

DeFuniak Springs City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
1350 Baldwin Avenue, City Hall
April 27, 2026

Mayor Pro-Tempore A. Heavilin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. followed by the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

The following members were present: Councilmember Todd Bierbaum (Seat 1); Councilmember Josh Sconiers (Seat 2); Mayor Pro-Tempore Amy Heavilin (Seat 3); Councilmember Glen Harrison (Seat 4); Councilmember Danny Cosson (Seat 5).

Also, present were City Manager Koby Townsend, City Attorney Clay Adkinson on conference call, and City Clerk Madison Lewis.

Absent: Mayor Bob Campbell

ITEM 2 – PRESENTATION

ITEM 3 – CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Additions/Deletions to the Consent Agenda**
- B. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

Mayor Pro-Tempore A. Heavilin asked if there were any additions or deletions.

Motion by Councilmember J. Sconiers and seconded by Councilmember T. Bierbaum to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

Vote: Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember J. Sconiers, Aye; Mayor Pro-Tempore A. Heavilin, Aye; Councilmember G. Harrison, Aye; Councilmember D. Cosson, Aye. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. All Ayes. Motion carried.

- C. City Clerk M. Lewis
 - 1. Minutes for Approval – April 13, 2026 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- D. Administration Department
 - 1. City Manager’s Monthly Report – March 2026
- E. Finance Department
 - 1. March 2026 Bill Ratification
- F. Utilities Department
 - 1. Request to Purchase Water Registers (Budgeted)
 - 2. Request to Purchase Water Meters for Bay Springs Project (Budgeted)

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3. ITB 2026-02-UT – Cellular AMI Natural Gas Solution (Solicitation)
- G. Community Development Department
 1. Special Events
 - A. Walton High School Senior Parade
 - B. Fourth of July Celebration
- H. Human Resources Division
 1. Starting Rate of Pay for New Hire (Grants Manager)

ITEM 4 – REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Additions/Deletions to the Regular Agenda
- B. Approval of the Regular Agenda

Mayor Pro-Tempore A. Heavilin asked if there were any additions/deletions to the Regular Agenda.

Motion by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember J. Sconiers to approve the Regular Agenda, as presented.

Vote: Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye, Councilmember J. Sconiers, Aye; Councilmember A. Heavilin, Aye; Councilmember G. Harrison, Aye; Councilmember D. Cosson, Aye. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. All Ayes. Motion carried.

4.C. 1 City Manager K. Townsend – Ratification of Property Purchase Agreement – N 4th St.

City Manager K. Townsend described purchase agreement for the North 4th Street property and for \$25,000 to be used for wastewater treatment plant. He explained that the funds for this purchase would come out of sewer capacity fees by 25%.

Motion by Councilmember J. Sconiers and seconded by Councilmember T. Bierbaum to approve ratification of the purchase agreement for property located on North 4th Street.

Vote: Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye, Councilmember J. Sconiers, Aye; Councilmember A. Heavilin, Aye; Councilmember G. Harrison, Aye; Councilmember D. Cosson, Aye. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. All Ayes. Motion carried.

4.C. 2 City Manager K. Townsend – Request to Purchase Bypass Pump for Lift Station 9

City Manager K. Townsend explained why a bypass pump is needed for lift station 9. He explained that the cost for the bypass pump would be \$64,819.

Motion by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember J. Sconiers to approve the purchase of a bypass pump for lift station 9.

Vote: Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember J. Sconiers, Aye; Councilmember A. Heavilin, Aye; Councilmember G. Harrison, Aye; Councilmember D. Cosson, Aye. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Councilmember A. Heavilin asked for clarification on Mr. Mott's proposal and on the manhole that needed to be lifted.

City Manager K. Townsend stated that the council approved the city to work with Mr. Mott (the developer) in January 2025. He stated they have moved the electrical, but there have not been changes to the manhole.

Councilmember A. Heavilin asked if the council could receive a 24-month history of the lift station.

4.C. 3 City Manager K. Townsend – RFP 2026-01-AP – Runway 9/27 Expansion & Widening Project (Construction Contract)

City Manager K. Townsend explained that the construction company awarded RFP 2026-01-AP for the runway widening expansion project was ECSC, LLC. He further explained that the design consultant and engineering firm, Garver, will issue a notice to proceed with ECSC, LLC with a targeted breaking ground date of June 1.

City Attorney C. Adkinson stated that the contract is appropriate as presented, and any issues discussed would fall under the scope of the change orders.

Motion by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember J. Sconiers to approve the construction contract with ECSC, LLC.

Vote: Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember J. Sconiers, Aye; Councilmember A. Heavilin, Aye; Councilmember G. Harrison, Aye; Councilmember D. Cosson, Aye. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. All Ayes. Motion carried.

4.C. 4 City Manager K. Townsend – RFQ 2026-01-CM – Professional Real Estate Broker Services (Award)

City Manager K. Townsend explained that the city received a response from Parkman & Associates, however, they did not provide mandatory forms as part of the bid package.

Motion by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember J. Sconiers to deny the bid by Parkman & Associates.

Vote: Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye, Councilmember J. Sconiers, Aye; Councilmember A. Heavilin, Aye; Councilmember G. Harrison, Aye; Councilmember D. Cosson, Aye. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. All Ayes. Motion carried.

City Manager K. Townsend asked for next steps from the council on how to move forward with RFP 2026-01-CM.

Councilmember A. Heavilin inquired about why nobody local applied for this.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum does not believe it is necessary to have a realtor to sell properties and offered to engage with EDA to market properties. He also inquired about how the bid was advertised.

Councilmember G. Harrison inquired about having multiple appraisals on property the city wants to sell.

City Attorney C. Adkinson cautioned against that.

Councilmember A. Heavilin suggested that Councilmember T. Bierbaum act at the council's liaison on the EDA board to work on selling the old city hall property and for the RFQ to be revised.

4.C. 5 City Manager K. Townsend – Finance Director Position Update

City Manager K. Townsend explained that we have not received qualified applicants and that we will continue to advertise through Sumpter.

Councilmember A. Heavilin raised concerns that she did not see the position advertised on Indeed within the past two weeks.

City Attorney C. Adkinson agreed that he too had not seen the position advertised within the past 10 days and that from seeing other similar jobs posted, our job qualifications are detailed but there are jobs comparable in pay that require more.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum mentioned adjusting the requirements for the position because they are too restrictive.

Councilmember A. Heavilin doesn't want to lower the standards for the position and asked that City Manger K. Townsend find out how Sumpter is advertising the position and time frames of when it is advertised.

Sara Commander stated that she was finance director for the county for over 12 years and asked if the council is willing to pay a salary that is comparable to other cities.

ITEM 7 – CITIZEN COMMENTS

Sara Commander said that she is thankful for approval of 4th of July, however, she wants to meet with City Manager K. Townsend and Councilmember T. Bierbaum to discuss problems with 4th of July and Halloween parades.

ITEM 8 – CITY ATTORNEY – None at this time.

ITEM 9 – LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS

9.A. 1 Councilmember D. Cosson - 2024 Christmas Reflections

Councilmember D. Cosson explained that he was asked how much was spent on Christmas reflections.

City Manager K. Townsend explained that various departments assist in Christmas reflections and that in fiscal year 2025, reconciled actuals had the event in the black of \$10,672.06.

9.B. 2 Councilmember D. Cosson - Tennis Courts

Councilmember D. Cosson expressed that there are citizens who would like the pickleball lines removed from the tennis courts.

Councilmember A. Heavilin explained that the council had the pickleball lines painted because citizens had asked for that to be done.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum explained that only 1 out of 2 courts had been painted with the pickleball lines.

9.A. 1 Councilmember A. Heavilin – Friends of the Life Enrichment Center

Councilmember A. Heavilin would like to start a program for people to be able donate to the LEC.

City Attorney C. Adkinson stated that an organization could be implemented but that someone from the public would have to start it as a 501c3 or c6.

J. B. Hillard mentioned that companies give money to a 501c3 or a foundation, but they need a leader.

Mindy Henderson stated that she is willing to help if we can find a leader.

Susan Blako said that she has been trying to start this for 10 years, and that she will research who could be a good leader for the start of this organization.

ITEM 10 – EXECUTIVE COMMENTS

City Manager K. Townsend stated that the city is working on the hangar projects and reminded council that the fire assessment workshop is Wednesday.

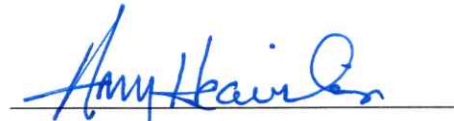
ITEM 11 – COUNCIL COMMENTS

All Council members expressed looking forward to being back in the chamber hall on Wednesday and hoped that Mayor B. Campbell feels better.

ITEM 12 – ADJOURNEMNT

Mayor Pro-Tempore A. Heavilin adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Approved:



Amy Heavilin, Mayor Pro-Tempore

ATTEST:



Minutes taken by Madison Lewis, City Clerk
Proper notice having been duly given

