



Meeting Minutes - Draft

City Council

Monday, March 2, 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. Also present: Mayor Ralph G. Hellmich, City Administrator Mike Thompson, City Clerk Christi Watkins, Stephanie Richardson, Wayne Dyess, Frank Shepard, Mary Garcia, Abigail Garcia, Leslie Gahagan, John Whitman, Jimmy Loftin, Linda Spangrud, Taylor Davis, Tammy Turner, Lily Ingraham, Angie Ingraham, Jo Hellmich, Jayme Bartshe, Mike Bartshe, Bob Scivique, Dane Bodiford, Krystal Bodiford, Lucas Bodiford, Jeff Lee, Jerry Finney, Paul Shoenight, Jr., Makayla Shoenight, Megan Atkisson, Jack Barry, Pam Harris, Kathleen Borne, P. Hughes, Mae Bryant, Michelle Davis, Mark Clifford, Brenda W. Shambo, Guy Busby, Roni Criswell, Darrelyn Dunmore, Katy White, Chandler Dunaway, Kristina Bentley, Corey Bentley, Adam Green, Luke Demay, Chloe Salinas, Candace Jeans, James Lundsted, David Thompson, Cole Reid, Laurie Reid, Kelly Garrett, Angela Sherman, Gina Gipson, Jonathan Cottis, Jacqueline McGonigal, Stephanie Rhodes, Terri Kotis, Waylon Lewis, Sam Zone, Frances Holk-Jones, Joey Darby, Kevin Carnley, and Grant Blackburn.

Present: 5 - Tim Lower, Roderick Burkle, Larry Engel, Wayne Trawick and Charles Ebert III

Moment of Reflection

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing

[26-0099](#)

Public Hearing to Declare Junk and Debris to be a Public Nuisance and to Order its Abatement Located at 635 E Gate Cir.

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

[26-0100](#)

Public Hearing Declaring Weeds To Be A Public Nuisance And Ordering

Its Abatement at 13125 Dale Ln., the Common Area in Parkside Subdivision.

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

[26-0101](#)

Public Hearing Declaring Weeds To Be A Public Nuisance And Ordering Its Abatement at S. Hickory St. at the Entrance of Crown Walk Subdivision.

President Trawick opened the Public Hearing at 4:02pm. He asked for comments from the public. Hearing no comments, he closed the Public Hearing.

[26-0102](#)

Public Hearing Declaring Weeds To Be A Public Nuisance And Ordering Its Abatement at 1608 S. Oak St.

President Trawick opened the Public Hearing at 4:02pm. He asked for comments from the public. Hearing no comments, he closed the Public Hearing.

Presentation

[26-0111](#)

Presentation of the Quality In Construction Award

Attachments: [Quality In Construction Award](#)

John Whitman and Jimmy Loftin of the National Asphalt Pavement Association presented the Quality in Construction Award to City Engineer Taylor Davis for the Foley Beach Express Improvements from S.R. 59 to C.R. 12 Project.

[26-0040](#)

Presentation of Foley Sister Cities by Linda Spangrud

Attachments: [FSC Annual Report 24-25 Final](#)

Foley Sister Cities Executive Director Linda Spangrud presented a presentation of the Foley Sister Cities FY2025 Annual Report.

[26-0091](#)

Presentation of the 2026 Arbor Day Book Donations

Mayor Hellmich presented the Arbor Day book donations to Foley City School Principals and Media Specialists.

Work Session Discussion

Additions/Removals/Carry-Overs

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

Consent Agenda

[26-0096](#)

Work Session/Council Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2026

Attachments: [02-16-2026 Work Session Council Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, to approve the Work Session/Council Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2026. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Ordinances

[26-0098](#)

(First 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](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that an HOA representative contacted the Engineering Department to request that a 20-mph speed limit be established in the Hickory Bend Subdivision.

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

[26-0007](#)

(Second Reading) AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY NOT PRESENTLY NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES AND AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF THE SAME TO AUTOWORX, LLC (D/B/A NAPA AUTO PARTS FOLEY)

Attachments: [Autoworx LLC NAPA Lease](#)

There was no discussion on this item.

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

[26-0076](#)

(Second Reading) An Ordinance Accepting Public Rights-of-Way and Infrastructure Improvements in Riverside at Arbor Walk Phase Three Subdivision

Attachments: [Riverside - PH3 - ROW Acceptance Request Letter](#)

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 Ordinance be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Resolutions and Other Business

[26-0037](#)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DEDICATION OF A RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT FOR PUBLIC USE ALONG WEST FERN AVENUE AND HIGHWAY 59 ACCESS POINTS

Attachments: [Permanent Drainage Easement](#)
[ROW Deed](#)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that the City deems it necessary to accept this dedicated right-of-way because it will facilitate public access, drainage and transportation improvements, and economic development.

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.

[26-0075](#)

A Resolution to Request Permission to Solicit a Consulting Firm to Develop a Municipal Campus Master Plan

Attachments: [Municipal Campus Master Plan DRAFT](#)

Executive Director of Infrastructure and Development Wayne Dyess reported that the Municipal Campus Master Plan proposal would evaluate existing City-owned facilities and properties and help with building placement and connectivity. Mr. Dyess also reported that Council Members will be included in future meetings to provide input on the proposal.

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.

[26-0088](#)

A Resolution Requesting to go to Bid and Purchasing a Truck for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Attachments: [Jeff-Lee-Parks-Recreation](#)

Director of Parks and Recreation Jeff Lee requested Council's approval to replace a 2008 F550 landscape truck for the Parks and Recreation Department, which was included in their FY2026 budget.

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

[26-0090](#)

A Resolution Waiving Fees for the Use of Heritage Park and John B. Foley Park for the 54th Annual Art in the Park on May 8-11, 2026.

Attachments: [Special Event App - Art in the Park](#)

Director of Parks and Recreation Jeff Lee reported that this is the 54th Annual Art in the Park event, and they have requested use of the park and the same city forces, staff, and clean-up that they request each year.

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.

[26-0094](#)

A Resolution Rescheduling Council Meeting Date Due to Lack of Quorum

City Administrator Mike Thompson reported that due to a number of Council Members attending a conference in Washington, D.C., there will be a lack of quorum at the upcoming scheduled Council Meeting of March 16, 2026. He reported that this Resolution will reschedule the Work Session/Council Meeting to the following Monday, March 23, 2026.

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

[26-0095](#)

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE PAY CLASSIFICATION PLAN IN THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Attachments: [Pay Classification Plan - Effective 02-16-26](#)

Director of Parks and Recreation Jeff Lee reported that earlier this year his department budgeted for a Recreational Assistant at a Grade 120, but are now requesting to upgrade that position to an Athletic Coordinator at a Grade 130. He also reported that this would be 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.

[26-0097](#)

Resolution Approving the Installation of a New Street Light on John Arthur Drive in the Amelia Woods Subdivision.

Attachments: [Riviera - Street Light Request](#)

Director of Public Projects Buford King reported that a citizen requested a street light be installed because Amelia Woods Subdivision does not currently have any street lighting. He reported that this street light would be installed in the cul-de-sac at the southern terminus of John Arthur Drive, and would be completed by Riviera Utilities.

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.

[26-0103](#)

A Resolution Authorizing Employees to Enter Upon the Property at 635 E. Gate Cir. for the Purpose of Abating the Public Nuisance.

There was no discussion on this item.

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

[26-0104](#)

A Resolution Authorizing Employees to Enter Upon the Property at 13125 Dale Ln., the Common Area in Parkside Subdivision, for the

Purpose of Abating the Public Nuisance.

There was no discussion on this item.

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

[26-0105](#)

A Resolution Authorizing Employees to Enter Upon the Property at S. Hickory St. at the Entrance of Crown Walk Subdivision, for the Purpose of Abating the Public Nuisance.

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.

[26-0107](#)

A Resolution authorizing a sponsorship contribution to the Baldwin County District Attorney's Foundation in support of the 2026 Paddles for a Purpose Pickleball Tournament.

Attachments: [Sponsorship Packet Finalized \(Fillable\)](#)

City Administrator Mike Thompson reported that this tournament is a fundraiser for the Baldwin County District Attorney's Foundation.

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.

[26-0110](#)

A Resolution Waiving Fees for the Use of Heritage Park to Host Prayer Changes Things Event on April 11, 2026.

Attachments: [Special Event App - Calvary Chapel](#)

Director of Parks and Recreation Jeff Lee reported that Calvary Chapel has requested the use of Heritage Park for a praise and worship event on Saturday, April 11, 2026.

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.

[26-0113](#)

A Resolution to Reappoint Luanne McCarley to the Board of Adjustments And Appeals

There was no discussion on this item.

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

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Hellmich reported that the Arbor Day Celebration, held on Saturday, February 28, 2026, was well-attended and the weather was beautiful.

He reported that The Baldwin Times published an article about Captain Royce Williams, who flew in Foley's historic N3N aircraft and was recently awarded the Medal of Honor by President Trump during the State of the Union address.

Mayor Hellmich also reported that the March 2026 edition of Mobile Bay Magazine features an article about Foley's Wilbourne Antique Rose Trail, including quotes from Guy Busby, Brenda Shambo, and John Brown.

He also reported that the City of Foley is one of five cities in Alabama to have earned the Triple Crown Award for Accounting, and he extended his appreciation to Finance Director Miranda Bell and her staff for their diligent work.

He reported that Hearts for Heroes, the officer and first responders appreciation event held March 1, 2026 was successful, and expressed his gratitude to all first responders. He also thanked the committee who hosted the event.

Visitor Comments

Council Member Larry Engel reported that the archery tournament was held at Graham Creek Nature Preserve from February 19th through the 21st, hosting 2,000 archers, and he commended City staff for making the event a success.

Jerry Finney, owner of Dad's Roofing, located at 307 S. McKenzie Street, addressed Council to seek clarification regarding the Sign Ordinance. He reported that he has used temporary yard signs in the past to indicate the location of a jobsite to delivery drivers and his work crew. He also reported that he affixes the building permit number to the sign, so that the Home Builders Licensure Board can verify the building permit without stopping construction. He requested Council consider amending the Ordinance to allow for businesses to use these signs for no longer than 4 to 5 days at a time with the purchase of a permit.

Mayor Hellmich responded that this is a unique situation and referred the question to Executive Director of Infrastructure and Development Wayne Dyess, who reported that his department will research this issue.

Kathleen Borne, business owner at 515 N. McKenzie Street, addressed Council with her concerns regarding the certified letters that were sent to business owners in violation of the Sign Ordinance.

Mayor Hellmich reported that the City was following legal counsel throughout this process to ensure that situations are handled fairly and properly. He suggested that in the future, if any constituent has questions, to reach out to City staff for assistance.

Executive Director of Infrastructure and Development Wayne Dyess reported

that letters, social media posts, and press releases were sent out beginning in October of 2025 notifying business owners of the upcoming enforcement of the Sign Ordinance so they would have time to prepare.

Mark Clifford, CEO of the Wacked Out Weiner, located at 215 E. Laurel Avenue addressed Council on behalf of small businesses in Foley regarding the Sign Ordinance. He requested that Council collaborate and compromise with small businesses due to the cost of purchasing compliant signage.

Council Member Charles Ebert, III, recommended that due to Mr. Clifford's business location in the historic district, he should consider contacting Darrelyn Dunmore with Foley Main Street and applying for a facade grant to cover the cost of a new sign.

Mayor Hellmich requested that Mr. Clifford and other local business owners reach out to the City with any suggestions or ideas they may have to address these Sign Ordinance concerns, and the City will take them into consideration.

Adam Green, owner of Custom Truck Accessories, located at 3420 S. McKenzie Street, addressed Council for clarification regarding the Sign Ordinance. He reported that he received a letter concerning his business name printed on the monster truck in front of his business, and he immediately put a cover on it to avoid a fine. He reported that the truck has been in that location for fifteen years without issue, and wanted to confirm that it was in violation before paying to have it rewrapped.

Mayor Hellmich requested that he exchange contact information with Executive Director of Infrastructure and Development Wayne Dyess to discuss a possible solution.

Terri Kotis, owner of TMAK Signs and Graphics, located at 1907 S. McKenzie Street, addressed Council to express her concerns regarding the enforcement of the Sign Ordinance. She reported that she received a notice letter concerning a boat that has been wrapped to advertise wrapping services for her business. She also reported that she attempted to comply by moving the boat 100 ft back from the road, but that she received an additional notice to relocate the boat back further. She asked Council for guidance on how to proceed.

Mayor Hellmich reported that this is a situation that might not be clearly defined in the Ordinance.

Ms. Kotis reported that she would contact Council Member Tim Lower and Executive Director of Infrastructure and Development after the Council Meeting for guidance in this specific situation.

Candace Jeans, owner of Kandie's Pampered Pooch Pet Grooming, located at 1917 S. McKenzie Street, addressed Council to express her concerns regarding the enforcement of the Sign Ordinance. She reported that she had a metal sign that was not in compliance, so she had it removed. She reported that without a sign, it makes visibility difficult due to a neighboring business obstructing the view of her storefront from the road.

Mayor Hellmich asked Planning Director Miriam Boone if a locator sign would

be appropriate in cases where the view of a shopping center is obstructed, and she confirmed that it would.

Ms. Jeans and Ms. Kotis reported that the existing locator sign is in disrepair and a new sign would be cost prohibitive.

James Lundsted, of 7886 Calverton Street in the Primland Subdivision addressed Council to express his concerns regarding a foul odor at the intersection of County Road 12 and Wolf Bay Drive.

Mayor Hellmich reported that this has been an ongoing issue with the Orange Beach Sewer Authority lift station. He also reported that upon further investigation, it was discovered that a new pipeline and a new odor abatement system has been installed, which will hopefully correct the problem. Mayor Hellmich reported that the City will continue to monitor the situation.

Council Member Roderick Burkle reported that he also lives in the area and will continue to monitor the situation.

Luke Demay, owner of the Book Exchange, located at 101 W. Laurel Avenue, addressed Council to suggest a repeal of parts of the Sign Ordinance. He reported that it will be expensive for small businesses to buy new signs that are in compliance, and stated he believes the signs are attractive and helpful.

Jayne Bartshe, owner of The Brick Oven, located at 21040 A Mifflin Road, addressed Council to express her concerns regarding the enforcement of the Sign Ordinance. She reported a decrease in lunch sales following the removal of a marquee and pizza flags by the road.

Mayor Hellmich suggested that the Ordinance could be amended to permit the use of a sandwich board sign in front of the business, but said that the process could take approximately two months.

Stephanie Rhodes, owner of Agape Juices, located at 3782 S. McKenzie Street, addressed Council to share her concerns regarding the Sign Ordinance. She also expressed her support for the suggestion of amending the Ordinance to allow for sandwich board signs.

Mayor Hellmich reported that the City will look at making some common sense changes to the Ordinance to address some of these concerns.

Executive Director of Foley Main Street Darrelyn Dunmore reported that Foley Main Street will host workshops teaching business owners how to market their business, including alternative methods of marketing that are within the guidelines of the Sign Ordinance.

Grant Blackburn, candidate for Baldwin County District Court Judge, addressed Council to introduce himself to both Council and the community.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 5:57pm.