The Sherwood City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Mary Jo Heye-Townsell on Monday, September 28, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sherwood City Council Chambers. Those present were Mayor Mary Jo Heye-Townsell, City Clerk Charlotte Watson, City Attorney Steve Cobb, Council Members Brooks, Williams, Wade, Thomas, McCullough, Townsend and Treat. Council Member Broderick absent.

Father John Miskin, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Church led the prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

Mayor Heye-Townsell asked for a motion to suspend the rules and add a proposed resolution to the agenda as item 8. Council Member Townsend, seconded by Council Member Brooks, made a motion to suspend the rules and add a proposed resolution entitled, **"A resolution amending the Bill Harmon Recreation Center Budget to Transfer Funds from reserves for building maintenance"** to the agenda. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7 ayes, Council Member Broderick absent.

Mayor Heye-Townsell recognized Sylvan Hills High School student Jackson Dowdy for earning National Merit Semi-Finalist status.

Council Member Williams recognized Sylvan Hills High School for the top 10% in college readiness and top 15% in curriculum breadth by U.S. News & World Report.

Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member Thomas, made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 24, 2026. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7ayes and Council Member Broderick absent.

August 2026 City of Sherwood Financials

Sherwood Finance Director Alex Centeno delivered an update:

- on the timing of the annual audit final report and the report is expected to be clean with zero findings.
- Revenue and spending trends indicate a strong year-end financial position
- Departments have submitted their 2027 budget requests; a preliminary consolidated view of the 2027 budget is expected by the October council meeting.

A proposed resolution entitled, **"A resolution amending the Bill Harmon Recreation Center budget to transfer funds from reserves for building maintenance"** was read. Maintenance Director Austin Spears presented a request regarding the pool boiler at the Bill Harmon Recreation Center. Austin explained the following problems with the boiler:

- The boiler is failing due to significant sediment buildup, overheating, and a cracked refractory.
- The current operation is limited to 50% capacity and increasing output triggers safety shutdowns.
- The boiler was never designed for chlorinated pool environments; chemical storage in the same room contributed to damage.
- The replacement cost will be approximately $64,000, including installation.
- The new unit will be designed specifically for chlorinated pool water
- The new boiler will be received in approximately 10-12 weeks and will be able to be purchased using the interlocal purchasing system allowed by state law.

Council Member Thomas, seconded by Council Member Williams, made a motion to adopt the resolution. The resolution was adopted with a roll call vote of 7 ayes, Council Member Broderick absent.

Committees/Commissions

Planning Commission:

A proposed ordinance entitled, **"An ordinance amending a conditional use permit for the property located at 14815 Highway 107, and for other purposes"** was read for the first time. City Planner, Shelby Notias explained the purpose of the proposed ordinance. Council Member Williams expressed concerns about historical petroleum soil

contamination, DEQ documentation showing possible contamination remains. Sherwood residents Michael and Kristi Hall of 4338 Amy Lane noted concerns regarding the following:

- reduced property value by appraisers due to contamination
- the contamination remains in the eastern boundary of the site
- non-commercial uses would require a human health risk assessment

The Planning staff confirmed that the property underwent state-regulated remediation and some contamination was allowed to remain in place due to its depth. The planning staff further confirmed that service stations commonly have contamination histories. The Planning Commission reviewed the land-use standards and not environmental policy when approving the request. The council agreed not to advance the proposed ordinance beyond the first reading, citing the need for further review.

Street Committee:

Jacksonville Cato Phase 2 construction will begin in October.

Parks and Recreation Committee:

Chairman Shelby Thomas indicated that the Sherwood resident with concerns regarding music at the Bill Harmon Recreation Center pool had resolved their concerns and asked to be removed from the agenda. The Parks and Recreation Committee will have an upcoming meeting on October 12 at 6pm.

Wastewater Committee:

Council Member Williams reported that a draft report from Crist Engineering had been distributed to council members. The next Wastewater Committee meeting will be Tuesday, October 6 at 6pm in the Council Chambers.

A proposed resolution entitled, **"A resolution reappointing Edward Williams to serve on the Sherwood Public Facilities Board"** was read. Council Member Thomas, seconded by Council Member Brooks, made a motion to adopt the proposed resolution. Motion passed with a roll call vote of 7 ayes, Council Member Broderick absent.

A proposed ordinance entitled, **"An ordinance certifying to the Pulaski County Clerk the rate of taxation to be levied by the City of Sherwood, Arkansas, on the taxable real and personal property for tax year 2026; declaring an emergency and for other purposes"** was read for the first time. Sherwood resident Mike Massullo of 8725 Trail Creek spoke in opposition of the 1.3 mill tax. Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member McCullough, made a motion to suspend the rules and advance the proposed ordinance to the second reading. Motion passed with a roll call vote of 7 ayes, Council Member Broderick absent. A proposed ordinance entitled, **"An ordinance certifying to the Pulaski County Clerk the rate of taxation to be levied by the City of Sherwood, Arkansas, on the taxable real and personal property for tax year 2026; declaring an emergency and for other purposes"** was read for the second time. Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member McCullough, made a motion to suspend the rules and advance the proposed ordinance to the third reading. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7 ayes, Council Member Broderick absent. A proposed ordinance entitled, **"An ordinance certifying to the Pulaski County Clerk the rate of taxation to be levied by the City of Sherwood, Arkansas, on the taxable real and personal property for tax year 2026; declaring an emergency and for other purposes"** was read for the third time. Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member McCullough, made a motion to adopt the proposed ordinance. The ordinance was adopted with a roll call vote of 6 ayes, Council Member Wade no and Council Member Broderick absent. The emergency clause passed with a roll call vote of 7 ayes, Council Member Broderick absent.

City Attorney Steve Cobb asked for a motion to table the proposed ordinance from the August agenda entitled, **"An ordinance establishing a policy for review and approval of service and maintenance agreements."** Council Member Thomas, seconded by Council Member Townsend, made a motion to table the proposed ordinance. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5 ayes, Council Members Williams and Wade no and Council Member Broderick absent.

Old Business

- Sherwood Education Foundation Board members Noah Treat and Linda George gave an update on the proposed Sherwood School District efforts.

New Business

- Sherwood District Court Judge Milas Hale sought approval for staff attendance at the annual Court Technology Conference, purchase upgraded courtroom software and equipment and the use of the court automation fund. Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Thomas, made a motion to approve the Sherwood District Court request. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7 ayes, Council Member Broderick absent.
- Council Member Townsend clarified the reasoning for a delayed certificate of occupancy for the property at 10303 Hwy 107. City Planner, Shelby Notias explained the city procedures for upholding approved site plan requirements.
- Council Member Townsend clarified that the Sherwood Golf Course would not be sold for low-income housing. The golf course is bonded and legally cannot be sold. Golf operations are performing better than ever, with record numbers of rounds played.

Announcements

- Sherwood Police Chief Hagar recognized Mayor Heye-Townsell as the Arkansas Chiefs Association Mayor of the Year.
- Sherwood Economic Developer Tammy Tompkins announced that Slick City Action Park will open in 2027 at 5430 Landers Road.
- Oct. 1: Sherwood Chamber of Commerce Meet the Candidates, 11:30, 501-835-7600
- Oct. 6: Senior Luncheon, 11:30 am, Jack Evans Senior Center, RSVP 501-834-5770
- Oct. 12: Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day, City offices are open
- Oct. 15: Sherwood Police Dept. Night to Unite, City Hall Park 5-8:30pm
- Oct. 16: Sherwood Chamber Annual Golf Scramble, The Greens at North Hills
- Oct. 17: Sherwood Shred A Thon at Jack Evans Senior Center 9am-noon
- Oct. 23: Youth Basketball Registration Closes
- Oct. 30: Trunk or Treat, Sherwood Sports Complex 5-7pm
- Oct. 30: Shadows over Sherwood, Sherwood Rotary, 501-681-6032

Adjourn

Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member Townsend, made a motion to adjourn at 7:26 p.m.

ATTEST:

Charlotte Watson

Charlotte Watson, City Clerk

Mary Jo Heye-Townsell

Mary Jo Heye-Townsell, Mayor