



OBSERVER CORPS REPORT

Port Orange City Council

Reported by Amy Legare

January 13, 2026

Bids and contract approvals were unanimously passed for the fire alarms at the YMCA, work under the east end of the Dunlawton Bridge and emergency sewer repairs.

Council unanimously approved the Central Florida Child Abduction Response Team (CART) mutual aid agreement.

Council unanimously approved two subgrant agreements with Florida Department of Transportation accepting \$70,000 to assist the police with motorcycle safety and aggressive driving.

Council approved, with a split decision, a partial vacation of a tree conservation easement on a residential property.

Citizens spoke about confusion in utility billing, the water rate hike, water blending, recycling and trash collection, and a spay/neuter program since Halifax shelter clinic is no longer available.

Council clarified that the water rate hike is based on a study that recommended a catch-up rate hike over a 4-year period.

Council clarified that recycling is based on the market need for the product. At times there is no market for the materials being recycled and the materials do end up in the landfill. Waste Pro will be asked for an update on current practices and the recycling market.

Council advised that city staff will continue to help the citizen with the billing issue.

Council advised that FPL will be trimming trees throughout the city.

Port Orange will be advertising events for the Riverwalk.

Causeway boat ramp renovation will begin the week of January 19. The project will take approximately 6 months to complete. Notices and signs have been and will be announcing the closure of the boat ramp.

Council unanimously approved two ordinances for changing property from Volusia County Urban Low Intensity to City of Port Orange Rural Transition and from Volusia County Rural Agriculture to City of Port Orange Agriculture. Both of these changes will result in lower population density.

Council unanimously approved an ordinance for certified recovery residences. The city will now be in compliance with Chapter 2025-182, Laws of Florida.