

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MAY 5, 2026

The Tupelo City Council held its regular meeting in the Council Chambers in the City Hall building on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. The following Council Members attended: Chad Mims, Janet Gaston, Lynn Bryan, Travis Beard, and Bentley Nolan. Council Members Nettie Davis and Rosie Jones were absent. Also attending were Ben Logan, City Attorney and Sandra Shumaker, Clerk of the Council. Travis Beard gave the invocation, and Vice President Lynn Bryan led the pledge of allegiance. President Gaston called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION OR AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA AND AGENDA ORDER

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the agenda and agenda order. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Council Member Travis Beard congratulated Council Clerk Sandra Shumaker on her one-year anniversary as council clerk.

Council Member Bentley Nolan complimented the organizers of the Blue Suede Cruise on a great event. With 1200 vehicles registered and even more attending; it was a fun event. He also commended Lucia Randle on the Bud & Burgers Event held downtown and Regional Rehab for its Kentucky Derby celebration. He wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

Council Member Chad Mims also wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day and congratulated Lucia and DTMSA on the Bud & Burgers event being a success.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Jordan remarked how much there was to do last weekend in the City of Tupelo. He announced that the Farmers Market will open on May 16, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. The market will be held every Saturday until October 3, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. There are over 40 vendors signed up and there will be live music every week.

PUBLIC HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOT MOWING

No one appeared to speak on this matter. APPENDIX "A"

APPEALS

IN THE MATTER OF CITIZENS APPEAL HEARING FOR PLANNING COMMITTEE

DENIAL OF FLEXIBLE VARIANCE APPLICATION 25-03 (FLEXVAR25-03)

Council Member Beard, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to take this item off the table. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

Mr. Tony Moore handed the council a plat map and survey of the property located at 1718 Briar Ridge Road owned by Wilson Street Investment Properties, LLC. Mr. Moore asked the council to reverse the decision made by the Planning Committee on July 7, 2025, and grant the requested variance to the setback along the property line. Council Member Nolan asked for a rundown of events as they had unfolded. Mr. Moore stated that the stakes were set for the home and the setback from the property line was 10 feet in accordance with the City of Tupelo Code of Ordinances. During excavation and groundwork, one of the stakes became entangled and was moved approximately 4 feet. Attempts to contact the neighboring property owner have failed, and if the council denies the appeal, the house will have to be restructured to be in compliance.

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to affirm the decision of the Planning Committee and deny the variance request. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. President Gaston explained to Mr. Moore that if they granted this variance, they would become obligated to grant similar variances in the future, and this was the only fair decision. APPENDIX “B”

CITIZEN HEARING

Mr. Buddy Palmer passed out to the council pictures of polymer storm shelters located in different wards of the city. He stated that he was ashamed that Ward 5 did not have a large polymer public storm shelter for the citizens of that ward. He stated that Lawhon School did not have a storm shelter for the children in the event of bad weather. He requested the council to consider this as a project for the capital plan in the upcoming year. APPENDIX “C”

ACTION AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW AND APPROVE STREETS AND ROW DEDICATION FOR COTTONWOOD ESTATES

Council Member Nolan, seconded by Council Member Beard, moved to table this item. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “D”

ROUTINE AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW AND APPROVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2026

Vice President Beard moved, seconded by vice President Bryan, to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2026, council meeting as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “E”

IN THE MATTER OF BILL PAY

The bills were reviewed by Council Member Travis Beard, Vice President Lynn Bryan and Council Member Bentley Nolan. Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Vice President Bryan, to approve payment of the bills with check numbers 441487 – 441834 and 50004303 - 50004331. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “F”

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2025 CONTINUING DISCLOSURE

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the 2025 Continuing Disclosure Submission for fiscal year ending September 30, 2025. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “G”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT BJA FY25 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM LOCAL FORMULA – CYBER LAB EQUIPMENT

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the submission of this grant as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “H”

IN THE MATTER OF LOT MOWING

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the final lot mowing list as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “I”

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW AND APPROVE DEMOLITION LIEN

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve a demolition lien to be placed on 518 North Park Street, Parcel #089J-31-177-00 in the amount of \$9,700.00. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “J”

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW AND APPROVE ORDER TO PURCHASE PROPERTY LOCATED ON REESE STREET AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT OF PURCHASE

Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the purchase of this parcel to be incorporated into Veteran’s Park. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “K”

IN THE MATTER OF FY 26 HOMELAND SECURITY TASK FORCE STRATEGIC INITIATIVES/LOCAL OVERTIME COST REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the agreement with Homeland Security for assistance with investigations as needed. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “L”

IN THE MATTER OF BID AWARD APPROVAL BID NO. 2026-023PW TRAILER MOUNTED SEWER JETTER

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve Bid No. 2026-023PW and award to Vacuum Truck Sales and Service, LLC as the lowest and best bid in the amount of \$137,303.00. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “M”

IN THE MATTER OF TUPELO SPORTS COUNCIL DONATING FUNDS TO THE CITY OF TUPELO

Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the donation from the Tupelo Sports Council in the amount of \$4,389.38 to be placed in account #076-730024 for the purpose of purchasing an ice machine. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “N”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CONTRACT TO SUPPORT A NEW EVENT, ROCKABILLAQUE FESTIVAL, SEPTEMBER 24-27,2026

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the contract for a new event to be held in the City of Tupelo. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “O”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CADENCE BANK ARENA MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2026

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Vice President Bryan, to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2026, Coliseum Commission meeting as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “P”

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF SECOND EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT OF MISSISSIPPI FOR THE COLLECTION OF RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the agreement for a one-year extension with Waste Management as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “Q”

IN THE MATTER OF FINAL RESOLUTION APPROVING A 6 YEAR APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM MUNICIPAL AD VALOREM TAXES BY SMC RECYCLING, LLC

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the final resolution for a 6-year ad valorem tax exemption from SMC Recycling, LLC as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “R”

IN THE MATTER OF FINAL RESOLUTION APPROVING A 8 YEAR

**APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM MUNICIPAL AD VALOREM TAXES
BY SMC RECYCLING, LLC**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the final resolution for an 8-year ad valorem tax exemption from SMC Recycling, LLC as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “R”

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TUPELO CODE OF
ORDINANCES CHAPTER 10 FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION BY
ADOPTING THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE 2024 EDITION AND WITH
APPENDICES B,C,D,E AND 1, AND THE NFPA 101, LIFE SAFETY CODE 2024
EDITION, ALL WITH EXCEPTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to enter upon the minutes the proof of publication of the ordinance adopting the 2024 Fire Code. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “S”

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE AMENDING THE DEVELOPMENT
CODE CHAPTER 8 RESIDENTIAL PARKING STANDARDS**

Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to enter upon the minutes the proof of publication of the ordinance amending Chapter 8 of the Development Code. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “T”

**IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST TO SURPLUS NON-FIXED ASSET ITEMS AND
AUTHORIZE SALE AT AUCTION (PARK & REC)**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the list of Park & Recreation items as surplus and allow them to be sold at the city auction to be held on May 9, 2026. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “U”

**IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST TO SURPLUS NON-FIXED ASSET ITEMS AND
AUTHORIZE SALE AT AUCTION (PUBLIC WORKS)**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Vice President Bryan, to approve the list of Public Works items as surplus and allow them to be sold at the city auction to be held on May 9, 2026. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “V”

STUDY AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF CREATION OF TOWN CREEK OVERLAY DISTRICT

Vice President Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to take the item from the table. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. Vice President Bryan then moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan to suspend the rules and take a vote on this matter. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF TUPELO DESIGN STANDARDS AND CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS FOR STREETS, STORM WATER, WATER DISTRIBUTION AND SANITARY SEWER BY ADDING SUPPLEMENTAL STANDARDS FOR WOODFORD WAY AND TOWN CREEK STREET OVERLAY DISTRICT.

City Engineer Dennis Bonds explained the prefatory background of and justifications for the ordinance. He then detailed how those objectives would be achieved in the text of the ordinance.

Council Member Mims moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the ordinance amendment as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX "W"

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the city council at this time, Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by President Gaston to adjourn the meeting of May 5, 2026, at 6:32 p.m. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

JANET GASTON
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

SANDRA SHUMAKER
COUNCIL CLERK

APPROVED

TODD JORDAN, MAYOR

DATE