



ATHENS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION

The Athens City Council met in regular session on **Tuesday, February 17, 2026**, at 6:00 p.m. in the Athens City Hall Council Chambers, with Mayor Eaton presiding. Rev. Skip White led the invocation. Councilmember McCowan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call:

PRESENT: McCowan, Duggan, Sherlin, Curtis, Eaton

ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Tuesday, January 20, 2026 – Regular Session

Vice Mayor Curtis moved to approve the minutes as presented; Councilmember Sherlin seconded.

APPROVED

Roll call vote:

YEAS: McCowan, Duggan, Sherlin, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS: None

COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- A. Athens City Middle School
- B. McMinn Warming Center
- C. VIVID award presented to Victoria White

CITIZENS COMMENTS GERMANE TO THE AGENDA

- Glenn Whiting, Jacob Whiting, Samuel Whiting, and Connie Whiting all commented on the mediation between the City of Athens and Glenn Whiting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Purchase of Replacement Vehicle for Parks & Recreation Department Using State Contract Pricing.
- B. Award Bid for RFB 26-1 to Demolish Dilapidated Residential Structures to Stephens Excavating, LLC in the Amount of \$24,235 for Properties Located at 102 Euclid Avenue, 206 Rose Street, 206 Stansberry Street, and to Freedom Rolloffs, LLC in the Amount of \$20,200 for Properties Located at 1217 Clayton Street, 206 Sharp Road, and 512 Tellico Avenue.
- C. Approve Heritage Park Parking Lot Paving.
- D. Approve Resolution 2026-05, a Resolution to Authorize the City of Athens, Tennessee to Apply for Funding Through the Local Parks and Recreation Fund (LPRF) to Extend the Eureka Trail to Prof Powers Park and Construct Associated Amenities within the Park.
- E. Approve Resolution 2026-06, a Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Tennessee Highway Safety Office.

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- F. Approve Resolution 2026-07, a Resolution Authorizing the City of Athens, Tennessee to Accept Grant Funding from the Tennessee Department of Health to Create a Healthy Living Trail at the Mayfield Stormwater Project Site.
- G. Approve Resolution 2026-08, a Resolution Authorizing the City of Athens, Tennessee to Accept Grant Funding from the Tennessee Department of Health to Update Signage at Heritage Park.

Vice Mayor Curtis moved to approve the consent agenda as presented; Councilmember McCowan seconded the motion.

PASSED

Roll call vote:

YEAS: McCowan, Duggan, Sherlin, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS: None

ORDINANCES

-None-

OLD BUSINESS

-None-

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution 2026-09, a Resolution Authorizing the City of Athens to Apply for Funding Through the Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) Rescue Squad Grant Program

Vice Mayor Curtis moved to approve Resolution 2026-09; Councilmember Duggan seconded the motion.

PASSED

Roll call vote:

YEAS: McCowan, Duggan, Sherlin, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS: None

- B. City-Whiting Mediation

Vice Mayor Curtis moved to rescind the motion to authorize mediation with Glenn Whiting that was made on October 21, 2025; Councilmember Duggan seconded the motion.

PASSED

Roll call vote:

YEAS: McCowan, Duggan, Sherlin, Curtis, Eaton

NAYS: None

REPORTS

- A. Finance Department Monthly Report
- B. Fire Department Monthly Report
- C. Police Department Monthly Report

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER


- A. Program of Work


CITIZENS COMMENTS

- Donnie Ownby announced that he is running for the Tennessee 3rd District U.S. House of Representatives.
- Glenn Whiting commented on the cancellation of mediation between himself and the City. He also commented on the expenses for gifts related to the Mayor and City Manager's trip to Japan for the 2025 SEUS Conference and visit to Isahaya.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Eaton adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.


Randall Dowling, City Manager


Larry Eaton, Mayor