

SCHEDULED RECESSED MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 07, 2026
5:00 P.M.

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Winona, Mississippi met in a regularly scheduled recessed meeting at City Hall, Tuesday, April 07, 2026, at 5:00 P.M. with the following officers and members present, constituting a legal quorum, to-wit: Alderman Ward 1 Mickey Austin, Alderwoman Ward 3 Katrina Bays, Alderman Ward 4 Charles Harris, Alderwoman Ward 5 Linda Purnell, City Clerk Tracy Holcomb, and City Attorney Adam Kirk, with Mayor Jerry Flowers presiding over the meeting, where, and when the following business was had and done, to-wit:

Mayor Jerry Flowers called the meeting to order.

Bro. Neville Vanderburg gave the invocation.

WELCOME GUESTS

WENDY RUSHING – LIBRARY REPORT: Wendy Rushing came before the board to present the quarterly report for the Winona/Montgomery County Public Library. Wendy also highlights the upcoming events which include Library Week and an assortment of fun activities.

ORMAN KNOX – MEN IN BLACK AND BLUE: Orman Knox came before the board to inform the board and citizens of Winona of the upcoming Health Fair to be held at the Duck Hill Baptist Church on April 18th from 8 to noon.

LISA CHANDLER – VARIANCE: Lisa Chandler came before the board to request a variance for the property on Highway 51 that is zoned for commercial/highway use. Lisa brought renderings of her proposed plan. A public hearing will need to be set. Alderwoman Purnell moved to hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 5th at 5 p.m. for a variance; duly seconded by Alderman Harris. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell voted in favor of holding the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

GLEN NEWMAN – VARIANCE: Glen Newman came before the board to request a variance for the property on 405 Powell Street to build a structure on an existing foundation that does not meet the requirements for distance from property line. Photos of the property were shown. A public hearing will need to be set. Alderwoman Bays moved to hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 5th at 5 p.m. for a variance; duly seconded by Alderman Austin. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell voted in favor of holding the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Alderman Austin moved to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2026, and special call meeting dated March 25, 2026; duly seconded by Alderman Harris. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell voted to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PAYMENT OF REGULAR BILLS: Alderman Harris moved to pay the bills listed on the Docket of Claims, numbered 46289 – 46386 deduction checks authorized by law, all employer contribution checks for social security and retirement for the month of April, and the Water Department refund checks from the customer deposit accounts as listed on the refund check register dated April 2026 be approved for payment, duly seconded by Alderman Austin. Alderman Austin and Alderman Harris voted in favor of paying the bills. Alderwoman Bays and Alderwoman Purnell opposed. Mayor Flowers broke the tie by voting to pay bills. Motion carried by majority vote.

WATER & SEWER ADJUSTMENT REQUESTS: Batch water and sewer adjustment requests were presented to the Board. Alderman Harris moved to issue the following water and sewer adjustments to the accounts based on the factual determination that the customers did not receive the benefit of the utility services, duly seconded by Alderwoman Purnell. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, Alderwoman Purnell voting unanimously in favor of the adjustments.

RENTAL REIMBURSEMENTS: Mayor Flowers requested the board to entertain a motion to reimburse community house and community center rental deposits. Alderwoman Bays moved to reimburse the deposit for the Community House for the following: Winston Armstead and for the Community Center for the following: Mattie Newman and Latrecia Forrest; duly seconded by Alderwoman Purnell. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell voted in favor of reimbursements. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES:

NEW BUSINESS

DEBRITECH AND LOOKS GREAT INVOICES: Invoices from Looks Great are in the amount of \$156,892.12, and invoices from DebrITech in the amount of \$23,931.79, \$11,653.79, \$14,944.02, and \$29,087.03. Alderman Austin moved to pay invoices; duly seconded by Alderman Harris. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell approved to pay the invoices. Motion carried unanimously.

CLASSES AND CONFERENCES: Tracy Holcomb and Kimberly White requested approval to attend the 2026 Municipal Clerk's Conference in Starkville, Mississippi. Clerk Holcomb needed approval for registration, miles and meals, and Clerk White needed approval for registration, motel, meals, and miles. Officer Pekich requested approval to attend a Negotiation Class at MLEOTA and needed approval for meals and the state's reduced mileage rate to take her own vehicle. Alderman Harris moved to approve the classes and conferences for White, Holcomb, and Pekich; duly seconded by Alderwoman Bays. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell approved to class attendance and expenses. Motion carried unanimously.

BARRETT JOHNSON – FIRE CHIEF: Chief Johnson reported to the board of an additional grant to help fund the purchase of the skid unit to complement the Ellard Foundation award of \$10,000. Firefighter Gwain Jefcoat has been instrumental in securing an additional grant.

B. J. EDWARDS – INTERIM CHIEF: Chief Edwards requested the board to accept the resignation letter of Branson Rayburn with eligibility for rehire. Alderman Harris moved to accept the resignation letter; duly seconded by Alderman Austin. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell accepted the letter of resignation. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Edwards requested the board approve advertising for the open patrol spot. Alderman Austin moved to advertise for the open patrol position; duly seconded by Alderman Harris. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell approved to advertise the open position. Motion carried unanimously.

AMBER WARE – CODE ENFORCEMENT: Amber requested the board approve restarting the condemnation proceedings for the property located at 409 Campbell Street. Alderman Harris moved to start condemnation procedure; duly seconded by Alderwoman Bays. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell voted in favor of condemnation. Motion carried unanimously.

JERRY FLOWERS – MAYOR: Mayor requested the board pay the cost of an FAA certification regarding runway lights for the Winona/Montgomery County Airport. The total cost will be \$20,000, with the county paying half of the upfront expense, and the total amount will be reimbursed once the certification is complete. Alderman Austin moved to pay 50% of the upfront cost to recertify the airport lighting; duly seconded by Alderman Harris. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell voted in pay 50% of the initial cost to have the airport lighting recertified. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell voted in favor of paying upfront cost shared with the county. Motion carried unanimously.

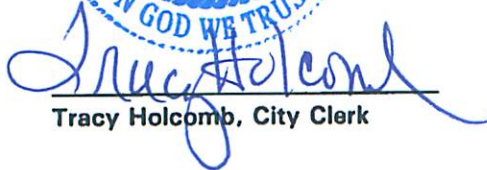
LINDA PURNELL – ALDERWOMAN WARD 5: Alderwoman Purnell moved to have all city employees park city vehicles on city property overnight, with the exception Chief Johnson, Patricia Curington, and Tony Washington. The three subjects are allowed to take a vehicle home. Motion dies without a second.

ADJOURN: Alderwoman Bays moved to recess meeting; duly seconded by Alderman Harris. Alderman Austin, Alderwoman Bays, Alderman Harris, and Alderwoman Purnell voted to adjourn. It was ordered that the meeting be recessed until next appointed time unless it becomes necessary to reconvene before that time.





Jerry A. Flowers, Mayor



Tracy Holcomb, City Clerk