



Town of Belleair

901 Ponce de Leon Blvd.
Belleair, FL 33756

Meeting Minutes Town Commission

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

5:30 PM

Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM with Mayor Wilkinson presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMISSIONER ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Mayor Michael Wilkinson
Deputy Mayor Tom Shelly
Commissioner Patricia Barris
Commissioner Thomas Kelly
Commissioner Todd Jennings

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS

Persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at this meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

(Discussion of items not on the agenda. Each speaker will be allowed to speak once for a maximum of 3 minutes.)

None to be heard

CONSENT AGENDA

- [25-0205](#) Approval of January 20, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
- [25-0209](#) Proclaiming March as Irish American Heritage Month
- [25-0206](#) Special Relief Permit Request - 2026 Sunset 5k and Fun Run
- [25-0207](#) Special Relief Permit Request - 2026 Dogs N Donuts

Deputy Mayor Shelly moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Jennings.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Wilkinson, Deputy Mayor Shelly, Commissioner Barris, Commissioner Kelly, and Commissioner Jennings

GENERAL AGENDA

[25-0208](#)

Indian Rocks Road and Pathway Determination

Infrastructure Board Members present (in audience): Shon Flaharty, Gayle Grady, George Mariani

Mayor Wilkinson stated this is the only item on agenda.

Gay Lancaster-Town Manager-provided information regarding why item is being revisited; when plan and design work began on phase III, the Belleair Country Club raised concern on path location; phase I was paused until a determination was made on location; continuing with phase III design, SHPO meetings regarding bridge, will be removed and memorialized; Mr. Hobach and Mr. Shaughnessy presented alternative concept for path location; now at 60% plans and seeking Commission confirmation before moving to 100% plans.

Ashley Bernal-Assistant Town Manager-stated from 2024-2026 engineers have indicated that construction costs have gone down; the Finance and Infrastructure Boards met and recommended option A; spoke to project construction of phase I, delay of approximately 8 months of phase III due to SHPO meetings.

Mayor Wilkinson stated staff will present then open to public comment.

Ms. Bernal presented Option A which is the current phase III design; 8ft shared use path on west, new bridge, 3 way stop at Eastleigh, 6ft sidewalk on east; design estimated completion, construction could begin end of this year, design budget, total \$6.01 million total project cost; \$2.611 million of funding from state appropriations, with approximately \$3.4 million gap to fund.

Deputy Mayor Shelly asked if funding included the bridge. Ms. Bernal clarified.

Ms. Bernal presented option B resident concept; nothing on west side, 8ft shared use on east; Belleair Country Club offered right of way on west; 3 way stop may be removed, design completion and design delay by a year; design budget to increase by about \$500,000, construction cost decrease leaving about \$300,000 in total budget; waiting to hear back from Pinellas County, lift station may need moved, not confirmed by county yet; in 2023 points of conflict with driveways and intersections were of concern.

Commissioner Kelly questioned expense of moving road. Ms. Bernal stated approximately \$300,000 and there could be additional, expense to the Town.

Ms. Bernal prepared to present option C, Commission declined.

Mayor Wilkinson opened floor to public comment.

Mike Pace-N. Pine Circle, former President of Belleair Country Club-thanked for fixing parking. Spoke in support of option B, thinks option A will be underutilized; spoke to golf balls, safety issue, may need to post signage; prepared to give Town land along west side of road.

John Hobach- 301 Woodlawn Ave.-spoke to lack of landscape buffer next to sidewalk; making it as safe as possible; spoke in support of Option B, doesn't believe delay is primary issue.

Tom Galvin-49 Overbrook Dr.-member of BCC, supporting Option A and opposing Option B; spoke to prior decision, supports that vote; speed reduced along roadway;

believes option B is less safe with no conflicts, request the Commission to keep option A.

Riley Mortimer-309 Eastleigh-spoke on safety, prefers option A but is ok with either, importance with child safety, wants to move quickly.

Brian Battaglia-505 Osceola Rd.-thanked all for their service; spoke to weighing safety concerns as well as costs; supports Option A, most financially feasible.

Piers Davies-851 Indian Rocks Rd.-spoke in support previously; still is in support of Option A; commented on potential impacts on east side in regards to vehicle and pedestrian safety; spoke to average daily traffic count of over 13,000 vehicles; additional costs and delays if other option is chosen; urges Commission to stay within option A.

Jim Dieringer-614 Palm Ave.-spoke in support of Option B; supports keeping entire path on the same side for safety.

Mark Scully-125 Belleview Blvd.-commended for data sharing; spoke to background in real estate development experience; prior experience with roadway use and pathway in Colorado; Belleair is residential and needs to be safe; supports Option B having a wider sidewalk for pedestrians without having to cross road; potential to stamp road for bikes, soft path potential on opposite side to maintain greenspace.

Ray Ferrara-3 Seaside Lane.-thanked Commission and staff; is a member of BCC and on the board of directors; club favors path on east side of road (option B); spoke to green and balls, a green fence with likely have to be put up if path is on west side; club prepared to cede some property if moved to east side;

Laurie Adams-321 Overbrook Dr.-spoke in support of Option A; commented on safety, vehicles more dangerous than golf balls, west side is best for aesthetics and safety, fulfills ordinance requirements for sidewalks; option for pedestrian crossing signal if 3 way stop is not wanted.

Rudi Loehwing-901 Indian Rocks Rd.-spoke against the 3 way stop sign proposed due to location of his driveway; doesn't want traffic flow interrupted.

Debra Marcellus-557 Bayview Dr.-spoke to narrow sidewalk currently along street; safety of children; supports the shared use path being on the west side (option A); doesn't want to delay any longer due to safety.

Randy Ware-723 Ponce de Leon Blvd-seeking clarification as to how project would get footage in; Mayor stated will be addressed; supports Option A, more aesthetically balanced and no additional delays.

Tom DuPont-2 Stonegate Dr.-thanked Commission and staff for service; spoke to time in Belleair and prior and present board experiences; safety is a concern; spoke against BCC proposal; doesn't believe golf balls are the biggest threat; supports Option A.

Sandy Stroyne-322 Robling Rd N.-Opposed to Option A and supports Option B; against not having a buffer next to sidewalk on east side.

Brent Miller-308 Eastleigh-questioned what is going to be done at Eastleigh; concerned with visibility, supports Option A.

Phil Beck-985 Indian Rocks Rd.-questioned length of project and what's going to

happen at intersection at Carl and The Mall.

Angela Griffith-329 Overbrook Dr.-supports Option A.

Mayor Wilkinson closed public comments.

Ms. Bernal addressed question as to the space for the pathway- Town has right of way. Brett Millers' question regarding Eastleigh-proposed 3 way stop at Eastleigh with crosswalk to address concerns; addressed Phil Beck's' question regarding location- the curve at Carl will be addressed in phase II.

Mayor Wilkinson requested clarification of pathway. Ms. Bernal addressed that it will depend at phase II where it will shift, Deputy Mayor Shelly confirmed.

No Commission questions for staff.

Mayor Wilkinson thanked staff and residents; excited to get project done.

Deputy Mayor Shelly had questions for engineers; questioned if functionally safe to have 6ft sidewalk with curb.

Rob Garrigues - RS&H-stated it is safe; Deputy Mayor Shelly questioned 3 way stop if it is best. Mr. Garrigues said it is against FDOT standards if not, spoke to visibility requirements; issues with right-of-way on Eastleigh previously ceded to residents so plantings and wall are factors as well as trees to visibility issues.

Commissioner Jennings moved to move forward with option A. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Shelly.

Aye: 5 - Mayor Wilkinson, Deputy Mayor Shelly, Commissioner Barris, Commissioner Kelly, and Commissioner Jennings

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Lancaster had nothing to report.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Daigneault had nothing to report.

MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barris - nothing to report

Deputy Mayor Shelly commented on the state of Florida passing unfunded mandates; proposed property taxes; urges residents to keep an eye on bills; thanked Senator Nick DiCeglie for bill to fix SB180 from last year.

Commissioner Jennings - Nothing to report

Commissioner Kelly - Nothing to report

Mayor Wilkinson - Nothing to report - Thanked all for attending.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

No further business; meeting adjourned in due form at 6:31 PM.

TOWN CLERK

APPROVED:

MAYOR