

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

JANUARY 27, 2026 AGENDA WORKSHOP

The City Council met in an **agenda workshop** on **Tuesday, January 27, 2026**, at 5:30 pm to review the proposed agenda for its next regular session. Council President Pro Tem Brian Jackson presided over the meeting and Dan Weinrib served as recording secretary.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Pro Tem Brian Jackson
Councilor Ben Horton
Councilor Kimberly Farr
Councilor Jim Miller

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Ben Short
City Attorney Rick Stotser
City Clerk Dan Weinrib

Those absent: Councilor Jaime Melton Anderson

The City Council determined the order of consideration. Mayor Short gave the council and public the rationale behind the proposed part-time position of business license compliance officer. Mayor Short also explained his reason for adding the resolution declaring a public safety emergency in the Sports Complex. The councilors seemed satisfied. He then introduced an ordinance to repeal & replace the Section 2-1 – Order of Procedure for Meetings, which specifies how the City Council runs its own meetings. Councilor Farr volunteered to give it an introductory first reading.

With no further items to discuss, President Jackson adjourned workshop at 5:38 pm.

JANUARY 27, 2026 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in **regular session** on **Tuesday, January 27, 2026**, at 5:38 pm at the City Hall Annex, with Council President Pro Tem Brian Jackson presiding and Dan Weinrib serving as recording secretary.

President Jackson called the meeting to order. Councilor Horton led the prayer; Councilor Farr led the pledge.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Pro Tem Brian Jackson
Councilor Ben Horton
Councilor Kimberly Farr
Councilor Jim Miller

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Ben Short
City Attorney Rick Stotser
City Clerk Dan Weinrib

Those absent: Councilor Jaime Melton Anderson

They reviewed the minutes from the January 13 agenda workshop & regular session. Councilor Miller moved & Councilor Horton seconded the motion to approve the minutes. **UNANIMOUS**

President Jackson then introduced the regular agenda. Councilor Miller moved & Councilor Farr seconded the motion to approve. **UNANIMOUS**

There were no public comments.

Under the regular agenda, Councilor Miller then introduced a proposed proclamation honoring Trussville resident & Miles College Bands Director Willie Snipes. **He moved & Councilor Farr seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2026-03** After a brief recess for group pictures, President Jackson resumed the meeting.

Councilor Farr then introduced a proposed annexation ordinance. **She moved & Councilor Horton seconded the motion for unanimous consent to suspend the rules in order to bring an ordinance up for immediate consideration. Upon roll call, UNANIMOUS** She then introduced an ordinance to annex 2962 Queenstown Road. **She moved & Councilor Miller seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2026-001-ANX**

Councilor Horton then introduced a proposed resolution adopting the recommended job classification for the unclassified part-time position of Business License Compliance Officer. The Finance Department position will help the City get wayward business owners back into compliance, as well as assist with alcohol licensing applications & other licensing duties. **He moved & Councilor Miller seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2026-08**

Councilor Miller then introduced a proposed resolution to grant unpaid leave for a few days in March to a certain city employee, who cannot use paid time off because of her probationary status. **He moved & Councilor Farr seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2026-09**

Councilor Horton then introduced a proposed resolution to declare various Police Department Chevrolet Tahoes as surplus. **He moved & Councilor Miller seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2026-10**

Councilor Horton then introduced a proposed resolution to declare a public safety emergency in the Sports Complex then authorize the emergency action pursuant to the State Public Works Law. Last year, a young girl was struck by a moving car as she tried to cross Pumphouse Road between the baseball fields & the parking lot. There are already high-volume foot & car traffic during baseball & softball seasons. Pedestrians often jaywalk across Pumphouse Road at their own risk. In the name of public safety, the City wants to direct the pedestrians to designated crosspoints. **He moved & Councilor Farr seconded the motion for approval. APPROVED 3-1 (Miller dissenting) Resolution No. 2026-11**

Councilor Farr then gave an introductory first reading on a proposed ordinance to repeal & replace the current order of procedures for City Council meetings.

Finance Director Joseph Calvert then summarized the City's financial report, through December. In summary, the City has collected more revenues, spent less money & has a bigger cash balance, compared to end of the prior first quarter (FY2025) Among the highlights:

- Current Net Operating Income - \$3.5M versus \$1.075M (FY2025)
- Sales Tax Revenue - \$7.77M versus \$7.54 million
- Lodging Tax – \$427.6k versus \$197k* *prior City Council had raised the lodging tax rate in October 2024, effective January 1, 2025
- Credit card spending for all city departments over the first quarter of FY2026 was 43% less than over the prior first quarter, reflecting citywide budget tightening.
- Capital outlay spending over the first quarter dropped to \$18,688 from \$902,479 – a 98% drop
- The City's cash balance was \$7M in December & \$12.6M as of January 27, due to property tax & business license payments.

During committee reports, Councilor Horton reported that the Tree Commission will give away young trees & offer education opportunities to the public at its February 28 Arbor Day event on The Mall. Also, Jefferson County is resuming service cut-offs on delinquent accounts. Also, Design Review recently reviewed some proposed commercial buildings for the Commerce Drive/Gadsden Highway intersection, near Paine Elementary.

Councilor Miller reported that the Veterans Committee attempted to meet last week but could not achieve quorum. Also, ACTA's board met last week. Also, Historical Board will meet on February 2nd. Also, at its most recent meeting Senior Citizens Advisory Board had questions for Mayor Short regarding how to fill its vacant board seat.

Councilor Farr reported from the most recent Parks & Recreation Board meeting that Reign Down Ministries scheduled its 5k & mile run on April 18, looping from & back to the Seniors Center. She also reported that the City needed to replace a lamppost along the greenway. Also, water to the Dog Park had to be shut off temporarily due to issues. Also, baseball pre-season evaluations start in February, prior to the February 28th Opening Day. The high school will host a baseball tournament in March. Youth basketball season is ending; soccer season is now starting. That will run through June. Meanwhile, flag football & softball registrations will open soon. Also, the Chamber's annual Toast of the Town was once again a successful, well-supported event. Also, Public Works continue to stay busy. She commended the crews for their winter weather preparation.

Councilor Jackson deferred all his committee reports.

Mayor Short thanked Fire, Police & Public Works for their readiness & late hours during recent inclement weather. He also announced he's examining how to turn his mayoral updates into a quarterly newsletter, to communicate with the public outside of social media. He plans to bring a \$3000 proposal to the Council, involving the service TextMyGov, which Trussville already uses. Also, he continues to monitor the State Legislature for proposed bills that could impact the city. He & Public Works Director Justin Ferguson are exploring a joint project with Jefferson County for re-striping Honor Keith Road. He

later gave the Council & public a friendly heads-up about a proposed funding agreement with city schools involving Series 2026 warrants.

During audience comments, Richard Epstein (4742 Boulder Drive) urged the city smooth down the road surface around sunken manhole covers on Valley Road. Stephen Foster (5448 Wisteria Trace) promoted the annual Pinewood Derby -- 2026 theme "Fast Food" – February 7th at the Civic Center. The Cubmaster for Pack 216 shared that his pack is celebrating its 70th anniversary, making it one of the oldest continuously operating packs throughout the Scouting movement nationwide.

With no further business left to consider, President Jackson adjourned the meeting at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



City Clerk Dan Weinrib MMC