



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2026 – 7:00 PM
109 SOUTH KING STREET
DEPOT COMMUNITY ROOM**

MINUTES

PRESENT: James F. Palmer, Mayor
Ed Moyer, Mayor Pro Tem
Al Edwards, Councilmember
Jacqueline Palazzolo, Councilmember
Bruce Potts, Councilmember

ALSO: Paul Worley, City Administrator; Kyle Ellis, Utilities Administrator; Brandon Bowen, Sharon Nelson, City Clerk; Mike Schutz, Fire Chief; and Ken Carson, Police.

1. Council Meeting Called to Order

Welcome

Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Invocation

Mayor Palmer gave the invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Palmer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

3. Amendment or Approval of Proposed Agenda

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

4. Amendment or Approval of Minutes

A. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council work session of August 10, 2026. Councilmember Potts gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

B. Councilmember Potts made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of August 10, 2026. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

6. **Zoning Hearings and Comments**

Announce at this time, public hearings will be held. The public will have the opportunity to make pro and con comments with a ten-minute maximum time limit for each side of the matter, with each person speaking having filed a financial disclosure statement five days prior to the hearing if required, with each person giving their name and address. An inquiry should be made to determine if any elected official has filed a disclosure statement regarding ownership or special interest in any of the agenda items. Zoning Land Use Maps on display in Council Chambers for Zoning Advisory Board and Council hearings.

7. **Other Public Hearings**

A. Public hearing of a beer pouring license request at a location of 203 Richardson Road, by Gi Gi's Grille, LLC d/b/a Gi's Grille. Angela Adkins is the owner and will also serve as the store manager.

- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
- City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments.
- There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning Alcohol Request.
- Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to approve the beer pouring request. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

B. Public hearing of a beer package license request at a location of 549 Highway 53, by Yelahj Investment Inc. d/b/a Marathon Food Mart. Mohammad Asif is the owner and will also serve as the store manager.

- Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing.
- City Administrator Worley gave the report on legal requirements and notices stating that all had been met.
- Mayor Palmer opened the floor for comments.
- There being none, Mayor Palmer closed the public hearing and called for a motion concerning Alcohol Request.
- Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to approve the beer pouring request. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

8. **Old Business**

A. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an annexation and zoning request from County A-1 to R-2 at a location of 569, 597, and 599 Liberty Road, being parcels 035-004, 035-004A, 035-003, and 035-079 for 32.00 acres, by David Fowler. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held September 10 and the public hearing September 14.

B. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an annexation and zoning request from County A-1 to R-2 at a location of 631 Liberty Road, being parcels 035-011 and 035-

011A for 39.08 acres, by David Fowler. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held September 10 and the public hearing September 14.

- C. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of an annexation and zoning request from Count A-1 to R-1B at a location of 161 Newtown Road NE, parcel 050-039, by Jennifer Hernandez. The Zoning Advisory Board meeting will be held September 10 and the public hearing September 14.
- D. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a beer and wine package request at a location of 1531 Dews Pond Road, by Trading & Investments, LLC d/b/a Calhoun Chevron. Alladin Punjani is the owner, and Lenin Potamparambil is the proposed store manager. Eligible for adoption on September 14.

9. New Business

- A. Mayor Palmer read a request from the GEM Theatre for ten (10) additional alcohol events for calendar year 2026. Councilmember Potts made a motion to approve the request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- B. Mayor Palmer read a resolution to adopt the Construction Plans for the Peters Street Phase 3 Road Improvement Project. Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- C. Mayor Palmer read a request from Calhoun City Schools for the annual Veteran's Day parade to be held on Wednesday, November 11th beginning at 1:30 pm. The parade route will begin at the Calhoun High School track parking lot, turning right on Oothcalooga Street, then left on Park Avenue, right on East Line Street, and right on North Wall Street, left on Maple Street, turning into Pine Street, and right on Yellow Jacket Drive, ending at the Calhoun High School track parking lot. Community members will line Wall Street for the parade. Councilmember Potts made a motion to approve the parade request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- D. Mayor Palmer read a Special Event Permit request from Heavale Brewing Company for its second annual Oktoberfest. The applicant is requesting the closure of Oothcalooga Street from Wall Street to Park Avenue beginning at 5:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 12, through 12:00 noon on Monday, September 14. The Oktoberfest event will be held on Saturday, September 12, from 12:00 noon to 11:00 p.m. The applicant has advised that the roadway will not remain closed for the entire requested period; however, certain parking spaces may remain unavailable following the event to accommodate the pickup of rental equipment on Monday morning. Recommended for approval by the Downtown Development Authority. Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to approve the special event. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

10. Other written items not on the agenda

11. Work Reports

- A. City Administrator Worley gave a review of July 2026 general cash and hotel motel reports. (copy attached) Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to approve the reports as presented. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

- B. Utilities Administrator Ellis gave a review of the July 2026 utilities cash report. (copy attached) Councilmember Potts made a motion to approve the report as presented. Councilmember Palazzolo gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

12. Motion to move to Executive Session, if needed

13. Motion to return to General Session

14. Motion to Adjourn

Prior to closing the meeting, Mayor Palmer invited comments from those in attendance. The following individuals addressed the City Council:

Rasmus Jensen, 2558 Covington Bridge Road, raised concerns regarding the City Attorney's representation of other municipalities in matters involving data centers. City Administrator Paul Worley stated that the City Attorney has no clients in the City of Calhoun and would recuse himself from any matter involving a conflict of interest.

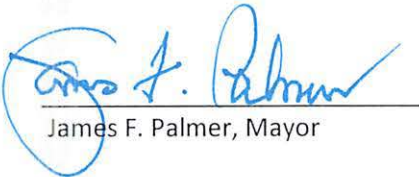
Rhonda Charles, 148 Brittany Drive, expressed concerns regarding a potential conflict of interest involving the City Attorney and requested an independent evaluation of the matter at the City's expense. Paul Worley stated that the City Attorney has no clients in the City of Calhoun and would recuse himself from any matter involving a conflict of interest.

Donna Blair, 184 Pine Cove Road, Plainville, commented on the proposed development of data centers and concerns regarding water resources. Mayor Palmer noted that the City currently has a moratorium in place while its ordinance is being evaluated, including consideration of water-related issues.

Tammy Barnett, 191 Fairmount Road, Fairmount, expressed concerns regarding PFAS levels, contamination of her private well, and the potential impact of a data center on water quality. Mayor Palmer noted that the city has significantly reduced allowable limits related to PFAS.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Potts gave a second with all voting aye. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Sharon Nelson, City Clerk

