



**Town of Atoka Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Public Hearing: Political Sign Regulations
January 13, 2026, 6:15 p.m.**

The Town of Atoka Board of Mayor and Aldermen held a public hearing to obtain citizens' input on an ordinance to adopt Political Sign Regulations in the Zoning Ordinance. The first consideration took place on December 11, 2025, and notice this public hearing was published on December 18, 2025.

Present: Mayor Barry Akin, Aldermen Chris Detje, Brett Giannini, John Harber, Jeremy Lightsey, Chris Schaeffer, Jessie Poole.

Also Present: Town Administrator Marc Woerner, Town Recorder Rachel Covarrubias, Police Chief Anthony Rudolph, Fire Chief Bill Scott, Parks Director Dorothy Isbell, Planning Consultant Jim Atkinson, Public Works Director Wesley Yarbrough and attached list.

Absent: None

Mayor Akin called the public hearing to order at 6:15 p.m.

Pam Givens at 588 Williamsburg Drive inquired about what changes were made within the ordinance. Mayor Akin stated the changes that were made were a standard distance from the street and two signs per property.

Alderman Harber made a motion to end the public hearing. Alderman Lightsey seconded the motion. Public hearing ended at 6:17 p.m.

**Town of Atoka Board of Mayor and Aldermen
Regular Monthly Meeting
January 13, 2026, 6:30 p.m.**

The invocation was led by Mayor Akin. All present joined in the pledge to the flag.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Akin at 6:33 p.m.

The Town of Atoka Board of Mayor and Aldermen met with the following:

Present: Mayor Barry Akin, Aldermen Chris Detje, Brett Giannini, John Harber, Jeremy Lightsey, Jessie Poole and Chris Schaeffer.

Also present: Town Administrator Marc Woerner, Town Recorder Rachel Covarrubias, Town Attorney Amber Shaw, Police Chief Anthony Rudolph, Fire Chief Bill Scott, Parks Director Dorothy Isbell, Public Works Director Wesley Yarbrough and attached list.

Absent: None

Public Comment:

1. Bill Austin at 55 Clay Cove stated that he is against the increase to the trash collection fee. Mr. Austin also inquired about the status of the roundabout, Mayor Akin advised that the Town is still in the process of talking with the





landowner. Mr. Austin inquired if he would be able to poll the Board whether they are for or against term limits. Town Attorney informed him that he can't poll the Board but the members of the Board would be able to voice their opinion.

2. Henry Suter at 37 Vernon inquired about the new trash contract, Mayor Akin advised that the contract isn't new, but an extension of the initial contract. Mr. Suter inquired about the repayment plan of the new fire apparatus.

Consent Agenda – Exhibits A through Exhibit H – Alderman Harber made a motion to approve the consent agenda except for Exhibit B. Alderman Schaeffer seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Resolution 26-01-01 – Approval of FFCF Grant Submittal – Exhibit C – Alderman Harber made a motion in the consent agenda to approve. Alderman Schaeffer seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Resolution 26-01-02 – Approval of Establishing Bank Account – Exhibit D – Alderman Harber made a motion in the consent agenda to approve. Alderman Schaeffer seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Ordinance – 26-01-01 – Final Consideration – Zoning Ordinance – Political Signs – Exhibit K – The Board had no objection to the ordinance being read by title only. The Town Recorder read the ordinance by title only. Alderman Poole made a motion to approve the ordinance on final consideration. Alderman Schaeffer seconded the motion. Roll call: Giannini-yes, Harber-yes, Schaeffer-yes, Detje-yes, Poole-yes, Lightsey-yes. Motion carried.

Ordinance – Final Consideration – Solid Waste Fees – Exhibit L – The Board had no objection to the ordinance being read by title only. The Town Recorder read the ordinance by title only. Alderman Harber made a motion to approve the ordinance on final consideration. Alderman Detje seconded the motion. Roll call: Giannini-no, Harber-yes, Detje-yes, Lightsey-no, Schaeffer-no, Poole-no. Motion did not carry. Alderman Poole made a motion to direct Marc to bring back an ordinance that keeps the solid waste fees at current rate of \$21.25 through 2026 and a rate of \$22.25 for 2027. Alderman Schaeffer seconded the motion. Detje, Giannini, Harber, Poole, Schaeffer-yes. Lightsey-nay. Motion carried.

New Business:

Resolution 26-01-03 – Approval of Fire Apparatus Financing – Exhibit B – Alderman Schaeffer made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Alderman Poole seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Employee Recognition – Years of Service – Mayor Akin and Police Chief Anthony Rudolph recognized Sergeant Dylan Daniel, Sergeant Jay Black (not present) and Sergeant Chris Covarrubias for their five years of service to the Town. Chief Rudolph thanked each one for the job and skill set that they bring to not only the department but to the Town as well.

Change Order – Elizabeth Drive Culvert – Exhibit M – Alderman Poole made a motion to approve the change order of \$10,292.15 for a total cost of the project to \$197,850.15. Alderman Lightsey seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

1. **Approval of Poplar Grove Data Sharing Agreement – Exhibit N** – Alderman Poole made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Alderman Harber seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Items from the Mayor, Board of Aldermen, Town Administrator

1. Mayor Akin reminded the Board and citizens that the February 10th meeting has been rescheduled to February 17, 2026.
2. Alderman Giannini thanked Chief Scott for the handling of the baby box and media. Also thanked Gateway Baptist Church for their support of the baby box.



— Town of — **ATOKA**

3. Alderman Harber stated that he was uplifted about the majority of the media that was circulating about the baby box and the Town.
4. Administrator Woerner informed the Board of the following: the scheduled work session regarding wastewater that will be held on January 15th beginning at 5:30 pm. There will be a ribbon cutting for the opening of the renovated Tipton County Animal Shelter on January 14th at 11 am. The annual Tennessee Municipal League (TML) Legislative conference will be held March 2-3, 2026. Town staff will be serving lunch at the Boys and Girls Club on January 16th beginning at 3 pm.

Alderman Poole made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.



Barry L. Akin, Mayor



Rachel Covarrubias, Town Recorder

