

MINUTES OF A CIVIL SERVICE APPEALS BOARD HEARING OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, HELD IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 100 N US HIGHWAY 1, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, AT 6:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Frank Amandro called the hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Vice-Chair Thora Moore; Paul Vollrath; Chairman Frank Amandro; Steven DiPalma; Kori Benton

Absent: Alisa Atkinson

Staff Present: Linda Cox, City Clerk

Attendees: Ron Cason, CSAB
Angelique Lyons, Attorney for City of Fort Pierce

3. **SWEARING-IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBER**

Linda Cox, City Clerk, issued the oath of office to the new Board member, Kori Benton.

4. **APPEAL HEARING**

Michelle McClendon, Appellant v. City of Fort Pierce, Appellee

The Civil Service Appeal Hearing in the Matter of Michelle McClendon commenced. Ms. McClendon was sworn in and represented herself.

Ron Cason represented the Civil Service Appeals Board.

Angelique Lyons represented the City of Fort Pierce and presented the City's case.

Ms. Lyons moved into evidence Exhibits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 5b, 6, 7a, 7b, 12, 13, 14, 15.

Sara Hedges was sworn in and offered testimony.

Exhibits 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 21, 22, 8, 9, 10, 11, 22 ,23 were moved into evidence.

Abigail Thompson was sworn in and offered testimony.

Exhibit 24 was moved into evidence.

Jared Sorsensen was sworn in and offered testimony.

Exhibits 25, 26, 27 were moved into evidence.

Michelle McClendon and Angelique Lyons offered closing remarks.

The Civil Service Appeals Board had a brief discussion and there was a unanimous roll call vote to affirm termination.

A written order of the board's decision will be issued within five days.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

The hearing was adjourned at 11:03 p.m.

