



OBSERVER CORPS REPORT

Port Orange City Council

Reported by Amy Legare

February 3, 2026

The city council voted to approve removal of two historic live oak trees. One tree was causing structural damage to a home. Due to the cost of repairs to the home, council waived the mitigation fee of approximately \$ 2,000. The second tree, on city easement, was leaning towards the street and had been trimmed back to avoid power lines. The adjacent property owner requested removal of the tree to allow for a driveway. The adjacent property owner will be keeping three other historic live oak trees and adding 6 additional trees to the property to meet city requirements. Council waived the mitigation fee since the tree is on city property, a potential hazard to the road and power lines, and the adjacent property owner will be planting six new trees.

March 17, 2026

Council approved the first amendment to an economic incentive agreement pursuant to the Eastport CRA Redevelopment Plan & Land Development Code. The city will pay for the relocation of gopher tortoises.

Council approved a resolution for a locally funded Florida Department of Transportation Agreement for turn lane improvements at Madeline Ave. and Nova Road.

Council approved adopting the 2025 Volusia Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information as it relates to the National Flood Insurance Program. This is a coordinated flood hazard outreach program for the purpose of building community resilience to flooding by improving communication with citizens.

Council approved the purchase of two properties through the Flood Mitigation Assistance Repetitive Loss program. The properties will be used for stormwater mitigation.

The city manager reported progress on 4 stormwater projects across the city. Citizens are reminded that stormwater project updates are provided on the city website and in weekly newsletters. Updates will also be provided at future city council meetings.

Council passed the first reading of Ordinance 2026-2 for future land use and Ordinance 2026-3 for future zoning of a redevelopment property. The city will be proposing a modification to Ordinance 2026-2 stating the number of housing units will be limited to 1 per acre. The redevelopment of 56 acres currently envisions 50 housing units but the Ordinance could allow for more as currently written.

ArtHaus received a county cultural grant that will help support summer program grants. ArtHaus earned funds to support the mural work under the Dunlawton Bridge by painting the wall mural for Pet Evolution.