

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Eustis Mayor and Vice-Mayor Elected

EUSTIS, Fla. (Jan. 6, 2025) – At the Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025 Commission Meeting, Commissioner Willie Hawkins was elected as Mayor of the City of Eustis and Commissioner Gary Ashcraft was elected as Vice-Mayor. Hawkins and Ashcraft will serve their respective roles until Mayor and Vice-Mayor elections are held again, in January of next year.

"It is an honor to serve as Mayor. I'm excited about the challenges and the possibilities that this position brings. I know that I won't be able to please everyone but I'm definitely willing to listen to everyone," says newly elected Mayor Willie Hawkins.

During the meeting, Commissioner George Asbate was sworn into Seat #4.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has," says Asbate. He aims to serve his community by sharing his experiences and ensuring Eustis continues to grow into a vibrant and beautiful place for future generations, all while preserving its cherished small-town charm.

Willie Hawkins and Emily Lee were also formally sworn in to their respective seats, #3 and #5, at the opening of the meeting.

Commissioner Michael Holland will serve as



Eustis City Commission at the Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025 meeting. From left to right: Commissioner Michael Holland, Vice-Mayor Gary Ashcraft, Mayor Willie Hawkins, Commissioner George Asbate and Commissioner Emily Lee

Commission Seat #2 and Vice-Mayor Gary Ashcraft will serve as Commission Seat #1.

The City of Eustis has a council-manager form of government. The Commission consists of five Commission seats. Commissioners are elected for four-year terms, with elections held in evennumbered years. Elections are non-partisan. Elections for Seats 3, 4, and 5 are held in presidential election years. Commission terms begin in January of the year following the election. The Mayor and Vice-Mayor are elected at the first regular City Commission meeting in January each year. Media Contact: <u>CityOfEustis-PR@eustis.org</u> 352-483-5432