



**FINAL MINUTES AND AGENDA
TOWN OF JUPITER
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Kuretski called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Mayor Jim Kuretski; Vice-Mayor Ron Delaney; Councilor Phyllis Choy; Councilor Dan Guisinger; Councilor Malise Sundstrom; Town Manager Frank Kitzerow; Assistant Town Attorney Joanne M. O'Connor and Town Clerk Merriane Lahmeur.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. **Ordinance 14-25, Second Reading**, Approving the Fiscal Year 2026 Millage Rate.
2. **Ordinance 15-25, Second Reading**, Approving the Fiscal Year 2026-2030 Community Investment Program.
3. **Resolution 102-25**, Approving the Town of Jupiter's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget and Pay Plan.

Mr. Scott Reynolds, Director of Finance, provided an update on the proposed FY 2026 Operating and Community Investment Plan (CIP) budget for the second and final public hearing, which included a summary of prior meetings, budget objectives and assumptions, property valuation increase, proposed millage rate compared to rollback, budget overview, General Fund revenues and expenditures, Jupiter Fire Rescue Department (JFRD), Water Fund, Stormwater Fund, Jupiter River Estates Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Fund, Building Fund, Health Insurance Fund, CIP funding summary, General Fund cashflow update, and next steps.

Mr. Reynolds discussed that Council at the previous meeting had requested additional options for the athletic field repair and restoration capital improvements for FY26. He provided the three options with associated costs and funding at Jupiter Community Park (JCP):

- Option One: Repair one turf field and complete maintenance of an irrigation pump.
- Option Two: Repair two turf fields and complete maintenance of an irrigation pump.
- Option Three: Install two new artificial turf fields on fields nine and ten.

He noted that the feedback received favored Option Two. Council unanimously supported Option Two.

Mayor Kuretski asked whether the rollback rate considered inflation. Mr. Reynolds responded that it did not.

Mayor Kuretski further explained that staff had previously noted residents would see tax savings due to debt repayment. He asked how much debt the Town currently had in the General Fund. Mr. Reynolds confirmed there was currently no debt.

Mayor Kuretski reiterated his support for Option Two.

Title for Ordinance 14-25 read by Ms. O'Connor.

Vice-Mayor Delaney moved to approve Ordinance 14-25, Second Reading; seconded by Councilor Choy; motion passed.

Kuretski	Delaney	Choy	Guisinger	Sundstrom
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Title for Ordinance 15-25 read by Ms. O'Connor.

Mayor Kuretski stated he was voting no to the adoption of the Town's CIP plan due to the unresolved projects and his fiscal management concerns. He noted it was the third consecutive year with carryforward and unspent CIP project funds totaling about \$120 million. He felt it was unlikely to improve unless there was a change in the Town's policy for better project and fiscal management practices. He explained he had unresolved budget issues on 37 separate capital projects in the plan.

Mayor Kuretski expressed concerns that carryforward funds remain on several projects already placed into service and noted those funds should have been swept. He explained that reliance on lump-sum single-year budgeting for multi-year projects ties up funds years in advance of actual need. He also noted that many CIP projects have construction schedules lasting 1–3 years, which could create unacceptable impacts on residents and businesses.

Mayor Kuretski stressed the need for accountability in CIP project sheets, emphasizing that project sponsors must ensure sheets are accurate and updated, as some significant changes have not been incorporated into current documents. He also raised concerns that unjustified requests for additional funds continue to be approved for projects that already held high carryforward balances.

Mayor Kuretski highlighted two major Utility CIP projects, each forecasted to take 8 and 15 years with costs of approximately \$20 million. He noted both projects have construction phases fully funded three years before their forecasted in-service dates, unnecessarily locking up funds. He stated he had other unresolved concerns with the CIP plan.

Mayor Kuretski noted that he had spent about half of his professional career in project and fiscal management of capital improvement projects. He emphasized that having annual carryforward, unencumbered, and unspent funds for capital improvement projects equating to nearly five years of actual CIP spending was problematic.

He stated that he had been advocating for improvements in project and fiscal management practices for several years, and each year he was told progress was being made and that improvements would be evident in the following year. He said he could not accept that explanation again this year.

Mayor Kuretski explained that he had suggested policy changes this year to strengthen project and fiscal management practices with little immediate success. He expressed hope that the Town Manager would consider implementing at least some of these changes over the coming year, and prior to the start of work on the next CIP plan update.

Councilor Sundstrom moved to approve Ordinance 15-25, Second Reading; seconded by Councilor Guisinger; motion passed.

Kuretski	Delaney	Choy	Guisinger	Sundstrom
No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Councilor Guisinger moved to approve Resolution 102-25; seconded by Councilor Choy; motion passed.

Kuretski	Delaney	Choy	Guisinger	Sundstrom
No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Mayor Kuretski said he appreciated all the work done by Staff, especially the Finance Department.

PRESENTATION

4. Jupiter Fire Rescue Department (JFRD) Update.

Fire Chief Donatto provided a presentation on the Department update, and he explained that JFRD only had a year left until they would be scheduled to begin providing fire and emergency medical services to the community. He briefly reviewed the project timeline, including upcoming milestones, and the various phases of construction and training of Staff. He continued his presentation and reviewed the current status for the fire apparatus and provided an update on the Piatt and Cinquez Fire Station construction progress. Fire Chief Donatto confirmed that JFRD remains on schedule and on budget.

Councilor Guisinger asked what the status of recruiting firefighters and paramedics was and the number of applicants received to date. Fire Chief Donatto stated Staff had not begun recruiting, however, they had over 1000 names on an interest list, and expected to start recruiting in January. Councilor Guisinger and Fire Chief Donatto discussed what the level of experience would be for personnel on day one and how JFRD capabilities would compare to Palm Beach County Fire Rescue.

There was a brief discussion between Fire Chief Donatto and Mayor Kuretski regarding the construction and schedule of the Piatt and Cinquez Stations.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Andy Weston, resident of Dolphin Drive, discussed his concerns regarding Dolphin Drive and asked Council to widen the road.

MINUTES

5. September 4, 2025, Town Council Meeting Minutes.

Vice-Mayor Delaney moved to approve the September 4, 2025, Town Council Meeting Minutes; seconded by Councilor Choy; motion passed.

Kuretski
Yes

Delaney
Yes

Choy
Yes

Guisinger
Yes

Sundstrom
Yes

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed in this portion of the agenda are considered routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilor or citizen so requests; in which event, the item will be removed and considered at the beginning of the regular agenda.

Councilor Sundstrom moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Councilor Guisinger; motion passed.

Kuretski
Yes

Delaney
Yes

Choy
Yes

Guisinger
Yes

Sundstrom
Yes

PUBLIC HEARING

- 6. Ordinance 16-25, Second Reading,** non-renewal of the consent to continuing participation in the Jupiter-Municipal Service Taxing Unit (the Jupiter MSTU) for the purpose of receiving fire-rescue and emergency medical services from Palm Beach County.

Title of 16-25 read by Ms. O'Connor.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

- 7. Approving the 2026 Town Council Meeting Schedule.**

REPORTS

TOWN ATTORNEY – NONE

TOWN MANAGER –

- Budget - Mr. Kitzerow expressed gratitude to Mr. Reynolds, Dawn Clark and everyone in the Finance Department for preparing this year's budget and all of their hard work. He also thanked the Council for their input and advice on moving forward.
- Chief of Police – Mr. Kitzerow announced Chief Barbera's retirement ceremony would take place October 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers. Mr. Kitzerow announced the appointment of Deputy Chief Don Hennessy as the Interim Chief of Policy for the Jupiter Police Department (JPD).
- Employee Recognition - Mr. Kitzerow congratulated four employees who recently celebrated significant employment milestones with the Town:
 - 25 years - Daisy Sand, HR Department
 - 30 years - Angie Carpentiere, Building Department; Paul Harrington,

Police Department; and Charlayne Pittman-Stone, Police Department.

- Playgrounds - Mr. Kitzerow noted the Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies for the playgrounds at Jupiter Community Park and Indian Creek Park. He stated that he was hearing great things about the newly renovated playgrounds, and he thanked Mr. Hoffman, Ms. George, and the Parks and Recreation staff for all of their hard work.
- Indiantown Road - Mr. Kitzerow announced that FDOT would be holding a Public Information Workshop concerning the second phase of roadway improvements (from Central Blvd to Chasewood Plaza) on September 30 at 6:00 p.m. in the Jupiter Community Center.
- E-bikes - Mr. Kitzerow reported that JPD continues to educate parents and youth about e-bike safety, and that Officers had recently visited Jupiter Middle School and Independence Middle School.
- JPD Employee Recognition - Mr. Kitzerow congratulated Jupiter Police Officer First Class Matt Owens, who was promoted to the rank of Chief Petty Officer in the Navy Reserves after completing one of the most demanding leadership programs in the U.S. Military.

TOWN COUNCIL – LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS –

COUNCILOR GUISINGER:

- Chief of Police - Councilor Guisinger thanked Police Chief Barbera for his excellent service to the Town of Jupiter and its residents.
- Budget - Councilor Guisinger expressed appreciation to Mr. Reynolds and the Town Staff for all of the hard work on putting together the Community Investment Plan, along with the Operating Budget. He expressed his gratitude to his colleagues for his appointment to the Council and their confidence in him to dive right into the Town's budget process.

COUNCILOR SUNDSTROM:

- Chief of Police - Councilor Sundstrom stated she looked forward to celebrating Chief Barbera, and provided a hearty welcome to new Interim Chief Hennessy.
- Playgrounds - Councilor Sundstrom noted that she had received feedback that parking was currently an issue at the newly renovated playgrounds, because they had become so popular. She was happy to hear that they were so popular, and thought the initial parking issue would calm down.

VICE-MAYOR DELANEY:

- Chief of Police - Vice-Mayor Delaney congratulated new Interim Chief Hennessy.
- Budget - Vice-Mayor Delaney expressed gratitude to Mr. Reynolds and his team for preparing this year's budget and all of their hard work and getting through the budget process.
- Playgrounds - Vice-Mayor Delaney stated he has heard all of the excitement about the playgrounds, and thanked Staff and the Town Manager for their work.

COUNCILOR CHOY:

- Chief of Police - Councilor Choy welcomed and congratulated new Interim Police Chief Hennessy.
- Budget - Councilor Choy expressed gratitude to Mr. Reynolds and all of the Department heads and Staff for this year's budget and the guidance and assistance that was provided.
- Employee Recognition – Councilor Choy expressed how proud she was to serve the Town and for the culture of the Town with having employees having served so long. She noted Officer Owen's remarkable achievement.

MAYOR KURETSKI:

- Chief of Police - Mayor Kuretski congratulated new Interim Police Chief Hennessy.
- Playgrounds - Mayor Kuretski stated that everyone he encountered had been thankful for the playground upgrades as well. He also noted that many families and neighbors have been seen gathering at the playgrounds, which had not happened for a long time, and that such gatherings have been what has kept Jupiter uniquely special.
- Jupiter Community Park - Mayor Kuretski expressed the desire to see wayfinding signs at the park, and noted examples of how signage would be helpful due to its size. He hoped that staff would be able to find funding for the signs.
- School Zones - Mayor Kuretski stated that he noticed some school zones do not have a flashing sign for during school hours. He explained the importance of a flashing school zone sign, and provided examples of school zones without them. There was a brief discussion of the signs on Maplewood and those on Central Boulevard at Jupiter Elementary. He requested the Engineering Staff to look into the issue.
- E-bikes - Mayor Kuretski expressed a desire for the Council to look at considering an age limit.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:59 P.M.

Merriane Lahmeur, Town Clerk