



MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - REGULAR SESSION

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Bonifay City Hall Council Meeting Room – 301 J Harvey Etheridge St.

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT

Mayor Larry Cook
Council Member James Sellers
Council Member Shelley Carroll
Council Member Rick Crews
Council Member Eddie Dixon

Also present: Finance Director Tracy Walker; City Clerk Jessie Chaney; Executive Assistant Sierra Smith; Bonifay Police Department Lieutenant Chelsea Castro

A. Invocation

Led by Executive Assistant Sierra Smith

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Executive Assistant Sierra Smith

II. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Dixon, Seconded by Council Member Crews.
Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. September 3, 2026 Tentative Budget

Motion made by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.
Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

B. September 8, 2026 Regular Session

Motion made by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IV. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / TRANSFERS / FINANCIAL SHEETS TO REVIEW

Motion made by Council Member Carroll, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

V. VISITORS – PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

NON- AGENDA AUDIENCE

Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission.” Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the Board. THIS IS NOT A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION. It is NOT a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations and derogatory remarks to/or about City personnel. Those who wish to speak are reminded to observe proper decorum, and to avoid the use of profane or vulgar language. If you would like to address the City Council please come to the podium, state your name and address for the record

Richard Willsey of Happy Hollow, a non-resident, addressed the Council regarding the parking lot resurfacing project, stating that the closure left no accessible parking spaces available for the meeting. He asked whether the proposed 8% budget reduction applied to the current fiscal year or the upcoming fiscal year, stating that Public Safety was \$1.5 million over budget. Mr. Willsey thanked the mayor for considering citizens during the budget preparation process. He also noted that an individual who spoke out during the previous meeting had not been “gaveled down.”

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

VIII. PLANNING & ENGINEERING

A. Bonifay Police Department Engineering

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith presented a proposal from Melvin Engineering for civil and architectural services to begin the process of the new Bonifay Police Department facility. The city has received appropriations from Senator Trumbull and Representative Abbott over the last two years for this project and they have advised us to start spending the funds. Police Chief Johnny Whitaker and Executive Assistant Sierra Smith are asking for approval to proceed with proposal.

Motion made by Council Member Dixon, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IX. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

A. Personnel Updates

Mayor Cook reminded the public of upcoming events to include

Rodeo Weekend October 1-3, 2026

Sickle Cell fundraiser September 26, 2026 at the Family Life Center

Annual Bull Run 5K September 26, 2026 at Middlebrooks Park

City of Bonifay Final budget Meeting Friday, September 25, 2026 at 5:01 p.m.

Regular Session Meeting October 5, 2026 at 9 a.m.

B. Department Updates

C. Employee Spotlight

X. ADJOURN

at 6:10 p.m.

Motion made by Council Member Crews.

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact City Hall at (850) 547-4238, at least five days prior to the proceedings.