



**FINAL MINUTES AND AGENDA
TOWN OF JUPITER
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025**

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; Town Attorney Thomas J. Baird and Town Clerk Merriane Lahmeur.

PROCLAMATION

1. Astronaut Kellie Gerardi Day.

Mayor Kuretski presented a proclamation to Astronaut Kellie Gerardi.

Ms. Gerardi expressed her appreciation to the Town and thanked the Council for their support and recognition.

PRESENTATION

2. Jupiter Fire Rescue Department (JFRD) Update.

Fire Chief Donatto provided a presentation on the Department update, including Fire and EMS equipment purchases and construction of the Fire Stations. Fire Chief Donatto explained the most recent Jupiter Fire Rescue equipment purchases and agreements with multiple vendors, including blood and blood components, firefighter personal protective equipment, the glance traffic preemption system, and the Locution station alerting system. He continued his presentation and provided a brief overview of the status of the fire station construction projects. Fire Chief Donatto confirmed that JFRD remains on schedule and on budget.

Councilor Guisinger and Fire Chief Donatto discussed the refrigeration system in place for the blood and blood components, the approval received from Palm Beach County (PBC) allowing the Town to install the glance traffic preemption system, and the Locution station alerting system currently operating at Station 16.

Vice Mayor Delaney asked if PBC would have access to the new traffic preemption system, and Fire Chief Donatto confirmed that they would.

Councilor Choy asked how 911 operators determine who responds and how many respond to an emergency. Fire Chief Donatto explained the process for calls and how the computer system determines which rescue vehicles to send.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Kay Strickland, a resident of Ocean Grande Blvd, discussed her concerns regarding fireworks on the beach and requested that Council consider prohibiting the use of fireworks near the residential strip along the beach.

MINUTES

3. October 7, 2025, Town Council Meeting Minutes.

Vice-Mayor Delaney moved to approve the October 7, 2025, Town Council Meeting Minutes; seconded by Councilor Sundstrom; 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 Guisinger moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Councilor Choy; motion passed.

Kuretski
Yes

Delaney
Yes

Choy
Yes

Guisinger
Yes

Sundstrom
Yes

PUBLIC BUSINESS

- 4. Approving the purchase and installation of station alerting hardware and software (Locution) at the Piatt and Cinquez Fire Stations in the amount of \$270,494.**
- 5. Approving a Purchase Order with Universal Cabling Systems, Inc. for \$143,761.00 to Furnish and Install Low Voltage Cabling for the JFRD Fire Stations.**
- 6. Approving Purchase of firefighting tools, equipment, and life safety supplies from Ten-8 Fire & Safety LLC, in an amount not exceeding \$750,000, using a piggyback of the multi-year of the Lake County, FL, contract.**
- 7. Approving Purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) from Bennett Fire Products Co., Inc., in an amount not exceeding \$1,383,840 using a piggyback of the multi-year Lake County, FL, contract.**
- 8. Approving Purchase of firefighting tools, equipment, uniforms, and life safety supplies from Municipal Emergency Services, Inc., in an amount not exceeding \$750,000 using a piggyback of the multi-year Lake County, FL, contract.**

9. Approving the purchase and installation of the Glance Traffic Preemption System in the total amount of \$97,877 from Temple, Inc., Strobes-R-Us, and Gerelco.
10. Approving the purchase of FY26 Town vehicles for various Departments in the amount of \$269,341
11. **Resolution 93-25**, Approving a contract with FSV Construction Company for Utilities Field Office Renovations (WS2531) for an amount of \$350,531.
12. **Resolution 107-25**, Approving a Blood and Blood Components Supply Agreement and Blood Associate Agreement with OneBlood, Inc., in an estimated amount not to exceed \$50,000 annually.

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING

13. **Ordinance 12-25, First Reading**, Approval to Amend Chapter 14 of the Town Code, Parks and Recreation.

Interim Police Chief Don Hennessy provided a presentation, which included an overview of the Ordinance, existing and proposed general park rules and regulations, enforcement process and proposed fine amounts, and an overall summary of the purpose.

Mayor Kuretski explained there was a misunderstanding with the Police Department regarding the Council's consideration of changes to the Town Code. He emphasized that the Council remains open to possible amendments.

Mayor Kuretski requested that exceptions for tailgates at sporting events in Section 14-79 (Camping) and exceptions for recreational fields that are lighted in regards to the sunset and sunrise restrictions in Section 14-82 (Park Usage), be addressed before the second reading.

Councilor Choy asked why vehicles were not included in Section 14-75. Interim Police Chief Hennessy stated Staff would look at including that as part of the citation process.

Councilor Sundstrom requested clarification on Section 14-80, regarding whether alcohol was permitted during Town-sponsored events or under a special event permit. Interim Police Chief Hennessy stated he would reach out to the Parks and Recreation Department for clarification.

Councilor Sundstrom requested clarification regarding drones, specifically asking what concerns Staff had and why their use would not be allowed under Town Code. Interim Police Chief Hennessy expressed concerns for public safety related to drone takeoffs and landings, as well as the potential for property damage. He noted that if the Council wished to allow drone use, he would be willing to explore a permitting process for operations within Town Parks.

Mr. Kitzerow inquired whether police drones could be operated over crowds of people. Interim Police Chief Hennessy confirmed they could not.

Councilor Choy suggested that this information should be circulated to commercial photographers. Interim Police Chief Hennessy clarified that the restriction pertained primarily to launching and landing drones in Town Parks.

Councilor Guisinger asked whether the proposed enforcement fines were consistent with the County fines. Interim Police Chief Hennessy stated that the fines were consistent with the current Town fines.

Councilor Guisinger then inquired whether golf carts would be included in Section 14.75. Interim Police Chief Hennessy responded that golf carts could be included if so desired.

Mayor Kuretski asked if the Council had provided sufficient direction on the matter. Interim Police Chief Hennessy confirmed that adequate direction had been provided.

The title for Ordinance 12-25 was read by Mr. Baird.

Vice-Mayor Delaney moved to approve Ordinance 12-25, First Reading; seconded by Councilor Guisinger; motion passed.

Kuretski
Yes

Delaney
Yes

Choy
Yes

Guisinger
Yes

Sundstrom
Yes

PUBLIC BUSINESS

- 14. Resolution 109-25,** Notification that the Town is contemplating a non-ad valorem assessment for the cost of providing fire protection within the incorporated area of the Town commencing on October 1, 2026.

Mr. Scott Reynolds, Director of Finance, presented an overview of the proposed non-ad valorem assessment option. He explained the rationale for its implementation and how it would replace a portion of the Jupiter Fire/Rescue millage on a property owner's tax bill. Mr. Reynolds then outlined the process for establishing the fire non-ad valorem assessment, including the steps involved, key milestones, and a timeline for its possible adoption and execution.

Mr. Reynolds provided an overview of items for the Council to consider, which included authorization of Resolution 109-25, declaring the intent to use the uniform collection method as required by Florida Statutes. Mr. Reynolds explained that authorization did not commit the Town in any way. He emphasized that if the non-ad valorem assessment was adopted, it would replace the "Jupiter Fire/Rescue" charge on property owners' tax bill.

Mayor Kuretski noted for the new members that there were not any prior discussions about the topic, and that the intent was to have a study conducted at the beginning of year three, and then policy decisions would be made. The only commitment was to save residents and businesses significant costs. Mr. Reynolds confirmed that the study had been initiated and would not be completed until early next year. Mr.

Reynolds also confirmed that a workshop would take place and there would be multiple public hearings.

Councilor Choy inquired if it could be determined what percentage the Town would save versus the County. Mr. Reynolds indicated that there would likely be a ten million savings in year one.

Councilor Sundstrom asked for confirmation that this would just be one tool in the toolbox that could be used, and Mr. Reynolds confirmed. She requested that as the process moves forward, that it always be clearly communicated that this non-ad valorem assessment, if approved, would replace and be less than the line item for the current MSTU. Mr. Reynolds stated that they had been working with the Community Relations Department on this specific item.

Councilor Guisinger inquired when the website would be active. Mr. Reynolds noted that the page was actively being worked on. Councilor Guisinger next asked what would fund the emergency services, and Mr. Reynolds responded that it would primarily be paid for by the ad valorem collected and it would be incorporated into the Town's Operating Budget.

Mayor Kuretski noted that the Council had not yet made a policy decision, and there were still many options to consider. He cautioned that something not be put online that the Council had yet to weigh in on.

Shawn Reed, Director of Community Relations, confirmed that the webpage on the topic was currently available, with a focus solely on educating the public about what the non-ad valorem assessment is, and that it clearly indicated a decision had not been made.

Councilor Guisinger moved to approve Resolution 109-25; seconded by Vice-Mayor Delaney; motion passed.

Kuretski
Yes

Delaney
Yes

Choy
Yes

Guisinger
Yes

Sundstrom
Yes

REPORTS

TOWN ATTORNEY: NONE

TOWN MANAGER

- Town of Jupiter Community Survey - Mr. Kitzerow state that the Town partners with the Polco Survey Company every two years to conduct the Nation Community Survey. The survey allows the Town to gauge the opinion of residents on topics such as public safety, services, infrastructure, economy and quality of life. For this year's survey, 3,500 Jupiter residents were randomly selected to participate in the survey. The survey will open on Friday, November 14th, for those households not selected for the scientific portion of the survey. The survey will close to everyone on December 1st. He noted that the Town would receive the

results of the survey in January.

- Florida City Government Week - Mr. Kitzerow commented that this week was Florida City Government week, a time when municipalities across the state join to celebrate and showcase the work performed by local governments. He stated that throughout the week the Town would feature Town employees and Departments on Town social media channels to recognize the work done day in and day out by the Town.
- HarbourFest - Mr. Kitzerow stated that the Town had received favorable feedback on the event, and thanked staff from both the Chamber and the Town who worked hard for a successful event.
- Employee Recognition –
 - Mr. Kitzerow acknowledged Officer Jonathan Ciarrone, who was named Officer of the quarter and Detective Salvatore Martino, who was named Investigator of the quarter by the South Florida Crime Commission.
 - Mr. Kitzerow recognized two employees who reached significant milestones with the Town, Office John O'keefe (JPD), who celebrated 20 years of services, and Rodney Carrol (Utilities), who recently celebrated 35 years of service.
- Annual Halloween Spooktacular - Mr. Kitzerow announced that the Town's free annual event would be Friday, at the Municipal Complex, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. He invited everyone to come out and enjoy trick-or-treating, games, music, food trucks and more.

TOWN COUNCIL – LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS **COUNCILOR SUNDSTROM:**

- Town Events –
 - Alice Kitching Benton House Event - Councilor Sundstrom expressed how pleased she was with the event and the historical designation. She noted that it was a wonderful celebration.
 - HarbourFest - Councilor Sundstrom stated this was a wonderful event, and there would be a lot learned from the first year, and that it would only get better year after year.
- Legislative Session - Councilor Sundstrom thought with all of the work that is being done by the Town at the State level, it might be helpful to have one Council representative working with Staff and the Lobbyists on issues. She asked if she could be that representative, since she had been working with state matters already. Councilor Sundstrom noted she would keep the Council updated and seek guidance when needed. All of the Council Members agreed.

COUNCILOR GUISINGER:

- HarbourFest - Councilor Guisinger noted that he had attend the event and thought it was very nice. He acknowledged Town and Chamber Staff for their hard work.

- Astronaut Kellie Gerardi - Councilor Guisinger congratulated Ms. Gerardi and personally thanked her for the example she is setting to young women and girls in the community.

VICE-MAYOR DELANEY:

- Town Events -
 - HarbourFest – Vice-Mayor Delaney noted how nice the event was and what a great job staff had done.
 - Alice Kitching Benton House Event - Vice-Mayor Delaney noted what a wonderful job had been done and that it was the second adaptive reuse in town, which would save another historic building.

COUNCILOR CHOY:

- Astronaut Kellie Gerardi - Councilor Choy thanked Ms. Gerardi for her attendance. She congratulated Ms. Gerardi and noted that she would be going back up in space again and everyone could watch and cheer her on.
- HarbourFest – Councilor Choy stated she agreed with everything that had already been said. She noted that feedback had been very positive, and stated Staff had done a great job.

MAYOR KURETSKI:

- HarbourFest – Mayor Kuretski noted that he had attended the event, and wanted to recognize that the event was a Strategic Initiative for the Council. He stated that this was year one, and it would only get better. He thanked Councilor Sundstrom for making the event happen, along with the Chamber.
- Contractor Safety Qualification - Mayor Kuretski noted that there have been Town contracts that included the Contractor Safety Qualification Form, and some that had not, and that there appeared not be a threshold. He asked the Town Manager to consider implementing a threshold for the Town and to report back. Mr. Kitzerow noted he understood the request.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:16 p.m.

Merriane Lahmeur, Town Clerk