



Meeting Minutes - Draft

City Council

Monday, March 23, 2026

4:00 PM

Council Chambers

Work Session/Council Meeting

Call to Order

President Trawick called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Roll Call

All council members were present with the exception of Council Member Larry Engel and Council Member Roderick Burkle. Also present: Mayor Ralph G. Hellmich, City Administrator Mike Thompson, City Clerk Christi Watkins, Stephanie Richardson, Taylor Davis, Nathan Davis, Leslie Gahagan, Eden Lapham, Margaret Calhoun, Leanne Garcia, AP Merchand, Don Kelly, Rick Stephens, Jonathan Cottis, Cindy Brothers, Jane Tyler, Suzanne Kellams, Jeff Lee, Pam Harris, Kate Norris, Jackie McGonigal, Rachel Keith, Logan Eberly, Darrell Russell, Angela Sherman, Jamie Smith, Guy Busby, Milton Gilam, Mel Burnett, Cian Harrison, Wayne Dyess, Thurston Bullock, Larry Dearing, Buford King, Nicholas Williams, and Raven Roberts.

Present: 3 - Tim Lower, Wayne Trawick and Charles Ebert III

Absent: 2 - Roderick Burkle and Larry Engel

Moment of Reflection

Pledge of Allegiance

Work Session Discussion

[26-0139](#)

Discuss FY26 Resurfacing Project

City Engineer Taylor Davis presented each Council Member with informational packets pertaining to the FY26 Resurfacing Projects. He reported that these packets were for Council's consideration in preparation for an upcoming proposal next month.

Additions/Removals/Carry-Overs

Consent Agenda

[26-0121](#)

Work Session/Council Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2026

Attachments: [03-02-2026 Work Session Council Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, to approve the Work Session/Council Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2026. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0122](#)

Special Called Council Meeting/Audit Reading Minutes of March 2, 2026

Attachments: [03-02-2026 Special Called Council Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, to approve the Special Called Council Meeting/Audit Reading Minutes of March 2, 2026. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0123](#)

Departmental Reports

Attachments: [February 2026 PDS P&Z Report](#)
[February Stats PD](#)
[Tax Report 03.2026](#)
[February 2026 HR Report](#)
[February-26-Building Dept Monthly Report](#)
[February 26 FD Report](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0125](#)

Report of February, 2026, Approved and Paid Bills for the Record

Attachments: [2026-02 Approved & Paid Bills.Expense Approval Report](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Ordinances

[26-0108](#)

(First Reading) Amending the City of Foley Zoning Ordinance

Attachments: [Zoning Amend Recommendation Documents.pdf](#)

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Ordinance be approved on first reading. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0133](#)

(First Reading) An Ordinance Adopting a Technical Design Manual

(TDM) Governing Design, Development, Permitting, and Construction Standards Within the City of Foley; Rescinding Certain Prior Ordinances

Attachments: [Technical-Design-Manual-Final-4_6_26_DRAFT](#)
[Red-Lined Technical Design Manual \(2\)](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that the Engineering and Environmental Departments would like to request consideration of a new Technical Design Manual (TDM) Ordinance to replace the previous Land Development Permit and Traffic Impact Ordinances. He reported that this rewrite is a more organized version of the previously utilized Land Development Ordinance.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Ordinance be approved on first reading. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0098](#)

(Second Reading) Amending Ordinance 391-87 Relating to the Speed Limits and Traffic Controls within the City of Foley (Hickory Bend Subdivision)

Attachments: [Hickory Bend Request](#)

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Ordinance be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Resolutions and Other Business

[26-0092](#)

A Resolution Approving the Application for the FY2027 Alabama Coastal Area Management Program Grant for the Wolf Bay Watershed Stormwater Management Plan

Attachments: [ACAMP FY27 RFP Announcement and Application](#)

Sustainability Coordinator Nicholas Williams reported that the Environmental Department requests approval to apply for the ACAMP FY2027 grant for funding to implement the Wolf Bay Watershed Stormwater Management Plan. He reported that this plan will provide maintenance and improvement projects to allow the City to better manage stormwater and increase resilience during severe weather events.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0093](#)

A Resolution to Accept the FY26 Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program II (ATRIP-II) Grant Award for Miflin Road / SR 161 Intersection Improvements

Attachments: [Capital Project Form](#)
[ATRIP II](#)

Logan Eberly reported that ALDOT has awarded the City of Foley \$2,000,000 for a project at the intersection of Mifflin Road and the Foley Beach Express. She reported that the total cost of the project is projected to be \$2,950,000. She requested Council's approval to accept the grant funds and amend the budget accordingly.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0109](#)

A Resolution to Set a Public Hearing to Consider Zoning Ordinance Amendments

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0112](#)

A Resolution Acknowledging the Prior Transfer of The City-Owned Portion of The Roadway Now Designated as SR 161 to ALDOT and Providing for the Continued Local Recognition of the Name Foley-Beach Express Within The City of Foley

Attachments: [Exit A FBE](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that this Resolution is to formally permit the continued use of the name Foley Beach Express for the section of SR 161 that falls within the City of Foley's jurisdiction. He reported that this Resolution would enable residents and businesses to keep their Foley Beach Express addresses for E911 purposes.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0115](#)

A Resolution to Approve and Memorialize Additional Funds for the Public Works Complex

Attachments: [Wynter-Metz-Public-Works \(2\)](#)

Director of Public Works Darrell Russell reported that the Public Works Complex budget is in need of \$335,000 in order to bring the project current through full transparency and proper memorialization of prior actions.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0117](#)

A Resolution Authorizing the President of the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation to Act as Proxy for the City of Foley at the

Regular Annual Membership Meeting

Attachments: [2026 Proxy](#)

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0118](#)

A Resolution Waiving Fees for the Use of Heritage Park on Sunday, August 30, 2026 for Big Fish Ministries to host Drug Overdose Awareness Day.

Attachments: [Special Event App - Big Fish Ministries](#)

Director of Parks and Recreation Jeff Lee reported that this will be Big Fish Ministries' third annual Drug Overdose Awareness Day event, and they request Council's approval to host it at Heritage Park and have the fees waived. He also reported that they will be partnering with local organizations to provide resources to the community.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0119](#)

A Resolution to Accept Volkert Supplemental Agreement No. 02 for Airfield Drainage Improvements

Attachments: [Foley SA No. 2 Airfield Drainage Improvements Fee Proposal 2026-02-26 Jot Form Approval](#)

Rachel Keith reported that this agreement would oversee the design and construction of an airfield drainage project. She reported that her department anticipates that funds from the FAA and ALDOT will cover approximately 95% of the costs related to this project.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0120](#)

A Resolution To Waive Rental Fees For Ecumenical Ministries At The Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen's Market

Attachments: [CAFFM Application](#)

Director of Ecumenical Ministries Margaret Calhoun requested the use of the Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market and permission to have the fees waived for a volunteer appreciation event to be held on April 8, 2026.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0126](#)

A Resolution Approving Monthly Bids - February 2026

Attachments: [February 2026 Bid Awards](#)

Logan Eberly reported that the City had six bids that were awarded in February 2026, including two trucks, two SUVs, Downtown Parking Lot Resurfacing, and Library Moving Services.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0127](#)

A Resolution to Accept the Cooperative Agreement from Alabama Department of Environmental Management

Attachments: [Foley Beulah Heights Packet 03.02.2026 - Signed Capital Project Form](#)

Leslie Gahagan reported that her department has been working with ADEM to assist in funding for the Beulah Heights Regional Stormwater Facility. She reported that ADEM has awarded the City of Foley \$344,000 towards the project, but accepting these funds would require some additional public outreach expenses.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0128](#)

A Resolution Appropriating Construction Funds for the Highway 59 Sidewalk from E Orchid Ave to E Section Ave.

Attachments: [RU lights on 59](#)
[Hwy 59 Orchid to Section \(1\)](#)
[Wynter-Metz-Street-Department](#)

Director of Public Works Darrell Russell reported that the Street Department is requesting \$208,000.00 to complete the lighting and construction of the next section of the Highway 59 Sidewalk Project. He reported that the lighting will start at E Violet Ave and run northward to E Section Ave. He also reported that these expenses are projected to be within budget.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0129](#)

A Resolution to Request Application for the FY26 Dollar General Youth Literacy Grant

Library Director Kate Norris requested approval to apply for the FY26 Dollar General Youth Literacy Grant. She reported that the Library would use this funding for programming in the new Library learning lab.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0130](#)

Resolution to Approve, Appropriate, and Memorialize Change Order #1 for Additional Funds for the Miflin Road Access Management Plan Phase 1

Attachments: [Change Order 1 - L & K Construction - Miflin Road](#)
[25-1475-RES](#)
[Daisha-Barnes-Engineering](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported this change order request is to cover the cost of an off-duty police officer to be stationed on-site, near the intersection of Highway 59 and Miflin Road, due to the high volume of traffic in the area. He reported that this will ensure the safety of the contractors and inspectors working on this project.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0131](#)

Resolution Approving USDA's Cooperative Service Agreement for Beaver Management.

Attachments: [City of Foley CSA 26-31](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that there are Beavers building dams that are creating drainage issues in several locations within the city. The City currently has a service agreement with the USDA that provides wildlife management services to control the beavers, and this Resolution would extend that contract an additional 5 years.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0132](#)

A Resolution Approving The City of Foley, Alabama to Sponsor the Alabama League of Municipalities Participation with the International Council of Shopping Centers Conference and Tradeshow

Attachments: [2026-EDA-Las-Vegas-Booth_ALM-ICSC-Sponsorship-Invitation](#)

Economic Development Manager Frank Shepard reported that the International Council of Shopping Centers is the premier conference and tradeshow for big-box retailers and developers. He reported that the booth space that is provided with an ALM sponsorship will facilitate opportunities for staff to meet with these developers to promote the City of Foley.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0136](#)

A Resolution Amending The Pay Classification Plan In The Police Department And The Library

Attachments: [City of Foley Pay Classification Plan - Effective 03-02-26](#)

Human Resources Director Suzanne Kellams reported that the actions to the pay plan in this Resolution are budget neutral. She reported that the Police Department is requesting approval to reclassify one authorized Police Officer at a Grade 160 to a civilian Animal Control Coordinator position at a Grade 110. She reported that this position will be responsible for overseeing the City's animal holding kennels, including daily operations related to animal care, sanitation, feeding, and monitoring of animal health and behavior. She reported that the Library is requesting approval to eliminate the position of Part-Time Library Assistant/Building Custodian at a Grade 30 and authorize a new position of Part-Time Building Custodian at a Grade 30 in preparation of the new facility. She also reported that the Library would like to re-title the Events Coordinator position to Facilities Coordinator.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0137](#)

A Resolution Setting A Public Hearing Declaring Weeds and Accumulation of Junk, Trash, and Litter To Be A Public Nuisance And Ordering Its Abatement at 13306 McGaster Trail, Foley, AL.

Attachments: [Grass.Public Nuisance 13306 McGaster Trail 2026](#)

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0140](#)

A Resolution Waiving Fees for the Use of Max Griffin Park for the Foley Kiwanis Club International Kids Day Event

Attachments: [KCF Kids Day Special Events Application](#)

[KCF Kids Day Site Plan 3.1](#)

Director of Parks and Recreation Jeff Lee reported that this will be the second annual Kids Day Celebration that the Kiwanis Club would like to host at Max Griffin Park, providing free food and games to the public. He reported that the Kiwanis Club also partners with local businesses and public safety for this event.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0141](#)

A Resolution Appropriating Additional Funds for the Cedar St Sidewalk Phase II Project.

Attachments: [CO Request Cedar St Ph 2](#)
[Wynter-Metz-Street-Department \(23\)](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that the remaining 350 feet of the Cedar Street Sidewalk project has had utility conflicts, requiring some adjustments to the design in order to move forward. He requested Council's approval for additional funds to complete the project.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0142](#)

A Resolution Approving the YMCA of South Alabama 2026 Fore the Kids Golf Classic Sponsorship Packet

Attachments: [YMCA ForeTheKids_2026_SponsorPacket](#)

Economic Development Manager Frank Shepard reported that the YMCA of South Alabama, which includes the Snook Family YMCA in Foley, has requested the City become a sponsor of the 2026 Fore the Kids Golf Classic, which helps kids grow, learn, and thrive in the community.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0143](#)

A Resolution to Request Permission to Solicit Architectural and Engineering Firms to Develop a Foley Senior Center Facility

Attachments: [RFP Packet - Foley Senior Center](#)

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson requested Council's approval to seek a Request for Proposal from architectural and engineering firms to develop a Foley Senior Center Facility, to be constructed directly west of the renovated Foley Armory Building.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0144](#)

Resolution Approving an Appropriation of Funds for City Hall Exterior Improvements

Attachments: [Krystal-Bodiford-03-09-2026 approved](#)
[Belson Outdoors - Quote WQ 391186 Jot Form \(1\)](#)
[Quote City Of Foley Bench Pads \(1\)](#)
[ParkWarehouse_Q326382](#)
[Grainger Planter and Bench Quote](#)
[W Trawick Email Approval](#)

Executive Director of Public Safety Thurston Bullock requested that Council appropriate \$8,850 to support exterior improvements at City Hall. He reported

that this project will include the installation of a concrete pad and the purchase and placement of three benches and three planters.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0145](#)

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Foley, Alabama, Accepting the Donation of Certain Real Property From Springdale Stores, Inc.

Attachments: [Gift Deed](#)
[CMOB250111S-EXEMPTION-signed](#)
[CMOB250111S-BDY-REV 1-signed](#)
[description-survey-exemption](#)

Fire Chief Joey Darby requested Council's acceptance of a 5 acre property donation to the City of Foley, to be divided between a new Fire Station and Riviera Utilities.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Hellmich reported a successful trip to Washington, D.C. for the National League of Cities Conference.

He reported that the last performance in the Midday Melodies series will be held Wednesday, March 25, 2026 between 11:00am and 2:00pm at Heritage Park.

He also reported that the Aviation Day held at Holk Field at the Foley Municipal Airport on Saturday, March 21, 2026 from 10:00am to 1:00pm went well and he has received positive feedback from attendees.

Mayor Hellmich also reported that many spring sports games took place at Foley parks, including both soccer and baseball. He remarked that he threw the first pitch in a ball-game on Saturday, March 21, 2026 as well. He commended Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson's staff for a job well done with field maintenance.

He recognized City staff who worked over the weekend to install a pipe on the ALDOT right-of-way at Magnolia Walk.

He also reported that the City has several projects nearing completion, including parks, sidewalks, and the Armory, Library, and Public Works buildings.

Mayor Hellmich also reported that a Police Breakfast will be held at the Lillian Community Center on Saturday, April 11, 2026 at 8:00am to honor police officers and first responders.

He announced that at 6:30pm on Monday, March 23, 2026 in the Foley City Council Chambers, District 95 will host the Common Sense Coalition, which is a political forum for the three candidates for County Commissioner.

Visitor Comments

Fire Chief Joey Darby thanked Council for their efforts with the newly opened Safe Haven Baby Box at the Foley Fire Department. He also reported that they received a call that morning regarding an incident at Baldwin Health. He commended both Fire Department staff and hospital staff for how well they handled the situation to get matters under control. He reported that no injuries were sustained, there was minimal damage, and the hospital had resumed full operations.

Cindy Brothers and Jane Tyler, residents of Leisure Lake Subdivision and representing the League of Women Voters, addressed Council to announce a free screening of the award-winning documentary Sallie's Ashes to be held at the Graham Creek Interpretive Center on Thursday, April 30, 2026 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 4:56pm.