



Commissioner Ozell L. Birks  
Commissioner Melvin Bruce Lee  
Commissioner Donita Randles  
Commissioner Deanna Mendez  
Commissioner Edward Perkins

Venus Wehle, City Manager  
Angela Locuste, Civil Service Director  
Amy Anderson, City Secretary

**MINUTES  
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
January 14, 2026**

The Civil Service Commission of the City of Forest Hill met on the above date at 10:00 a.m. with City Secretary Amy Anderson presiding. The following Commissioners and Officials were present: Ozell L. Birks, Melvin Bruce Lee, Donita Randles, Venus Wehle, City Manager, and Angela Locuste, HR/Civil Service Director.

Commissioner Mendez and Commissioner Perkins were absent.

**1. Call to Order**

With a quorum present, City Secretary Amy Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**2. Consent Agenda**

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Civil Service Commission and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be a separate discussion of these items unless a member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

- a) Consider approval of meeting minutes for the August 6, 2025 meeting.

Commissioner Birks made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 3a.

Commissioner Lee seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Deliberation Agenda**

- a) Discuss and consider action on a request for a variance in the promotional examination eligibility for the Forest Hill Police Department's Corporal promotional examination.

Chief Hernandez presented the variance request to the two-year minimum rank requirements for officers to be eligible to take the promotional examination for Corporal.

Currently, two officers within the department are eligible, and five officers have less than the required two years in rank. Despite this, all individuals have demonstrated exceptional performance, leadership capabilities, and a commitment to their professional development. Due to the limited pool of eligible candidates, strict adherence to the two-year requirement would significantly reduce competition and hinder the department's ability to maintain continuity in leadership.

The requested variance will allow these individuals to participate in the promotional process, fostering a

fair and competitive selection that prioritizes the department's operational effectiveness and aligns with Chapter 143's intent to promote qualified personnel within civil service ranks.

Commissioner Birks made a motion to grant the variance in the promotional examination eligibility for the Forest Hill Police Department's Corporal promotional examination.


Commissioner Lee seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the Civil Service Commission adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy L. Anderson, TRMC, CMC  
City Secretary

**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Civil Service Commissioner