

**Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)
Meeting Minutes February 17, 2026
(DRAFT)**

2/17/2026 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chair Robin Gibson, Keith Thompson, Mayor Jack Hilligoss, Daniel Williams, Carol Gillespie

Staff Present: James Slaton, Executive Director; Jennifer Nanek, City Clerk, Albert Galloway, Jr., City Attorney

Chair Gibson called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

2. COMMENTS AND PETITIONS

3. Minutes - February 10, 2026

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of February 10, 2026. Mayor Hilligoss seconded the motion.

by voice vote:

Commissioner Thompson "YES"

Mayor Hilligoss "YES"

Commissioner Williams "YES"

Commissioner Gillespie "YES"

Chair Gibson "YES"

Motion passed 5-0.

4. SEMCO Proposal For Walesbilt Hotel Debris Removal

[Begin Agenda Memo]

SYNOPSIS: Staff is requesting CRA Board approval of SEMCO Proposal for Walesbilt Hotel debris removal.

RECOMMENDATION It is recommended that the CRA Board take the following actions:

1. Approve SEMCO proposal for Walesbilt Hotel debris removal.
2. Authorize the expenditure of \$101,830.00 (not to exceed).
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents on behalf of the City.

BACKGROUND SEMCO Construction, Inc. has submitted a proposal for debris removal at the Walesbilt

Hotel (5 West Park Avenue) to include all labor, material, supervision, and equipment. The cost for labor and subcontractors is estimated to not exceed \$101,830.00.

Investment in the downtown core area has been growing, and moving forward with the redevelopment of the hotel has been a long-standing goal for the city. Restoring historic assets is essential to the Lake Wales Connected Plan for economic vitality and downtown reinvestment.

OTHER OPTIONS Do not approve SEMCO proposal for Walesbilt Hotel debris removal.

FISCAL IMPACT If approved, the scope of work would not exceed \$101,830.00

[End Agenda Memo]

James Slaton, Executive Director, reviewed this item.

Mayor Hilligoss made a motion to approve the proposal. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion.

by roll call vote:

Mayor Hilligoss "YES"

Commissioner Williams "YES"

Commissioner Gillespie "YES"

Commissioner Thompson "YES"

Chair Gibson "YES"

Motion passed 5-0.

This was discussed.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
6. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
7. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned 5:52 p.m.

Chair/Vice-Chair

ATTEST:

City Clerk/Deputy City Clerk