



ATHENS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION

The Athens City Council met in regular session on **Tuesday, June 17, 2025**, at 6:00 p.m. in the Athens City Hall Council Chambers with Mayor Eaton presiding. Vice Mayor Curtis led the invocation. Councilmember Pelley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call:

PRESENT: Duggan, Pelley, Curtis, Eaton

ABSENT: Sherlin

The following decisions were made and ordered to be part of the records of the Athens City Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Mayor Curtis moved to approve the minutes of Tuesday, May 20, 2025 – Regular Session; Councilmember Duggan seconded.

Councilmember Duggan then moved to amend the minutes to correct the recorded vote on the motion by Councilmember Sherlin to amend the FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget by adding three (3) Fire Department employees; Vice Mayor Curtis seconded.

The originally recorded vote was:

YEAS: Duggan, Curtis

NAYS: Sherlin

ABSTAIN: Eaton

The correct vote is as follows:

YEAS: Duggan, Sherlin

NAYS: Curtis

ABSTAIN: Eaton

Main motion as amended, approved.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Duggan, Pelley, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS:

COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. VIVID Award

Councilmember Pelley recognized Roscoe Morgan for his enduring patriotism and commitment to displaying U.S. flags throughout the community.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS GERMANE TO THE AGENDA

- Elise Howell, representing the Mid-East Tennessee Community Chorus (METCC), spoke regarding the \$5,000 funding request included in the proposed FY 2025-26 budget.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Accept Athens Utilities Board Presentation of Annual Budget FY 2025-26
- B. Approve Athens City Schools Budget Amendment #2 for FY 2024-25
- C. Approve Athens City Board of Education Resolution 2025-2
- D. Approve Athens City Board of Education Resolution 2025-3
- E. Approve Application for a Safety First Grant from Norfolk Southern Resolution 2025-12

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- F. Approve Application for a Federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant from FEMA
Resolution 2025-13
- G. Approve Declaration of Surplus City Property - Poly Tank and Pump from Fire Dept.
Resolution 2025-14
- H. Approve Proposed Procurement Policies and Procedures
Resolution 2025-15
- I. Approve Declaration of Surplus City Property – Traffic Signal Controllers and Dumpsters from Public Works Dept.
Resolution 2025-16
- J. Authorize the City Manager to obtain cost estimates for WWI and WWII monuments for Veterans Park that conform to the existing monuments.

Vice Mayor Curtis moved to approve all consent agenda items as presented; Councilmember Duggan seconded.

Mayor Eaton moved to amend item J to also include a Revolutionary War monument; Councilmember Duggan seconded.

Amendment approved.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Duggan, Pelley, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS:

Main motion as amended, approved.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Duggan, Pelley, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS:

ORDINANCES

A. FY 2024-25 Budget Amendment

Public Hearing and Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1140

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025

Mayor Eaton opened the Public Hearing. There being no public comments, the hearing was closed.

Vice Mayor Curtis moved to approve the FY 2024-25 Budget Amendment; Councilmember Pelley seconded.

Motion approved.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Duggan, Pelley, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS:

B. FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget

Public Hearing and Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1141

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A BUDGET AND SET THE TAX RATE ON TAXABLE PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2025 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026.

Mayor Eaton opened the Public Hearing. There being no public comments, the hearing was closed.

Vice Mayor Curtis moved to approve the FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget and the Included Fee Schedule; Councilmember Pelley seconded.

Councilmember Duggan proposed an amendment to the budget to consolidate the auto allowance into the travel expense line item; the motion failed for a lack of a second.

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Main motion approved.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Duggan, Pelley, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS:

OLD BUSINESS

The Council had no pending matters of old business for discussion or action.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Amending Athens City Code Title 7 & Title 12

First Reading of Ordinance No. 1142

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ATHENS CITY CODE, TITLE 7 ENTITLED "FIRE PROTECTION AND FIREWORKS" AND TITLE 12 ENTITLED "BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION" TO ADOPT THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODES FOR FIRE (IFC), BUILDING (IBC), PLUMBING (IPC), FUEL GAS (IFGC), MECHANICAL (IMC), ENERGY CONSERVATION (IECC), AND EXISTING BUILDING (IEBC); AND CREATE CHAPTER 12-XI ENTITLED "EXISTING BUILDING CODE".

Vice Mayor Curtis moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1142;

Councilmember Pelley seconded.

Motion approved.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Duggan, Pelley, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS:

B. Councilmember Pelley moved to have a called meeting to discuss “*why one citizen could not touch a building and not make changes but another citizen could*”; the motion failed for a lack of a second.

C. Councilmember Pelley moved to add a splash pad at Cook Park; the motion failed for a lack of a second.

D. Councilmember Duggan moved to add a 4-way stop at Miami Street and Matlock Avenue; Vice Mayor Curtis seconded.

Motion approved.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Duggan, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS: Pelley

REPORTS

Community Development 1st Quarter Building Report
Director of Community Development, Anthony Casteel

Finance Department Monthly Report
Director of Finance, Mike Keith

Fire Department Monthly Report
Fire Chief, Brandon Ainsworth

Police Department Monthly Report
Police Chief, Fred Schultz

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Program of Work
City Manager, Randall Dowling

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- Linda Long, spoke on the issues of the splash pad at Cook Park and the sidewalk along Hammerhill Road.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Eaton asked for a vote to adjourn the meeting.

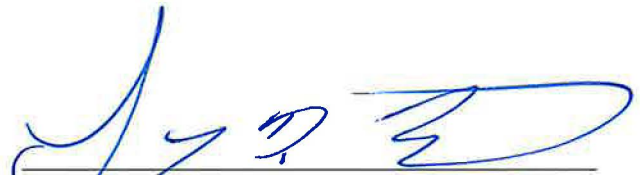
The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:12 p.m.

Roll call vote:

YEAS: Duggan, Pelley, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS:



RANDALL DOWLING, City Manager

LARRY EATON, Mayor