

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

APRIL 14, 2026 AGENDA WORKSHOP

The City Council met in an **agenda workshop** on **Tuesday, April 14, 2026**, at 5:30 pm to review the proposed agenda for its next regular session. Council President Jaime Melton Anderson presided over the meeting and Dan Weinrib served as recording secretary.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Jaime Melton Anderson
Councilor Kimberly Farr
Councilor Ben Horton
Councilor Brian Jackson
Councilor Jim Miller

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

Those absent: Mayor Ben Short

The City Council reviewed all proposed items on the consent agenda & regular agenda. They mutually decided to keep all consent agenda items. Councilor Miller asked his colleagues to pull the last resolution item, reappointing Sherrye Tolbert to the school board, from the regular agenda. President Anderson & Councilor Jackson disagreed with their colleague. It remained on the agenda.

Next, two groups of Leadership HT students gave presentations to the City Council. Natalie Dummitt, Micah Fantroy, Kathryn Smith & Lauren Wideman proposed the idea of installing black road chains & metal posts along both sides of Husky Parkway, between the Trussville Clay Road traffic light & Husky Stadium. According to them, the road chains would be more visually attractive & better serve public safety than the portable weighted orange barrels. Currently, the Public Works department spends over \$20,000 a year in work time to barrel installation & removal for 22 events (football games & other major occurrences) at Husky Stadium. They got their idea from the post & chains around the periphery of Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn. They used AI to generate images of their idea for Husky Parkway. They obtained two estimates for acquisition & installation; the less expensive one was \$51,000. The council had questions about maintenance and the posts' metal material. The councilors expressed general support for their idea but did not pledge any financial commitments. Stella Jones & Henry Amberson proposed adding fans, fiesta-style string lighting & picnic table seating at The Mall pavilion, near the pickleball & tennis courts. Their colleague Tate Bamberg also contributed to their idea. He could not attend since he plays varsity baseball. They estimate their costs to be around \$1300, entirely paid for by their own funding sources. The Parks & Recreation board & Director Chris Mills had already given their endorsements. The council gave enthusiastic support.

Next, city auditor Joe Chapman of Cork, Hill & Company handed out his FY2025 audit report to the councilors. He took a few minutes to review his findings. He issued a clean opinion of Trussville's financials for the prior fiscal year. Compared to FY2024, revenues & net income had increased; also, the city spent millions less on capital outlays. He also noted the city's land sales & one-time transfer of trust funds to the city school system. The council did not ask any questions. They will review the report prior to consideration at the next council meeting.

Next, attorney Seth Cohen presented a proposed cell tower rental agreement between the City IDA & a private party. The new 250-foot tower would bring ultra 5G wireless services to Verizon customers. Co-location would be possible. In return, Trussville & the IDA would receive monthly rental income. Cohen assured elected leaders that he negotiated for favorable terms, comparable to terms other municipalities had obtained. Councilors Anderson, Miller & Jackson asked questions. Cohen confirmed that the proposed lease would come up on the April 28th agenda.

With no further items to discuss, President Anderson adjourned workshop at 6:13 pm.

APRIL 14, 2026 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in **regular session** on **Tuesday, April 14, 2026**, at 6:22 pm at the City Hall Annex, with Council President Jaime Melton Anderson presiding and Dan Weinrib serving as recording secretary. President Anderson called the meeting to order.

Councilor Miller led the prayer; Councilor Farr led the pledge.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Jaime Melton Anderson
Councilor Kimberly Farr

Councilor Ben Horton
Councilor Brian Jackson
Councilor Jim Miller

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

Those absent: Mayor Ben Short

They reviewed the minutes from the March 19 agenda workshop & regular session. Councilor Miller moved & Councilor Horton seconded the motion to approve the submitted minutes.
UNANIMOUS

President Anderson then introduced the 11-item consent agenda. Councilor Jackson moved & Councilors Farr & Miller jointly seconded the motion to approve it. Anderson & Miller praised Jane Alexander for her lengthy service on the Historical Board. Horton & Anderson thanked former councilor Perry Cook for joining the Tree Commission. Miller commented on the three new Historical Board appointments. **UNANIMOUS**

President Anderson then introduced the five-item regular agenda. Councilor Horton moved & Councilors Jackson & Farr jointly seconded the motion to approve it. Councilor Miller then made the motion to remove the resolution to reappoint school board member Sherrye Tolbert. Since nobody offered to second, Miller's motion died. Subsequently, the Council **approved** the proposed agenda **4-1 (Miller dissenting)**

During public comments, outgoing court clerk Candace Warner told the council & audience her reasons for resigning.

Under the regular agenda, Councilor Farr introduced a proposed proclamation declaring April 19-25 as National Library Week. **She moved & Councilor Miller seconded the motion for approval.** Councilor Farr also introduced the new library director, Michelle Hamrick. Hamrick was the assistant director of operations at the Homewood Public Library. Last year, she was named Jefferson County Librarian of the Year. **UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2026-13**

Councilor Horton then introduced a proposed resolution authorizing the execution of two traffic signal permits on Main Street. He explained that both are necessary because of the incoming retail development off Watterson Parkway & Main Street. **He moved & Councilor Jackson seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2026-24**

Councilor Horton then introduced a proposed resolution authorizing the purchase of updated protective gear & equipment for 12 Police SWAT members. The purchases, totaling over \$37,600, are exempt from the competitive bid law because of the public safety exception. **He moved & Councilor Miller seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2026-25**

Councilor Farr then introduced a proposed resolution amending **Resolution No. 2026-14** to finalize the term limits policy for appointed school board members. **She moved & Councilor Miller seconded the motion for approval.** He circulated copies of his draft to the four members. He then introduced his own suggested revisions to the term limits section and other sections of Resolution No. 2026-14. Councilor Miller then made the motion to amend the proposed resolution. Since nobody offered to second, Miller's motion died. Subsequently, the Council **approved** the resolution **4-1 (Miller dissenting) Resolution No. 2026-26**

Councilor Jackson introduced a proposed resolution to reappoint incumbent Sherrye Tolbert to the city board of education. **He moved & Councilor Miller seconded the motion for approval.** Upon getting recognized by President Anderson, Councilor Miller stated his reasons for opposing this resolution. President Anderson expressed her appreciation for the school superintendent & volunteer school board members. Dr. Steve Ward gave generous praise to Tolbert, his school board colleague. Subsequently, the Council **approved** the resolution **4-1 (Miller dissenting) Resolution No. 2026-27**

During committee reports, Councilor Horton re-stated his prior committee report, as a correction, that the new cherry trees would be planted in the West Mall area. He praised the Utilities' construction & landscaping progress on Main Street.

Councilor Jackson reported that he & Councilor Anderson's Finance committee meeting with Joseph Calvert regarding the FY2025 audit & the current budget. The city's current budget performance is looking good. Also, Active Transportation received its comprehensive plan for citywide pathways network from the Regional Planning Commission. Now its plan needs funding sources. Also, he encouraged the public to attend the community kick-off for the city's comprehensive plan update process

on April 16 at the Civic Center. Also, he summarized the Planning & Zoning Commission's meeting from the previous evening at the Civic Center, including the town hall forum regarding the proposed Cahaba Homestead Overlay District. Mayor Short made public results from the neighborhood survey.

Councilor Miller reported that Veterans is still developing its July 4th parade plans. They hope to start with a modest parade route with foot &/or bicycle traffic, like the Witches Ride. Also, he announced that a bust of the late Alex Klinner has been purchased & that Veterans is looking to get it installed & organize a public ceremony for it. Also, the opening night for ACTA's production *9 to 5* is April 23rd. ACTA's next meeting is April 21st. Also, now that the Historical Board has enough new members to achieve quorum, they will vote on their own proposed bylaws & elect new officers. Gary Lloyd is its acting chairman. Also, 24 participants had fun touring Italy, organized by the Seniors Center; their next trip will be Canada in September. He summarized various repair & maintenance projects at the Seniors Center. He also mentioned that Daughters of the American Revolution are looking to donate a liberty tree at the Veterans Memorial. He thanked the city school board members for their unpaid service and added that he was glad to have lost the reappointment vote.

Councilor Farr acknowledged and welcomed incoming library director Michelle Hamrick. Her first day is on April 20. Also, she promoted the First Responders softball game on April 21, where Police buddies will play against Fire buddies at the Miracle League field. She also made the public aware of *Pars for Peterson*, a golf tournament fundraiser at The Silos to benefit Drew Peterson & his family. The popular former Parks & Recreation supervisor is still recovering from a stroke he suffered days before his planned retirement. Also, she promoted the monthly Chamber luncheon on April 16th, annual golf tournament on April 21st & Shred Day at the Civic Center on April 30th. Also, she thanked Public Works for their continued hard work, including scheduling debris pick-up for AmWaste. They fielded 237 debris calls over the previous month.

Councilor Anderson thanked Mayor Short & Finance Director Joseph Calvert for their work on the current budget. Also, Leadership Trussville's fourth class will graduate on May 7th. Participants learned the *Rest of the Story* at its April 9th session. She encouraged Trussville residents to apply for admission to the fifth class. Also, the Beautification Board is accepting nominations for various landscaping awards, via online or hard copy submissions, through the month of May. Judging will occur in June. The school year wraps up next month. HTHS baseball, soccer & softball teams are having winning seasons and will likely advance to the playoffs. The JV soccer team won the Metro championships

On behalf of Mayor Short, who was ill, President Anderson passed along his sympathy to the public regarding the new traffic light at the Glenn Avenue/Loop Road intersection. He is actively trying to get its timing adjusted.

During audience comments, former councilor Jef Freeman (318 Woodward Rd) asked for microphone adjustments in council chambers. He also suggested that the city require owners of cell towers to put up a bond for their eventual removal. Marti Slay (3581 Queenstown Rd) thanked the council for the proclamation. She had Friends of the Library members stand up for recognition. Kristi Kourmoulis (109 Meadow Lane) expressed her worry about the prospective 5G tower. She thinks the public is not being told the real side effects of living near such towers.

With no further business left to consider, President Anderson promptly adjourned the meeting at 7:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



City Clerk Dan Weinrib MMC