



**City of Jasper**  
 200 Burnt Mountain Road  
 Jasper, GA 30143  
 MINUTES | REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
 Monday, April 6, 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  
 Andrew Cochran  
 John Sherrer  
 Mary Elizabeth Burgess  
 Carly Glaze

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**

See Attachment "A"

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**LEGAL COUNSEL**

David Syfan

**PRESS**

Mari Livsey – Know Pickens

Angela Reinhardt – Pickens Progress

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Call Meeting to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mayor Kirk Raffield
Mayor Raffield called the meeting to order and asked Council Member Brandon Hannah to confirm the presence of a quorum. Pastor Brian Shaull delivered the invocation, followed by Council Member Steve Lawrence leading the Pledge of Allegiance.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Proclamations		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mayor Kirk Raffield
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greatest American Cleanup 2026</li> <li>• Child Abuse Awareness Month – April 2026</li> <li>• National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week – April 12-18,2026</li> <li>• National 811 Notification System Safe Digging Month – April 2026</li> </ul>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Adopt Agenda		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mayor Kirk Raffield
<p><b>Discussion:</b> Mayor Raffield stated that there is an agenda before you that was previously distributed. I need to make an amendment to the agenda. The amendment to the agenda will be to reflect a public hearing for consideration of alcohol license for beer and wine package sales at 276 H. Mullins Drive. That public hearing will be before new business and after the consent agenda. With that amendment, I yield the floor for a motion.</p> <p><b>Conclusion:</b>          Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made a motion to adopt the Amended Agenda and Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded. The motion passed unanimously.</p>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Public Comments		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mayor Kirk Raffield
<p>Public Comment Section opened @ 6:13pm          We had four people who signed up for Public Comments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ardyn Chastain – 1124 Pleasant Hill Road – Activate city water meter</li> <li>2. Julia Phares – Jasper GA News &amp; Pickens County Small Business Development Council (SBDC) Partnership</li> <li>3. Dave Terry – May 9<sup>th</sup> Community Service Day</li> <li>4. Vered Kleinberger – KPBC May 9<sup>th</sup> Community Service Day</li> </ol> <p>Public Comment Section closed @ 6:27pm</p>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Public Hearing – Alcohol License for 276 H. Mullins Drive		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mary Elizabeth Burgess – Planning & Development Director	
Public Hearing opened @ 6:27pm Item Requested: Request was made to sell beer and wine by the package at the new gas station convenience store located at 276 H. Mullins Drive.			
The following criteria were met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background Check approved for owner Kashif Rana and Bharat Kumar Patel by Police Chief Dawkins</li> <li>• Survey certifying distance from schools &amp; churches by Joel M. Hart, PLS 2884</li> <li>• Legal Notice 30-day publication via site signage and Pickens Progress</li> </ul> This application has met the ordinance's requirement for approval.			
Due to the building being under construction, a condition that the license will not be issued until the certificate of occupancy has been obtained, is required.			
Public Comments: None			
Closed @ 6:29pm			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Consent Agenda		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mayor Kirk Raffield	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Minutes from 02.26.2026 Council Work Session</li> <li>2. Minutes from 03.02.2026 Regular Council Meeting</li> </ol>			
<b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion passed unanimously.			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Approved	N/A	N/A	

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Business #1 Consideration of Alcohol License – Beer and Wine Package at 276 H Mullins Drive		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mary Elizabeth Burgess – Planning & Development Director	
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Burgess presented a request to approve an alcohol license to sell beer and wine by the package at the new gas station convenience store located at 276 H. Mullins Drive.			
The application met all ordinance requirements for approval, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background Check approved by Police Chief Dawkins for owners Kashif Rana and Bharat Kumar Patel</li> <li>• A survey certifying required distance from schools &amp; churches completed by Joel M. Hart, PLS 2884</li> <li>• Legal notice published for 30 days via on-site signage and Pickens Progress</li> </ul>			
Ms. Burgess noted that the building is currently under construction. As a result, a condition is required stating that the alcohol license will not be issued until a certificate of occupancy has been obtained.			
<b>Action Requested:</b> Approve alcohol license, contingent, upon issuance of the certificate of occupancy for the location.			
<b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion to approve the alcohol license pending issuance of the certificate of occupancy, and Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded. The motion passed unanimously.			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Approved	N/A	N/A	

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item		<b>PRESENTER:</b> John Sherrer – Fire Chief
#2 Consideration and Approval of Proposed Parade Route through Downtown Jasper		
<b>Discussion:</b> Chief Sherrer explained that parades traditionally utilize a standard route through Downtown Jasper, typically beginning on Stegall Drive (staging area which is a crucial part of a parade) and ending on Spring Street behind the Methodist Church. This route is occasionally reversed when parade organizers wish to conclude at Lee Newton Park.  Chief Sherrer noted that the SR53 Widening Project is projected to begin late fall, which will result in one-way traffic flow on Spring Street entering downtown and one-way traffic on Church Street leaving downtown toward Highway 53. These changes will make the closure of these roads for extended periods more challenging, particularly due to increased large truck traffic.  Public Safety and Public Works evaluated potential alternatives and developed the attached proposed parade route. The proposed route removes the use of the intersection at Main Street and SR53/Church Street, as well as the segment of Spring Street from Main Street to Appalachian Trail. Two route options were presented: one ending at North Main Street and Sanders Street, and a longer version ending at North Main and Lawson Street. Both routes begin on Stegall Drive and end on Mary Street near Lee Newton Park.  Chief Sherrer stated that the proposed route will not be implemented prior to the America’s 250 Fourth of July Parade organized by the Lions Club. Staff propose to begin implementing the new parade route later this fall.  <b>Action Requested:</b> Approval of proposed Parade Route  <b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Steve Lawrence made the motion to approve the Proposed Parade Route as presented. Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion passed unanimously.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager
#3 Consideration of Flapjack Run to be held on June 20, 2026		
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Glaze requested approval for the 2026 Flapjack Run to be held on Saturday, June 20, 2026. This will be the 27 <sup>th</sup> annual Flapjack Run event. The proposed route includes Main Street, Refuge Road, and Little Avenue, which will require temporary road closures. The request also includes the presence of the Jasper Police Department Command Center for the event. An additional request to keep South Main Street closed all day.  <b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion to approve the Flapjack Run to be held on June 20, 2026, presented. Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion passed unanimously.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager
#4 Consideration of GA Mountain Charity Medieval Festival		
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Glaze requested approval for the GA Mountain Charity Medieval Festival to be held in Lee Newton Park on June 20, 2026, and June 21, 2026 (Saturday 11:00am – 8:00pm and Sunday 1:00pm – 7:00pm).  <b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Steve Lawrence made the motion to approve the GA Mountain Charity Medieval Festival as presented. Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion passed unanimously.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager
#5 Consideration of Downtown Development Authority’s Volunteer Waiver Form		
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Glaze discussed and requested consideration of approval for the Downtown Development Authority’s Volunteer Waiver Forms, one form for minors and one for those over the age of 18. The city attorney has reviewed these forms.		
<b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Brandon Hannah made the motion to approve the Volunteer Waiver Forms as presented. Council Member Tony Davis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager
#6 Consideration of PACA’s request for additional funding for the ArtWalk		
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Glaze presented a request from PACA’s representative, Angela Reinhardt, regarding an amendment to the 2026 ArtWalk budget. Ms. Reinhardt explained that the 2026 budget was originally based on three (3) ArtWalk events. Due to rising costs and the relocation of the event from Friday evenings to Saturdays, cost considerations have changed.		
Ms. Reinhardt clarified that no additional funding is being requested. The request is to confirm that the previously approved for three (3) Friday ArtWalk events be applied to two (2) Saturday ArtWalk events.		
<b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Steve Lawrence made the motion to approve the request to apply the budgeted funds for three (3) Friday ArtWalk events be applied to two (2) Saturday ArtWalk events. Council Member Jim Looney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager
#7 Consideration of North Georgia Family Partners event request for the 2026 Jeepfest Camping in Lee Newton Park		
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Carly Glaze presented a request from North Georgia Family Partners for approval of the 2026 Jeepfest Camping to be held in Lee Newton Park from September 3 – September 7, 2026. The request includes the use of Lee Newton Park and the adjacent parking lot to allow to out-of-town JeepFest participants to camp during the event weekend. The Jasper Farmer’s Market will be held simultaneously but will move to the opposite side of the parking lot (Veteran’s Memorial side) to allow for campers to have access to electric hookups.		
The request also includes continued monitoring of park restrooms and trash receptacles by city staff, as has been done in previous years.		
<b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Brandon Hannah made a motion to approve the North Georgia Family Partners 2026 JeepFest Camping event as presented and to be held on the side with power. Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded. The motion passed unanimously.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager
#8 Consideration of Pickens County Chamber of Commerce Event Request for Georgia Marble Festival to Be Held in Lee Newton Park		
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Carly Glaze presented a request from the Pickens County Chamber of Commerce for approval of 2026 Georgia Marble Festival to be held in Lee Newton Park. The requested dates are September 28 through October 5, 2026, which include event setup and cleanup. The Georgia Marble Festival Event itself will take place on Saturday and Sunday, October 3 and 4, 2026.		
Ms. Amy Meyers, a representative of the Pickens County Chamber of Commerce, was present at the meeting and available to answer any questions.		

<b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made a motion to approve the Pickens County Chamber of Commerce request for the 2026 Georgia Marble Festival as presented. Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion passed unanimously.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item #9 Consideration of Chaos Riders MC Event Request for Thunder Creek Motorcycle Rally & Music Fest to be held in Lee Newton Park	<b>PRESENTER:</b> Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager	
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Glaze presented a request from the Chaos Riders MC Event Request for Thunder Creek Motorcycle Rally & Music Fest to be held in Lee Newton Park. The requested dates are October 9 through October 11, 2026, which include event setup and cleanup.		
<b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion to approve the Chaos Riders MC request for the 2026 Thunder Creek Motorcycle Rally & Music Fest to be held in Lee Newton Park. Council Member John Foust seconded. The motion passed unanimously.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item #10 Consideration of Pickens County Chamber of Commerce Event Request for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Snowman Stroll to be held in Lee Newton Park.	<b>PRESENTER:</b> Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager	
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Glaze presented a request from the Pickens County Chamber of Commerce for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Snowman Stroll to be held in Lee Newton Park. The requested dates are December 8 through December 12, 2026, which include event setup and cleanup. The Snowman Stroll Event itself will take place on Friday, December 11, 2026. Ms. Amy Meyers, a representative of the Pickens County Chamber of Commerce, was present at the meeting and available to answer any questions.		
<b>Conclusion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Steve Lawrence made a motion to approve the Pickens County Chamber of Commerce request for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Snowman Stroll as presented. Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion passed unanimously.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item #11 Discussion of Placemaking Initiatives	<b>PRESENTER:</b> Carly Glaze – Community Engagement Manager	
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Glaze, in coordination with the Downtown Development Authority Board and its Design Committee, provided an update to the Mayor and Council on proposed placemaking initiatives. Over the past several months, staff have been exploring opportunities to enhance Downtown Jasper by creating spaces and features that provide identity and contribute to a sense of place consistent with Main Street community principles.		
Ms. Glaze noted that additional details would be provided during the meeting presentation. Proposed initiatives include the creation of placemaking features along Stegall Alley to enhance community identity and downtown character, as well as a potential partnership with private property owners relating to their respective buildings. Ms. Glaze also presented an idea related to downtown restrooms and the installation of appropriate signage for that area.		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item #12 Consideration of opening checking account for excess funds from former Jasper Development Authority	<b>PRESENTER:</b> Lindsey Williams – Finance Director
<b>Discussion:</b> Ms. Williams stated that staff were contacted regarding a dormant account that belonged to the former	

Jasper Development Authority, which is a component unit of the City of Jasper. Staff are requesting approval to open a new checking account at United Community Bank to properly manage the excess funds from this account. The proposed authorized signers for the account are Mayor Kirk Raffield, Council Member Jim Looney, and City Manager Brandon Douglas.

**Action Requested:** Approval of opening a new account at United Community Bank with Mayor Kirk Raffield, Council Member Jim Looney and City Manager Brandon Douglas as designated authorized signers.

**Conclusion:**  
 Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Jim Looney made the motion to approve the opening of a checking account at United Community Bank for excess funds from the former Jasper Development Authority with the designated authorized signers and Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

**AGENDA ITEM:** New Item  
 #13 Consideration of Resolution No. 2026-03 for the 2025 General Fund Budget End of Year Amendments  
**PRESENTER:** Brandon Douglas – City Manager

**Discussion:** Mr. Douglas presented Resolution No. 2026-03 for the 2025 General Fund Budget End of Year Amendments. The Administrative and Finance Committee has reviewed the amendments. Please note, the amended budget does not have the use of Fund Balance.

**Action Requested:** Approval of Resolution No. 2026-03 for the year end budget amendments for 2025.

**Conclusion:**  
 Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Steve Lawrence made the motion to approve Resolutions No. 2026-03 for the 2025 General Fund Budget End of Year Amendments. Council Member Jim Looney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

**AGENDA ITEM:** New Item  
 #14 Consideration of a Resolution No. 2026-04 authorizing the issuance and sale of the City of Jasper’s General Obligation Sales Tax Bond in the principal amount of \$4,500,000 and to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute any and all documents related thereto for the completion of this action.  
**PRESENTER:** Brandon Douglas – City Manager

**Discussion:** Mr. Douglas presented Resolution No. 2026-04 authorizing the issuance and sale of the City of Jasper’s General Obligation Sales Tax Bond in the principal amount of \$4,500,000. He reminded Council that a referendum was approved during the November 2025 election authorizing the City to proceed with issuing General Obligation debt for the 2026 SPLOST program.

Following voter approval, staff worked with legal and bond counsel, along with the City’s financial advisors, to validate the bonds and market them for private placement. On April 1, 2026, the City received a favorable bond proposal from Regions Bank with an interest rate of 3.32 percent. Based on this proposal, the City’s financial advisors recommended moving forward with the issuance.

**Action Requested:** Approval of a Resolution No. 2026-04 authorizing the issuance and sale of the City of Jasper’s General Obligation Sales Tax Bond in the principal amount of \$4,500,000 and authorizing the Mayor, City Clerk and Finance Director to execute any and all documents necessary to complete this action.

**Conclusion:**  
 Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Steve Lawrence made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-04 Resolution No. 2026-04 authorizing the issuance and sale of the City of Jasper’s General Obligation Sales Tax Bond in the principle amount of \$4,500,000 and authorizing the Mayor, City Clerk and Finance Director to execute any and all documents related thereto for the completion of this action.as presented. Council Member Jim Looney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> New Item		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Brandon Douglas – City Manager
#15 Consideration and Approval of new bank account for General Obligation Bonds for 2026 SPLOST		
<p><b>Discussion:</b> Mr. Douglas explained that approval is requested to allow the Finance Department to open a related checking account in order to comply with bond covenants and restrictions as well as comply with governmental accounting standards for the deposit and management of project funds. The account will be established at Regions Bank. The proposed authorized signers for the account are Mayor Kirk Raffield, Council Member Jim Looney, and City Manager Brandon Douglas.</p> <p><b>Action Requested:</b> Approval of opening a new checking account to deposit project funds from the General Obligations Bonds.</p> <p><b>Conclusion:</b>        Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Brandon Hannah made the motion to approve the opening of a new checking account for the General Obligation Bonds as presented, and Council Member Tony Davis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.</p>		
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Approved	N/A	N/A

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Committee Report Updates		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Council Members
<p><b>Development &amp; Local Infrastructure</b> – Council Member John Foust and Council Member Brandon Hannah</p> <p>Discussion Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Committee heard from interested parties regarding potential development, determination of vested rights, and other properties of interest for future development.</li> <li>Discussion was held regarding Dr. Robert Keller’s request for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations. The Committee is seeking council direction on potential locations, whether to offer charging at no cost or for a fee, and whether the City has an appetite to absorb the ongoing electrical costs. Installation costs for the charging stations would be borne by Dr. Keller.</li> </ul> <p>Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Brandon Hannah made the motion to approve the installation of two (2) Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations downtown and they will be free to use. Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Committee met on-site to review the potential creation of diagonal public parking along Wall Street, which could be accomplished by converting the street from two-way to a one-way traffic. The City’s contribution toward added downtown public parking would include the striping and consideration of the one-way conversion. If Council is receptive, an ordinance amendment would be required to allow for angle parking and convert the street to one-way traffic.</li> </ul> <p>Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member John Foust made the motion to approve Changing Wall Street to a one-way street with the direction of traffic towards State Route 53 and amending the ordinance to allow for angle parking in the Central Business District (CBD). Council Member Brandon Hannah seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Committee also discussed the potential closure of the street between the tire shop and the depot on Railroad Street in preparation for a future roundabout, which would eliminate the area as a through-traffic route.</li> <li>The Committee would like Council’s feedback regarding the possible allocation of LMIG funds toward engineering studies for a turn lane at Pioneer Road and Burnt Mountain Road.</li> </ul> <p>Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member John Foust made the motion to approve for a Traffic Study and Plans for creating a turn lane on Pioneer Road and Burnt Mountain Road intersection with a not to exceed amount of \$50,000. Council Member Steve Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Congratulations were extended to the Jasper Downtown Development Authority for achieving Main Street Accreditation at the affiliate level.</li> </ul>		

**Finance & Administration** – Council Member Jim Looney and Council Member Tony Davis

Discussion Items:

- The final 2025 budget amendments approved this evening are being completed as the audit wraps up and will be formally presented by the auditors during the June meeting.
- Staff continue to work on the proposed 2026 mid-year budget amendments which are planned for presentation during the July meeting.
- The Committee expressed appreciation to legal counsel and staff for their work in securing the General Obligation Bond for infrastructure investment.
- The Committee reviewed the most recent financials with staff and noted that revenues to date appear to be in line with budget expectations. Departmental expenditures have been appropriately controlled; however, due to vacancies and certain operational challenges, overtime usage has been higher than anticipated and will continue to be monitored. Currently, the organization has approximately eight (8) vacancies.
- The City has received its general liability insurance renewal, which is approximately 4% higher than what was budgeted for 2026.

**Enterprise** – Council Member Jim Looney and Council Member Steve Lawrence

Discussion Items:

- The sanitation Vehicle was determined as a total loss. City staff have continued sanitation services without interruption and plan to utilize insurance proceeds to purchase a multi-purpose vehicle that can be used for sanitation, as well as other operational needs.
- A joint meeting between the City and County has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 5th at 6:00pm at the library.
- The Twin Mountain Lakes project is approximately forty-five percent (45%) complete.
- Work in the low-lying area adjacent to A.W. Lawson (pond area) has been completed, including the installation of drainage structures designed to mitigate future culvert blockages.
- The sewer rehabilitation project is approximately sixty percent (60%) complete.
- The master lift station project has been delayed due to a need to relocate an existing force main and place it in the roadway due to the lack of right-of-way or easements.
- Staff have initiated the early stages of performing ground penetrating radar along Cove Road to determine the feasibility and location of replacing the intake line.

**Parks & Properties** – Council Member John Foust and Council Member Tony Davis

- With the pending completion of Perrow Park the Committee sought Council’s interest in hosting a grand opening event. Discussion included potential participants, community involvement – particularly with Pickens Schools - and event timing. Council provided direction, and June 13<sup>th</sup> was selected as the date for the Perrow Park Grand Opening.
- The Committee provided general direction regarding Peace Park and discussed a proposed community workday scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Raffield called for a motion. Council Member Tony Davis made the motion to approve funding for Peace Park updating in the amount of \$1,250. Council Member John Foust seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- The Committee will provide Council with an update on proposed plans and any requested budget allocations for Peace Park.
- The Committee also provided direction related to improvements at the upper ballfield at City Park and anticipates updating Council on proposed plans, associated costs, and/or a work plan.
- City Hall safety and security enhancements are nearing completion, with a few remaining items still pending.

**Public Safety** – Council Member Brandon Hannah and Council Member Steve Lawrence

- Council acknowledged the significant level of activity during the month of March and extended thoughts and prayers to public safety personnel.
- Regarding the Jasper Police Department building, insurance has engaged a restoration contractor who has mobilized in a timely matter. Completion is pending the acquisition of matching windows, but work is expected to be finalized soon.
- The new fire engine location was visited during the week of March 23rd, and delivery of the vehicle is anticipated next month.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
N/A	N/A	N/A


<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> City Manager Comments		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Brandon Douglas	
Mr. Douglas thanked the Committees for a great job covering their updates and would like everyone to embrace the opportunity for transparency!			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> City Council Comments		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Council Members	
Council Member Brandon Hannah asked if GDOT had any “best practices” for business owners for the phased approach of the State Route 53 Widening Project. Ms. Goldener said she was not aware of any at this time but would ask at the next GDOT District 6 meeting if there is any special guidance to help the business owners.			
Council Member Tony Davis requested that there be a clearer role between Council Members and stand-alone boards and committees.			
Council Member Steve Lawrence commended Public Safety for how they have handled the process during these troubling times with a great amount of professionalism.			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Mayor Comments		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mayor Kirk Raffield	
Mayor Raffield thanked everyone for staying with us throughout the meeting. He also talked about a young lady, a middle school student from Illinois, who was tasked with finding out more about our city and did reach out to him and he was able to share some information with this student. He also wanted to remind everyone of a couple of upcoming dates: the Joint City & County meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 5 <sup>th</sup> to be held at the library and May 9 <sup>th</sup> community service day at Peace Park.			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Executive Session		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mayor Kirk Raffield	
<b>Discussion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion to go into Executive Session @ 8:10pm for discussion of legal items. Council Member Jim Looney made a motion to go into Executive Session. Council Member Tony Davis provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.			
Mayor Raffield made a motion to end Executive Session @ 9:28pm and go back into council session. Council Member Brandon Hannah made the motion and Council Member Steve Lawrence provided a second. Motion passed unanimously.			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Approved	N/A	N/A	

<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> Adjourn		<b>PRESENTER:</b> Mayor Kirk Raffield	
<b>Discussion:</b> Mayor Raffield called for a motion to adjourn @ 9:28pm. Council Member Brandon Hannah made a motion to approve. Council Member John Foust provided a second. The motion to approve passed unanimously.			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Adjourned	N/A	N/A	

  
 Mayor, Kirk D. Raffield



  
 City Clerk, Corrie Waters

**PLEASE SIGN IN**

**JASPER  
City Council Meeting  
SIGN IN ROSTER  
April 6, 2026**

<b>PRINT NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS/OR BUSINESS AFFILIATION</b>
Kim Goldner	COJ
Matthew Finlay	Pickens 9-1-1
Traavis Turnley	Thunder Creek Motorcycle Rally
John Phares	Jasper, GA News
Julia Phares	CBDC
Ryan Doady	Pickens 9-1-1
Carlynn Masz	COJ
Amy Myers	Pickens Co Chamber
<del>_____</del>	
Kelly Jordan	North Georgia Family Partners
Brian Shaul	Momentum Church
<del>SARGE FISH</del>	Comics Card & Collectibles
Suehen Roth	Comics Cards & Collectibles
Penny D'cus	279 Grand Circle
Samuel Sly	JPC
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