

TOWN OF LOUISVILLE, TENNESSEE
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

June 9, 2026

6:00 p.m.

Present: Jill Pugh – Mayor, Daniel Franklin – Vice Mayor, Steven Kelley – Alderman, Lysia Vaught – Alderman, John Loope - Alderman

Others Present: Caleb Wheeler – Recorder, Rob Goddard – Town Attorney, Amy Callahan – Administrative Assistant, Roger Byrds – Town Engineer, 18 citizens

A quorum was established.

The invocation was offered, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes

Mayor Pugh presented the minutes from May 12, 2026, Public Hearing and Regular meeting.

MOTION by Alderman Loope to approve the minutes with changes from the May 12, 2026. Second by Alderman Kelley. Vice Mayor Franklin abstained. Vote: **UNANIMOUS. MOTION PASSES.**

Mayor's Report

Mayor Pugh reported that the recent Party in the Park was well attended and successful despite temporary traffic disruptions caused by TDOT roadway striping in the area. Several residents contacted the Town regarding access to the park, but all attendees were ultimately able to reach the event. Mayor Pugh noted that both children and parents enjoyed the event and that it continues to be a successful community tradition since its inception several years ago.

Mayor Pugh reported that the Town has recently experienced multiple cybersecurity incidents affecting both Town and personal accounts of staff members. Amy has been obtaining bids to improve the Town's cybersecurity measures. She briefly addressed the Board, explaining that cyberattacks against local governments are becoming increasingly common and that additional safeguards are necessary. Board members were encouraged to bring any additional cybersecurity suggestions to the upcoming workshop so improvements can be considered before moving forward with enhanced security measures.

Mayor Pugh shared that approximately 824 homes and apartments have been approved for development near the intersection of U.S. Highway 321 and Old Glory Road. Although these developments are outside the Town limits, they are expected to increase traffic through Louisville.

The Department of Defense has approved funding to relocate the entrance to the Air Base from Air Base Road to Louisville Road, directly across from Proffitt Springs Road. Construction is expected to begin this fall.

Mayor Pugh announced the passing of Dexter Justice, TDOT Region 1 Director, who had worked closely with the Town on the Project Eagle roadway improvements. The Board expressed appreciation for his service and extended condolences to his family. Amanda Snowden is the new TDOT Region 1 Director, who will oversee the continuation of Project Eagle.

Mayor Pugh reported several ongoing property maintenance issues being addressed by staff, including a temporary power connection serving a camper and residence under construction. The property owner has been out of state but is expected to return to complete the project. Concerns continue regarding neglected properties on Topside Road. Staff continues working to determine the most effective method of notifying the property owner under the Town's recently adopted property maintenance ordinance.

Mayor Pugh welcomed several new businesses to the community, including:

- A new restaurant at the marina.
- A new guitar shop located near Louisville Nutrition.
- A new veterinary clinic on Samples Road serving small animals.

Mayor Pugh announced:

- The Fall Festival is scheduled for September 12.
- A TVA permit walkthrough is scheduled for the following day for those wishing to participate.
- Design work for the disc golf course continues and construction will proceed once the final design is approved.
- Additional Veterans Honor banners have been ordered due to continued community interest.

Mayor Pugh reported that Debbie successfully underwent shoulder replacement surgery and will remain out of the office during her recovery. The Board was asked to keep her in their thoughts and prayers and expressed appreciation for her efforts to ensure a smooth transition before her leave.

Mayor Pugh reported that the Town's recent decision to join the Tennessee RiverLine initiative is progressing. The program has received an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant, which is expected to allow Louisville to participate as a RiverTown with little or no cost to the Town. Additional information will be provided as the project moves forward.

Staff reports: Building & Codes, Streets, Administrative

Building & Codes Update – Amy Callahan

Permits for May

- 3 accessory building permits
- 1 addition permit
- 1 new construction permit
- Permits for May totaled \$4702

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS (5 minute limit)

Anna Gibson addressed the Board regarding several items included in the proposed budget. She questioned the need for a proposed Town Hall fence, noting that a park entrance is already included in the Town Hall Pavilion grant project. She also questioned budget line items for capital outlay equipment and Town Hall parking lot improvements, expressing the opinion that some of these improvements appeared to duplicate items already included in grant-funded projects.

Ms. Gibson also commented on the Town's revenue, stating that she did not believe the Town had a revenue problem and encouraged the Board to evaluate existing revenue sources before pursuing additional commercial development. She suggested exploring opportunities to generate revenue through rental of Town facilities and parking areas. Additionally, she expressed concern regarding the Town's use of its social media platforms to promote private businesses, suggesting that all businesses should have equal access or that a fee-based advertising policy be considered.

Barry Ottinger addressed the Board regarding previous public comments directed toward him. He stated that he believed recent criticism of his work had resulted in increased public support for his efforts. He discussed several code enforcement and property maintenance issues he has worked on within the Town, including abandoned boats, unauthorized occupants, and cleanup efforts at various properties. Mr. Ottinger also referenced previous complaints made against him and expressed concern regarding statements made about his work at prior public meetings and other governmental meetings. He further commented on the proposed resolution regarding check-signing authority, noting his belief that elected officials should maintain high ethical standards. Mr. Ottinger also expressed concerns regarding the proposed resolution authorizing the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Treasurer as check signatories. He referenced a previously filed ethics complaint involving the Vice Mayor and questioned whether an official with an unresolved ethics complaint should be authorized to sign town checks.

Bill Madison asked whether an additional fire hydrant would be installed as part of the water line work taking place on Turtle Cove off Light Pink Road.

Mayor Pugh explained that the water line installation is a project being completed by South Blount Utility District and not by the Town. She stated she was unsure whether an additional fire hydrant was included in the project but would contact the utility district to obtain an update and report back.

Mr. Madison noted that an additional hydrant near the end of Turtle Cove could improve fire protection in the area by reducing the need to stretch fire hoses across Light Pink Road during emergencies.

Financial Report

Caleb Wheeler presented the financial report for May 2026

MOTION by Vice Mayor Franklin to approve the financial report for May 2026. Second by Alderman Kelley. VOTE: UNANIMOUS. **MOTION PASSES.**

New Business

Ordinance Separating the Offices of Town Recorder and Treasurer (First Reading)

The Board considered an ordinance separating the combined offices of Town Recorder and Treasurer into two separate positions. Mayor Pugh explained that, due to an upcoming staff transition and the departure of the current Town Recorder/Treasurer, it was appropriate to separate the positions going forward.

During discussion, the Board noted that the ordinance stated it would become effective immediately, although the ordinance would require a second reading before final adoption. A motion was made to amend the ordinance to state that it would become effective upon passage.

MOTION by Alderman Loope to approve the with changes from the May 12, 2026. Second by Vice Mayor Franklin. Vote: UNANIMOUS. **MOTION PASSES.**

Ordinance Amending the Purchasing Ordinance (First Reading)

The Board considered the first reading of an ordinance amending the Town's Purchasing Ordinance.

Mayor Pugh explained that the proposed amendments would require updates to the Town's purchasing procedures, including additional documentation for purchases. She noted that the Town has historically not utilized purchase orders and that implementing such a requirement would necessitate revisions to existing administrative procedures. Mayor Pugh recommended replacing the reference to "purchase orders" in the ordinance with "required documentation,"

allowing the Town's purchasing policy to specify the documentation required for each purchase.

Mayor Pugh stated that the Town has consistently followed its existing purchasing policies and has not violated any current purchasing requirements. She addressed comments made at a previous meeting regarding certain purchases, including the purchase of park trash receptacles, explaining that the Town selected durable, commercial-grade receptacles intended for long-term use and purchased them from the same supplier previously used for Town parks. Mayor Pugh reiterated her commitment to responsible stewardship of taxpayer funds and stated that she would continue to follow all purchasing policies adopted by the Board.

Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to amend the ordinance by replacing the term "**purchase order**" with "**required documentation**."

MOTION by Alderman Loope to approve the changes. Second by Alderman Kelley. Vote: UNANIMOUS. **MOTION PASSES.**

Agenda Amendment

Mayor Pugh noted that the agenda items regarding the appointment of the Town Treasurer and the designation of authorized check signatories should be considered in reverse order so that the Treasurer could be appointed before being designated as an authorized signer on Town bank accounts.

MOTION by Alderman Kelley to approve the amendment to the agenda accordingly. Second by Vice Mayor Franklin. Vote: UNANIMOUS. **MOTION PASSES.**

Resolution Appointing Town Treasurer

The Board considered a resolution appointing Cheri Flynn as Town Treasurer.

Mayor Pugh noted that Ms. Flynn had previously served the Town and highlighted her qualifications and experience. Board members welcomed her and expressed appreciation for her willingness to serve the Town.

MOTION by Vice Mayor Franklin to approve. Second by Alderman Vaught. Vote: UNANIMOUS. **MOTION PASSES.**

Resolution Designating Authorized Bank Signatories

Following the appointment of the Town Treasurer, the Board considered a resolution designating the **Mayor, Town Treasurer, and Vice Mayor** as the authorized signatories on all Town bank accounts and rescinding any prior resolutions establishing check-signing authority.

MOTION by Alderman Loope to approve. Second by Vice Mayor Franklin. Vote: UNANIMOUS. **MOTION PASSES.**

Paving Project Update

Roger Byrd reported that the current paving and shoving bids are open until June 25, 2026.

Discussion included installation of additional speed limit reminder signs on certain streets to encourage motorists to slow down, particularly in areas with hills and curves. Roger noted that the posted speed limit in the affected area is 20 mph.

Traffic Safety Discussion – Johnston Road Area

Roger Byrd presented traffic crash data for the Johnson Road and Topside Road area covering the past three years.

Discussion followed regarding the roadway's limited sight distance, blind hills, and curves. Roger reported consulting with a traffic engineer, who advised that there is no simple engineering solution due to the roadway's existing topography. The engineer indicated that additional stop signs would not be appropriate because of the limited visibility and suggested that traffic enforcement remains the most effective option.

The Board agreed to continue monitoring traffic conditions and reviewing crash data before making further recommendations regarding traffic control measures.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027 (Second Reading)

MOTION by Vice Mayor Franklin to approve. Second by Mayor Pugh. Mayor Pugh and Alderman Loope stated secondary conflicts of interest. Vote: UNANIMOUS. **MOTION PASSES.**

Public Comments – Non-Agenda Items

Anna Gibson addressed the Board regarding several matters.

Ms. Gibson clarified that she owns property in Louisville where members of her family reside, although she also owns property in Florida. She stated that her comments at Board meetings are intended to address matters of public concern and should not be interpreted as personal attacks against Board members or staff.

She also discussed proposed data center regulations currently under consideration in Blount County, expressing concern about the potential impact such developments could have on utility

infrastructure and the surrounding communities. Ms. Gibson encouraged the Board to monitor the proposed ordinance and support strong land use regulations related to data centers.

In response, Mayor Pugh noted that the Town had previously addressed data centers through amendments to its zoning ordinance. Under the Town's current regulations, data centers are permitted only in Industrial (I-1) zoning districts, and the Town currently has no property zoned Industrial. Mayor Pugh stated that the Board had proactively addressed the issue and offered to provide contact information for additional information regarding the county's proposed ordinance.

Libby Young expressed concerns about a property on Topside Road that hadn't been mowed this year.

Adjournment

MOTION by Alderman Kelley to adjourn the meeting. Second by Alderman Loope. Vote: UNANIMOUS. **MOTION PASSES.** The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.



Jill Pugh, Mayor

Town Recorder