

THE PALM BAYER — PRIMARY SOURCE TRANSCRIPT FILE

PALM BAY 2026 CANDIDATE READINESS ASSESSMENT

UNABRIDGED CANDIDATE TRANSCRIPTS • PUBLISHED BY THOMAS GAUME • AUGUST 11, 2026

PALM BAY 2026 CANDIDATE READINESS ASSESSMENT

Complete Unabridged Transcripts & Evaluation Record

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Author: Thomas Gaume
Date: August 11, 2026
Election Target: Palm Bay City Council Seats 4 & 5 (August 18 Primary Election)

Executive Summary & Assessment Ground Rules

The Palm Bayer submitted an open-book, 9-question Candidate Readiness Assessment to all six qualified candidates running for Palm Bay City Council Seats 4 and 5.

Candidates were informed that their answers would be published raw and unabridged, including exact formatting, spelling, and punctuation. Candidates who declined to participate or failed to return the assessment received a formal **[DECLINED / NO SUBMISSION]** record designation in this public transcript.

Candidate Participation Record:

- **Seat 4:**
 - **Kenny Johnson (Incumbent): PARTICIPATED** (Full 9-Question Submission)
 - **Alfred Agarie (Challenger): DECLINED / NO SUBMISSION** (Follow-up notices July 7 & 17)
 - **Michael Bruyette (Challenger): DECLINED / NO SUBMISSION** (No response)
- **Seat 5:**
 - **Mike Jaffe (Incumbent Deputy Mayor): PARTICIPATED** (Full 9-Question Submission)
 - **Eduardo Macaya (Challenger): PARTICIPATED** (Full 9-Question Submission)
 - **Santa Isabel Wright (Challenger): DECLINED / NO SUBMISSION** (Follow-up notices July 7 & 17)

Question 1: Form of Government Mechanics

Part 1: Local Governance & Realities

Question Text: Under the Palm Bay City Charter, explain the explicit line of authority between the City Council, the City Manager, and department heads (like the Police Chief or Public Works Director). Specifically,

who has the charter authority to hire, fire, and direct city staff on a daily basis?

● **Kenny Johnson (Seat 4 Incumbent) — FULL RESPONSE**

Palm Bay operates under a council-manager form of government. The City Council is responsible for establishing policy, adopting the budget, setting the millage rate, approving ordinances, and hiring and evaluating the City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk. The City Manager serves as the City's chief executive officer and has the charter authority to hire, fire, supervise, and direct department heads and city employees in their day-to-day operations.

As a Councilman, I believe our role is to provide policy direction, exercise fiscal oversight, and hold the City Manager accountable for results—not to micromanage staff. Respecting those roles creates transparency, accountability, and an efficient government while ensuring residents know exactly who is responsible for policy decisions and operational performance.

● **Mike Jaffe (Seat 5 Incumbent Deputy Mayor) — FULL RESPONSE**

Under the Palm Bay City Charter, the City Council serves as the policy-making body responsible for establishing city policies, adopting the annual operating budget, setting the millage rate, and enacting municipal ordinances. The Charter explicitly limits the Council's authority over daily administrative operations. The Council appoints three charter officers: the City Manager, the City Attorney, and the City Clerk.

The City Manager serves as the City's chief administrative officer and holds exclusive charter authority to hire, fire, supervise, and direct all department heads and municipal staff on a daily basis. Individual Council members are prohibited by Charter from giving orders to city employees or interfering in the administrative operations of city departments.

● **Eduardo Macaya (Seat 5 Challenger) — FULL RESPONSE**

Under the Palm Bay City Charter, the City Council sets policy, adopts the budget, and appoints the City Manager but has no authority to direct or supervise city employees. The City Manager is the City's chief administrative officer and has exclusive authority to hire, fire, supervise, and direct department heads and staff, including the Police Chief and Public Works Director. The Charter expressly prohibits Council members from giving orders to city employees or interfering with the City's daily administration.

● **Alfred Agarie (Seat 4 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD**

[DECLINED / NO SUBMISSION] — Candidate was delivered assessment form on June 29, 2026. Written follow-up reminders delivered on July 7 and July 17, 2026. No submission received prior to publication deadline.

● **Michael Bruyette (Seat 4 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD**

[DECLINED / NO SUBMISSION] — Candidate was delivered assessment form on June 29, 2026. No submission received prior to publication deadline.

● Santa Isabel Wright (Seat 5 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD

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Question 2: The Budget and Millage Rate

Part 1: Local Governance & Realities

Question Text: *The city's millage rate sits at 6.7339 mills, with a General Fund budget of roughly \$155 million. Public safety (Police and Fire) consistently commands the largest share of this fund. In your view, is this current distribution balanced appropriately against the needs of our Capital Improvements program (roads, stormwater, facilities), or would you advocate for shifting funds? If shifting, from where?*

● Kenny Johnson (Seat 4 Incumbent) — FULL RESPONSE

Public safety is the first responsibility of local government, and I support ensuring our Police and Fire Departments have the resources necessary to protect our community. However, I also believe every taxpayer dollar should be scrutinized before asking residents to pay more.

Rather than shifting funding away from public safety, I would first identify savings by eliminating unnecessary spending, reducing waste, reviewing consultant contracts, limiting non-essential travel, delaying discretionary purchases, and prioritizing needs over wants. Those savings should be redirected toward critical infrastructure such as roads, stormwater, and city facilities.

I have consistently advocated for lowering the millage rate where fiscally responsible while ensuring government focuses on its core functions. My philosophy is simple: protect public safety, invest in infrastructure, reduce unnecessary spending, and always respect the taxpayers who fund our city.

● Mike Jaffe (Seat 5 Incumbent Deputy Mayor) — FULL RESPONSE

The City's budget should reflect both immediate public safety needs and the long-term infrastructure investments that support a growing community. I believe public safety should remain the highest priority because protecting residents and maintaining emergency response capabilities are core functions of local government. At the same time, the current budget is significantly influenced by collective bargaining agreements negotiated and approved by previous City Councils and City Managers. Those contractual obligations dictate much of the City's personnel costs and limit the flexibility of future councils to make immediate budget changes.

To create additional fiscal capacity, I support managing staffing through attrition, maintaining a hiring freeze on nonessential positions, and carefully evaluating vacancies before they are filled. I also believe the City should cancel or defer capital projects that do not align with the adopted five-year Capital Improvement Plan, allowing limited resources to be focused on priority investments such as roads, stormwater infrastructure, and essential public facilities. By controlling costs through disciplined budgeting rather than reducing frontline

public safety services, the City can strengthen its long-term financial position while continuing to meet the needs of a growing community.

● Eduardo Macaya (Seat 5 Challenger) — FULL RESPONSE

A balanced approach is appropriate, but I believe Palm Bay should place greater emphasis on capital improvements without compromising public safety. Police and Fire are essential services and should remain adequately funded, but the City should look for savings through administrative efficiencies, improved procurement, and prioritizing non-essential spending before considering reductions to public safety. Any available savings should be redirected toward roads, stormwater infrastructure, and facility improvements, as investing in these long-term assets reduces future costs, improves quality of life, and supports responsible growth.

● Alfred Agarie (Seat 4 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD

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Question 3: The Southwest Quadrant Deficit

Part 1: Local Governance & Realities

Question Text: *It is widely acknowledged that Palm Bay's Southwest quadrant faces the city's most severe infrastructure deficit regarding unpaved roads, aging culverts, and lack of central water/sewer utilities. Briefly explain the historical factor (such as past land developer platting) that created this modern deficit. What is your specific, realistic plan to fund and accelerate infrastructure stabilization in the Southwest quadrant without unfairly burdening taxpayers in the other three quadrants?*

● Kenny Johnson (Seat 4 Incumbent) — FULL RESPONSE

The infrastructure challenges in Southwest Palm Bay stem largely from historical development practices. Large portions of the area were platted decades ago without the roads, drainage, water, sewer, and utility infrastructure needed to support future growth. As development accelerated, infrastructure failed to keep pace.

My plan begins by prioritizing public safety and infrastructure stabilization. We should aggressively pursue state and federal grants, utilize legally appropriate impact fees, leverage utility expansion funding, and require new development to contribute its fair share toward infrastructure improvements.

I also believe projects should be phased based on objective need, with priority given to roads, drainage, and utilities that pose the greatest public safety risks. Residents in other quadrants should not bear the full financial burden for historic planning deficiencies. Responsible growth, outside funding, developer participation, and disciplined budgeting provide the most equitable path forward.

● **Mike Jaffe (Seat 5 Incumbent Deputy Mayor) — FULL RESPONSE**

The infrastructure deficit in Palm Bay's Southwest quadrant is the cumulative result of legacy land-use decisions, fragmented subdivision platting, and successive annexations that outpaced the City's long-term fiscal capacity to extend municipal infrastructure. Large portions of the area were incorporated into the City's future service obligations without corresponding revenue mechanisms or dedicated capital funding streams to support the eventual buildout of roads, stormwater systems, culverts, and utility infrastructure.

Correcting decades of deferred infrastructure investment cannot be accomplished through annual operating budgets alone. It requires a disciplined, multi-year capital financing strategy that leverages external grant opportunities, impact fee revenues, utility assessments where appropriate, intergovernmental partnerships, and phased implementation through the City's Capital Improvement Plan. I also believe future growth must be fiscally sustainable by ensuring new development contributes proportionately to the infrastructure demands it creates. My focus is on aligning capital investments with objective asset management data, long-term financial sustainability, and measurable return on investment while avoiding the transfer of disproportionate costs to taxpayers in other areas of the city.

● **Eduardo Macaya (Seat 5 Challenger) — FULL RESPONSE**

Palm Bay's Southwest infrastructure deficit stems largely from decades-old subdivision platting by private developers, who created thousands of residential lots without constructing the roads, drainage, or utility infrastructure needed to support future development. As a result, the City inherited the responsibility for upgrading these neighborhoods long after they were established.

My plan is to accelerate improvements by aggressively pursuing state and federal infrastructure grants, expanding impact fee and developer participation where appropriate, and using special assessment or benefit-based funding only for projects that directly increase property values in the affected area. This approach prioritizes the Southwest's needs while avoiding shifting disproportionate costs onto taxpayers in the other three quadrants.

● **Alfred Agarie (Seat 4 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD**

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● **Michael Bruyette (Seat 4 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD**

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Question 4: High-Density Development vs. Failing Infrastructure

Part 2: Decision-Making Scenarios

Question Text: A developer proposes a 300-unit apartment complex in South Palm Bay. The project promises to bring property tax revenue over the next decade. However, the arterial roads leading to the site are already operating at a failing Level of Service (LOS), and the localized stormwater drainage is near capacity. The developer claims the project is only financially viable if the City Council grants a partial waiver on impact fees and approves a zoning variance. How do you vote on the zoning variance and impact fee waiver? Detail how you balance immediate infrastructure strain against long-term tax base growth.

● Kenny Johnson (Seat 4 Incumbent) — FULL RESPONSE

I would not support the impact fee waiver, and I would not support the zoning variance unless the infrastructure deficiencies are addressed first.

Palm Bay needs economic development, but growth must pay for itself. Approving additional density while roads are failing and stormwater systems are at capacity simply shifts today's costs onto tomorrow's taxpayers.

I would support the project only if the developer commits to meaningful infrastructure improvements, including road capacity, drainage, stormwater mitigation, utility upgrades, and any other improvements necessary to maintain acceptable levels of service.

Long-term tax revenue is important, but protecting existing residents and ensuring responsible growth must come first.

● Mike Jaffe (Seat 5 Incumbent Deputy Mayor) — FULL RESPONSE

I would evaluate the proposal based on whether it serves the long-term interests of Palm Bay residents and aligns with responsible growth management. While new development can expand the tax base and provide economic benefits, it should not create additional burdens on existing taxpayers by accelerating demand on already strained roads, stormwater systems, and public services. Florida law places limitations on how transportation concurrency may be applied; however, the City still has the responsibility to ensure that development contributes its fair share toward the infrastructure demands it creates. I would not support waiving impact fees for residential construction, as those fees are an important tool to ensure that new development helps fund the infrastructure and services required to support additional growth.

A zoning variance should not be viewed as a financial incentive for a developer; it should only be granted when the applicant meets the established criteria outlined in the City's Land Development Code, Public Works

Manual, and Comprehensive Plan. Any request must demonstrate that it is consistent with sound planning principles, does not create an undue hardship on surrounding properties, and does not compromise public health, safety, or infrastructure standards. My position is that Palm Bay should encourage responsible development while maintaining strong standards that protect existing residents. Growth should pay its fair share, and development decisions should be based on established regulations, long-term planning, and the best interests of the entire community.

● Eduardo Macaya (Seat 5 Challenger) — FULL RESPONSE

I would vote against the zoning variance and impact fee waiver unless the developer commits to fully addressing the project's impacts on traffic and stormwater infrastructure. While expanding the tax base is important, long-term growth must be planned responsibly. Approving a project that overloads already failing roads and drainage systems would create greater costs for residents in the future. I support development that pays for the infrastructure it requires through impact fees, developer-funded improvements, or phased construction. This approach encourages sustainable growth while protecting taxpayers from subsidizing private development.

● Alfred Agarie (Seat 4 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD

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Question 5: The Budget Crossroad (Roads vs. Employee COLA)

Part 2: Decision-Making Scenarios

Question Text: During budget workshops, rising construction and material costs mean that the city's projected revenue cannot cover both the scheduled neighborhood road repaving matrix and a proposed cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to keep municipal employee salaries competitive with neighboring cities. Cutting road funding delays critical neighborhood repairs; cutting the COLA risks losing experienced city staff to other municipalities. How do you resolve this? What specific priorities or metrics guide your decision when balancing physical community infrastructure against internal employee retention?

● **Kenny Johnson (Seat 4 Incumbent) — FULL RESPONSE**

I would begin by reviewing the entire budget to distinguish between essential services and discretionary spending. Roads and employee retention are both core responsibilities, so my first priority would be eliminating unnecessary expenditures before reducing either.

I review consultant contracts, administrative growth, travel, discretionary programs, underutilized services, and delayed equipment purchases to identify savings.

When additional prioritization becomes necessary, I evaluate road projects based on pavement condition, public safety, traffic volume, and long-term repair costs. Employee compensation decisions should be based on vacancy rates, turnover, market competitiveness, recruitment challenges, and operational impact.

My objective would be to protect critical infrastructure while retaining the employees who provide essential city services. Responsible budgeting requires careful prioritization—not false choices.

● **Mike Jaffe (Seat 5 Incumbent Deputy Mayor) — FULL RESPONSE**

Existing collective bargaining agreements with groups such as NAGE, FOP, and IAFF may contain negotiated salary increases and other obligations that impact future budget flexibility. Those commitments must be carefully considered during the budget process while ensuring the City continues to operate within its financial means.

I would work with the City Manager and staff to evaluate the long-term effects of these obligations, including workforce stability, recruitment and retention needs, service delivery impacts, and the financial sustainability of any proposed adjustments. Decisions should be based on measurable information, not short-term pressures. At the same time, I believe residents deserve an active role in these discussions. Open budget workshops provide an opportunity to hear community priorities, explain financial constraints, and ensure taxpayers understand the difficult choices involved in balancing employee needs with infrastructure demands. The final budget must reflect a practical balance between maintaining a qualified workforce and meeting the City's responsibility to provide reliable services and address critical infrastructure needs. Through collaboration with the City Manager, staff, and the community, the City can make informed decisions that protect current services while maintaining a sustainable financial path for the future.

● **Eduardo Macaya (Seat 5 Challenger) — FULL RESPONSE**

I would seek a balanced solution rather than choosing one priority over the other. First, I would identify budget efficiencies, eliminate non-essential spending, and pursue grants or alternative funding before reducing either program.

If difficult choices remain, I would prioritize maintaining competitive salaries for public safety and other critical positions where turnover directly impacts essential services, while preserving funding for the highest-priority road projects based on safety, traffic volume, and road condition. My decision would be guided by objective metrics, including public safety, service delivery, infrastructure condition, employee retention rates, and the long-term financial impact of delaying repairs or replacing experienced staff.

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● Santa Isabel Wright (Seat 5 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD

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Question 6: Public-Private Surveillance Networks (Flock Cameras)

Part 2: Decision-Making Scenarios

Question Text: *The Palm Bay Police Department proposes adding 50 city-funded Flock Safety automated license plate readers to key intersections. Simultaneously, multiple Homeowners Associations (HOAs) request that the city integrates their privately funded neighborhood cameras directly into the police department's database. Civil liberties groups oppose the expansion, citing mass surveillance concerns and the privatized storage of public movement records by a corporate entity. How do you vote on the purchase of these city cameras and the integration of private neighborhood feeds into the police network? Detail how you balance resident demands for property crime prevention against privacy concerns and corporate control of public tracking data.*

● Kenny Johnson (Seat 4 Incumbent) — FULL RESPONSE

I support using technology to improve public safety, but I also believe government has a responsibility to protect individual privacy.

I would support Flock cameras only with strict safeguards. Their use should be limited to license plate recognition for criminal investigations, stolen vehicles, missing persons, and active felony cases. I would oppose facial recognition, behavioral tracking, demographic profiling, or any expansion beyond their original purpose without Council approval.

Regarding HOA cameras, I would not support unrestricted integration into a citywide surveillance network. Any participation should require formal agreements, strict audit requirements, limited data retention, transparency, and clearly defined investigative purposes.

Public safety and civil liberties are not mutually exclusive. We can protect our neighborhoods while also protecting the constitutional rights and privacy of our residents.

● Mike Jaffe (Seat 5 Incumbent Deputy Mayor) — FULL RESPONSE

I would vote against purchasing additional Flock Safety cameras and integrating privately owned HOA camera systems into the police network. I believe widespread automated license plate reader systems raise significant Fourth Amendment concerns by enabling the collection and storage of data on law-abiding citizens without individualized suspicion.

I do not believe we should sacrifice constitutional rights for a false sense of security. While I support efforts to reduce crime, those efforts must respect civil liberties. HOAs that want additional security should be free to establish neighborhood crime watch programs or hire private security for their communities rather than expanding government surveillance of the public.

● Eduardo Macaya (Seat 5 Challenger) — FULL RESPONSE

I would vote against purchasing additional Flock Safety cameras and integrating privately owned HOA camera systems into the police network. I believe widespread automated license plate reader systems raise significant Fourth Amendment concerns by enabling the collection and storage of data on law-abiding citizens without individualized suspicion.

I do not believe we should sacrifice constitutional rights for a false sense of security. While I support efforts to reduce crime, those efforts must respect civil liberties. HOAs that want additional security should be free to establish neighborhood crime watch programs or hire private security for their communities rather than expanding government surveillance of the public.

● Alfred Agarie (Seat 4 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD

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Question 7: Balancing the Room vs. Balancing the Data

Part 3: Leadership Philosophy

Question Text: *A crowd of 75 highly vocal residents packs the council chambers to protest a major stormwater project scheduled for their neighborhood, demanding council vote it down. However, the*

engineering data and staff reports show that if this specific project is cancelled, an adjacent, lower-income neighborhood will face severe, repetitive flooding during the next storm season. How do you vote, and how do you address the crowd in the room after the vote is cast?

● **Kenny Johnson (Seat 4 Incumbent) — FULL RESPONSE**

Leadership requires listening to everyone, but voting based on facts, fairness, and the long-term interests of the entire community.

I would carefully review the engineering analysis, question staff thoroughly, and determine whether alternatives exist that reduce impacts on both neighborhoods. If the evidence demonstrates that cancelling the project would knowingly expose another neighborhood to severe flooding, I would support the project.

After votes, I take the time to speak to the residents. I thank them for participating and explain that while I understand their concerns, my responsibility is to represent every resident equally; not simply those who are able to attend a meeting. I cannot shift harm from one neighborhood to another because one group is more vocal.

Leadership sometimes requires making difficult decisions that are in the best interest of the entire city.

● **Mike Jaffe (Seat 5 Incumbent Deputy Mayor) — FULL RESPONSE**

I would vote to approve the stormwater project because my responsibility is to serve the entire community, not just the loudest voices in the room. My decision would be based on the engineering data, public safety, and the City's long-term responsibility to protect residents from preventable flooding.

After the vote, I would respectfully acknowledge the concerns of those opposed, explain the facts and reasoning behind my decision, and reaffirm that every neighborhood deserves equal protection. Leadership requires making difficult decisions based on evidence and fairness, even when they are unpopular.

● **Eduardo Macaya (Seat 5 Challenger) — FULL RESPONSE**

I would vote to approve the stormwater project because my responsibility is to serve the entire community, not just the loudest voices in the room. My decision would be based on the engineering data, public safety, and the City's long-term responsibility to protect residents from preventable flooding.

After the vote, I would respectfully acknowledge the concerns of those opposed, explain the facts and reasoning behind my decision, and reaffirm that every neighborhood deserves equal protection. Leadership requires making difficult decisions based on evidence and fairness, even when they are unpopular.

● **Alfred Agarie (Seat 4 Challenger) — EVALUATION RECORD**

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Question 8: Reversing Course on New Data

Part 3: Leadership Philosophy

Question Text: *Describe a specific instance in your professional or public life where you took a strong, public stance on an issue, received new or correcting data later on, and had to publicly reverse your position. How did you handle that transition with your supporters and the public?*

● Kenny Johnson (Seat 4 Incumbent) — FULL RESPONSE

I believe strong leaders combine conviction with humility.

Throughout my service on the City Council, there have been occasions where additional financial information, legal guidance, staff analysis, or resident input has changed my understanding of an issue. When new facts emerge, I believe elected officials have a responsibility to acknowledge them openly and adjust accordingly.

I have never believed consistency should come at the expense of good decision-making. I would rather explain why my position changed than knowingly support the wrong outcome simply to avoid criticism.

My loyalty is not to my own opinion; it is to the truth, responsible governance, and the residents I serve.

● Mike Jaffe (Seat 5 Incumbent Deputy Mayor) — FULL RESPONSE

Throughout my public service, I have maintained that good governance requires evaluating new facts as they emerge. For example, during discussions regarding council public comment policies, I initially supported administrative adjustments to streamline meeting agendas. However, after hearing extensive resident feedback and reviewing staff analysis regarding public participation, I publicly supported restoring standard public comment access during broadcast meetings.

Admitting that a previous direction should be adjusted is not a sign of weakness; it is a demonstration of responsiveness to the community. When new evidence or legal guidance indicates a better path, elected officials must have the humility to adapt and explain the reasoning transparently to the public.

● Eduardo Macaya (Seat 5 Challenger) — FULL RESPONSE

I cannot point to a specific instance where I publicly reversed my position because of new information. However, I believe effective leadership requires humility and a commitment to the truth over pride.

If credible facts or evidence demonstrate that I am wrong, I will acknowledge it publicly, explain why my position has changed, and make my decision-making process transparent. My loyalty is to the Constitution, the law, and the residents of Palm Bay—not to my own ego or political pressure. I believe people respect leaders who are honest enough to admit mistakes and make decisions based on facts rather than emotion or politics.

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Question 9: Operating in the Minority

Part 3: Leadership Philosophy

Question Text: *If you are elected and consistently find yourself on the losing end of a 4-1 split on critical policy decisions, what is your strategy to effectively represent your constituents and advance your goals without grinding city business to a halt or relying purely on public grandstanding?*

● Kenny Johnson (Seat 4 Incumbent) — FULL RESPONSE

Being in the minority does not mean being ineffective.

When I find myself on the losing end of a 4-1 vote, I continue advocating for my constituents through respectful collaboration, thoughtful research, and practical solutions. I believe meaningful change often begins with a single voice willing to ask difficult questions and present better ideas.

I will continue building relationships with my fellow council members, proposing constructive amendments, and seeking common ground wherever possible. At the same time, I believe residents deserve to know why I voted the way I did, and I will always explain my decisions respectfully and transparently.

Public service is not about winning every vote. It is about faithfully representing the people who elected you, maintaining your integrity, and continuing to work toward solutions that make Palm Bay stronger for future generations.

● Mike Jaffe (Seat 5 Incumbent Deputy Mayor) — FULL RESPONSE

Operating effectively on a five-member city council requires professionalism, preparation, and strategic collaboration. When I am in the minority on a 4-1 vote, my priority is to ensure that constituent concerns are clearly documented in the public record while remaining focused on constructive policy solutions.

I work to build consensus by identifying shared priorities with fellow council members, offering targeted amendments, and utilizing data to demonstrate the merits of alternative approaches. Disagreeing on policy does not require personal conflict or obstructing city operations. Responsible leadership means continuing to advocate for constituents while respecting the democratic process and maintaining working relationships across the dais.

● Eduardo Macaya (Seat 5 Challenger) — FULL RESPONSE

If I consistently find myself on the losing end of a 4-1 vote, I will continue to represent my constituents with integrity while working professionally with my fellow council members. My approach will be to build relationships, listen to differing viewpoints, seek common ground where possible, and present fact-based solutions that can earn broader support over time.

Even when I disagree with the majority, I will respect the outcome, avoid unnecessary conflict, and continue advocating for transparency, fiscal responsibility, and constitutional principles. My goal is to be an effective representative who advances positive change through collaboration and persistence—not by obstructing city business or engaging in political grandstanding.

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