

**PENDING LEGAL REVIEW

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MARCH 17, 2026

The Tupelo City Council held its regular meeting in the Council Chambers in the City Hall building on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. The following Council Members attended: Janet Gaston, Lynn Bryan, Travis Beard, Nettie Davis, Bentley Nolan, and Rosie Jones, Ben Logan, City Attorney and Sandra Shumaker, Clerk of the Council. Council Member Chad Mims was absent. Council Member Rosie Jones asked Jenae Pratt to give the invocation, and Council Member Janet Gaston led the pledge of allegiance. Council President Janet Gaston called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION OR AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA AND AGENDA ORDER

Council Member Nettie Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Travis Beard to approve the following amendments to the agenda as read by Council President Lynn Bryan

ADD:

#26 IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF REURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH RENASANT BANK SUBJECT TO LEGAL APPROVAL OF COLLATERIZATION

#27 IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FOR BJA FY25 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CRIME GUN INTELLIGENCE CENTER INTEGRATION INITIATIVE

REMOVE:

#16 IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FY26 MISSISSIPPI HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT APPLICATION

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Council President Janet Gaston presented Iry Gladney with the Tupelo Fire Department a certificate of appreciation and thanked him for 20 years of service with the Tupelo Fire Department.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Council Member Travis Beard stated that according to the ACCRA Cost of Living Index, the City of Tupelo and Lee County for being named one of the cities with the lowest cost of living in the United States in 2025.

Council Member Nettie Davis welcomed the members of the AKA New Sigma Omega Chapter that were attending the council meeting dressed in St. Patrick's Day green! She asked Bridget Wilson to stand and say a few words. Ms. Wilson said the group was excited to attend and thanked the council for all they do for the city.

Council Member Bentley Nolan wished everyone a Happy Easter.

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Council Member Rosie Jones stated that the New Sigma Omega Chapter of the AKA, Inc. was founded by Council Member Nettie Davis. She thanked Council Member Davis for this contribution.

Council Vice President Lynn Bryan asked everyone to mark their calendars for the “Tupelo’s Spring Clean” event will occur on April 11. Supplies will be furnished. He encouraged everyone to go to the website and sign up and take this day to clean up their neighborhoods.

Council President Janet Gaston added that dumpsters would be placed in specific locations and available all weekend.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR DEMOLITION PROPERTIES

Corey Mabry, registered agent for RMND Properties, LLC spoke to the council regarding 513 Clinton Street and stated that the company recently purchased the property and would like the opportunity to remodel it. Council President Janet Gaston asked Mr. Mabry to speak with Development Services Director Tanner Newman. APPENDIX “A”

ACTION AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION CALLING AND PROVIDING FOR THE HOLDING OF A SPECIAL ELECTION WITHIN THE CITY OF TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, TO DETERMINE IF THE CITY OF TUPELO SHALL INCREASE THE LIMITATION PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 27-39-321, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED, TO AUTHORIZE CONTINUING THE SPECIAL LEVY OF TEN (10) MILLS OF AD VALOREM TAXES UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF TUPELO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2026, AND FOR EACH OF THE NEXT FOUR (4) SUCCEEDING FISCAL YEARS THEREAFTER, THE TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM WHICH SPECIAL LEVY TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF STREET IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING OR PAVING STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS, PARKWAYS, WALKWAYS, PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE ABUTTING THERETO, OR PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES, AND PURCHASING LAND THEREFOR

Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis to approve this resolution and setting the Special Election for May 5, 2026. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “B”

ROUTINE AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW AND APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 3, 2026

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan to approve the minutes of March 3, 2026, as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “C”

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IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW AND APPROVE APPOINTMENT TO THE TUPELO AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD

Mr. Chaz Miller introduced himself to the council. He has lived in Tupelo for the past eight years. He is an employee of Fed-Ex and has worked as a pilot for 36 years. He looks forward to being an asset to the Airport Authority Board. Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve this appointment. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “D”

IN THE MATTER OF BILL PAY

The bills were reviewed by Council Vice President Lynn Bryan and Council Members Travis Beard and Nettie Davis. Council Member Nettie Davis moved, seconded by Council Vice President Lynn Bryan to pay the bills as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “E”

IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #4 FOR FY 2026

CFO/City Clerk Kim Hanna explained that this amendment is not requesting additional funds but rather to transfer funds between accounts, and to amend some of the capital and infrastructure funds, and spend some of the excess revenue received in 2025. This amendment would also allow us to access grant money received for the Police Department. Council Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve this item. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “F”

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY and/or ISSUE A GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND OF THE CITY FOR SALE TO THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK, IN ONE OR MORE TAXABLE OR TAX-EXEMPT SERIES, ALL IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$10,000,000)

CFO/City Clerk Kim Hanna explained that this is an intention resolution to issue bonds for needed repairs such as are needed at the Tupelo Aquatic Center. Council Member Davis asked if the expenditure of these funds were related to the subject of the work session scheduled for next week. Kim Hanna responded that these funds were not directly related to the subject of that meeting but there would be a discussion regarding another additional need for repair.

Council Member Jones asked if the repair at the Tupelo Aquatic Center was the only one being considered for this bond issue. Ms. Hanna responded that other needs will be discussed at the work session but this was the only one directly related to this bond issue. Council Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan to approve this item. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “G”

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYEMENT OF PROFESSIONALS IN CONNECTION WITH (A) THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF G.O. BONDS OF THE CITY, AND OR (B) THE SALE AND ISSUANCE BY THE CITY OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND OF THE CITY FOR SALE TO THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK, IN ONE OR MORE TAXABLE OR TAX-EXEMPT SERIES, ALL IN

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AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$10,000,000)

CFO/City Clerk Kim Hanna stated that this agenda item follows the intent resolution and will authorize the city to employ professionals related to the issuance of these bonds. Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Vice President Bryan, to approve the resolution. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “H”

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS FIXED ASSETS

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve this list of items as surplus. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “I”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TUPELO AND SLOAN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT AND FOR THE MAYOR TO SIGN SAID AGREEMENT – LWCF BALLARD PARK LAKE PROJECT

Grant Writer Abby Christian stated that this grant would be used for the retaining wall around Ballard Park. Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve this item as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “J”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL FOR ABBY CHRISTIAN TO BE AUTHORIZED APPLICANT AGENT FOR THE CITY OF TUPELO FOR DISASTER 4899-DR-MS AND FOR MAYOR TO SIGN SAID AGREEMENT

Grant Writer Abby Christian explained that approval of this agenda item will allow her to be listed as the agent for the City of Tupelo in the submission of applications for assistance regarding the recent snow and ice storm, named Disaster 4899 DR-MS. Council Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve this item as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “K”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF A PUBLIC ASSISTANCE STATE AND LOCAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TUPELO, MEMA, AND FEMA, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN SAID AGREEMENT – FEMA-4899-DR-MS

Grant Writer Abby Christian stated that this item would be the agreement and contract between the City of Tupelo and MEMA and FEMA. Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Davis to approve this item as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “L”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT – TFD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Grant Writer Abby Christian stated that this is an annual grant with no match. It will be used for hazmat suits and pressure tests. Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to allow the submission of this grant. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “M”

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IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT – TPD EOD RESPONSE VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT

Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to allow the submission of this grant. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “N”

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW AND APPROVE PROPERTIES FOR DEMOLITION

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Beard to approve the demolitions of the structures at 512 Clinton Street, Parcel #089F-30-006-00 and 513 Clinton Street, Parcel #079S-30-021-00. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “O”

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2, 2026, PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Council Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the minutes as presented. Of those present, the vote was 5-1 in favor with Council Member Davis opposed. APPENDIX “P”

IN THE MATTER OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VA MEDICAL CENTER

Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the MOU between the Tupelo Police Department and the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs, VA Medical Center. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “Q”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE ADDING SEIZED VEHICLES TO NMNU ASSET LIST

Council Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve and add the seized vehicles to the NMNU asset list. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “R”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MAJOR THOROUGHFARE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Council Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2026, Major Thoroughfare Committee Meeting as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “S”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TO REMOVE FROM ASSETS TO SURPLUS TO AUCTION OR SCRAP

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Vice President Bryan, to approve Public Works surplus list as presented and to remove items from the asset list and allow the items to be scrapped or sold at the city auction that will be held on May 9, 2026. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “T”

IN THE MATTER OF CONTRACT APPROVAL FOR THE 2026-0045PW LOCAL STREET MAINTENANCE MILL AND OVERLAY 2026 ANNUAL BID

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Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve and award the contract for the annual Local Street Maintenance Mill & Overlay Bid, 2026-0045PW to Falcon Contracting Co, Inc. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “U”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CADENCE BANK ARENA MINUTES OF DECEMBER 15, 2025

Council Vice President moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2025, Cadence Bank Board meeting as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “V”

IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST FOR THE APPROVAL OF SURPLUS ITEMS

Council Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the Water & Light surplus list as presented and allow the items to be scrapped or sold at the city auction that will be held on May 9, 2026. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “W”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF REPURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH RENASANT BANK SUBJECT OF LEGAL APPROVAL OF COLLATERIZATION

CFO/City Clerk Kim Hanna explained that this item is in addition to the agreement approved by council on 02/17/26. This is a safe investment widely used for government agencies in Mississippi. Council Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan to approve the agreement as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “X”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FOR BJA FY25 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CRIME INTELLIGENCE CENTER INTEGRATION INITIATIVE

Grant Writer Abby Christian stated that this is a competitive grant to purchase two DFR drones that are launched in response to gunshot notifications and allows officers to view the scene, allowing them to gauge safety before they arrive. Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve the submission of this grant. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “Y”

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before council at this time, Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan to adjourn the March 17, 2026, city council meeting at 6:30 pm.

JANET GASTON, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

SANDRA SHUMAKER
COUNCIL CLERK

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APPROVED

TODD JORDAN, MAYOR

DATE