



City of Jasper
200 Burnt Mountain Road
Jasper, GA 30143

MINUTES | COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING
Thursday, May 28, 2026, 6:00 PM
Location: Chattahoochee Tech – Cherokee Hall
100 Campus Drive, Jasper, GA 30143

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Kirk Raffield
Jim Looney
Brandon Hannah
Steve Lawrence
Tony Davis

STAFF

Brandon Douglas
Kim Goldener
Lorrie Waters
Matt Dawkins
John Sherrer
Mary Elizabeth Burgess
Carly Glaze

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

See Attachment "A"

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Foust

LEGAL COUNSEL

David Syfan

PRESS

Mari Livsey – Know Pickens
Dan Pool – Pickens Progress

- I. Call Meeting to Order @ 6:00pm Mayor Raffield
Mayor Raffield called on Councilmember Jim Looney to verify that a quorum was present.
- II. Adopt Agenda Mayor Raffield
Mayor Raffield called for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Councilmember Brandon Hannah made the motion to adopt the agenda. Councilmember Jim Looney provided the second. The motion passed 4 to 0.
- III. Planning Commission Update Mary Elizabeth Burgess -
Development Director
a. A public hearing was held on a text amendment regarding backing into drive aisles. The amendment would allow vehicles to back into traffic only on one-way streets. Since Jasper no longer permits new one-way streets, the change would apply only to the six existing one-way streets downtown. Staff noted the amendment could add parking flexibility and support traffic calming, with speeds of 15 mph or less, alongside new angled parking. The Planning Commission recommended approval.
b. Alcohol License - An alcohol license request (change of licensee) for El Roble at 660 West Church Street will be on the upcoming Monday night agenda.
- IV. Proposed Event – ArtWalk – rescheduled Carly Glaze – Community
Engagement Manager
a. Angela Reinhardt requested to reschedule a previously approved event from September 12th to September 26th due to scheduling issues.
b. Another Downtown Development Authority (DDA) event is scheduled downtown that day, but they will not use the same area. The Artwalk will not utilize Stegall Alley or Mark Whitfield Street. The calendar change was approved.
- V. City Manager's Office Update
a. JPD Camera Renewal Agreement
Staff discussed a five-year renewal agreement with Axon for JPD body and vehicle cameras, covering August/September 2026 through 2031. The contract totals \$331,000 and includes hardware replacements approximately every two years. The chief said the current fiscal year impact would be less than \$20,000. The item was placed on the consent agenda.
b. 2026 SPLOST account
Discussed the operational requirement to open a separate bank account at Community Bank to segregate 2026 SPLOST funds. The Mayor, Mayor Pro tem and City Manager will be the signatories. Placed on the consent agenda.

- c. House Bill 581 & Millage Rate: Discussed the requirement to adopt a preliminary rollback millage rate prior to receiving notice of assessments. The City's current millage rate is 6.136. Staff will present a resolution for discussion on the upcoming Monday agenda to adopt the certified estimated rollback millage rate at 6.136, pending county confirmation. Not eligible for consent.
- d. Perrow Park Ribbon Cutting Update
Perrow Park & Downtown Live Logistics:
 - Discussed the layout for the June 13th ribbon cutting and subsequent Downtown Live events. Moving the event to the park frees up North and South Main Street parking.
 - Vendors/Alcohol: Beer and wine vendors (clear plastic cups only; no distilled spirits) will be located in the upper deck semicircle gathering space with festoon lighting.
 - Kids Zone: Located in the lower, flat parking area for bounce houses and games.
 - Food Trucks: Routed via the gravel driveway turnaround to park along the green space sidewalk facing Spring Street.
 - Parking & Safety: Addressed concerns regarding removing parking spaces for the event. Staff reiterated that Perrow Park is designed as a pedestrian-focused "people park" to encourage visitors to park elsewhere and walk past core downtown businesses. Public Works has purchased removable bollards to safely secure the pedestrian areas (between the food trucks and kids' zone) from vehicle traffic.
 - Evolution: Emphasized the need for open communication between staff, elected officials, independent boards (DDA, Main Street America), and the public to evaluate logistics and make adjustments after the June 13th event.

VI. Mayor and Council Updates

- a. A council member highlighted the upcoming Artwalk event in downtown Jasper this weekend and advised the public to monitor Facebook pages for weather updates due to forecast of potential thunderstorms.

VII. Executive Session - Legal & Real Estate

Mayor Raffield

Mayor Raffield called for a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Legal & Real Estate. Councilmember Jim Looney made the motion to enter the Executive Session @ 6:43pm and Councilmember Brandon Hannah provided the second. The motion passed 4 to 0.

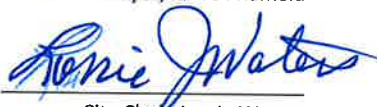
Mayor Raffield called for a motion to exit the Executive Session. Councilmember Steve Lawrence made the motion to end the Executive Session @ 9:14pm and Councilmember Tony Davis provided the second. The motion passed 4 to 0.

VIII. Adjourn

Mayor Raffield called for a motion to adjourn the meeting 9:14pm. Councilmember Jim Looney made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Councilmember Steve Lawrence provided the second. The motion passed 4 to 0.





Mayor, Kirk D. Raffield


City Clerk, Lorrie Waters

JPD

