

**TOWN OF INTERLACHEN  
C.D.B.G. & FAIR HOUSING PUBLIC HEARING  
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026 – 6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Joni Conner called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON – JONI CONNER**

Chairperson Conner opened the Public Hearing at 6:02pm and turned the meeting over to David Fox, from Fred Fox Enterprises.

**Discussion and Consideration of C.D.B.G. Project Proposal Presented by David Fox, of Fred Fox Enterprises.**

Mr. Fox stated that this hearing has been advertised and that under the C.D.B.G. Program there are four categories; Housing Rehabilitation, Commercial Revitalization, Neighborhood Revitalization, and Economic Development.

Housing Rehabilitation brings owner occupied low to moderate income homes up to code and addresses any health and safety issues.

Commercial Revitalization is for streetscape, sidewalks, malls, building facade work, etc. in downtown areas.

Neighborhood Revitalization is for infrastructure such as water line, paving, parks, drainage, etc.

Economic Development facilitates new businesses or expansion of existing businesses that create long-term jobs.

The Citizen's Advisory Task Force met earlier and voted to recommend that the Council approve applying for the Housing Rehabilitation Project.

Council Member Bennett moved to proceed with applying for the housing grant. Council Member Bakker seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of Fair Housing Update Presented by David Fox, of Fred Fox Enterprises.**

Mr. Fox stated that no action is required from the Council, this is for information purposes only. This is required for the existing grant. The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing-related transactions for race, color, religion, nationality, sex, familial status, and disability.

Housing discrimination complaints can be made to the Florida Commission on Human Relations, the Department of Housing and Urban Development Southeast and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The contact information for the agencies listed above are available at the Town Office.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the public.

Chairperson Conner closed the public hearing at 6:18

## OPEN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Chairperson Conner opened the meeting at 6:18pm.

### COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON – JONI CONNER

At 9:00am on Friday, May 15, 2026 the Interlachen Rainbow Garden Club will conduct a Cemetery clean-up. The Maintenance department will remove the dead trees, and the Rainbow Garden Club will remove dead flowers and broken items.

At 9:00am on May 18, 2026 flags will be placed on veteran's graves in honor of Memorial Day. This event is organized by Johnson Overturf Funeral Home and Hope FM. Refreshments will be provided by the Women on Mission group from First Baptist Church and the Tow will provide water.

Mayor Hanes read a proclamation declaring May 11, 2026 through May 17, 2026 as "Police Officers Week", and presented the Interlachen Police Department with two dozen donuts.

The Mayor also read a proclamation declaring the month of May as "Mental Health Awareness Month."

Brandon Cumbo, founder of "McKenzie's Light" and the father of a daughter who committed suicide, spoke about those who suffer in silence because of the stigma of mental health. The mission of the McKenzie's Light Foundation is to break the stigma surrounding mental health.

### COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

#### **Discussion and Consideration of Approval of Better Place Plan Jenkins Park Pathway Restoration Project.**

Jason Matchett stated that the Better Place Plan Committee met, and they recommend that the Jenkins Park Pathway be resurfaced or replaced and expanded.

Council Member Bennett moved to move forward with the Better Place Plan Jenkins Park Pathway Project. Council Member Bakker seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

The Clerk stated that the cost for resurfacing will be around \$50,000.00. To completely redo the pathway will cost anywhere from \$85,000.00-\$105,000.00 and will go out for bid. The engineer will need to be enlisted for the scope of work and manage the bidding process and inspections.

#### **Discussion and Consideration of Approval of Independence Day Changes.**

July 4<sup>th</sup> Coordinator, Jason Matchett stated that the July 4<sup>th</sup> event attracts a lot of visitors and families. He requested that the events be moved a west in order to incorporate and showcase Town Hall. There will be a lot of kid's events during the day. He is keeping an eye on the drought conditions to determine if we can have fireworks.

Council Member Meadows moved to approve moving the July 4<sup>th</sup> events to the west. Council Member Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

#### **Discussion and Consideration of Surplus Sale Bids & Disposition of Items not Bid on.**

The Clerk stated that the only bid that was received was for the antique windows for \$110.00.

Council Member Meadows moved to accept the bid from Ken Larsen for the twenty-one antique windows in the amount of \$110.00. Council Member Bakker seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

Council Member Bakker moved to have another surplus sale before the end of the fiscal year. Council member Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of Authorization to Proceed With Legal Action for Zoning Violations.**

Attorney Young stated that currently there are two zoning violations that need to be addressed. He recommended that the town seek injunctive relief in civil court. By doing so the town is not obligated to pay the other parties legal fees.

Council Member Bennett moved to authorize Attorney Young to proceed with the injunctive relief for the two zoning violations at his contracted hourly rate. Council Member Bakker seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of Debris Management Memorandum of Understanding.**

The Clerk stated that this is in regard to Senate Bill 180 which requires municipalities to have a designated debris site in case of a disaster. The county has a designated site for the town debris.

Council Member Bakker moved to approve the Debris Management Memorandum of Understanding with Putnam County. Council Member Meadows seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the council.

**Discussion and Consideration of Renewal of Employee Health Insurance.**

The Clerk stated that the employee health insurance renewal is due in July, which is before the budget workshops. The providers contacted stated that they do not give quotes to government agencies. There are three options available under the current carrier, Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Council Member Bennett moved to approve the current insurance plan as presented. Council Member Bakker seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of Generating a Social Media Page.**

The Clerk stated that a social media page would be a good opportunity to get the word out to the public, educate the public and advertise town events. The Clerk and Codes Enforcement Officer, Tracy Paterson will be the moderators of the page.

Council Member Bennett moved to approve setting up a Facebook page. Council Member Meadows seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of use of the Dickerman Building.**

Council Member Meadows said she was pleased the Police Department has ample space in the former Town Hall, but she does not believe the building should be used for public events. She stated that public events should be held at Town Hall, and the Police Department should use its building as they see fit.

**Discussion and Consideration of the Resignation of Maintenance Supervisor, Richard Glover & Police Chief Larry Wilburn.**

Council Member Meadows moved to accept the retirement of Maintenance Supervisor, Richard Glover & Police Chief Larry Wilburn. Council Member Bakker seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of Filling the Maintenance Supervisor & Police Chief Positions.**

Chairperson Conner tabled this item. A special meeting was set for May 26, 2026 at 9:00am.

**Discussion and Consideration of Plans for the Recognition of the Chief and Maintenance Supervisor for Their Years of Service to the Town.**

A luncheon for the Chief and Mr. Glover was set for noon on Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at Town Hall.

**CONSENT AGENDA :**

The consent agenda was approved by unanimous general consent.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

By unanimous general consent Resolution 2023-3 was read by title only.

Resolution 2023-3; Establishing Guidelines for Social Media Pages.

Council Member Bakker moved to approve Resolution 2026-2. Council Member Bennett seconded the motion. The clerk stated that the Resolution number on the agenda should have been 2026-3.

Council Member Bakker amended her motion to approve Resolution 2026-3. Council Member Bennett seconded the amended motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the council.

**MAYOR COMMENTS:**

Mayor Hanes thanked Bethel Assembly for the National Day of Prayer service and Chief Wilburn and Richard Glover for their dedication and service to the town, they will be missed. He was grateful for the rain.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Council Member Meadows said she was looking forward to the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and is making plans with Angie Glisson for the float.

Council Member Bennet stated that she and Anna Rose Larsen had attended the National Day of Prayer service at the caboose. It was well attended. She thanked the Maintenance Department for the canopy shade.

Council Member Bakker reminded everyone of the Good Citizenship Award Ceremony at Jenkins Elementary tomorrow.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.