



City of Jasper
 200 Burnt Mountain Road
 Jasper, GA 30143
 MINUTES | REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
 Monday, March 2, 2026, 6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Kirk Raffield
 Jim Looney
 John Foust
 Brandon Hannah
 Tony Davis
 Steve Lawrence

STAFF

Brandon Douglas
 Kim Goldener
 Lorrie Waters
 Lindsey Williams
 Matt Dawkins
 John Sherrer
 Mary Elizabeth Burgess
 Joshua Davis
 Carly Glaze

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

See Attachment "A"

MEMBERS ABSENT

LEGAL COUNSEL

David Syfan

PRESS

Mari Livsey – Know Pickens
 Angela Reinhardt – Pickens Progress

AGENDA ITEM: Call Meeting to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield	
Mayor Raffield called the meeting to order and asked Council Member Steve Lawrence to confirm the presence of a quorum. Reverend Ben Mock delivered the invocation, followed by Council Member Jim Looney leading the Pledge of Allegiance.			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: Presentation		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield	
GMA representative Jan Hoard presented Mayor Raffield with the \$20,000 award for the 2025 Safety Grant. She noted that the program provides partial reimbursement for eligible safety equipment and training expenses and requires the submission of an application with supporting documentation. Ms. Hoard commended staff for their diligence in pursuing the grant and their commitment to ensuring employee and public safety.			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: Adopt Agenda		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield	
Discussion: Mayor Raffield requested an amendment to include Agenda Item 2.01 – Resolution No. 2026-02 Vested Rights Determination Resolution.			
Conclusion:			
Mayor Raffield called for a motion to amend and adopt the agenda. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion and Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously.			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Approved	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comments		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield	
No one signed up to speak.			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: Public Hearing		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield	
Public Hearing opened @ 6:08pm			
<p>Applicant Adam Smith, on behalf of Amicalola Propane requests a variance to allow for no separation between an existing driveway and proposed driveway to access property. Section 94-121d – Driveway Separation requires that driveways must be 125’ apart when the speed limit along the right of way is less than 35 mph. The subject property experiences a steep slope along the street frontage, and the applicant does not believe it is feasible to place the driveway appropriately spaced as the ordinance regulates. The driveway needs to be gradually sloped for the trucks to successfully navigate the site.</p>			
No public comments			
Closed @ 6:14pm			
ACTION ITEMS		PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
N/A		N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: Consent Agenda		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minutes from 01.22.2026 Council Work Session 2. Minutes from 02.02.2026 Regular Council Meeting 3. Minutes from 02.06.2026 and 02.07.2026 Retreat for Staff and Council 			
Conclusion:			
Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Brandon Hannah made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously.			
ACTION ITEMS		PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved		N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business		PRESENTER: Mary Elizabeth Burgess – Planning & Development Director	
#1 Consideration of Variance Request for 130 Liberty Lane to reduce driveway separation from 125’ to 0’ for Amicalola Propane Inc.			
<p>Discussion: The applicant requests a variance to allow for no separation between an existing driveway and proposed driveway to access property. Section 94-121d – Driveway Separation requires that driveways must be 125’ apart when the speed limit along the right of way is less than 35 mph. The subject property experiences a steep slope along the street frontage, and the applicant does not believe it is feasible to place the driveway appropriately spaced as the ordinance regulates. The driveway needs to be gradually sloped for the trucks to successfully navigate the site.</p>			
Action Requested:			
Based on staff analysis of this application, using the standards and criteria found in Section 94-210 of the Zoning Ordinance, staff recommends APPROVAL of the request for a VARIANCE from driveway spacing requirements subject to the following condition:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Applicant shall update the current site plan to represent the new location of the driveway and comply with all outstanding site plan review regulations no later than June 30, 2026, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The driveway and storage area shall be paved. • Provide the appropriate landscaping as required per the Division 7.3. – Landscaping and other site features • Either provide sidewalks or apply for payment in lieu of sidewalks in accordance with Section 94-132, (2) a.- g. • All rills and gullies must be regraded, seeded and monitored for appropriate growth. • Engineer sign off that the stormwater pond was installed correctly and will maintain the required amount of stormwater storage. 2. Continued compliance with the rezoning Ordinance 2024 – 01 conditions of approval are required. 			
Council Member Jim Looney asked the applicant if they understood the conditions as presented and applicant agreed.			

Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member John Foust made a motion to approve the Variance Request. Council Member Jim Looney provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Item		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield
#2 Consideration of Resolution No. 2026-01 – Modification of Temporary Suspension Extension		
Discussion: A Resolution to provide on a temporary basis, a suspension extension as to allowing new water and sewer connections upon the system of the City of Jasper, Georgia; to provide the specific purposes to be achieved by the temporary suspension extension; to provide that the interest of the public requires this temporary suspension extension due to a lack of current permit and operational capacity of the water and sewer distribution and collection system of the City of Jasper, Georgia; to provide that the suspension extension shall be temporary; and for other purposes.		
Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-01 – Modification of Temporary Suspension Extension and Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously by a show of hands.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Item		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield
#2.01 Consideration of Resolution No. 2026-02 – Vested Rights Determination Resolution		
Discussion: A resolution to approve and ratify the determinations of the City Council of the City of Jasper, Georgia as to legal claims of Vested Rights and which sought determinations to the Temporary Water and Sewer Suspension Resolution; and for other purposes.		
Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-02 – Vested Rights Determination Resolution and Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously by a show of hands.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Item		PRESENTER: Kim Goldener – Deputy City Manager
#3 Discussion of sidewalks – GDOT funded		
Discussion: The City previously received funding through GDOT’s Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) in 2023 for four sidewalk segments along Library Lane/Burnt Mountain Road, Mark Whitfield Street, Burton Street, and Stegall Drive/Veterans Memorial Boulevard. The initial award totaled \$600,000 with a 20% local match funded through the 2014 SPLOST. GDOT is now prepared to advance the next phase of the project and has been awarded an additional \$537,210.80, requiring a local match of \$107,442.16.		
Action Requested: Staff requested Council direction on continuing the project and funding the required match.		
Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Steve Lawrence moved to proceed with the GDOT-funded sidewalk project and approve the matching funds of \$107,442.16. Council Member Jim Looney seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously by a show of hands.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Item #4 Discussion of Stormwater - Assessments		PRESENTER: Development & Infrastructure Committee – Council Members Brandon Hannah and John Foust and Brandon Douglas – City Manager	
Discussion: At the previous Work Session, staff presented two stormwater study initiatives eligible for 2026 LIMG Funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stormwater Improvement Project Prioritization Analysis: Kimley-Horn provided a proposal for \$44,000 to evaluate nine identified areas, develop conceptual layouts with cost estimates, and rank projects by priority. Stormwater System Mapping and GIS Layer Creation: Fox Environmental, utilizing its summer intern program, would map stormwater infrastructure beginning downtown and create a GIS layer including condition assessments. These initiatives would enhance the City’s ability to pursue grant funding, support future project planning, and prepare for potential TSPLOST consideration. Staff suggested allocating up to \$60,000 in LIMG funding for this work.			
ACTION REQUESTED: Staff requests Council direction on funding these important initiatives.			
Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Brandon Hannah made the motion to approve the allocation of up to \$60,000 in LIMG funding for this project and Council Member John Foust seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously.			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Approved	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: New Item #5 Consideration of Pigg’in’ in the Park 2026 Event		PRESENTER: Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager	
Discussion: This event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 25 th from 12:00pm – 8:00pm in Lee Newton Park. The sponsor of this event is North Georgia Family Partners, and the contact person is Courtney Patterson. This will be a BBQ competition fundraiser.			
Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion to approve the Pigg’in’ in the Park 2026 Event and Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously.			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Approved	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: New Item #6 Consideration of Farmer’s Market in Lee Newton Park – 2026 Season		PRESENTER: Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager	
Discussion: The 2026 Farmer’s Market Season is scheduled for Saturdays, March 28 th through September 26 th from 7:30am – 12:00pm and Wednesdays June 17 th through August 26 th 11:00am – 1:00pm. There will be no market on Saturday, October 3 rd due to the Georgia Marble Festival. The Farmer’s Market will start back on Saturdays, October 10 through December 12 th from 9:00am – 12:00pm. The Farmer’s Market will consolidate to one parking lot for JeepFest and will move location for the American 250 th Anniversary Celebration. Council Member Brandon Hannah requested for the Farmer’s Market to move to Mark Whitfield for this 2026 Season.			
Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member John Foust made the motion to approve the relocation of the Farmer’s Market for the 2026 Season and Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion to relocate failed 2 to 3 with Council Members Looney, Lawrence and Davis voting against motion. Mayor Raffield called for a motion to approve the 2026 Farmer’s Market as it is presented with ongoing discussion of a potential future change of location. Council Member Tony Davis made the motion to approve, and Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded. Motion passed unanimously.			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Approved	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: New Item		PRESENTER: Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager
#7 Consideration of Movie Night in the Park		
Discussion: Movie Night in the Park is sponsored by Shiloh Baptist Church and is scheduled for Friday, March 27 th from 7:30pm – 9:00pm to be held in Lee Newton Park. The contact person for this event is Chad Hulseley.		
Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion to approve the Movie Night in the Park and Council Member John Foust seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Item		PRESENTER: Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager
#8 Consideration of Bark in the Park Event		
Discussion: The Bark in the Park Event is sponsored by Partners of Pickens Pets, Inc. and this is a fund-raising event for this organization. The event is scheduled for April 18 th to be held in Lee Newton Park from 8:00am – 3:30pm.		
Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Steve Lawrence made the motion to approve the Bark in the Park Event and Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Item		PRESENTER: Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager
#9 Consideration of Good Friday in the Park Event		
Discussion: The event is being sponsored by Living Word Church and is scheduled for Friday, April 3 rd to be held in Lee Newton Park from 2:00pm – 8:00pm. This will be the 3 rd Good Friday in the Park Event which has been well attended in the past. This is a free event for the community which will include egg hunts, inflatables, music, games and food.		
Conclusion: Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Steve Lawrence made the motion to approve the Good Friday in the Park Event and Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: Committee Report Updates		PRESENTER: Council Members
Development & Local Infrastructure – Council Member John Foust and Council Member Brandon Hannah		
Discussion Items:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn lane on Pioneer Rd/Burnt Mountain Rd • Electric vehicle charging stations • Installing bollards on Mark Whitfield 		
Finance & Administration – Council Member Jim Looney and Council Member Tony Davis		
Discussion Items:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finances are currently doing well with Revenues exceeding expenditures 		
Enterprise – Council Member Jim Looney and Council Member Steve Lawrence		
Discussion Items:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pettit Rd Development needing water service • Water Service Delivery Area in unincorporated Pickens County 		
Council Member Jim Looney made motion to begin discussions with Pickens County on water service delivery areas in unincorporated Pickens County and Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded. The motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.		
Parks & Properties – Council Member John Foust and Council Member Tony Davis		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Member Foust and Council Member Davis visited Perrow Park to see the progress that has been made • Council Members plan to try and visit a park or two a month 		
Public Safety – Council Member Brandon Hannah and Council Member Steve Lawrence		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked Deputy Chief Davis for his work on the S-curves on Cove Road to potentially make it a No Truck Road. • MIA4 Vehicle • Thank you to Chief Dawkins and Chief Sherrerr for all their work 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
N/A	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: City Manager Comments		PRESENTER: Brandon Douglas – City Manager	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating the Administrative side of the building and moving the wall out to allow for more space Great job on the Committee Reports 			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: City Council Comments		PRESENTER: Council Members	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Member Brandon Hannah thanked everyone present at the meeting 			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: Mayor Comments		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Raffield thanked everyone present at the meeting 			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: Executive Session		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield	
<p>Mayor Raffield called for a motion to go into Executive Session @7:01pm for discussion of legal items. Council Member John Foust made a motion to go into Executive Session. Council Member Brandon Hannah provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Mayor Raffield made a motion to end Executive Session @ 8:03pm and go back into council session. Council Member Brandon Hannah made a motion and Council Member John Foust provided a second. Motion passed unanimously.</p>			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Approved	N/A	N/A	

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn		PRESENTER: Mayor Kirk Raffield	
<p>Mayor Raffield called for a motion to adjourn @ 8:03pm.</p> <p>Council Member Brandon Hannah made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Tony Davis provided a second. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.</p>			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
Adjourned	N/A	N/A	


 Mayor, Kirk D. Raffield


 City Clerk, Lorrie Waters



PLEASE SIGN IN

JASPER
City Council Meeting
SIGN IN ROSTER
Monday, March 2, 2026

PRINT NAME	ADDRESS/OR BUSINESS AFFILIATION
Samuel Sly	JPL
Jimmy Fellebrun	JFR
Curtney Potteza	NGFP
David Yates	EE
Matt Richardson	Amicalola Propane
Adam Smith	Amicalola Propane
Alex Worthington	Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership
Bill Nickerson	REMAX Five STAR REALTOR
Jan Hoard	EMA
JOSH DAVIS	COJ
BEN mark	Piedmont maintenance
Mark & Leanne Leventine	Living word church
Kim Goldenew	COJ COJ
Mary E Burgess	COJ
Penny Dicus	Grand Circle
Nancy Madley	NYB



