City of Foley, AL

407 E. Laurel Avenue
Foley, AL 36535

Meeting Minutes - Final

City Council

Monday, June 15, 2026 | **4:00 PM** | **Council Chambers**

Work Session/Council Meeting

Call to Order

President Trawick called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Roll Call

All Council Members were present. Also Present: Mayor Ralph G. Hellmich, City Clerk Christi Watkins, Executive Director of General Government and Administration Cian Harrison, Stephanie Richardson, David Thompson, Taylor Davis, Rachel Keith, Logan Eberly, Jeff Lee, Jonathan Cottis, Pam Harris, Angela Sherman, Sara Filley, Cory Rhodes, Guy Busby, Donna Givens, Jamie Smith, Ted Hughes, Jackie McGonigal, Rachel Spear, Joey Darby, Thurston Bullock, Kevin Carnley, Larry Dearing, Buford King, Frank Shepard, Raven Roberts, Shawn Mitchell, Lindsey Hart, and Greg Smith.

Present: 5 - Tim Lower,Roderick Burkle,Larry Engel,Wayne Trawick and Charles Ebert III

Moment of Reflection

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing

26-0267 Public Hearing To Consider An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 5 Of The Code Of Ordinances Of The City Of Foley, Alabama To Add Provisions Pertaining To The Licensing Of The Sale Of Consumable Hemp Products In The Corporate Limits And Police Jurisdiction Of The City Of Foley

President Trawick opened the Public Hearing at 4:04pm. He asked for comments from the public. Hearing no comments, he closed the Public Hearing.

Work Session Discussion

26-0321 Discuss Aquatics Center

Attachments: 6.5.26 - Foley Aquatics- ELEVATION OPTION
Foley Aquatic Center_Pool Prelim ML - Parking OV_06.08.2026
OVERALL REV FLOOR PLAN 5.19.26

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson presented the designs for the new Foley Aquatics Center to Council for discussion.

Additions/Removals/Carry-Overs

There were no additions, removals, or carry-overs to report.

Consent Agenda

26-0290 Report of May, 2026, Approved and Paid Bills for the Record

Attachments: 2026-05 Approved & Paid Bills.Expense Approval Report

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0310 Work Session/Council Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2026

Attachments: 06-01-2026 Work Session Council Meeting Minutes - Draft

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, to approve the Work Session/Council Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2026. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0311 Departmental Reports

Attachments: May P&Z Report
Building Department May 26 Monthly Report
May 2026 HR Applicant Report
Stats May PD
FD Report May 26 6-26
Tax Report and Permit-Plan Review June 2026 (5)

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Ordinances

26-0265 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 391-87 Relating to the Speed Limits and Traffic Controls within the City of Foley (Irwin Street between Azalea Avenue and Michigan Avenue)

Attachments: 391-87 ORD

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that this Ordinance would reduce the speed limit on Irwin Street to 35 mph to better support the low-speed vehicles utilized by many citizens in that area.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Ordinance be approved on first reading. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0284 An Ordinance Authorizing The Donation And Conveyance Of Certain Former L&N Railroad Right-Of-Way Parcels To The City Of Loxley, Alabama

Attachments: Request from Loxley - Apr 29 2026
City of Loxley - Railroad ROW Maps - All Parcels
Property Details Summary - All Parcels
Reservations and Restrictions

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that the City of Loxley has requested the donation of six railroad right-of-way parcels that are located in the Loxley city limits for the purpose of developing a public trail, as described in the Central Baldwin Rail-to-Trail Project included in their Comprehensive Plan.

City Engineer for the City of Loxley Greg Smith reported that the City intends to eventually link the southern portion of the trail to Robertsdale's segment while also extending the trail north to the Baldwin Preparatory Academy.

A motion was made by Council Member Larry Engel, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Ordinance be approved on first reading. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0291 An Ordinance Accepting Public Rights-of-Way and Infrastructure Improvements in Bay Street Village Subdivision for City Maintenance

Attachments: Bay Street Village Subdivision
391-87ORD

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that this subdivision is located near the corner of Bay Street and Michigan Avenue. He reported that it has passed rigorous inspections and met the necessary requirements for acceptance.

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Ordinance be approved on first reading. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0313 ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 26-2011 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A TECHNICAL DESIGN MANUAL (TDM) GOVERNING DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, PERMITTING, AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS WITHIN THE CITY OF FOLEY; REPEALING CERTAIN PRIOR ORDINANCES

Attachments: 26-2011-ORD TDM

Technical Design Manual - Revised Final 4_6_26_Rev4_Traffic Calming

Technical Design Manual - Markups Final 4_6_26_Rev4_Traffic Calming

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that this Ordinance introduces a traffic calming policy as an appendix to the Technical Design Manual that Council approved in April. He reported that this policy is citizen-driven, and is intended to streamline the process by outlining how citizens can contact city staff, what information they need to include in their report, how it will be reviewed, and provides examples of options that may be used to address the issue.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Ordinance be approved on first reading. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0316 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 25-2020 the Currently Adopted Building Code Ordinance

Attachments: Building Code Amendments Marked Up

Building Official Jonathan Cottis reported that this Ordinance contains some proposed changes to the current building codes, including adding the International Fuel Gas Code, aligning with the fire code regarding tents, adding elevation standards establishing a minimum finished floor elevation, adopting Appendix A of the International Property Maintenance Code regarding boarding standards, removing specific appliance protection, amending submittal requirements, and requiring that any electrical service upgrades over 600 amps are sealed by a professional engineer.

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, to remove section R106.1.6 Elevation Standards and approve this Ordinance on first reading. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

25-0444 (Second Reading) An Ordinance Accepting Public Rights-of-Way and Infrastructure Improvements in Glenlakes Phases 3A, 3B, 3C for City Maintenance.

Attachments: Lennar Ph 3a,b,c ROW requests

ROW Update 24-2029ORD

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that the Engineering Department recommends accepting all public rights-of-way and infrastructure improvements within the right of way of Glenlakes Phases 3A, 3B, and 3C, for City maintenance.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, that this Ordinance be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0217 An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 5 Of The Code Of Ordinances Of The

City Of Foley, Alabama To Add Provisions Pertaining To The Licensing Of The Sale of Consumable Hemp Products In The Corporate Limits And Police Jurisdiction Of the City Of Foley

Attachments: Hemp Ordinance for Council Review FINAL

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, that this Ordinance be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Resolutions and Other Business

26-0309 ABC License: 020 - Restaurant Retail Liquor for Danielle Duemmel, applicant operating under the trade name Waffles R Wild, located at 217 N. McKenzie St., Foley, Alabama 36535.

Attachments: Waffles R Wild ABC Application

Foley Fire and Police Departments gave recommendations to move forward with the ABC License.

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, to approve the ABC License. Council Member Tim Lower abstained. The motion carried by a majority vote.

26-0204 A Resolution Approving A July 1, 2026 Retirement Award

Human Resources Director Suzanne Kellams reported that this Resolution is to approve a $1,000 retirement award in accordance with the City's policies and procedures.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0285 A Resolution Approving & Appropriating Funding for the West Lawson and Pine St. Ext. Project and Accepting the Professional Services Agreement from Sawgrass Services.

Attachments: Sawgrass Proposal S Pine St Ext

Chad-Raybon-Street-Department (2)

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that this professional services agreement would cover the survey and design of a project in the Capital Plan to extend Pine Street from Michigan Avenue to 9th Avenue, and to extend West Lawson Avenue to Aaronville Park.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0286 A Resolution Setting A Public Hearing Declaring Weeds and Accumulation of Junk To Be A Public Nuisance And Ordering Its Abatement at 407 W Fig Avenue

Attachments: 407 W Fig Council Packet June 15 2026 Public Nuisance. Overgrown Weeds

Environmental Manager Jackie McGonigal reported that this property remains in violation of City Ordinances and the conditions are worsening.

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0287 A Resolution to Memorialize Acceptance of the Alabama Semiquincentennial Community Grant

Attachments: Budget Increase Form

City of Foley Mail - America250AL - Grant Agreement Assigned

Purchasing Agent and Grants and Agreements Administrator Logan Eberly reported that the Marketing Department previously requested permission to apply to the Alabama Semiquincentennial Community Grant and that a grant of $2,500 has been awarded to the City of Foley for the Flags of Freedom: A 250th Anniversary Experience, which will be a self-guided historical scavenger hunt through Graham Creek Nature Preserve. She reported that the Marketing Department requests permission to memorialize the acceptance the grant due to the turnaround time to complete the grant and amend the revenue account accordingly.

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0288 A Resolution Approving Monthly Bids - May 2026

Attachments: May 2026 Bid Awards

Purchasing Agent and Grants and Agreements Administrator Logan Eberly reported that there were five bids opened in May, and four were awarded, including the Fern Avenue turn lanes, the Iberville Square turn lanes, a truck for the Municipal Complex, and the bleachers for Aaronville Park.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0289 Resolution Approving the Installation of Street Lights in the Peachtree Subdivision

Attachments: Riviera Pricing - Peachtree Subdivision Street Lights

City Engineer Taylor Davis reported that the Engineering Department received a request for one street light to be installed near the mailbox kiosk in the Peachtree Subdivision.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0293 A Resolution Amending The Pay Classification Plan In The Marketing Department For Communications Positions

Attachments: City of Foley Pay Classification Plan - Effective 06-01-26

Human Resources Director Suzanne Kellams reported that as part of the City's ongoing efforts to further develop the Communications Department, staff recommends reclassifying three existing positions in the Marketing Department for Communications positions to better align the roles for strategic communications functions. She reported that the proposed changes are budget-neutral and include reclassifying the Digital Operations Manager to Digital Communications Manager, the Assistant Marketing Director to Brand & Design Manager, and the City Marketing Communications Manager to Media Relations Manager. She also reported that these positions and the associated personnel budgets will be transferred from the Marketing Department to the Communications Department with the FY27 budget.

A motion was made by Council Member Larry Engel, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0295 A Resolution to Memorialize Approval of Change Order Number 1 to Roy Lewis Construction Corporation related to construction of the First Responder's Safe Room

Attachments: First Responder Safe Room - Executed Change Order
Daisha-Barnes-Engineering-I-D (2)

Director of Public Projects Buford King reported that during a review of the various project construction submittals, it was determined that additional improvements were required for the First Responder's Safe Room site in order to protect existing water mains as well as provide additional fire protection to the site. He reported that staff requests Council to memorialize Mayor Ralph G. Hellmich's approval of the change order.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0296 A Resolution Declaring Surplus Lt. Glenn Hartenstein's Badge and Service Weapon

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0298 A Resolution Setting A Public Hearing Declaring Weeds, Trash, and

Stagnant Water To Be A Public Nuisance And Ordering Its Abatement at 219 W Palm Avenue

Attachments: 219 W Palm 26-002600 council packet

Environmental Manager Jackie McGonigal reported that this property contains a partially-constructed pool in the backyard, holding stagnant water and contributing to vector species.

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0304 A Resolution Approving the Increase of Departmental Budget Dollars Using Cash from the Restricted Local Drug Fund Account #100-1071 and Donation Account.

Attachments: 3 Quotes

Lisa-Meredith-06-04-2026

Deputy Chief of Police Larry Dearing reported that the Foley Police Department requests a transfer of departmental budget funds from the Local Drug Fund account and the Police Donation account, to allow for the purchase of the City's first Emotional Support Dog.

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0305 A Resolution to Reappoint Jerry Morrison to the Foley Historical Commission.

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Larry Engel, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0306 A Resolution to Reappoint Tyler Higginbotham to the Foley Historical Commission.

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0307 A Resolution to Reappoint Perry Hand to the Riviera Utilities Board.

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Larry Engel, seconded by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0308 A Resolution to Reappoint Dr. Brett Taylor to the Library Advisory Committee.

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Larry Engel, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0315 A Resolution to Enter into an Agreement with Adams Stewart Architects, LLC for Design Services Related to a Prefabricated Structure for the City of Foley

Attachments: Site Plan-A101.0
26-025 Revised Prefab Foley
Daisha-Barnes-Engineering-I-D (3)

Director of Public Projects Buford King reported that the City of Foley is evaluating the installation of a prefabricated kennel facility to accommodate stray or missing animals. He reported that although the kennel structure itself is prefabricated, site preparation, parking spaces, a concrete mounting pad, and utility connections will need to be completed in order to receive, place, and mount the prefabricated kennel. He reported that staff requests Council to approve the Limited Professional Services Proposal for design services with Adam Stewart Architects, LLC.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0317 A Resolution Amending The Pay Classification Plan In The Marketing Department

Attachments: City of Foley Pay Classification Plan - Effective 06-01-26

Human Resources Director Suzanne Kellams reported that staff is planning to establish a Destination and Events Services Department within Leisure Services. She reported that this department will focus on planning, promotion, and execution of community events, cultural experiences, destination-focused initiatives, tourism promotion, visitor engagement, event support, and strategic branding efforts. She also reported that to begin development of this future department, staff proposes creating the new position of Destination Marketing & Creative Services Manager to lead the development and implementation of destination marketing strategies, oversee creative content and branding initiatives, manage tourism-focused digital and print communications, analyze marketing performance, and support the City's tourism and event promotion. She further reported that this request is budget-neutral due to a budget surplus in the Marketing Department's personnel accounts, and this position and the associated personnel budget will remain in the Marketing Department for FY26 and will be transferred to the Destination & Events Services budget in FY27.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0318 A Resolution Approving Application for the FY2027 Gulf Coast Resource Conservation and Development Council Grant

Attachments: FY27 Grant Application

Purchasing Agent and Grants and Agreements Administrator Logan Eberly reported that the Nature Parks Department requests permission to apply for the FY2027 Gulf Coast Resource Conservation and Development Council (Gulf Coast RC&D) Grant. She reported that the Nature Parks Department will be requesting $15,000 to go toward the purchase of interpretive signage and additional wetland mats at the Andrew James Wetland Reserve.

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, that this Resolution be adopted. Council Member Larry Engel abstained. The motion carried by a majority vote.

26-0319 A Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of a Timber Harvesting Proposal for the FBE West Industrial Site

Attachments: FBE West Baldwin Land & Timber

Economic Development Manager Frank Shepard reported that this proposal is to harvest timber from the Foley Beach Express West Industrial Site, which is estimated to generate approximately $20,000 to the City. He reported that the proposed harvest is intended to thin the existing timber while preserving the aesthetics and qualities of a young, working forest.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0322 Resolution to Approve WAS Design's Professional Services Proposal for Landscape Architectural Services.

Attachments: pr260605 Rose Trail North Segment Rehab
David-Thompson-Leisure-Services (9)

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson reported that Horticulture Development is submitting a proposal for landscape architectural services by WAS Design for the Rose Trail North Segment Rehab. He reported that the scope of services will include schematic design, construction documents, bidding/negotiation assistance, and construction observation. He also reported that this project was included in the FY26 Capital Planned Budget.

A motion was made by Council Member Larry Engel, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0323 A Resolution Approving Williams Blackstock Architects' Proposal for Professional Services For the New Senior Center

Attachments: 2026.6.4_Foley SrCtr_B101-2017- Final Draft David-Thompson-Senior-Center

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson reported that after reviewing many proposals, the selection committee determined that the proposal for the New Senior Center Project from Williams Blackstock Architects was exactly what the City was looking for, and includes architecture, interior design, and comprehensive engineering (structural, mechanical, plumbing, electrical, and fire protection).

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

26-0324 A Resolution Waiving Fees for the South Baldwin Chamber Foundation's Use of Heritage Park and Pavilion for the Walk This Way 80's 5K Fundraiser Event and After Party.

Attachments: Walk This Way 5K and After Party

Executive Director of Leisure Services David Thompson reported that this event has been modified from the walk that Council previously approved to a 5K run, and that the Foley Police and Fire Departments have given their recommendations to move forward.

Rachel Spear reported that the South Baldwin Chamber Foundation has requested the use of Heritage Park at no charge on Saturday, September 12, 2026 10:00am - 10:00pm for the Walk This Way 80's 5K Fundraiser Event and After Party. She reported that the race will begin on Violet Avenue and will utilize city sidewalks and the Rose Trail, and following the 5K, the after-party will feature live music and food trucks inside Heritage Park.

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Hellmich reported that the challenge coins commemorating America's 250th Anniversary have come in and are of high quality.

He thanked the committee tasked with reviewing the new Senior Center proposals for their time and efforts. He reported that the City is looking forward to the new facility.

He reported that many projects are nearing completion, including the First Responders Safe Room, the new Library, and the sidewalk project along Highway 59. He also reported that there are many new projects ready to begin soon, such as the comprehensive Mills sidewalk project. Mayor Hellmich reported that these sidewalk projects are part of the City's goal to improve local connectivity.

He reported that the budget is coming along well, and will reach out to Council Members individually to discuss financial strategy moving forward.

Mayor Hellmich reported updates regarding new businesses scheduled to open soon, stating that the Half Shell Oyster House will open on June 24, 2026, and BJ's is projected to open before Labor Day.

He reported that concerns have been raised regarding potholes on private roads in the area. He explained that the City faces limited options in these cases because Public Works is prohibited from performing repairs on private property. He further reported that to address the issue, barricades might be necessary to prompt property owners to carry out the required maintenance.

Visitor Comments

Alabama State Representative Donna Givens presented a check to the Foley Fire Department as a contribution toward expenses related to the Safe Haven Baby Box.

Visitor Sara Filley, of 9071 Albatross Drive, addressed Council to express her gratitude for their adoption of the ordinance accepting public rights-of-way and infrastructure improvements in the Glenlakes Subdivision.

Executive Session

Economic Development Manager Frank Shepard reported the need to go into executive session to discuss certain aspects of three possible real estate transactions. Mr. Shepard reported that the executive session would take approximately 20 minutes and Council may come back to vote.

A motion was made by Council Member Roderick Burkle, seconded by Council Member Tim Lower, to go into executive session.

City Clerk Christi Watkins took the following roll call vote: Council Member Lower, aye; Council Member Burkle, aye; Council President Trawick, aye; Council Member Engel, aye; Council Member Ebert, III, aye. The vote was unanimous to go into executive session.

The Council meeting recessed at 5:35pm.

The Council meeting reconvened at 6:19pm.

Council President J. Wayne Trawick called the meeting back to order. All Council Members were present. Also present: Mayor Ralph G. Hellmich, City Clerk Christi Watkins, Stephanie Richardson, and Frank Shepard.

26-0336 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF FOLEY TO NEGOTIATION A LEASE OF CERTAIN CITY-OWNED PROPERTY TO DR. NIDAL MORRAR FOR PARKING PURPOSES AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY STAFF TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT

Attachments: Exibit A

Map 2

There was no discussion on this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Charles Ebert, III, seconded by Council Member Larry Engel, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member Tim Lower, seconded by Council Member Roderick Burkle, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 6:21pm.