

**TOWN OF INTERLACHEN
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
& WORKSHOP MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026 - 9:00AM
DICKERMAN BUILDING**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Joni Conner called the meeting to order at 9:10am and led the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Hanes gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present were Chairperson Joni Conner, Vice-Chairperson, Carolyn Bennett, Beverly Bakker, AnnaRose Larsen, and Carolyn Meadows. Mayor Hanes was present and Attorney George Young was present via zoom.

COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON – JONI CONNER

Chairperson Conner had no comments.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Discussion and Consideration of Approval of Installation of IT and Sound Equipment at Interlachen Hall.

The Clerk stated that the current sound system is dated and isn't transferable to the renovated Interlachen Hall. She presented the council with two proposals from Emerald Data Partners for the installation of sound equipment.

Proposal #001100v1 was for a lower quality sound system for a cost of \$10,405.00. This proposal would require more intensive training for staff.

Proposal #001990v1 was for a higher quality sound system for a cost of \$15,636.00. This proposal would require minimal training for staff and includes individual microphones for the council and the speakers that were purchased for the caboose can be used with this system.

The Clerk and Attorney Young stated that the project can be done under sole source and does not need to go out for bids.

Council Member Meadows moved to accept Emerald Data Partners Proposal #001990v1. Council Member Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

The special meeting adjourned at 9:18am.

The workshop opened at 9:18am.

Discussion and Consideration of Topics of Discussion at the Putnam County Reception in Tallahassee.

The Clerk explained that this is an opportunity for the council to talk with law makers. One of the big topics of discussion will be the potential elimination of property taxes and the affect it will have on small municipalities. She stated that 58.4% of the Town's Unrestricted Revenue comes from the Ad Valorem Taxes. If these taxes are eliminated the Town may face possible cuts in the future.

Mayor Hanes, Chairperson Joni Conner, Vice-Chairperson Carolyn Bennett and Town Clerk, Joni Payne will attend the reception. They will not be staying overnight.

Mayor Hanes will discuss Capital Improvements.

Chairperson Joni Conner will discuss Land Development.

Vice-Chairperson, Carolyn Bennett will discuss Property Tax.

Town Clerk, Joni Payne will provide Council with the appropriate data.

Other topics of discussion will be keeping of home rule and undue restrictions in the Land Development Regulations.

Council member Beverly Bakker suggested that the clerk give each council member an individual tour of the town.

Some future projects that the Council would like to see are paving of streets, sidewalks, and stormwater.

Discussion and Consideration of Town Signage.

The Clerk presented the Council with several options for the sign at Interlachen Hall.

It was the consensus of the Council that the sign say, "Interlachen Town Hall 1892" and to get two (2) renderings of sign #3. One with a scalloped shape and one with a square shape. The background of the sign will be the color of the building, and the border and lettering will be pewter like the trim on the building. The sign is to be made of dibond material.

It was the consensus of the Council that the "Welcome to Interlachen" sign be electronic as in option #6.

The Clerk will compile a scope of work for both signs and present it at the next Council meeting.

The Clerk stated that the Events Committee has met regarding the grand opening of Interlachen Hall. Council members will lead tours of the building.

Chairperson Conner stated that the Mayor will do the welcome and Larry Harvey will give a brief history of Interlachen Hall. Along with a variety of pastries, there will be two cakes, one with a picture of the original Interlachen Hall and one thanking staff.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 11:14am.