



**TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA
TOWN COMMISSION
Jarvis Hall
4505 N. Ocean Drive
Tuesday, June 24, 2025
6:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER, MAYOR EDMUND MALKOON

Mayor Edmund Malkoon called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Also present were Vice Mayor Randy Strauss, Commissioner Richard DeNapoli, Commissioner John A. Graziano, Commissioner Theo Pouloupoulos (by phone), Town Manager Linda Connors, Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Ken Rubach, Town Attorney Susan L. Trevarthen, Director of Budget and Finance Lucila Lang, Assistant Director of Budget and Finance Edner St. Jean, Development Services Director Jhanelle Campbell, Assistant to the Town Manager Courtney Easley, Events and Marketing Manager Katie Anderson, and Town Clerk Katrina Adler.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. INVOCATION

Pauline Brooks McGuinness gave the Invocation.

4. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, DEFERRALS OF AGENDA ITEMS

None.

5. PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time Mayor Malkoon opened public comment.

Patrick Ucci, resident, recalled that he had previously discussed vehicle theft during public comment. Since that time, there have been three more vehicle thefts in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, and no arrests have been made thus far.

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Mr. Ucci pointed out that there has been an increase of more than 100% in car thefts over the previous year. Some neighborhoods have hired off-duty Police Officers to reinforce security. He requested information from the Commission on the Town's plan to address ongoing crime.

With no other individuals wishing to speak at this time, Mayor Malkoon closed public comment.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY DISCUSSION

a. BSO May 2025 Public Safety Report

Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) Captain Bill Wesolowski stated that the May 2025 Deputy of the Month was Deputy Adam Yates, who responded to the beach when a swimmer was injured while in the water.

Captain Wesolowski also addressed crime statistics in the Town, explaining that BSO reports all crimes to which they respond and documents all crimes that occur as part of a reported incident. He pointed out that crime in the Town is down by 24% from the previous year, although auto thefts have increased by 83%.

Captain Wesolowski noted that ongoing investigations may involve multiple suspects. While forensic technology has advanced significantly, the processing of DNA evidence can be time-consuming. He concluded that six of the 11 stolen vehicles have been recovered, and strongly emphasized the importance of locking cars and securing key fobs.

Captain Wesolowski also recalled a recent incident in which several social media posts shared incorrect information about the response. Police Officers may not respond to most social media platforms and could not correct this information. He clarified that aside from BSO's official Facebook and X accounts, the information being shared does not come from a Police source. Inaccurate information can hinder the Police response to incidents.

Vice Mayor Strauss also emphasized the importance of not sharing inaccurate information on social media. He also addressed the incident involving an injury in the water, asking if there is information available on possible shark sightings. Captain Wesolowski replied that this was an unusual occurrence for South Florida and the first such incident with significant injury in several years.

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Vice Mayor Strauss also addressed car thefts, requesting more information on additional steps owners can take to secure their vehicles. Captain Wesolowski asserted that any steps taken to slow or discourage a thief are useful. He pointed out that six of the 11 vehicle thefts involved keys left in cars, and emphasized the importance of taking simple steps to discourage theft.

Commissioner Graziano suggested that the Town take more inventive steps to scare away perpetrators, such as signage stating the Town monitors traffic using cameras. Captain Wesolowski advised that BSO also uses decoy vehicles as deterrents. He added that when all evidence has been processed, the individuals responsible for the thefts will be arrested.

Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Ken Rubach clarified that the Town has posted signage on A1A and Town entrances which states the area is under camera surveillance. Commissioner Graziano proposed that this be posted at entrances to the Town's neighborhoods as well.

Mayor Malkoon stated that some processes may be time-consuming, and recommended patience as BSO builds cases for prosecution. He added that there are several cameras deployed throughout the Town, including the license plate reader (LPR) camera system.

b. PBFR May 2025 Public Safety Report

Fire Marshal Ashley Zalewski reported that there were 141 calls in the month of May, with a response time of just over 6.5 minutes. 10 calls involved units from stations outside Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.

8. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

a. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Linda Connors reported that the repaving of three streets in the Town will begin on June 26-27, 2025. This project will include Ocean Mist Drive and Sailfish Drive in the Bel Air neighborhood. Street parking will not be permitted during the repaving project. Later in the fiscal year, West Terra Mar Drive in the Terra Mar neighborhood will be repaved as well.

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Town Manager Connors recognized Human Resources Manager Sue Courtade and Assistant to the Town Manager Courtney Easley, who have been seeking ways to take advantage of vendor incentive programs. The Town was awarded over \$4,000 by the Preferred Governmental Insurance Trust Training and Incentive Program, which rewards municipalities that invest in protecting employees and public property. This also helps reduce liability and promote a culture of safety. Town Manager Connors also recognized Assistant to the Public Works Director Tiana Ganswith, who helped to secure the funding.

The Town's agreements with the Downtown sidewalk cafés require those businesses to remove street furniture when pressure cleaning is scheduled. Much of the cost of pressure cleaning is offset by the sidewalk café fees collected from these businesses; however, if the cleaning company must move the furniture itself, the Town is charged an additional fee. An educational campaign is underway with Downtown businesses to encourage them to take this step. Staff plans to follow up by including the ability to fine businesses who do not follow this requirement in the sidewalk café contracts.

Town Manager Connors recalled that the Town has met with residents of the North Silver Shores neighborhood to identify ways to encourage traffic calming. In July 2025, the Town plans to complete crosswalk enhancements to the intersection of Washington Avenue and Seagrape Drive. Permanent radar speed signs will be installed on Seagrape Drive.

The Governor of Florida has signed House Bill (HB) 683 into law. This legislation preempts local government from adopting or enforcing any Ordinances, regulations, or other rules prohibiting property owners from installing synthetic turf on single-family residential properties, provided that the turf complies with Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) standards. Because these standards have not yet been established, Staff recommends that the Town not move forward with respect to any regulations for pervious/impervious surfaces at this time in order to avoid conflict with the new legislation.

Town Manager Connors advised, however, that it can be problematic for property owners to install artificial turf on the Town's swales, and asked that property owners not place artificial turf in those locations.

Commissioner DeNapoli made a motion to suspend enforcement of Code violations related to the installation of synthetic turf on private residential properties. The motion was approved by unanimous consensus.

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Commissioner Graziano requested information regarding a temporary sign prohibiting left turns onto East Tradewinds Avenue. Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Rubach explained that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) includes several phases in their construction projects, not all of which are complete at the location mentioned by the Commissioner. The roadway still needs to be repaved, and concrete work remains underway farther west. The signage will remain until the entire project is complete.

Commissioner DeNapoli noted that Senate Bill (SB) 1080 was also recently signed into law. Town Attorney Susan Trevarthen added that SB 1730, which provides amendments to the Live Local Act, was signed as well.

9. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

Town Attorney Trevarthen reported that the Governor is signing many of the remaining policy bills into law this week. Many of those bills, once signed, will be effective July 1, 2025.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approval of Minutes for May 27, 2025 and June 10, 2025.

Vice Mayor Strauss made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pouloupoulos, to approve both. Motion carried 5-0.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

None.

12. OLD BUSINESS

None.

13. NEW BUSINESS

None.

14. COMMISSIONER PRESENTATIONS

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None.

15. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Graziano reminded all present that the Auditor Selection Committee is preparing a timetable for the selection of an auditor firm. They will work with Director of Budget and Finance Lucila Lang as well as the Town Attorney's Office. The first Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 8, 2025.

Vice Mayor Strauss recognized the recent passing of Public Safety Chaplain Father Ron Perkins, who was very involved in the Lauderdale-By-The-Sea community.

Vice Mayor Strauss also encouraged residents to attend the Town's annual Fourth of July celebration. The parade is expected to begin at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 4, 2025. The event will also include Family Fun Day at Friedt Park and a fireworks display beginning at 9:00 p.m.

Mayor Malkoon stated that local business Beach King will celebrate its 40th anniversary on the Fourth of July, which will include several offers to customers. He also congratulated Father Michael J. Greer of Assumption Church on his 50-year anniversary serving the church.

16. ORDINANCES 1ST READING

None.

17. ORDINANCES 2ND READING

None.

18. RESOLUTIONS – PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. Resolution 2025-27: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, APPROVING A WORK AUTHORIZATION WITH BAXTER & WOODMAN, INC. FOR DESIGN, PERMITTING, AND BIDDING ASSISTANCE SERVICES RELATED TO THE BOUGAINVILLEA/POINCIANA STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT

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**PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE
WORK AUTHORIZATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE
DATE.**

At this time Mayor Malkoon opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Rubach explained that this Item is a design project for stormwater enhancements on Bougainvilla Drive south of the Fire Station as well as Poinciana Drive from Pine Avenue to the parking area. A portion of Bougainvilla Drive north of Washington Avenue was completed in 2012, including the installation of large drainage structures and exfiltration pipes. The new project will mirror this work on the other streets.

The goal of the project is to install pipes that will connect with Bougainvilla and Poinciana Drives through a pipe that runs down Pine Avenue to the Intracoastal Waterway.

Commissioner DeNapoli requested clarification of the project's costs. Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Rubach advised that the \$257,000 cost is for the design phase only. The project's total costs are expected to approach \$4 million to \$5 million. The Commission is asked to approve design work, including drawings, soil samples, determination of pipe size, and bidding assistance. The design process is expected to take roughly 58 weeks to complete.

Commissioner Pouloupoulos made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Strauss, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

**b. Resolution 2025-28: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF
LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE 2025
AMENDED AND RESTATED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM SURTAX
INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT (THIRD AMENDMENT) WITH BROWARD
COUNTY, THE BROWARD COUNTY CITY MANAGERS'
ASSOCIATION AND PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES**

At this time Mayor Malkoon opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

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Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Rubach recalled that when Broward County's penny surtax was passed in 2018, the funds raised by this tax were intended for distribution to both Broward County and its municipalities. Since that time, two amendments have been approved to the surtax agreement. The third amendment, which has been in discussion for three to four years, was recently finalized. He thanked Broward County Commissioner Lamar Fisher, who represents Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, for his work on this process.

The third amendment will allow Broward municipalities more control of how their portion of the surtax may be used. Changes affecting the Town include the following:

- Formula-based funding: the Town is guaranteed a certain amount every year based upon its number of center lane miles, which will guarantee some surtax funding each year for projects
- Community-based funding formula enhancement: smaller communities, which have less than 1% of the center lane miles in Broward County will receive an enhanced amount in addition to the formula-based amount, even if they do not apply for funding for projects

Once the Broward County Board of County Commissioners has signed off on the third amendment, it will need to be approved by municipalities representing 51% of the Broward County population before it can take effect.

Mayor Malkoon thanked the Town Manager and Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director for their advocacy on behalf of this amendment. Town Manager Connors explained that the Town has not previously received any of the surtax funding; most of the funding benefited only larger Broward communities with larger projects. She emphasized Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Rubach's role in the process, and thanked him for his work.

Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Rubach added that the Town may now use its portion of surtax funding toward community micromobility providers such as Circuit.

Commissioner DeNapoli requested clarification of how much of the Town's surtax funding may be used toward Circuit. Deputy Town Manager/Public Works Director Rubach confirmed that the Town may use the full amount of its funding for this purpose. The Town will receive a minimum of \$119,000 as well as an enhancement each year depending upon how other monies are spent.

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Vice Mayor Strauss commented that now that the Town is receiving surtax funding, the Commission may wish to revisit the policy of charging Circuit users a \$2 fee.

Vice Mayor Strauss made a motion, seconded by Commissioner DeNapoli, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

19. QUASI JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

20. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Edmund Malkoon

Mayor Edmund Malkoon

ATTEST:

Katrina Adler

Katrina Adler, Town Clerk

7/9/2025 | 4:25 PM EDT

Date