

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

JUNE 17, 2025

The Tupelo City Council held its regular meeting in the Council Chambers in the City Hall building on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. The following Council Members attended: Chad Mims, Lynn Bryan, Travis Beard, Nettie Davis, Buddy Palmer, Janet Gaston, and Rosie Jones; Ben Logan, City Attorney and Sandra Shumaker, Clerk of the Council. Council Member Chad Mims gave the invocation and Council Member Travis Beard led the pledge of allegiance. Council President Nettie Davis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Member Nettie Davis presented Council Member Palmer with a plaque for his twelve years of service to the city. Council Member Palmer said he appreciated the presentation and welcomed Bentley Nolan as the incoming council member for Ward 5. Council Member Palmer mentioned that Tupelo is a progressive town and encouraged the council to keep moving forward. He challenged the city to compete and become a 6-time All-America City winner.

CONFIRMATION OR AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA AND AGENDA ORDER

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to amend agenda item #8 to read IN THE MATTER OF NEW BANK ACCOUNTS-G.O. BONDS 2025 AND TO APPROVE SALES RESOLUTION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ISSUE EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS (\$8,000,000) 2023 G.O. BONDS; and to switch agenda items #25 and #26 in order to vote on the ACCEPTANCE OF THE BID FOR VETERAN'S PARK MEMORIAL PARKING LOT BID #2025-018PR and then vote on the CONTRACT FOR VETERAN'S PARK MEMORIAL PARKING LOT. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS

The council members each thanked Council Member Palmer for his service to the city, his knowledge and for his guidance. Council Member Palmer thanked everyone.

Council Member Jones also announced that she will abstain from voting on some agenda items.

Council Member Bryan thanked DTMSA Director Lucia Randle for a great Elvis Fest.

Council Member Beard commended the departments on handling all the rain we have gotten and the flooding issues.

Council Member Davis announced that the Juneteenth Celebration has been moved to the Depot at 5:00 on June 19, 2025. The Juneteenth Festival held at Gumtree Park has been moved to July 19, 2025 due to weather.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor commended and thanked Council Member Palmer for 45 years of city and community service, including coaching youth sports.

He also complimented DTMSA Director Lucia Randle and CVB Director Stephanie Coomer a great turnout for Elvis Fest.

The Mayor congratulated the winners at the 2025 Mississippi Main Street Annual Awards Luncheon:

- Outstanding Marketing Campaign Award – Downtown Tupelo Branding Videos
- Outstanding Retail Merchandising – The Gift Shop Girls at Reed's
- Outstanding New Business, Large Community – Loco Taco
- Beverly Meng Main Street Revitalization Champion Award – Debbie Brangenberg

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOT MOWING

No one appeared to speak on properties on the lot mowing list.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR DEMOLITION

Gail Collins with Century 21 spoke regarding this property. She is a realtor for Century 21 and is working with both the seller and the buyer. They plan to remodel and clean up the grounds.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 3, 2025, COUNCIL MEETING

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2025, council meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX A

IN THE MATTER OF BILL PAY

Council Members Beard, Gaston, Davis and Bryan reviewed bills at 4:30 p.m. Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to approve the payment of the checks, bills, claims and utility adjustments. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX B

IN THE MATTER OF ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve the advertising and promotional item for various vendors at the Juneteenth Celebration in the amount of \$3,000. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX C

IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #7 FOR FY2025

CFO Kim Hanna reviewed the budget amendment for the council. Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the budget amendment as presented.

Council Member Jones asked if unspent any money could be used for anything else. Kim Hanna responded that it could be transferred back to the capital fund and allocated to projects.

The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX D

IN THE MATTER OF PETTY CASH ACCOUNTS FOR NEW TERM

Council Member Gaston recused herself from this item. Council Member Jones requested clarification and Kim Hanna stated that this was a closing and reallocating of petty cash because of the election year and new terms. This will be done again at the beginning of the new fiscal year in October and at the beginning of each succeeding fiscal year.

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the petty cash account allocations as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX E

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BANK ACCOUNTS-G.O. BONDS 2025 AND APPROVE SALES RESOLUTION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ISSUE EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS 2023 G.O. BONDS

Council Member Gaston recused herself from this item. Council Member Bryan, moved, seconded by Council Member Beard to approve the opening of the bank accounts and approve the resolution and related documents. APPENDIX F

Council Member Gaston returned to the meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL FOR THE CITY TO SUBMIT THE FIREHOUSE SUBS GRANT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT – EXTRACTORS AND DRYER

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve the submission of the Firehouse Subs Grant in the amount of \$44,973.80 for the Fire Department as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX G

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL FOR THE MAYOR TO AUTHORIZE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION, MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY, AND THE CITY OF TUPELO FOR THE REHABILITATION OF SPRING HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Council Member Beard motioned, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve this item as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX H

IN THE MATTER OF DEMOLITION

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve 405 South Foster Street for demolition. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX I

IN THE MATTER OF FINAL LOT MOWING LIST

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve the properties on the lot mowing list as follows. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX J

<u>Address</u>	<u>Parcel</u>
1313 Wilson St.	112B0405100
889 S.Feemster Lake	112C0303900
1016 Wilson St.	112A0414200
88 Bluebird Dr.	088J3307300
1606 Eckford St.	077Q3604200
1410 Forrest St.	077L3610800

IN THE MATTER OF LOT MOWING LIENS

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the liens as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX K

<u>Address</u>	<u>Parcel</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2308 Torrey St.	077P3518700	\$350.00
706 Vassar Dr.	077F2615500	\$300.00
414 Lakeview Dr.	101B0213200	\$300.00
418 Lakeview Dr.	101B0213200	\$300.00
Lake Street	088N3310300	\$300.00
1400 Central Ave.	077Q3608100	\$300.00
1502 Reed St.	077Q3612400	\$300.00
1507 Reed St.	077Q3610700	\$300.00
Southside Dr.	113A0607700	\$600.00

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS OF WEAPON FOR RETIREMENT

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve the surplus of the service weapon of Officer Jason Henson upon his retirement. Officer Henson will be allowed to purchase the weapon for the retirement value of \$1.00. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX L

IN THE MATTER OF DESIGNATION OF REPRESENTATIVE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF DISTRICT ONE (2) REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the Intent to Participate in the development of the mitigation plan and to designate Brad Robinson to represent the City of Tupelo. Council Member Jones abstained from this vote, and the other six council members voted in favor. APPENDIX M

IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE ORDER 1 APPROVAL BID NO. 2024-069MT JACKSON ST IMPROVEMENTS – MADISON TO FRONT ST

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the change order as presented concerning a mast arm traffic light. Council Member Palmer clarified that the money was coming from Major Thoroughfare. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX N

IN THE MATTER OF BID AWARD APPROVAL COLEY ROAD CURB AND GUTTER BID NO. 2025-017PW

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the bid. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX O

IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE ORDER 1 APPROVAL PEMBERTON AVE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS BID NO. 2024-066PW

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the change order as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX P

IN THE MATTER OF BID AWARD APPROVAL LOCAL STREET MAINTENANCE MILL AND OVERLAY BID NO. 2025-015PW

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to approve the bid. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX Q

IN THE MATTER OF BID AWARD APPROVAL MAJOR THOROUGHFARE MILL AND OVERLAY PROGRAM BID NO. 23025-016PW.

Public Works Director Kelly Knight stated that this bid, just like the Local Street Mill and Overlay, is a yearly bid on an overlay program. The bids came in under what was expected. Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the bid as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX R

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL FOR STREAM MAINTENANCE AND CLEARING TO REQUEST FOR LEE CO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED BY TOMBIGBEE VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT – STREAM/TULIP CREEK AREA

Council Member Jones asked about the cost of the clearing. Public Works Director Kelly Knight explained that unless the work involves some kind of repair or replacement of materials or structures, the work will be done at no cost to the city. Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to approve this request. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX S

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL FOR STREAM MAINTENANCE AND CLEARING TO REQUEST FOR LEE CO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED BY TOMBIGBEE VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT – STREAM/KINGS CREEK AREA

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve this request. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX T

IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE ORDER 03 FOR DOT COOPER KELLY BUILDING RENOVATION FOR BID NO. 2024-053PR

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Bryan, to approve this change order. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX U

IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION FROM TUPELO SPORTS COUNCIL FOR PURCHASE OF SCOREBOARD FOR AQUATIC FACILITY

Alex Farned, Director of Parks & Recreation explained that this scoreboard could also be used as backup for other scoreboards. Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to accept the donation as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX V

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF BID FOR VETERANS PARK MEMORIAL PARKING LOT, BID NO. 2025-018PR

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve this bid as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPRNDIX W

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR VETERANS PARK MEMORIAL MARKING LOT

Council member Gaston moved, seconded by council member Mims, to approve the contract as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX X

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF JON PAUL RHEA TO SERVE ON THE TUPELO COLISEUM COMMISSION THROUGH JUNE 2028

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by council member Palmer, to approve this nomination. Council Member Jones abstained from this vote. The votes were six in favor. APPENDIX Y

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF A SOLESOURCE VENDOR

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve Power Connections, Inc. as a sole source vendor in the purchase of Schweitzer relays, voltage regulator controls, capacitor bank controls and communicator devices for use in electrical substation with the Water & Light Department. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX Z

IN THE MATTER OF BAD DEBT WRITE-OFF FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 2024 – JUNE 2024

Council Member Jones asked if this debt is ever forgiven. Water & Light Director Johnny Timmons informed that is required by TVA and that these debts will stay “on the books” in case the people apply for electrical service in the future. Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve this item as presented. APPENDIX AA

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDMENT TO WPCRLF LOAN (SRF-C280885-08)

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to table this item. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX BB

IN THE MATTER OF AWARD OF BID NO. 2025-019WL – TULIPS SEWER IMPROVEMENTS – SRF FY21

Council Member Jones moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to table this item. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX CC

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no items for Executive Session

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m. this the 17th day of June, 2025.

Nettie Davis, Council President

ATTEST:

Sandra Shumaker, Council Clerk

APPROVED

Todd Jordan, Mayor

Date