



City of Jasper
200 Burnt Mountain Road
Jasper, GA 30143
MINUTES | COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING
Thursday, April 23, 2026, 6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF

Brandon Douglas
Kim Goldener
Matt Dawkins
John Sherrer
Mary Elizabeth Burgess
Josh Davis
Carly Glaze
Montana Teems

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

See Attachment "A"

MEMBERS ABSENT

LEGAL COUNSEL

David Syfan via cellphone

PRESS

Mari Livsey – Know Pickens
Dan Pool - Pickens Progress

I. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Raffield

Mayor Raffield called on Council Member Steve Lawrence who confirmed that a quorum was present.

II. Adopt Agenda

Mayor Raffield

Mayor Raffield requested an amendment to the agenda to add Kim Goldener as the City Clerk for this meeting and to add an event application from Ludville Church of God.

Motion: Council Member Jim Looney

Second: Council Member Steve Lawrence

Vote: Passed 5-0

III. Special Events

Carly Glaze

- a. Lions Club 4th of July Parade to be held on July 4th on Main Street ending up in Lee Newton Park
- b. Lions Club – Carnival to be held in Lee Newton Park from July 1st – July 5th
Ms. Lesile spoke on behalf of the Lions Club events and wanted to provide information on additional 250th celebration events that will be going on the week of June 29th – July 5th (June 28th Community-wide picnic at First Baptist Church beginning @ 4:00pm followed by a brass band concert, June 29th Movie night @ Perrow Park , June 30th Kids night at the Kirby Cabin – storying telling, face painting, July 1st and July 2nd Talent Contest – the winners will perform during the 4th of July events, Parade will start @ 10:00am, Fireworks will be held on Saturday night, July 4th.
- c. Burnt Mountain Center – Luau to be held in Lee Newton Park on June 5th 2:00pm – 9:00pm.

- d. Burnt Mountain Center – Field Day to be held in Lee Newton Park on May 22nd 8:00am – 2:00pm.
- e. Tequila Bar & Grill – Cinco De Mayo to be held in their restaurant and Stegall Alley on May 5th 11:00am – 11:00pm.
- f. Ludville Church of God – Church Service and potluck lunch to be held in Lee Newton Park on May 10th from 10:00am – 4:00pm

All events will be placed on the Consent Agenda for the May 4, 2026, Council Meeting for approval.

IV. City Manager's Office Update

City Management

Mr. David Syfan, City's Attorney, entered the meeting via a cellphone call from Mr. Brandon Douglas.

- a. IGA for Electric Charging Stations – Following Council direction, staff has continued pursuing a partnership with Dr. Keller regarding two electric vehicle charging stations. Legal counsel advised that constitutional limitations restrict the City from providing goods or services at no cost; accordingly, staff will work with counsel to draft an intergovernmental agreement between the City and the Downtown Development Authority. The proposed agreement, along with the recommended locations for the two stations, will be presented to the full Council for review and approval.
- b. R/W Abandonment – Staff identified an alley located between two adjacent property owners that is depicted on the recorded plat as a public right-of-way but is currently used by the owners as a shared driveway. Due to Perrow Park's topography and existing layout, the City does not anticipate a future need for this right-of-way. Staff is prepared to initiate the abandonment process, subject to Council concurrence. Mayor Raffield noted he has been in regular communication with one of the property owners and stated that the area is situated between two residences and should remain in that configuration.
- c. One-Way Ordinance and Diagonal Parking - Staff proposed converting Wall Street to one-way traffic with right-turn-only access onto Hwy 53. This item will be included on the May 4, 2026, agenda for consideration and will require adoption of an ordinance amendment. Item placed on consent agenda.
- d. Process for Road Closure - Railroad Street serves as a cut-through between the Depot and the tire shop. Closing a roadway requires advertisement of a public hearing, posting a public notice sign, and conducting a public hearing. Item will be included in the May 4th, agenda for discussion and direction on whether or not to initiate the process.
- e. Water Restrictions (Level One Drought Response) - The City should be prepared to implement EPD Level One watering restrictions, including no outdoor watering between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Level One does not include assigned watering days (e.g., odd/even schedules). Staff will communicate the restrictions through the City's social media channels, a notice in the local newspaper, and MyGov text alerts, and may also use existing radio airtime currently dedicated to weather updates. Staff will coordinate with the County to develop a consistent, shared public message; if coordination is not achieved, the City will issue its own communication. Staff noted that the City may not adopt restrictions more stringent than those associated with

the EPD-declared drought level without approval. At Level Two, the City may implement assigned watering days. A variance request to impose more stringent measures remains an option; however, it would require justification and may not be approved.

V. Executive Session - Legal & Real Estate

Mayor Raffield

Mayor Raffield called for a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss legal and real estate items.

Motion to enter: Council Member Brandon Hannah at 6:32pm

Second: Council Member John Foust

Vote: Passed 5 – 0

Motion to exit: Council Member Brandon Hannah at 7:50pm

Second: Council Member Jim Looney

Vote: Passed 5 to 0.

VI. Adjournment

Motion: Council Member Steve Lawrence at 7:50pm

Second: Council Member Jim Looney

Vote: Passed 5 to 0.





Mayor, Kirk D. Raffield



City Clerk, Lorrie Waters