



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 27, 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; Sharon Nelson, City Clerk, Mike Schutz, Fire Chief; Ken Carson, Police; and Christy Nicholson, 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 Potts 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 City Council executive session of July 6, 2026. Councilmember Potts gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

B. Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of July 6, 2026. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

5. **Mayor's Comments**

- A. Mayor Palmer welcomed members of Boy Scout Troop 22, who were in attendance as part of their work toward earning their Citizenship badges. The Scouts were invited to introduce themselves to those present.
- B. Councilmember Potts provided an update on the flooding caused by the recent heavy rainfall that impacted the Harlin Street and Court Street area. He reported that City crews worked through much of the night to address the situation. Firefighters from Calhoun Fire Department's Station 1 used high-pressure water to clear debris from the affected pipe. During the response, it was determined that the obstruction involved a dormant sewer line, which will be removed to help prevent future issues.

Councilmember Potts expressed his sincere appreciation to the following employees for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to serving the city:

- **Street Department:** Gabe Green, Timothy Bray, William Collins, and Dee Shaffer.
 - **Sewer Department:** Joe Quarrels and Keith Lyons.
 - **Calhoun Fire Department – Station 1:** Jaron Gilbert, Heath Duke, Zach O'Shields, Brock Bates, and Todd Holbert.
- C. Councilmember Potts informed those in attendance of the passing of longtime local businessman Harold Crump earlier that morning. Mr. Crump owned and operated a family restaurant in Calhoun for many years and, in later years, was employed by Erwin's Ace Hardware. Councilmember Potts recognized Mr. Crump's longstanding contributions to the community and extended condolences to his family and friends.

6. **Zoning Hearings and Comments**

7. **Other Public Hearings**

8. **Old Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the second reading of a beer package request at a location of 1133 South Wall Street, by 1133 Store N Gas, Inc D/B/A Calhoun Food Mart. Cassandra Davenport is the applicant and will also serve as the store manager. The public hearing will be held on August 10th.

9. **New Business**

- A. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading 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. The public hearing will be held on August 24th.
- B. Mayor Palmer gave the first reading 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. The public hearing will be held on August 24th.

- C. Mayor Palmer read an amendment to the General Government Fee Resolution to correct the fee calculation for commercial and industrial remodels or alterations within existing buildings, based on square footage. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to
- D. Mayor Palmer read a request from Cemetery Department to surplus at 2014 Grasshopper mower that has been replaced with a newer mower. Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to approve the request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- E. Mayor Palmer presented a request from the Water and Sewer Department for consideration and approval of a Financial Services Advisory Agreement with Davenport & Company LLC to provide long-term financial planning and advisory services for the department. The agreement would begin with assisting the department through the bond issuance process for upgrades to the water treatment plants and continue with ongoing financial advisory services. If approved, authorization was requested for Mayor Palmer to execute the agreement on behalf of the city. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- F. Mayor Palmer read a request from Street Department to surplus a 300-gallon parts washer that is no longer used by the department. Councilmember Potts made a motion to approve the request. Mayor Pro Tem Moyer gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- G. Mayor Palmer presented the Utility Division charge offs requested for unpaid debts for Fiscal Year 2025. Utilities Administrator Ellis reported that the beginning balance of accounts recommended for write-off was \$221,625.55. The final write-off amount totaled \$87,440.61, representing approximately one-eighth of one percent (0.125%) of the department's total annual billings of approximately \$68,000,000. Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to approve the write-offs. Councilmember Edwards gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.
- H. Mayor Palmer read a special event permit and road closure request by United Way of Gordon County for Unity Run 2026, to be held on Tuesday, September 22nd. Setup will begin at 12:00 pm and breakdown will be completed by 9:30 pm. The Unity Run will begin at 209 South King Street, turning right onto Pine Street, then left onto River Street, right into the Calhoun Recreation Department, runners will loop the track and exit the Recreation Department turning left onto South River Street, left onto Oothcalooga Street, right onto GA 53 Spur, left onto South River Street, right onto 2nd Avenue, right onto South King Street, then ending at the Calhoun Depot on South King Street. Recommended for approval by the Downtown Development Authority. Councilmember Edwards made a motion to approve the special event and road closure request, pending GDOT approval. Councilmember Potts gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

10. Other written items not on the agenda

11. Work Reports

A. City Administrator Worley

- 1) Provided a review of June 2026 general cash and hotel motel reports (copy attached). Mayor Pro Tem Moyer made a motion to approve the reports as

presented. Councilmember Potts gave a second with all voting aye. Motion approved.

- 2) Reported that the bid packet for the Curtis Parkway and roundabout project has been issued. Bids will be accepted over the next several weeks, with a recommendation for contractor award, anticipated for consideration at the September 17 Council meeting.

The project will be completed in two phases. Phase I will construct two southbound lanes to improve traffic flow for school-related travel, followed by Phase II, which will consist of the construction of the roundabout at Curtis Parkway and Dews Pond Road.

- B. Utilities Administrator Ellis gave a review of the June 2026 utilities cash report (copy attached). Councilmember Edwards 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

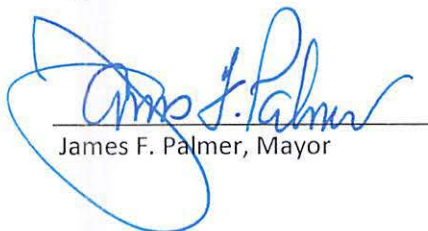
14. Motion to Adjourn

Prior to adjournment, members of the community engaged in a discussion with the Mayor and Council regarding the January 27 expiration of the current moratorium and the potential for its renewal. Mayor Palmer stated that the city is continuing to gather information with the goal of educating the public and developing an ordinance for future consideration.

The Mayor and Council also discussed stormwater concerns affecting the Housing Authority and the Pine Street area.

There being no further business, Councilmember Palazzolo made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Potts seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Approved:


James F. Palmer, Mayor

Submitted:


Sharon Nelson, City Clerk

