



Meeting Minutes - Draft

City Council

Monday, April 20, 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 Roderick Burkle. Also present: Mayor Ralph G. Hellmich, City Administrator Mike Thompson, City Clerk Christi Watkins, Stephanie Richardson, David Thompson, Leslie Gahagan, Taylor Davis, Logan Eberly, Eden Lapham, Gary Schrader, Suzanne Kellams, Zan Blue, Kate Norris, Jonathan Cottis, Pam Harris, Guy Busby, Jamie Smith, Angela Sherman, Jeff Lee, George Waller, Johnathan Waller, Patty Morgan, Wayne Dyess, Larry Dearing, Thurston Bullock, Cian Harrison, Buford King, Frances Holk-Jones, Donna Givens, Frank Shepard, Raven Roberts, Joey Darby, Brandon Mothershed, and Jay Springsteen.

Present: 4 - Tim Lower, Larry Engel, Wayne Trawick and Charles Ebert III

Absent: 1 - Roderick Burkle

Moment of Reflection

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing

[26-0156](#)

Public Hearing to Consider An Ordinance to Amend the City of Foley Zoning Ordinance

President Trawick opened the Public Hearing at 4:01pm. He asked for comments from the public. Hearing no comments, he closed the Public Hearing.

Proclamation

[26-0057](#)

Public Service Recognition Week

Attachments: [Public Service Recognition Week](#)

Mayor Hellmich presented the Proclamation for Public Service Recognition Week to Fire Chief Joey Darby, Executive Director of Public Safety Thurston Bullock, Deputy Chief Larry Dearing, and Officer Brandon Mothershed.

Presentation

[26-0175](#)

State Representative Donna Givens to present a check to the Foley Public Library

State Representative Donna Givens presented Library Director Kate Norris with a donation for the Foley Public Library and announced that she plans to make this an annual donation while she is in office.

[26-0197](#)

Southern Relief Community Meals Program

Southern Relief Executive Director George Waller, Director of Operations Johnathan Waller, and Emergency Services Director Patty Morgan presented a presentation on Southern Relief's Community Meals and Emergency Services programs.

Work Session Discussion

Additions/Removals/Carry-Overs

There were no additions, removals, or carry-overs to report.

Consent Agenda

[26-0171](#)

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

Attachments: [2026-03 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.

[26-0181](#)

Work Session/Council Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2026

Attachments: [04-06-2026 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 April 6, 2026. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0182](#)

Departmental Reports

Attachments: [March 2026 PDS P&Z Report](#)
[Building Department-March-26-Monthly Report](#)
[March 2026 Applicant Tracking Report](#)
[PD Monthly Stats March](#)
[FD Council March 26 4-26](#)
[Tax Report and Permit-Plan Review April 2026](#)

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](#)

Ordinance Amending the City of Foley Zoning Ordinance

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

Eden Lapham reported that the Zoning Ordinance Amendments in this Ordinance include an expansion to the Foley Medical Overlay District and changes to Accessory Dwelling Unit regulations.

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

Resolutions and Other Business

[26-0205](#)

ABC License: 050 - Retail Beer (Off Premises Only) 070 - Retail Table Wine (Off Premises Only) - 090 Tobacco and Alternative Nicotine Products for Caseys Marketing Company, applicant operating under the trade name Caseys 4730, located at 1216 N McKenzie St., Foley, AL 36535

Attachments: [ABC Application - Caseys Marketing Company](#)

Foley Fire and Police Departments recommended to move forward with the ABC License.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, to approve the ABC License. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[26-0154](#)

A Resolution to Approve Replacing the Scenic Byway/Coastal Connection Signage at the Hwy 98 / US Hwy 59 Intersection.

Attachments: [AL-59 @ US-98 Proposed Sign Cluster \(4\) \(1\)](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that the existing Scenic Byway/Coastal Connection wayfinding signage at the Hwy 98 / US Hwy 59 intersection are not in good condition. He reported that ALDOT can install new signage if the City

of Foley will have them fabricated.

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

[26-0170](#)

A Resolution Approving A Performance Contract with Jerry Phillip Webb

Attachments: [Jerry Phillip Webb Performance Contract](#)

Logan Eberly reported that staff requests permission to enter into a performance contract with Mr. Webb, who is the pilot for the City's N3N airplane. She reported that this contract will allow the City to reimburse him for expenses related to the plane and will provide a monthly stipend for maintenance and operation costs.

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.

[26-0172](#)

A Resolution Approving Monthly Bids - March 2026

Attachments: [March 2026 Bid Awards](#)

Logan Eberly reported that there was one bid open in March 2026 for bottled drink purchases, but that the City is currently in negotiations with Coca-Cola.

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

[26-0174](#)

A Resolution Approving the Capital Purchase and to Go to Bid for a New Truck for the Municipal Complex

Attachments: [Capital Purchase Form](#)

Director of Senior Services and Municipal Complex Pam Harris reported that the Municipal Complex Department requests permission to go to bid for a new truck not to exceed the FY26 budgeted expense of \$60,000. She reported that the department also requests the current 2012 Ford F150 XCAB be deemed surplus.

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

[26-0176](#)

Resolution Amending The Pay Classification Plan In The Police Department And Human Resources Division

Attachments: [Pay Classification Plan - Effective 03-23-26](#)

Human Resources Director Suzanne Kellams reported that the Police Department seeks to reclassify one Police Officer position to a Corporal within the Investigations Division to create supervisory consistency with the Corrections Division and strengthen operational oversight. She also reported

that the Human Resources Department requests a job title change from Human Resources Specialist to Personnel Specialist to more accurately reflect the position's core duties and responsibilities. She reported that both actions are intended to enhance internal structure and efficiency and are budget neutral.

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

[26-0180](#)

A Resolution to Memorialize the Submission of the Application for the FY2026 Legislative Event Grant

Attachments: [Foley's Haunted Attractions Grant Application 2026](#)

Sustainability and Natural Resources Director Leslie Gahagan reported that State Representative Frances Holk-Jones has nominated Graham Creek's Haunted Forest and Spooky Express as a potential recipient of an Alabama Department of Tourism grant. She reported that the City requests to memorialize the submission of this grant application, which will be used for event operations, with no matching funds required.

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.

[26-0184](#)

A Resolution to Apply for a Alabama Humanities Alliance America in 250 Mini Grant

Logan Eberly reported that staff requests permission to apply for the Alabama Humanities Grant for the City of Foley's America 250 events. She reported that the maximum grant to be awarded is \$2,500, with no matching funds required.

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

[26-0185](#)

A Resolution to Apply for an Alabama Semiquincentennial Community Grant

Logan Eberly reported that staff requests permission to apply for the Alabama Semiquincentennial Community Grant for the City of Foley's America 250 events. She reported that the maximum grant to be awarded is \$2,500, with no matching funds required.

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

[26-0186](#)

A Resolution Accepting McCollough Architecture's Revised Proposal for Services Related to the CAFFM Commercial Kitchen Project.

Attachments: [2026.03.24 Architectural Proposal R1 - Foley Farmer's Market Kitchen](#)
[24-1072 RES](#)

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson reported that the Leisure Services Department requests approval of the McCollough Architecture revised proposal for the CAFFM Commercial Kitchen. He reported that no additional funds are requested at this time.

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

[26-0189](#)

Resolution Requesting to Solicit Bids, Award the Bid Within Budget, and Appropriate Funds for the Mills Pedestrian Path Project

Attachments: [Daisha-Barnes-Engineering \(70\)](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that after addressing right-of-way and drainage challenges, the Mills Sidewalk Community Project is now ready to move forward to solicit bids, award the contract within budget, and appropriate funds for the project.

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.

[26-0190](#)

Resolution Approving Sawgrass Consulting's Professional Services Proposal for Fiscal Year 2026 Resurfacing Project

Attachments: [Foley 2026 Rdwy Proposal](#)
[Daisha-Barnes-Engineering \(72\)](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that this Resolution will allow the consultant to begin the designs for the roads that were presented to Council earlier this year. He reported that once the design is completed within 6 to 8 weeks, the City can begin work this summer, which is an optimal time to begin paving.

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

[26-0191](#)

A Resolution to Enter into a Contract with OTK Architecture LLC for the Library Renovation Project

Attachments: [B 101-2017 - Existing City of Foley Public Library Conversion to Other Uses 04092026](#)
[EXHIBIT A - Architects Scoping Matrix 3-17-2026 Pertinent Portion](#)
[EXHIBIT B - OTK Hourly Rate Sheet - General](#)
[Daisha-Barnes-Engineering-I-D \(1\)](#)

Council President Trawick relinquished the chair to President Pro Tempore Ebert, III.

Director of Public Projects Buford King reported that staff requests Council award OTK Architecture LLC a contract for the schematic design for the conversion of the former library building to general office space.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, that this Resolution be adopted. Council President Wayne Trawick abstained. The motion carried by a majority vote.

President Pro Tempore Ebert, III, returned the chair to President Trawick.

[26-0192](#)

A Resolution Allocating the Funds for the Construction of the Andrew James Wetland Reserve Parking Area and Roadway

Attachments: [AJ Wetland Reserve JOT Form](#)

Sustainability and Natural Resources Director Leslie Gahagan reported that the Nature Parks Department is requesting to allocate funds to the Capital Project, Andrew James Wetland Reserve. She reported that this will be for the materials to construct the internal gravel roadway and gravel parking area, as well as additional fencing. She also reported that the work will be completed by City staff, with a projected completion in FY27.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. Council Member Larry Engel abstained. The motion carried by a majority vote.

[26-0193](#)

A Resolution Approving Sawgrass Consulting, LLC Professional Services Proposal Addendums for the Monarch Conservatory

Attachments: [Monarch Conservatory JOT Form.4.2026](#)

[GRAHAM CREEK BUTTERFLY PROPOSAL \(2\) \(1\)](#)

[BUTTERFLY 20GARDEN 20SUPPLEMENTAL 20AGREEMENT \(1\)](#)

Sustainability and Natural Resources Director Leslie Gahagan reported that this is an additional contract for the Monarch Conservatory Capital Project, that will complete the civil engineering and design as well as add a supplemental agreement for an architect and mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and structural engineering services to ensure the greenhouse conservatory meets all applicable codes. She reported that the cost is still within the previously allocated funds and requires no additional funding at this time.

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

[26-0194](#)

A Resolution Approving the Purchase of New Carpet for FST Event Center.

Attachments: [EnhanceMats Quote 4-9-26 \(1\)](#)

[David-Thompson-Sports-Tourism](#)

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson reported that staff requests Council's approval to proceed with the purchase of new carpet for the

FST Event Center. He reported that the new carpet purchase was approved in the FY26 Capital Purchase Budget and will extend the life of the existing painted sport court surface and broaden market appeal to a wider range of event types.

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.

[26-0198](#)

A Resolution Approving the Purchase of a Ball Field Drag for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Attachments: [Jeff-Lee-Parks-Recreation](#)
 [Jerry Pate - Field Drag](#)

Jeff Lee reported that the Parks and Recreation Department has a 2011 John Deere ball field drag that is no longer operational and needs to be replaced.

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

[26-0199](#)

A Resolution to Approve the FY26 Capital Purchase of a Z-Sprayer Max for the Foley Sports Tourism Multi-Use Fields

Attachments: [David-Thompson-Sports-Tourism \(3\)](#)
 [z-spray](#)

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson reported that the Sports Tourism Department is requesting to purchase a smaller footprint sprayer that will be beneficial for use in smaller areas such as the dog park or the beach volleyball court. He reported that this purchase was a budgeted item in the FY26 Capital Purchases budget.

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

[26-0200](#)

A Resolution Approving and Appropriating Funds for Sawgrass Consulting, LLC Professional Services Proposals for the CAFFM Property Expansion Phase 2 and Sports Tourism Multi-Use Fields Complex Concession/Bathroom Buildings.

Attachments: [David-Thompson-Leisure-Services \(8\)](#)
 [David-Thompson-Leisure-Services \(7\)](#)
 [Revised CAFFM Concession](#)
 [24-1030 RES](#)

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson reported that the Leisure Services Department is combining the Concession/Restroom Facilities

Capital Projects for the CAFFM Property Expansion Phase 2 and Foley Sports Tourism Multi-Use Fields Complex to bid together and reduce overhead costs. He reported that Sawgrass Consulting, LLC has prepared a proposal, and that staff requests the remaining funds to be appropriated for these projects.

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

[26-0201](#)

A Resolution Approving the Foley Sports Tourism Department to Purchase a Toro Workman HDX UTV.

Attachments: [City of Foley Toro HDX Workman 032726 r2 \(1\)](#)
[MT Approval of UTV - email reference](#)

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson reported that the Sports Tourism Department requests to purchase a Toro Workman HDX. He reported that the department also requests the current Toro Workman HDX UTV, that has 1400 hours and is 10 years old, to be declared surplus and disposed of using the best means possible.

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

[26-0202](#)

A Resolution Approving the Lions at the Links Golf Tournament Sponsorship

Attachments: [Golf Tournament](#)

Economic Development Manager Frank Shepard reported that this event supports Foley High School by contributing to their general fund, which covers student teacher expenses that Title funds do not cover. He reported that staff requests the approval of a \$400 team level contribution.

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

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Hellmich announced that the Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival will be held at the OWA Festival Grounds on Thursday, April 30, 2026 and Friday, May 1, 2026 from 4:00pm to 9:30pm, and Saturday, May 2, 2026 from 10:00am to 9:30pm.

He also announced that the 2026 Music and a Movie series has returned, with upcoming dates of Friday, April 24, 2026, Friday, May 15, 2026, and Friday, May 22, 2026. He reported that each event will begin with a live concert at 6:00pm in the park pavilion, followed by a featured movie at dusk.

Mayor Hellmich reported that the City currently has several ongoing sidewalk projects at various stages of completion, including the Mills Sidewalk Project, the Azalea Ave. to Pride Blvd. Sidewalk Project, and the Cedar Street

Sidewalk Project.

He reported that there is an effort to seek congressional funding in FY 2027 for a Highway 59 third lane expansion heading South of Foley, but it is still in the preliminary stages.

He also reported that there are plans for several America 250 events throughout the City, and that he will provide details in the near future.

He reported that last month, tax revenue exceeded the City's budget, indicating a positive trend for sales tax receipts.

Mayor Hellmich reported that staff is currently researching audio-visual options for City Council Meetings as Council Member Tim Lower has requested. He reported that this process is taking longer than anticipated due to the addition of new ADA requirements, but that staff will present options to Council at a later date.

He reported that the new Public Works facility is nearing completion and that staff is preparing to move within the next week. He also reported that once Public Works has relocated, the City has plans for Parks and Recreation to move into the old Public Works building, followed by the current Parks and Recreation building being refurbished as a new event center and museum complex.

He also reported that the Foley Aquatics Center is still in the design phase, but that when construction begins it will be on property adjacent to the city pool, which will allow the pool to maintain its regular operating hours until construction is complete.

Mayor Hellmich also reported that construction on the safe room has begun, and expressed his hope that there is no disruption to the federal funding so the project can be completed in a timely manner.

Visitor Comments

Jay Springsteen, of Springsteen Lane addressed Council to express his concerns regarding a new subsidized apartment complex that will be built near his property. He reported that traffic in the area is an ongoing issue, and that he has concerns that an apartment complex will add to congestion, lower property values, and possibly increase crime.

Mayor Hellmich reported that he understands Mr. Springsteen's concerns, but that this subsidized apartment complex is unique in that it is part of a new bipartisan program that offers tax incentives to housing developers to provide affordable housing to first responders. He also reported that part of the requirements of this program include upgrades to roads, which would include an extension to the Foley Beach Express that should help with traffic.

Adjournment

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

unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 5:06pm.