LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF VOLUSIA COUNTY

OBSERVER CORPS REPORT
Ponce Inlet Town Council
Reported by Deb Atkian

October 15, 2026

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FDP 16-2026 Final Development Plan – Lighthouse Point Park Boardwalks Improvement Project

This project will replace and improve existing boardwalk, replace the current 2 story observation deck (within the current footprint) and add new boardwalk connecting existing boardwalk sections. Live oak trees that are dead or in poor condition will be removed without replacement, one live oak that is in good condition will be removed and replaced and several mangroves have been approved for removal.

The Town Council discussed traffic control and roadway maintenance concerns with Jessica Fentress, Volusia County Coastal Division. Council wants Volusia County to assume responsibility for road maintenance within Lighthouse Point Park and to assure Ponce Inlet that the only roadway entrance to the park will be on South Atlantic Avenue. Under no circumstance does Council approve traffic entering the park from South Peninsula Drive.

Plan Passed 5-0 with the stipulated conditions.

Resolution 2026-19 Amendment to Fee Schedule

Ponce Inlet amended the town's Land Use and Development Code Fees to be legally compliant with HB803. Florida is moving to include more private providers of services with HB803. The amended fee schedule was presented by staff.

Changes Passed 5-0

Mike Disher, Ponce Inlet Town Manager, presented a thorough review of the likely impacts for Ponce Inlet if Amendment 3 passes in the upcoming election. Mr. Disher stated that the Town Council and Town staff take no position on how residents should vote. The presentation will be uploaded onto the Town Website for resident review.

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NATURAL RESOURCES

Joint Project Agreement with Volusia County through the Transform 386 Program for future public stormwater improvements. A Federal Block Grant has been secured to purchase vacant property on South Turn Circle and create additional stormwater management ponds in this flood prone area. With this grant, Volusia County will obtain the property and turn it over to the town of Ponce Inlet to develop and maintain.

Passed 5-0

Authorization to apply for Coastal Partnership Initiative Grant for design of the Town-wide flap-gate stormwater project in FY 27/28. The application must be submitted by October 31, 2026. Ponce Inlet's flap-gate project plan is for a total of 12 flap-gate locations. Currently 3 are complete. This would be a shared cost grant with Ponce Inlet providing $60,000. initially. $30,000. would ultimately be returned to Ponce Inlet from the grant.

Authorization for application Passed 5-0