planning Council
City Clerk, City of Belleair Beach
City Manager, City of Belleair Beach
Reporter, Tampa Bay Beacon News
Fire Chief, Pinellas Suncoast
District Aide, Representative Berfield

3. Changes to the Agenda and Approval

Mayor Schear moved to approve, seconded by Mayor Brooks, and carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes - Minutes for the City of Belleair Beach July 29, 2026, meeting.

Mayor Gattis asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Mayor Schear so moved, seconded by Commissioner Cariello, and carried unanimously.**

5. Approval of the July 2026 Treasurer's Reports

Vice Mayor Vasquez relayed the Treasurer's Report for the month of July and stated the opening and closing balance was \$345.77. On a request for the previous month's report, Vice Mayor Vasquez stated that was the only report provided by Mayor John Doctor, Treasure Island.

Mayor Schear moved to approve, second by Commissioner Cariello, and carried unanimously.

6. Correspondence - None

7. New Business

7.A Theresa Crane, Duke Energy – Turtle-Friendly Lighting Assistance for Beachfront Businesses and Condominiums

Ms. Theresa Crane, Duke Energy, elaborated on a grant program for turtle-friendly lighting for beachfront businesses and condominiums.

Commissioner Cariello asked if towns or cities could apply for assistance. Ms. Crane said the program was specific to small business and condominiums. Commissioner Cariello noted turtle-appropriate lighting was more expensive and thought the funding should be available to municipalities.

Mayor Super stated the City had been promoting improved turtle lighting through code enforcement violations and community mailings. Ms. Crane said Duke Energy was working with different organizations as a team and would bring more information.

7.B Barrier Island Recovery Update - Barrier Island Strong

Ms. Veronica Katz, President, Barrier Island Strong, provided a presentation on the work that the Barrier Island Strong organization performed immediately following the 2024 hurricanes, the work the organization continues to provide for the barrier communities and then asked for support.

Vice Mayor Vasquez believed addressing pet care facilities during clean up would be beneficial. Ms. Katz agreed. Vice Mayor Vasquez said a list of local boarding facilities and pet food distributions would be helpful.

Mayor Gattis asked how to donate to the organization. Ms. Katz said donations and applications for assistance were available on the website.

8. Discussion Items – None.

9. Legislative Update – Commissioner Chris Latvala, Pinellas County

Commissioner Latvala shared an overview of the County's fiscal year 2027 budget.

Mayor Vaughan said the loss of 43 positions was difficult and invited Commission Latvala to meet with the Indian Rocks Beach staff and himself to review a nearly completed parking study to discuss the benefits of increased parking rates.

Commissioner Latvala appreciated the invitation and spoke on the difficulties of cutting staff. Mayor Vaughan asked if there would be more cuts if Amendment 3 passed in November. Commissioner Latvala believed the cuts would be severe, including parks being eliminated or hours limited; increases to parking costs; additional cuts to the County budget; impacts to public safety and response times, even though the Sheriff's Office budget would be cut last; the closure of libraries; and the closure of Safe Harbor, which would increase the homeless population in the County.

A Gabber reporter asked what percentage of the vote Amendment 3 would receive. Commissioner Latvala thought it would be more than 50 percent, but unsure if it would reach the 60-percent threshold and thought Sheriff's Offices opposition to the amendment would be influential. An attendee asked if a yes vote would be premature because the State constitution required a tax review commission in 2027. Commissioner Latvala said

he respected the will of the voters and felt there would be property tax relief even if it was not through the current amendment.

10. City Events

Mayor Shoos noted a blood drive on October 1st.

Mayor Super reported no events.

Commissioner Cariello spoke on a September 11th memorial service and two community events in October.

Mayor Vaughan said there was coffee with the neighbors at City Hall and Octoberfest on October 10th.

Commissioner Marriott relayed the Corey Avenue Sunday Market and the sip-n-stroll event were continuing and there was a groundbreaking scheduled for the new Fire Station.

Mayor Brooks said the City was currently having Burger Week, lunch with the Mayor, town cleanup event, a 9/11 memorial services, and village Friday.

Mayor Gattis said there was a Town Hall scheduled on tax education.

Vice Mayor Vasquez announced the September 11th remembrance celebration.

Mayor Schear said there was a customary use meeting that evening and tomorrow there was a blood drive.

Mayor Rector said there were upcoming boat races, the Baycare sound lineup in September, and a Clearwater Jazz Holiday in October.

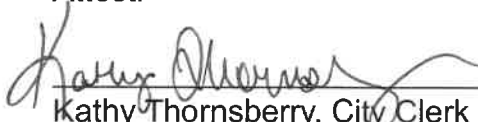
11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

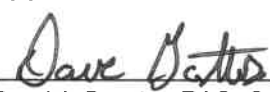
Minutes prepared by: Lisa-Marie Kennedy, City Clerk
City Clerk's Office, City of Treasure Island

Date Approved: September 30, 2026

Attest:


Kathy Thornsberry, City Clerk
City of Treasure Island

Approved:


David Gattis, BIG C President
Mayor, City of Belleair Beach