

**MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2026, REGULAR MEETING**

On this day, the 13<sup>th</sup> of April, the City Council convened in regular session in the City Council Room. The regular meeting being open to the public and notice of said regular meeting having been given as prescribed by Chapter 51 of the Government Code with the following being present and in attendance to wit:

Mayor Joe Davis, Council Members Jill Cromwell, Leslie Ivy, Melisa McIntosh, Winfred McQueen, Woody Richardson, Lloyd Roberts, and Mark Sweatt. Council Member Zack Altman was absent. Employees present were City Administrator Jack Owens, City Secretary Amalia Gaxiola, and Police Chief Rex Plant. Others present were Kim Cloyd, Vickie Woodard, Ruth Ann Stewart, Rocky Wilks, Joanna & Roman Buckner, Roger Estlack, Ronny Wilson, Christie & Jody Smith, James McIntosh, Susan McQueen, Deana Santos, and Karen Crisman.

**1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Davis called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and noted a quorum present. Alderman Roberts voiced the invocation, and Alderman Richardson led the pledge of allegiance.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jody Smith voiced his concerns about Memphis needing to keep the Police Department and shared with the council an incident that happened at the church. Susan McQueen expressed that Memphis is home, and she is concerned about the elderly and added that she wants the Police Department to stay because if we lose the pd then we will lose people.

**3. HEARING FOR DILAPIDATED PROPERTIES AND ABANDONED VEHICLES**

No action.

**4. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

The consent agenda items were presented for approval: Regular meeting minutes of March 9, 2026; Special meeting minutes of March 23, 2026; accept collections & pay expenditures for March 2026. Alderwoman McIntosh asked who made the motion on the March 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes under 4b, Secretary Gaxiola stated it was Ivy. Alderman Sweatt made the motion to approve the consent agenda items with the correction of adding Alderwoman Ivy to the March 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes under 4b, seconded by Alderman Roberts. The vote passed with 7 in favor.

**5. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS ON MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

Administrator Jack Owens read the written reports for library, judicial, fire and he read his written admin report which included admin, water, landfill, street, parks/rec, airport, and the TxDOT waterline relocation project. Police Chief Rex Plant read his written report. Chief Plant added that a new Animal Control Officer was hired and they need to find a vet that will euthanize for when it's needed. Vaccination clinic is set for May 30<sup>th</sup>.

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### **6. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **a. MOTION TO REMOVE THE TABLED ITEMS OFF THE TABLE**

Alderwoman McIntosh made the motion to remove the tabled item off the table, seconded by Alderman McQueen. The vote passed with 7 in favor.

#### **b. DISCUSS & CONSIDER TRUCK PARKING ORDINANCE**

Administrator Owens informed the council of the newest results from the survey, which includes 127 participants and resulted in 2/3 opposed and 1/3 supporting a truck parking ordinance. Alderman Sweatt agrees with the people but is concerned on safety on blocking intersections. Chief Plant added that they can enforce the law on certain feet from intersection. No action.

### **7. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX FOR THE MEMPHIS COUNTRY CLUB MEMORIAL DAY TOURNAMENT – ROCKY WILKS**

Rocky Wilks recapped the tournaments that the country club has and stated that this is the 99<sup>th</sup> year of the club. They have a new tourney director, Trenton Crockett. The Texie Fisher tournament is full and places are rented out. He was here today to ask for seven thousand dollars for the entire season and added that last year it covered two events. Alderwoman Cromwell added that the club hits all marks of HOT funds. Mayor Davis mentioned that we need the follow-up expenditure report. Alderwoman Ivy made the motion to give seven thousand dollars to the Memphis Country Club with receipts and reports, seconded by Alderwoman Cromwell. The vote passed with 7 in favor.

#### **b. CONSIDER ACCEPTING BIDS ON DELINQUENT TAX PROPERTIES**

Mayor Davis opened the sealed property bids as follows:

1. 1506 W Main Street - \$3,111.00
2. 611 Main Street - \$625.00
3. 502 Noel Street - \$625.00
4. Magnolia/Bluff Street - \$2,500.00

Alderwoman Ivy made the motion to accept the bids of \$3,111.00 on 1506 W Main Street, \$625.00 on 611 Main Street, \$625.00 on 502 Noel Street, and \$2,500.00 on Magnolia/Bluff Street, seconded by Alderwoman McIntosh. The vote passed with 7 in favor.

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### c. DISCUSS/CONSIDER PERSONNEL MATTERS – POLICE CHIEF REX PLANT & POLICE OFFICER ERIC GRUWELL

Administrator Owens asked the council to convene into executive session to discuss this matter. Alderwoman Ivy made the motion to convene into executive session, seconded by Alderwoman McIntosh. The vote passed with 7 in favor.

Mayor Davis stated City Council is back in regular session at 7:38 p.m. For the record, Mayor Davis said that recruiting and financing are the issues. Alderwoman Cromwell on being at a crossroads and an interim period. Cromwell also added that with Chief Plant wanting to stay till September 30<sup>th</sup> it gives time for him to finish things and for Sherriff's Office to adjust with helping. After some discussion regarding Chief Plant and the Police Department, Alderwoman Ivy made the motion to rescind Police Chief Plants retirement and extend it till September 30<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Alderman Roberts. The vote passed with 7 in favor.

### d. DISCUSS/CONSIDER ENTERING INTO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH HALL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT WITHIN CITY LIMITS

Administrator Owens on this needing to be a win/win for the community. Owens stated that he was asked to put all this together on the understanding that there would be no police officers as of April 30<sup>th</sup> because of the retirement/resignation letters. This is the negotiation phase where a seventy-five-thousand-dollar offer was made per year, which is six thousand two hundred fifty dollars per month for law enforcement services which comes from unused salaries. Alderman Sweatt made a motion to enter into this interlocal agreement, seconded by Alderman Roberts. No votes as concerns with changes will now change this agreement. Ronny Wilson, on behalf of Hall County, added that their budget is coming up as well. Administrator Owens said he will have to go back and look at things to work with numbers and there could be a special called meeting since there are changes. Alderman McQueen made the motion to table, seconded by Alderwoman Cromwell. The vote passed with 7 in favor. Susan McQueen asked council on if the citizens of Memphis would not get a say so in department closure. Administrator Owens said there has not been anything decided regarding a police department closure. He added that there are steps to closing a department for citizens to take part in. Mayor Davis added that the things they are facing are money and finding people to work.

### e. CONSIDER MAYOR AND COUNCIL ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST


Alderwoman Cromwell thanking everyone and budget is a big thing and seeing Rex as wanting to help and the city not closing the Police Department, but this gives five months to really work into this and figure things out. Alderman Richardson on thanks and we'll get this figured out. Alderman Roberts on this being his last regular meeting as he has a trip planned with his wife. Alderman McQueen on Memphis losing a lot of things. Alderwoman McIntosh thanked Jack and everyone and the decisions needing to be made are not easy. Alderman

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Sweatt on addressing questions about water and sewage for all the additional things toilets going in with the RV Parks. Ronny Wilson added that yes this is an opportunity for Memphis as well as letting the citizens make money off this.

**f. ADJOURN**

Alderman McQueen made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Roberts. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Approved:   
Joe Davis, Mayor

Attest:   
Amalia Gaxiola, City Secretary