

THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERPERSONS  
OF THE CITY OF WATERTOWN, WILSON COUNTY, TN

July 15, 2025

The Board of Mayor and Alderpersons of the City of Watertown, Wilson County, TN met on July 15, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. at the Watertown Community Center.

Alderpersons Present: April Pearson, Caleb Barrett, Kyle Stacey, Laura Cromer, Steve Casey, Howell Roberts and Mayor Mike Jennings.

Mayor Jennings called meeting to order and led with prayer.

Motion made by Caleb Barret and proper second by Kyle Stacey to approve 6-17-25 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Howell Roberts and proper second by Steve Casey to approve 6-30-25 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jennings stated the Fiscal Year 25-26 Budget and Tax Rate has been submitted to the Comptroller's Office in a timely manner.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brian Wilson, Chamber President was present to give an update on the Music Festival to be held on July 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be about 500 people arriving on the train, the event will be from 11:00 A.M. to 9:30 P.M. time frame, there will be 3 bands playing and food trucks. The stage will be set up around the gazebo area that way the square can remain open, the parking spots around the gazebo will be closed for event.

Brian stated they have a lot of interest in the upcoming Bluegrass Festival and great things will be coming for the Mile Long Yard Sale.

Dena Dowd was present, she coordinated the Fourth of July Parade this year and went very well. She thanked everyone that attended and helped to make a great success. Jim Amero, Grand Marshall had the best time participating in the parade. Vicki Vaughn took photos and videos, she plans to add to website.

Mayor Jennings thanked Dena for great job coordinating the parade, he thought was outstanding.

Brian stated that they may try having the Music Festival on the same day of Parade next year to keep people entertained until the Fireworks Show.

REPORTS

Sewer Report

Dale Smith presented sewer report, the plant had exceeded Nitrogen limit during the month of April but now is in compliance. The collection system rehab project should help in complying with NPDES permit, as there should be more stable flow at the plant. At the plant itself, there is little that can be done to remove Nitrogen without modifications to the facility.

#### Police Report

Chief Henderlight stated the parking on Newtown Road needs to be enforced for school traffic, it has become a problem with parking on the street and parents parking hours before school is out. Chief would like to install NO Parking signs in that area and warnings will be given so everyone can be aware of the change. The School has sent out information stating that there will be no parking on the streets and reminder on the pickup times. Chief stated this needs to be done for safety reasons especially when the future construction begins on Newtown Road. Chief stated we need to find a permanent solution for the Newtown Road traffic that will benefit everyone.

Chief has asked Bob Morgan to repaint some of the No Parking spots located at Pearl and East Main Street. People are parking on the corner of the Mexican Restaurant and Robertson property, when people are trying to pull out from Pearl they are having to pull out in the roadway to see. The no parking spots have been there just need to be re-painted to be visible.

#### FIRE REPORT

Blake Haun presented fire report with a total of 36 calls, 15 calls inside the City and 21 calls within the County.

Blake stated they have replaced the starter on the Brush Truck and will have Recruit Class beginning in August.

#### Mayor's Reports

Mayor Jennings stated we have received Pay Request #12 from Conrad Construction, the total project amount is \$5,419,580.00 and the amount that has been spent is \$3,019,624.86. The Bond Proceeds continue to draw interest monthly that we have in the LGIP, this will help cover some of the Sewer Expenses.

Mayor Jennings stated that TDEC has issued approval letter for water treatment plant improvements. Water Management has advertised for Qualifications for a firm to conduct a comprehensive water system evaluation to identify water loss through the use of temporary flow metering devices and to install two permanent zone meters in accordance with the design plans. July 8<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for submission.

The water storage tank has been bid and the award was made to Curren Construction.

Rye Engineering has looked at the meter site locations and are ready to start the process to order equipment, this will help the City to identify water loss areas.

Mayor Jennings had a Zoom Meeting with the Government Accountability Office and answered questions about the Paving Project. Also he had a phone conversation with the HUD Congressional Grants Division and discussed the status of grant. There are no issues, the only thing they ask at this time is to give performance reports on a regular basis.

Mayor Jennings stated CSR Engineering has proposed a contract for the Turntable Project, for engineering services related to the CRISI Grant.

Mayor Jennings stated there still will be adjustments on the final numbers for period ending June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Budget Amendments will be added for adjustments, some year-end expenses will need to be added before we have accurate numbers.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Jennings stated the Kiwanis Club always ask the City to join in having Day of Prayer the Sunday before school begins. The Governments and Churches all over the County join in to support, this year will be observed on July 27<sup>th</sup>.

Motion made by Caleb Barrett and proper second by Laura Cromer to approve Proclamation designating Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> as "A Day of Prayer for our Schools" in Wilson County. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jennings recommended the Proposed Contract from CSR Engineering for services pertaining to the Turntable Project.

Motion made by Steve Casey and proper second by Howell Roberts to accept proposed contract from CSR Engineering as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jennings would like to attend the TML Conference in Chattanooga to be held August 2<sup>nd</sup> thru August 5<sup>th</sup>. The cost would be for Conference Registration and three nights lodging. Mayor Jennings stated it's a good conference to attend, if any of the Council Members would like to attend as well.

Motion made by Laura Cromer and proper second by Kyle Stacey to pay for registration fee and lodging for Mayor Jennings to attend TML Conference August 2<sup>nd</sup> thru August 5<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jennings thanked everyone that was involved making the Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks successful.

The next meeting will be held August 19<sup>th</sup>.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS

April Pearson- No Comments

Caleb Barrett- No Comments

Kyle Stacey asked the status on the Old City Hall Building? Cody Blythe stated they were going to work on tomorrow getting the trash out and cleaning more inside the building. The next step will be deciding on where to store the documents that need to be kept.

Chief Henderlight stated he has took pictures, made a destruction report and documented everything that has been removed pertaining to police department items.

Laura Cromer- No Comments

Steve Casey asked the status on MTAS updating ordinances on the website? He stated ordinances are on the MTAS website but not the latest ones. Mayor Jennings needs to review the draft version and the Council can get copies and review as well before sending approval back to MTAS for final version.

Howell Roberts stated he has had several calls from citizens on Commerce Avenue area concerning kids creating some problems.

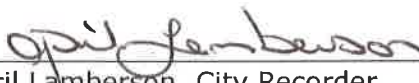
Chief Henderlight is aware of the problem and has already started taking care of the issues.

Motion made by Steve Casey and proper second by Laura Cromer to adjourn meeting.



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Michael R. Jennings, Mayor



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April Lamberson, City Recorder