

A Workshop of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 5:00PM at the Commissioner’s Meeting Room, 74 6th Street, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Brenda Ash, Commissioner Despina George, Commissioner Donna Knutson, Commissioner Donna Duncan, Commissioner Adriane Elliott, City Manager Charles Anderson, Finance Director Lee Mathes, City Attorney Dan Hartman, Police Officer Timmy Davis

Workshop opened by Mayor Ash.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Motion to adopt agenda made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Knutson. Motion carried 5 to 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Lynn Wilder – commented on laws and the process that is required to start a special district.
2. Mary Helms – expressed concern on bill language and how this bill would affect Apalachicola residents.

POST DELEGATION MEETING DISCUSSION – LOCAL BILL TRANSFERRING UTILITY SYSTEM

City Manager Anderson outlined what actions were taken in the delegation meeting and ongoing communications regarding unanswered questions and recommended bill changes.

Attorney Hartman presented Commission with an update on the legal analysis associated with the latest draft of the local bill in light of the recent Legislative Delegation meeting.

Commission held discussion regarding bill language, legal process to create a special district and transfer of City utility assets to the special district, proceeding with bill adoption without data analysis from the JLAC audit, and costs associated with holding a special election so citizens can have a voice to determine if a special district is in the City’s best interest.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner George. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Brenda Ash, Mayor

Lee Mathes, Finance Director