



OBSERVER CORPS REPORT
New Smyrna Beach City Commission
Reported by Rice S. Wagner

March 24, 2026

NSB was pleased to announce that Spring Break 2026 went well. Numbers of arrests and vehicle and parking tickets were all down.

A workshop was held and updates were given on issues such as storm water, parking and the future of the airport, plus the status of developments that have already been approved. The City Manager also mentioned zoning issues with setback regulations. During the public participation portion, Robbie Gibson-Minor, representing the NSB Residents' Coalition, thanked the local volunteers who helped make the Home Tours a success. Several applicants for city boards presented themselves for consideration. Steven Gunter expressed concern regarding our 'back road' traffic. Wallace and Mission were of particular concern. The issue of the accident on 27th was mentioned and a request was proposed for a change in the arrow direction as well as more even sidewalks.

Commissioners discussed the equipment at Detwiler Park playgrounds, while Jason McGuirk urged that group to look for 'fun' equipment as well as durability and cost.

A lengthy discussion covered the evaluation of charter officers for the city. Pay and compensation packages were openly presented along with each person's score. The concern seemed to center around having to discuss each performance in public and the subjective manner in which personnel were graded. A request was put forward asking that training be provided for better understanding of how to better go about future performance reviews.

Another long debate dealt with Ordinance No. 23-26. The question revolved around how porte cocheres should look and where they could be placed. Lisa Martin expressed concern about maintaining the character of the neighborhood. It was the city recommendation versus the builder of a private home. The builder won.

Lisa Martin again asked that the city send a letter to Volusia County supporting Volusia Forever. There was also an inquiry on the city's position on data centers. Fred Cleveland expressed concern about the weakening of home rule by Tallahassee. He encouraged voters to contact their House and Senate representatives and to encourage them to support bills giving the authority back to our local elected officials.