

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 8, 2026

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Travis Dotson called to order the regular monthly meeting of the Huntsville City Council at City Hall at 6:00 P.M.

### ROLL CALL / QUORUM

Councilors Stephen Ford, Brad Willis, Leslie Evans, Chrystal Lacey, Roger Eoff, Scott Thomas, Guy Roden and Bettina Coger were present. Watkins called roll and declared a quorum.

### INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Thomas shared the Invocation and Counciler Eoff led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Counciler Eoff made a motion to approve the Agenda, Seconded by Councilor Evans. Motion approved.

### INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Mayor Dotson introduced Lillian Smauels, the event planner for two major events this summer for the 250<sup>th</sup> year celebration. She reported that the first event will be Flag Day celebration, with the Girl Scouts and a few veterans. The program will include remarks on the significance of Flag Day, a ceremonial retirement of the current flag on the square and raising of a new flag. Following the ceremony, a dessert reception will be held at the Basham Building.

Lillian also reported that plans for the Fourth of July celebration at Mitchusson Park, will feature a family zone with inflatables and bounce houses, fully sponsored by Butterball. Live music will be provided by Boulder Creek Band and both of those will be from 6 to 8, with fireworks starting at dusk.

### SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

None

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Ford made a motion to approve the minutes of May 11<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Councilor Evans. Motion approved.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

### CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Written departmental reports were provided to councilors in their emailed agenda packets. These actions were taken, or information was presented during the reporting period:

- Chief Herring reported that if you look at the numbers in his report, that the warnings had doubled, but it was because the PD performed a step program of No Seatbelt for May.

- Public Works director reported that they have been putting new brackets on the light poles for the new banners that are going up for the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration.
- Water Director reported that if you notice in his report that he submitted that water loss looks even worse than it did last month. He reported that the water department might have finally found it. There is a main line that is broken underneath Town Branch, crossing from Cedar Bluff up toward Butterball. He stated that they were able to isolate it and either repair it or decommission it. He also stated that it probably won't show on paper until August.
- Fire Chief Kevin Shinn reported that there will be some changes through the ISO ratings of how the Act 833 money will be distributed not only for the City but also all the neighboring volunteer fire departments in the county.
- Mayor Dotson stated he had some updates to report.
  1. Sidewalks, we have no updates.
  2. Street repairs: We partnered with the water department and patched 15 to 17 streets.
  3. He wanted to give a shoutout to our Animal Control officer Ryan Ran and wanted everyone to know he is doing a fantastic job.
  4. He is thinking about starting a mentorship program for students in the summer months.
  5. He stated that Code Enforcement Officer, Jerney Shinn's last day is July 1<sup>st</sup>. He stated that he will have an interview with Carl Stewart for the position in the morning.
  6. Some properties around town that had complaints have either been cleaned up or are being cleaned up as we speak.
  7. Congressmen Womack will be here June 15<sup>th</sup> at the Basham Building at 10 a.m.
  8. We have received \$800,000 in grant money, with another 98,000 coming for upgrades to the airport.
- Economic Development Director reported that Madison Kienzle, with Regional Planning had completed our comprehensive plan and it will go live on the website tonight at 8:00.

#### COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS PROVIDED

- Water and Sewer Comm-May 21st
- Planning Commission-May 25th
- Infrastructure Committee -May 26th

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Dotson introduced a proposed Ordinance to Rezone Certain Lands from Dual Use Zone (DUZ) to High Density Residential (R3). Councilor Eoff made a motion to place the Ordinance on it's 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading by Title only. Seconded by Councilor Roden. Motion carried. Attorney Fritts read the title. Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilor Eoff. Motion carried. Ord. 2026-5.

Mayor Dotson introduced a proposed Ordinance Amending Title 8 of the Huntsville Vehicle and Traffic of the City of Huntsville, Arkansas w/Emergency Clause. Councilor Eoff made a motion to place the Ordinance on its 1<sup>st</sup> reading, seconded by Councilor Ford. Attorney Fritts read the Ordinance. Councilor Thomas made a motion to suspend the rules and place the Ordinance on its second reading by title only, seconded by Councilor Roden. Attorney Fritts read the title. Councilor Thomas made a motion to suspend the rules and place the Ordinance on its 3<sup>rd</sup> reading by title only, seconded by Councilor Coger. Attorney Fritts read the title. Councilor Eoff made a motion to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilor Lacey. Motion carried. Councilor Thomas made a motion to accept the Emergency Clause, seconded by Councilor Roden. Motion carried. 2026-6

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Dotson introduced a Resolution Regarding the Acceptance of a Certain Donation. Councilor Eoff made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Councilor Ford. Motion carried. 12-2026.

Mayor Dotson introduced a Resolution to Amend the City of Huntsville Personnel Policy. Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Councilor Lacey. Motion carried. 13-2026.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND OTHER

Upcoming meetings and activities were announced.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Eoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Roden. Meeting adjourned 7:25.

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Mayor Travis Dotson

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City Clerk Janice Smith