



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

Monday, April 06, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Branden Whitfield called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

A. Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Branden Whitfield

Council Member Keith Colquitt

Council Member Bill DuVall

Council Member Wesley Johnson

Council Member Melanie Long

Council Member Lisa Newberry

Council Member Patti Wolfe

B. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Council Member Newberry to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Council Member Wolfe.

Voting Yea: Council Member Colquitt, Council Member DuVall, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Long, Council Member Newberry, Council Member Wolfe.

Motion carried 6-0.

C. Questionnaire Session for P&Z Applicants

Council conducted a questionnaire session for the four applicants that were present. They were: Michael Lee, Kimberly Pecylak, Toyin Olaoluwa, and Dana Russell.

D. Mayor and Council Discussion Items - Retreat for Strategic Planning & Golf Carts

Mayor Branden Whitfield discussed with Council having a retreat for strategic planning. Council agreed to look at some dates to conduct a four hour session locally, and that it be streamed on YouTube. Mayor Whitfield will get with City Manager Danny Roberts to discuss dates.

Mayor Branden Whitfield brought up a discussion about allowing golf carts within the city limits. Assistant Chief Warnack addressed the council regarding the Police Department's concerns, stating that their recommendation at this time is not in favor of allowing golf carts in the city limits due to the current road structure and overall citizen safety. Council decided to not move forward at this time.

2. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

- A. **Case #V26-001** – Augustin Sanchez, requested a Major Variance for the property located 3965 Pecan Rd, Loganville, GA 30052. Map/Parcel # R5160 043, Gwinnett County, GA. Present zoning is

R-22. Ordinance and Section from which relief is sought is Zoning Ordinance 119-209 (c). Request for variance for reduction in the Minimum required lot width.

Planning Director Robbie Schwartz presented the case, and the Public Hearing for the requested variance was held.

Augustin Sanchez the applicant was present.

There was no one present to speak in favor or opposition to this rezoning. Public hearing was closed.

Planning Director Robbie Schwartz presented to the Council, an update on the Walton County Comprehensive Plan. The first public kick-off meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2026 at the Walton County Historic Courthouse. They will also be hosting an online questionnaire. There will be a meeting in Loganville, but a date has not been selected.

3. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

- A. Purchase of a 2025 Ford F550 VersaLift Bucket Truck \$150,000.00 (100-4900-542200)
Council Member Keith Colquitt presented the purchase of a 2025 Ford F550 VersaLift Bucket Truck. Council will vote on this at Thursday nights meeting.

4. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

5. PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

6. FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

- A. Remodel of 789 Lee Byrd Rd (Station 15), and 605 Tom Brewer Rd (Station 16 and PD) \$151,195.77 includes a 10% contingency - 2019 Walton County Public Safety SPLOST (321-3200, 321-3500)
Council Member Wes Johnson presented the remodels to Station 15, Station 16, and the Police Department. They will vote on this at Thursday nights meeting.
- B. Discussion - Toddler Park Update \$625,000.00 includes contingency - 2019 & 2025 Walton SPLOST Recreation (321 - 323) Grant from Walton County Health Foundation \$40,000, 2023 Gwinnett County SPLOST Recreation (324) and the remainder from general funds reserves (100).

Consent Agenda for Thursday Night

7. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

- A. Resolution - Apply for 2026 Local Road Assistance (LRA) Funds and Keck & Wood Engineering Fees - 2026 Paving Project Proposal 03/31/2026 - (100-4200-522210)

Consent Agenda for Thursday Night

8. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. IGA - West Walton Park for Independence Day Celebration
Consent Agenda for Thursday Night
- B. IGA - City of Snellville Stage Usage for Independence Day Celebration \$350.00 (100-7545-572010)
Consent Agenda for Thursday Night
- C. Appointments to the DDA

City Manager presented to the Council the sole applicant for the DDA. City Attorney Paul Rosenthal reviewed the state law requirements for DDA directors with the council. The Council agreed to leave the application period open for an additional 30 days to allow more applicants to apply before reviewing submissions.

City Manager Danny Roberts also presented the financial policy currently used by staff. He asked the Council to review the policy, and they will discuss it at the May Work Session.

City Manager Danny Roberts then discussed City Attorney Paul Rosenthal's MOU with Council. He explained that he and Mr. Rosenthal agreed on a 2.5% annual increase, totaling \$500.00 for FY27, FY28, and FY29. City Attorney Paul Rosenthal has emailed the MOU to the council for their review.

9. CITY ATTORNEY'S UPDATES / REPORTS

A. Approval - Candidate Qualification Charter Changes

City Attorney Paul Rosenthal presented to the Council the proposed Charter changes, including updating the residency-requirement language to align with Georgia state law and raising the minimum age for an elected official from 18 to 21. These changes will need to be voted on again at Thursday night's meeting for second-reading approval.

B. Discussion - Donation Drop Boxes

City Attorney Paul Rosenthal discussed the donation drop box ordinance with the Council. He noted that he has emailed the current ordinance to them and is requesting guidance on any changes they would like his office to review.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comments are limited to five minutes per speaker unless additional time is given by the Mayor. Each speaker should approach the podium and state their name and address for the record. All public comments are to be directed to the Mayor and Council and not the audience. Public Comments should follow general rules of appropriate decorum.

The following individuals addressed the Mayor and Council: Linda Dodd, 993 Granite Lane. Taylor Polidore Williams, Georgia - requesting permission to film a few hours at the fair coming in May, Council granted permission based on Midways approval and insurance coverage documents. Connor Moore, 2511 Shockley Rd. Phoenix, 711 Reed St. Ron Moore, 912 Edgewater Dr. Jennifer, 711 Reed St.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Real Estate

Motion made by Council Member Wolfe to close the open session and enter into Executive Session to discuss real estate matters with counsel. Seconded by Council Member Newberry.

Voting Yea: Council Member Colquitt, Council Member DuVall, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Long, Council Member Newberry, Council Member Wolfe.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Council Member Long to re-open the meeting. Seconded by Council Member Colquitt. Voting Yea: Council Member Colquitt, Council Member DuVall, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Long, Council Member Newberry, Council Member Wolfe.

Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Branden Whitfield announced no action was taken during Executive Session.

12. ITEMS FOR THURSDAY NIGHT

A. Last Month's Minutes

Consent Agenda for Thursday Night

B. February 2026 Financial Report

Consent Agenda for Thursday Night

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Council Member Colquitt to adjourn. Seconded by Council Member Long.

Voting Yea: Council Member Colquitt, Council Member DuVall, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Long, Council Member Newberry, Council Member Wolfe.

Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:39pm.

Branden Whitfield
Mayor

Ansley Pope
Deputy City Clerk