

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

APRIL 28, 2026 AGENDA WORKSHOP

The City Council met in an **agenda workshop** on **Tuesday, April 28, 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 Brian Jackson
Councilor Jim Miller

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Ben Short
City Attorney Chesley Payne
City Clerk Dan Weinrib

Those absent: Councilor Ben Horton

The City Council reviewed all proposed items on the consent agenda & regular agenda. They mutually decided to remove one of the two Senior Citizens Advisory Board reappointments. During the review of the regular agenda, Finance Director Joseph Calvert gave the councilors & audience a detailed briefing of the city's FY2026 finances & accompanying resolution to amend the current budget. The amended budget projects an estimated \$1.7 million surplus, up from \$1 million in the original budget. The councilors also received an explanation about the proposed City Wellness Participation Policy. Approximately 85% of the city employees participated in last year's wellness screenings. The new policy is aimed at the remaining 15%.

Councilor Miller then brought up for discussion purposes the existing one-cent municipal sales tax, dedicated to the city school system. He shared his thoughts, namely that the city should re-enact its sales tax, either by ordinance or resolution, to state explicitly that it is earmarked for city schools. Discussion ensued. Mayor Short, then Councilors Anderson & Jackson shared their thoughts. In the end, they agreed that each would send his or her own ideas directly to Mayor Short.

Next, Councilor Miller brought up the idea of separating the dates for council's workshop & regular meetings – essentially reverting to having four meetings every month, as the prior council did – so that they have deeper discussions on topics. Discussion ensued. No other member on the dais voiced support for his idea. President Anderson said she was neutral. Councilor Jackson shared his thoughts. Councilor Farr listened & observed. When Miller lamented that Open Meetings Act prevents him from emailing ideas with his elected colleagues, Mayor Short corrected him that Open Meetings Act allows him to share information via email. Also, OMA allows two elected officials to converse if they are not engaged in serial meetings or other activities designed to evade the OMA. Miller's peers pointed out that the absent Councilor Horton had yet to weigh in with his thoughts.

With no further items to discuss, President Anderson adjourned workshop at 6:57 pm.

APRIL 28, 2026 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in **regular session** on **Tuesday, April 28, 2026**, at 7 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 Anderson led the prayer; Councilor Miller led the pledge.

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

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Ben Short
City Attorney Chesley Payne
City Clerk Dan Weinrib

Those absent: Councilor Ben Horton

They reviewed the minutes from the April 14 agenda workshop & regular session. Councilor Miller moved & Councilor Jackson seconded the motion to approve the submitted minutes.
UNANIMOUS

President Anderson then introduced the amended consent agenda. Councilor Farr moved & Councilors Jackson seconded the motion to approve it. Councilor Miller then moved to amend the amended agenda, moving the last three proposed resolutions (Resolution #s 2026-34, -35, -36) to the consent agenda from the regular agenda. Councilor Farr seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUS**

During public comments, resident Melissa Walters (DeShazo Drive/Pineview Road area) voiced her complaints against the Public Works Department for neglecting her section while taking care of the parts of Pineview Road closest to North Chalkville Road. Mayor Short succinctly pointed out that parts of Pineview are unincorporated. He committed to the public that he would look into the matter.

Under the regular agenda, President Anderson exercised privilege to bring up a resolution first. Mayor Short then summarized the resolution. **Councilor Miller moved & Councilors Farr & Jackson second the motion for approval.** Police Chief Dave Morrette addressed the audience with Leo & Police Sgt. Nate Holloway by his side, giving his own summary of Leo's tenure. **UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2026-29** After a brief recess for group pictures, President Anderson resumed the meeting.

Councilor Miller then moved to suspend the rules to bring a proposed ordinance up for immediate consideration. Councilor Farr seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Miller then introduced a proposed ordinance amending Parts of Section 6-48 of the *Code of Ordinances* pertaining to compliance & enforcement. **He moved & Councilor Farr seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2026-007-ADM**

Councilor Miller then introduced a proposed resolution authorizing the city to provide letters of approval to the Alabama Alcohol Beverage Control Board for existing CBD retail businesses. This resolution gives permission to existing businesses to sell retail hemp products if they remain compliant with all laws & ordinances. A liquor store that sought a state license would not get such authorization. The resolution also directs the city clerk not to accept any new applications for a period not to exceed 90 days. **He moved & Councilor Jackson seconded the motion for approval. 3-1 APPROVAL (Miller dissented) Resolution No. 2026-28**

Councilor Jackson then moved to suspend the rules to bring a proposed ordinance up for immediate consideration. Councilor Farr seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Jackson then introduced a proposed ordinance to repeal & replace various ordinance sections throughout the *Code of Ordinances* pertaining to the regulation of home occupations. **He moved & Councilor Farr seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS except for Miller, who abstained. Ordinance No. 2026-008-ADM**

Councilor Farr then moved to suspend the rules in order to bring a proposed ordinance up for immediate consideration. Councilor Jackson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Farr then introduced a proposed ordinance annexing the property at 333 Main Street. It had been previously rezoned twice over the past 11 years. Only recently the city clerk discovered it had remained unincorporated. The proposed annexation ordinance contained a provision reaffirming Ordinance No. 2026-006-PZ. **She moved & Councilor Jackson seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2026-009-ANX**

Councilor Jackson then moved to suspend the rules in order to bring a proposed ordinance up for immediate consideration. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Jackson then introduced a proposed ordinance to annex the property located at 5122 Vann Valley Drive. **He moved & Councilor Farr seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2026-010-ANX**

President Anderson then opened a public hearing on proposed alcohol licensing. Owner Dawit Berhe Fekadu approached the podium. He owns Trussville Texaco, which is a new business at the former Bama Gas location on North Chalkville Road. He answered Mayor Short's questions about employee alcohol training & his prior business experience. His other gas station/convenience stores have never been cited for serving minors. He answered Councilor Miller's question about whether this is his first Trussville location. Since nobody else spoke up, she closed the public hearing.

Councilor Farr then introduced a proposed resolution approving alcohol licensing for Trussville Texaco. **She moved & Councilor Jackson seconded the motion for approval. APPROVED 3-1 (Miller dissenting) Resolution No. 2026-30**

Councilor Jackson then introduced a proposed resolution accepting the FY2025 audit. Cork, Hill & Company auditor Joe Chapman had delivered his firm's official report to the elected officials & city

clerk prior to this meeting. **Councilor Jackson moved & Councilor Farr seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2026-31**

Councilor Jackson then introduced a proposed resolution amending the FY2026 budget with updated anticipated revenues & expenses, based on Finance Director Calvert's presentation during workshop. **He moved & Councilor Farr seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2026-32**

Councilor Farr then introduced a proposed resolution declaring certain city-owned property within the industrial park surplus, then authorizing an option-&-lease agreement with The Towers LLC. The Towers wants to install a new 5G cell phone for Verizon Wireless on 6400 square feet of land. **He moved & Councilor Jackson seconded the motion for approval. APPROVED 3-1 (Miller dissenting) Resolution No. 2026-33**

During committee reports, Councilor Jackson delayed his committee reports to the next council meeting.

President Anderson noted that this would be Councilor Miller's last opportunity to report on the Seniors Center Advisory Board. Moving forward, Councilor Farr will be the council liaison to it. Councilor Miller also delayed his committee reports. He commended Finance Director Joseph Calvert for his work on the budget. He also complimented Mayor Short for his leadership.

Councilor Farr reported that the Library hosted Leadership HT. Leadership HT presented an idea that the Library Board liked & consequently recommended. The Library will host a poetry writing workshop on April 30th, featuring Irene Latham, as part of its National Poetry Month activities. She welcomed library director Michelle Hamrick, who was in attendance. She also noted the upcoming retirement of the Head of Circulation Deborah Seales; her reception is on May 3rd. Also, Councilor Farr promoted the Chamber of Commerce's Shred Day at the Civic Center on April 30th monthly, its after-hours event the same day at Walk-On's luncheon, & Trussville Restaurant Week Bingo May 13-27. Also, she commended Public Works for their continued hard work. Also, she commended Parks & Recreation Director Chris Mills for his public memo to the public. She summarized his memo, which requested, among other things, that the public behave themselves while using parks & athletic facilities, clean up after themselves & not use park spaces for golf practice.

Councilor Anderson announced that the Beautification Board is accepting nominations throughout May, prior to judging in early June. She acknowledged school board member Sherrye Tolbert, who in turn thanked the council for her reappointment. Also, the Leadership Trussville class graduates on May 7. Citizens in applying for the next LT class can do so throughout the month of June. She also acknowledged former councilor Jef Freeman in the audience.

Mayor Short announced that starting May 18th, ALDOT will shut down the northbound ramps at Chalkville Mountain Road, as part of its I-59 lane widening project, which is expected to last through June. The general contractor is obligated to finish the entire project by the end of September. Trussville will issue traffic advisories. Also, the timer for the new Glenn Avenue traffic light has been adjusted. Also, Husky Parkway has been restriped; Honor Keith Road is next. Mayor Short will provide a lengthier update to the community through his Trussville Tribune quarterly report.

During audience comments, Mt. Zion AME Church Pastor Errol Brantley Sr. introduced himself to the council & public. He likes to cultivate relationships with city leaders everywhere he pastors. Former councilor Jef Freeman (318 Woodward Rd) commended the finance director for his presentation. He then explained his own opposition to new cell towers. Mayor Short briefly addressed Freeman's concerns about the obligations that Verizon or any successor would have regarding the cell tower lease. He also added that it took eight months to negotiate this lease deal & that the cell tower would comply with city ordinances.

With no further business left to consider, President Anderson promptly adjourned the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



City Clerk Dan Weinrib MMC