

KIM FOSTER, CITY MANAGER
JAMES SMITH, CITY ATTORNEY



KATHY RAY, MAYOR
JOHN ETHERIDGE, VICE MAYOR
VICKEY ROBERTS, COMMISSIONER
JACKIE JONES, COMMISSIONER
SAM THARPE, COMMISSIONER

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PARIS, TENNESSEE
September 4, 2025
5:00 P.M.

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Paris, Tennessee held a Regular Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2025, in the Paris City Hall Courtroom.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Mayor John Etheridge with the following roll call:

- Present:**

Vice Mayor John Etheridge
Commissioner Jackie Jones
Commissioner Sam Tharpe
Commissioner Vickey Roberts
- Also Present:**

City Manager Kim Foster
City Attorney James Smith
Community Development Director, Jessica Crouch
Fire Chief, Jamie Hinson
Community Engagement Coordinator, Abby Pierce
Finance Director, Liana Compton
- Absent:**

Mayor Kathy Ray
- Media:**

Ken Walker, Paris Post Intelligencer
Shannon McFarlin, WENK/WTPR

Commissioner Vickey Roberts led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a prayer led by Commissioner Sam Tharpe.

- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** August 7, 2025

DISCUSSION: None

ACTION: The minutes stand approved as read.

VOTE: None

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: None

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION: Vice Mayor John Etheridge introduced Liana Compton, the City’s new Finance Director, and expressed that he looks forward to working with her. City Manager Kim Foster added that Liana has been with the City for two weeks, has quickly acclimated to her role, and is doing an outstanding job. She noted that Liana is a wonderful addition to the management team and expressed her appreciation for having her on staff.

SERVICE RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO.1

**Ordinance (No. 1326) to Amend Title 1 Chapter 6 Public Records regarding the Request
Access to Public Records in the Paris Municipal Code (Second Reading)**

Vice Mayor John Etheridge explained that the following Ordinance, presented for second reading, is a housekeeping measure to update verbiage in the City of Paris Municipal Code regarding requests for access to public records. The change reflects an update related to the City Recorder position.

ORDINANCE NO. 1326

AN ORDINANCE to Amend Title 1, Chapter 6 (1-603. C., 1-603. D., 1-604. A. 3. b.) of the Paris Municipal Code

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Paris, Tennessee, Title 1, Chapter 6 of the Paris Municipal Code shall be amended as follows:

- A. That Title 1 Chapter 6 of the Paris Municipal Code be amended by deleting Title 1 Chapter 6 (1-603. C. and 1-603. D) in its entirety. (Ord. #1326, 09/04/2025).
 - C. Requests for inspection may be made orally or in writing on Form A at The City of Paris, City Hall, 100 N. Caldwell Street, Paris, TN 38242 or by phone at 731-641-1402 or by email to thopper@cityofparistn.gov.
 - D. Requests for copies, or requests for inspection and copies, shall be made in writing on Form A in person or by mail at the City of Paris City Hall, 100 N. Caldwell Street, Paris, TN 38242. or by email to thopper@cityofparistn.gov.
- B. That Title 1 Chapter 6 of the Paris Municipal Code be amended by enacting Title 1 Chapter 6 (1-603. C. and 1-603. D) as follows:
 - C. Requests for inspection may be made orally or in writing on Form A at The City of Paris, City Hall, 100 N. Caldwell Street, Paris, TN 38242 or by phone at 731-641-1402 to Public Records Request Coordinator.
 - D. Requests for copies, or requests for inspection and copies, shall be made in writing on Form A in person or by mail at the City of Paris City Hall, 100 N. Caldwell Street, Paris, TN 38242 to Public Records Request Coordinator.

(Ord. #1326, 09/04/2025).

- C. That Title 1 Chapter 6 of the Paris Municipal Code be amended by deleting Title 1 Chapter 6 (1-604. A. 3. b.) in its entirety. (Ord. #1326, 09/04/2025).
 - b. Contact information: The City of Paris, City Hall, 100 N. Caldwell Street, Paris, TN 38242 or by phone at 731-642-1402 or by email to thopper@cityofparistn.gov.
- D. That Title 1 Chapter 6 of the Paris Municipal Code be amended by enacting Title 1 Chapter 6 (1-604. A. 3. b.) as follows:
 - b. Contact information: The City of Paris, City Hall, 100 N. Caldwell Street, Paris, TN 38242 or by phone at 731-642-1402 to Public Records Request Coordinator.

(Ord. #1326, 09/04/2025).

SECTION 2. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect on and after passage of final adoption.

Passed and adopted August 7, 2025.

Passed and adopted September 4, 2025.

Mayor

Finance Director

Discussion: None

Action: Commissioner Sam Tharpe made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackie Jones to approve Ordinance No. 1326 to Amend Title 1 Chapter 6 Public Records regarding the Request Access to Public Records in the Paris Municipal Code.

Vote: Unanimous

OLD BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO.2

Ordinance (No. 1327) to Amend Title 8, Chapter 1 (8-104. #1) Uniform Refuse Disposal Containers in the Paris Municipal Code (Second Reading)

Vice Mayor John Etheridge explained that Ordinance No. 1327, presented for second reading, amends Title 8, Chapter 1, Section 8-104(1) of the Paris Municipal Code regarding uniform refuse disposal containers. The ordinance allows staff to replace container lids when emptying residential garbage at the street. City Manager Kim Foster noted that certain statements in the Municipal Code related to refuse collection no longer reflect the City's mission of providing excellent customer service, and some language is outdated due to changes in policy and collection methods. This ordinance addresses those updates.

ORDINANCE NO. 1327

AN ORDINANCE to Amend Title 8, Chapter 1 (8-104. #1 and 8-105) of the Paris Municipal Code

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Paris, Tennessee, Title 8, Chapter 1 of the Paris Municipal Code shall be amended as follows:

- A. That Title 8, Chapter 1 of the Paris Municipal Code be amended by deleting Title 8, Chapter 1 (8-104, #1) sentences noted in red. (Ord. #1327, 09/04/2025).
- 1.) Residential refuse containers shall be constructed of strong and durable material, rodent and insect proof and not readily corrodible. ~~They shall have a capacity of not more than thirty-two (32) gallons and not less than twenty (20) gallons, and when filled shall weigh not more than one hundred (100) pounds.~~ Residential refuse containers shall ~~be equipped with handles on both sides to facilitate emptying and shall~~ be equipped with tight fitting lids or covers constructed of the same material of such design to preclude the free access of flies and insects and to prevent the containers from collecting water during rain or snow. The lid or cover shall be kept in place at all times except when refuse is being deposited therein or removed therefrom by the collector. ~~The collector is not required to replace lids on containers after refuse is emptied.~~ (Ord. #717, 09/07/89).
- B. That Title 8, Chapter 1 of the Paris Municipal Code be amended by enacting Title 8, Chapter 1 (8-104, #1) as follows.
 1. Residential refuse containers shall be constructed of strong and durable material, rodent and insect proof and not readily corrodible. Residential refuse containers shall be equipped with tight fitting lids or covers constructed of the same material of such design to preclude the free access of flies and insects and to prevent the containers from collecting water during rain or snow. The lid or cover shall be kept in place at all times except when refuse is being deposited therein or removed therefrom by the collector. (Ord. #1327, 09/04/2025).
- C. That Title 8 Chapter 1 of the Paris Municipal Code be amended by deleting Title 8 Chapter 1 (8-105) in its entirety. (Ord. #1327, 09/04/2025).

In no case will it be the responsibility of the City Sanitation Department to shovel or pick up from the ground any accumulation of refuse, including leaves, lawn clippings, brush, packing materials, etc., except as prescribed in paragraph 2(d), Section 8-103.

- D. That Title 8 Chapter 1 of the Paris Municipal Code be amended by renumbering Sections 8-106 through 8-117 as Sections 8-105 through 8-115, respectively:

- 8-105 Refuse From Construction, Demolitions, or Repairs
- 8-106 Unlawful To Burn
- 8-107 Dumping in Streams, Sewers, and Drains Prohibited
- 8-108 Disposal of Refuse by the City
- 8-109 Disposal of Recycle Solid Waste other than by the City
- 8-110 Disposal at the Paris Henry County Landfill
- 8-111 Collection Practices
- 8-112 Frequency of Collection

- 8-113 Method of Collecting Service Charges
- 8-114 Violations
- 8-115 Conflicting Ordinances

(Ord. #1327, 09/04/2025).

SECTION 2. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect on and after passage of final adoption.

Passed and adopted August 7, 2025.

Passed and adopted September 4, 2025.

Mayor

Finance Director

Discussion: None

Action: Commissioner Jackie Jones made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sam Tharpe to approve Ordinance No. 1327 to Amend Title 8, Chapter 1 (8-104. #1) Uniform Refuse Disposal Containers in the Paris Municipal Code.

Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO.1
Financial Update

Narrative to the July 2025 Operating Statement

City Manager Kim Foster reported that sales tax revenues have been closely watched this year as the long-anticipated market correction has taken place. While June ended positively at 1.52% ahead of the same month last year, the City concluded the fiscal year down 1.35% compared to FY 2024. Foster noted that although recent years have reflected unusually strong sales tax performance, revenues have now leveled off. She explained that the City is approaching forecasts more conservatively until additional retail developments under construction begin contributing to the tax base.

She further reported that expenditures in July were ahead of revenues, which is typical for this point in the year. The only extraordinary expense was the annual debt payment of \$101,000 for the splash pad bond.

In July, six new standard business licenses and one new minimal activity business license were issued. Standard licenses were issued to MBT Systems LLC (ACM panels fabrication, out of town), Prosper Realty Group LLC (real estate brokerage), Luxe Studios (salon & spa), JR's Electrical Services (electrician), Interstate Fabrications (aluminum railing manufacturing, out of state), and Story's Cool Beans LLC (drive-through coffee shop).

RETAIL SALES TAX REVENUE										
				FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025		% Incr(Decr)
JULY				\$898,979	\$951,793	\$1,046,570	\$1,054,946	\$1,094,220		3.72%
AUGUST				\$843,541	\$895,516	\$931,433	\$943,347	\$1,021,159		8.25%
SEPTEMBER				\$888,921	\$965,256	\$1,067,740	\$947,948	\$934,065		-1.46%
OCTOBER				\$873,733	\$974,047	\$1,036,880	\$1,049,601	\$1,098,267		4.64%
NOVEMBER				\$874,641	\$988,199	\$1,059,818	\$1,088,505	\$1,092,808		0.40%
DECEMBER				\$1,097,412	\$1,210,615	\$1,218,473	\$1,554,254	\$1,256,621		-19.15%
JANUARY				\$844,826	\$839,389	\$915,685	\$984,017	\$939,527		-4.52%
FEBRUARY				\$719,938	\$859,647	\$936,706	\$980,140	\$946,298		-3.45%
MARCH				\$1,101,592	\$1,102,651	\$1,106,574	\$1,270,965	\$1,177,011		-7.39%
APRIL				\$1,040,359	\$1,060,677	\$1,069,082	\$1,061,509	\$1,136,745		7.09%
MAY				\$1,005,346	\$1,105,515	\$1,122,824	\$1,133,990	\$1,177,125		3.80%
JUNE				\$1,013,926	\$1,125,455	\$1,177,018	\$1,130,424	\$1,147,603		1.52%
TOTAL				\$11,203,215	\$12,078,759	\$12,688,803	\$13,199,647	\$13,021,448		
Previous YTD % Increase/Decrease				12.16%	7.82%	5.05%	4.03%	-1.35%		

**Monthly Operating Statement
July 2025**

REVENUES		<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Yr to Date</u>	<u>Percent Realized</u>
Property Taxes		2,570,000		8,169	0.32%
Local Option Sales Tax		6,500,000		580,165	8.93%
Wholesale Liquor / Beer		880,000		75,370	8.56%
Business Tax		450,000		13,374	2.97%
Fees & Licenses		144,250		4,268	2.96%
In Lieu Payments		170,250		0	0.00%
Hotel-Motel Occupancy Tax		200,000		21,275	10.64%
Grants		3,447,160		45,600	1.32%
State Shared taxes		1,967,500		155,147	7.89%
All Other		12,595,550		281,481	2.23%
ARPA/TDEC-WII		1,675,000		0	0.00%
Total General Fund Revenue		30,599,710	0	1,184,849	3.87%
Solid Waste Collection - BPU		1,400,000		116,191	8.30%
Solid Waste Disposal - Transfer		750,000		82,109	10.95%
Other Revenue		31,500		1,308	4.15%
Total Sanitation		2,181,500	0	199,608	9.15%
Gate Receipts - Brush & Debris		200,000		30,959	15.48%
County Share Operating Exp		35,000		0	0.00%
Gate Receipts - Tires		8,000		550	6.88%
Other Revenue		42,050		190	0.45%
Total Landfill		285,050	0	31,700	11.12%
Total Drug Fund		59,040		2,171	3.68%
TOTAL REVENUES		33,125,300	0	1,418,328	4.28%

EXPENDITURES		<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Yr to Date</u>	<u>Percent Realized</u>
Grants & Donations		209,000		32,025	15.32%
General Administration		719,500		73,177	10.17%
Economic Development		200,371		15,765	7.87%
Financial Administration		367,878		36,488	9.92%
City Hall Building		65,285		5,013	7.68%
Police Department		2,997,899		315,829	10.54%
Emergency Communications		1,130,104		70,420	6.23%
Fire Department		2,196,532		206,704	9.41%
Building Inspection		261,459		23,960	9.16%
Street Maintenance		1,936,893		275,628	14.23%
State Street Aid		1,715,000		35,298	2.06%
Storm Water Management		674,233		12,388	1.84%
Street Lighting		129,300		9,375	7.25%
City Garage		322,945		50,635	15.68%
Cemetery Maintenance		83,448		10,248	12.28%
Health & Animal Control		258,931		24,809	9.58%
Civic Center		866,806		72,795	8.40%
Parks & Recreation		1,407,825		154,587	10.98%
Library		212,019		35,337	16.67%
Community Development		14,359,210		27,498	0.19%
Debt Service		745,650		106,562	14.29%
General Fund Expenditures		30,860,288	0	1,594,543	5.17%
Sanitation Collection		1,523,292		119,935	7.87%
Contractual Services		925,000		87,905	9.50%
Total Sanitation		2,448,292	0	207,840	8.49%
Total Landfill		243,150		24,210	9.96%
Total Drug Fund		42,000		160	0.38%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		33,593,730	0	1,826,753	5.44%

<u>REVENUES OVER / (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Yr to Date</u>
General Fund	0	(409,694)
Sanitation	0	(8,232)
Landfill	0	7,490
Drug Fund	0	2,010

Discussion: Commissioner Sam Tharpe asked how many stores will be in the new shopping center and City Manager Kim Foster answered that there will be ten stores. Nine of those stores are national retailers and one is a regional nail salon. Commissioner Tharpe expressed his anticipation to see the effect of this shopping center on our sales tax revenues. Vice Mayor John Etheridge added that there will also be four outparcels at the shopping center. Kim confirmed this and added that Security Bank will be at one of those outparcels but the other three have not been confirmed.

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO. 2
Appointments to Boards

None

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO. 3
Rezoning Request for 26 Mimosa Street (Ord. No. 1328)

Community Development Director Jessica Crouch reported that the property owner of 26 Mimosa has submitted a rezoning request to change the property from P-B (Planned Commercial) to Residential. Staff recommends approval of the request and further recommends rezoning the adjacent parcel as well, so that the entire block will be zoned Residential. She stated that the request may be approved on first reading and forwarded to the Planning Commission for recommendation.



Discussion: Vice Mayor John Etheridge voiced his support of the rezoning and added that most of the nearby property is residential. Commissioner Vickey Roberts confirmed the location of the affected properties.

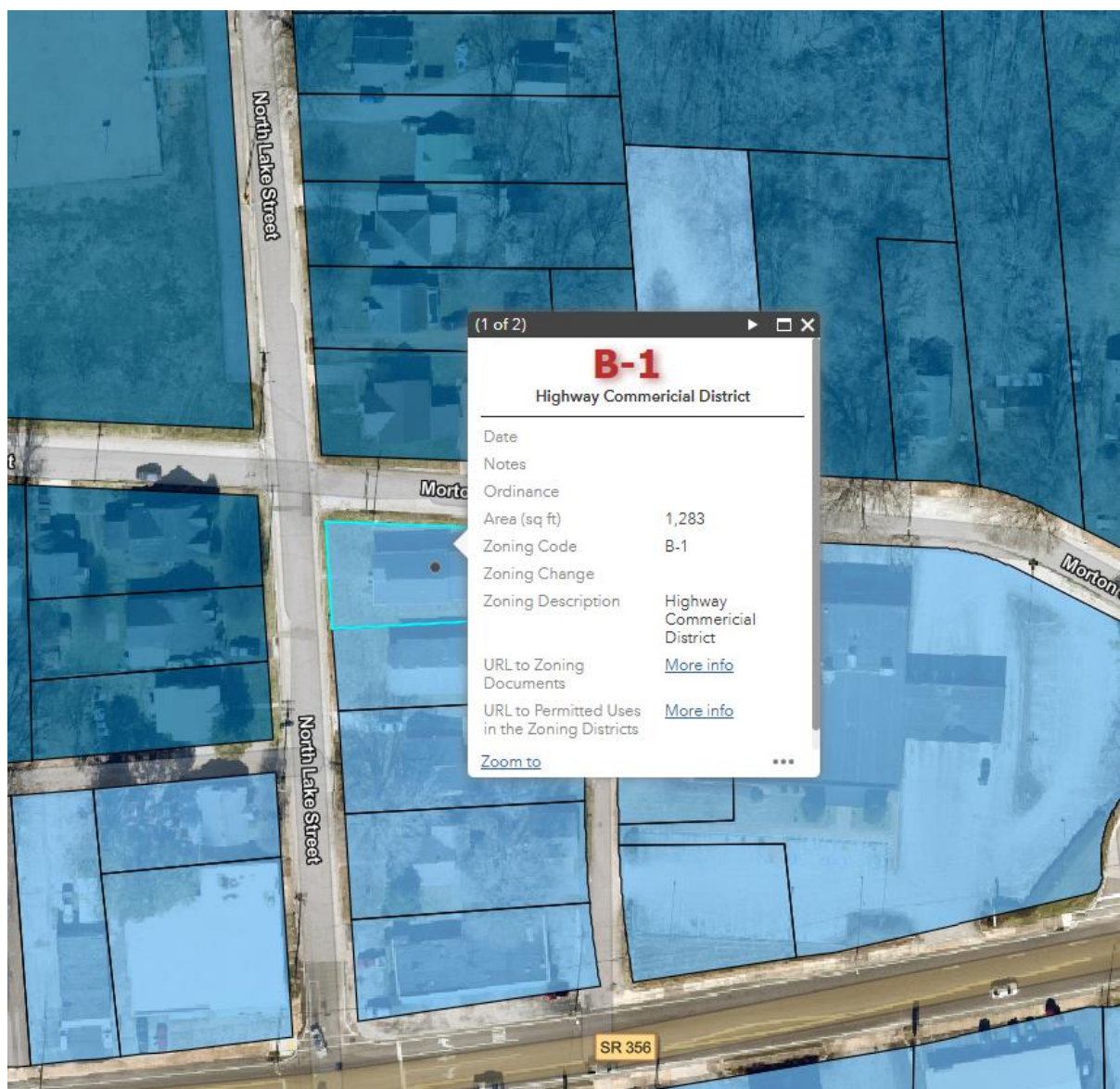
Action: Commissioner Sam Tharpe made a motion seconded by Commissioner Jackie Jones to approve of the rezoning of 26 Mimosa Street and the referenced adjacent property on first reading and forward the request to the planning commission.

Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO. 4
Rezoning Request for 109 N Lake Street (Ord. No. 1329)

Community Development Director Jessica Crouch reported that the property owner of 109 N. Lake Street has submitted a request to rezone the property from B-1 (Highway Commercial) to Residential. Although the lot has historically been used as residential, it was originally zoned Highway Commercial when zoning was first adopted in the City. The rezoning request was made in order to facilitate the sale of the property, as a home loan could not be obtained under the current zoning. Staff recommends approval of the request and further recommends rezoning the three adjacent parcels to Residential as

well. She stated that the request may be approved on first reading and forwarded to the Planning Commission for recommendation.



Discussion: Vice Mayor John Etheridge noted that a similar situation occurred east of town where a residence was not zoned Residential, creating difficulties with obtaining mortgages. Community Development Director Jessica Crouch confirmed that staff has been seeing more of these situations and emphasized the importance of correcting outdated zoning. She explained that although the parcels are currently zoned Commercial, they have long been used as residences, and staff recommends rezoning them Residential along with the three adjacent parcels. Building and Codes Administrative Assistant Rebecca Renkel added that under the current zoning, if any of the houses were destroyed, the property owners would not be permitted to rebuild a residence. Rezoning would ensure that residential use could continue in the future.

Action: Commissioner Sam Tharpe made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vickey Roberts to approve the rezoning of 109 Lake Street and the three adjacent parcels on first reading and forward the request to the planning commission.

Vote: None

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO. 5
Resolution (No. 1726) to Approve Bid of New Fire Station

City Manager Kim Foster reported that bids for construction of the new Fire Station No. 1 were opened on August 20. Barger Construction was the lowest bidder, and the following resolution is presented to officially award them the project, as required by USDA-RD. Foster noted that six bids were received, with all but one coming in over budget. She expressed that staff was very pleased the lowest bid came in slightly under budget and was submitted by a reputable contractor with a strong record of work with the City's engineering firm, TLM. While the City has not previously contracted with Barger Construction, their reputation is excellent. Foster also

explained that bringing the bid award to the Board in the form of a resolution is not typically required by the City but is necessary under USDA guidelines.

RESOLUTION 1726 TO APPROVE BID

WHEREAS, the City of Paris is in the process of building a New Fire Station.; and

WHEREAS the City of Paris has a priority in ensuring emergency services are provided to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the scope of work for the New Fire Station includes construction of an apparatus bay, living quarters, training area, and emergency backup 911 operations center; and

WHEREAS, the City of Paris received a bid quotation from Barger Construction Company in the amount of \$9,567,000.00, for the construction of the New Fire Station, and

WHEREAS, the project engineer, TLM, has reviewed the quotation and recommended that the City of Paris award the contract to Barger Construction Company for the said amount.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Paris, in regular session assembled, that the Commission hereby awards the contract for said New Fire Station, to Barger Construction Company for \$9,567,000.00 pending concurrence in the award from Rural Development. The Commission hereby authorizes the Mayor, upon receipt of Rural Development's concurrence, to execute the contract.

Resolved this 4th day of September in the year of 2025.

Mayor

Finance Director

Discussion: None

Action: Commissioner Sam Tharpe made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vickey Roberts to pass Resolution No. 1726 and approve the bid for the construction of the new Fire Station.

Vote: Unanimous

STATUS OF VARIOUS PROJECTS
September 2025

	PRIMARY STAFF	TARGET COMPLETION DATE(S)	
Back Alley Paris	Foster/Ray	June 2026	Dan Knowles is working on a rendering for a mural to be painted on the wall of the new bathrooms being built at Ogburn Park next to the Levi Miles Foundation Playground.
2018 STBG Project for Signalization & Safety Upgrades at 3 Intersections Downtown	Foster/Crouch	Spring 2027	8–11-month delay in traffic signal equipment. TLM will reschedule pre-con later when contractor can get started.
Rison St Bridge Replacement	Foster/Crouch	Summer 2026	This project is now on hold until fall when we hope to receive funding. The bridge has been reopened to traffic. TDOT has reviewed ROW package and sent to headquarters for feedback/certification.
2020 Multimodal Access Grant for 4 Downtown Intersections	Foster/Crouch	Spring 2027	The ROW package is under review at TDOT headquarters. TLM is talking with TDOT regarding ways to speed up acquisition of signal equipment.
2022 Multimodal Access Grant for Tyson/M.W. Intersection Upgrades & Sidewalk	Foster/Crouch	Fall 2026	TLM received the notice to proceed to construction. This project will be bid on 9/22/2025 at 10:00 AM.
2022 TA Grant for Sidewalk Project along Fairgrounds & Royal Oak	Foster/Crouch	Winter of 2027	The environmental documents have been approved and TLM has received the notice to proceed to design. TLM to start early utility coordination. TLM has begun work on preliminary plans. A public meeting has been scheduled for September 22 nd at 5:00 PM.
TDEC Water Infrastructure Improvement (WII) Grant	Foster/Crouch	Spring 2026	Work in the Brooks St. neighborhood is expected to begin in approximately 3 weeks once water line relocation plans are received.
Paris City Wide Drainage Study	Foster	TBD	Hydraulic modeling for this project is 99% complete. Work on the report continues.
2024 CDBG – Boardwalk at Eiffel Tower Park	Foster/Lawrence	Summer 2026	TLM is working on the final plans and has completed the preliminary layout and grading. TLM received the wetlands assessment for expanded pond area and is assisting the city with property acquisition.
Municipal Facilities Project – Municipal building on N. Caldwell St.	Foster	Winter 2027	TLM is working on schematic information and getting the base plan sent to the design team. They are also preparing for a “kick off” to design development meeting the first of September and will have an updated schedule at that time.
Municipal Facilities Project – Fire Station on Tyson Ave.	Foster	Summer 2026	Bids were opened and Barger Construction was the apparent low bidder. TLM is preparing items to submit to Rural Development for concurrence.

Notes from the City Manager:
City Manager Kim Foster provided several project and community updates. She reported that with Fire Station No. 1 moving forward, staff is refocusing on the Municipal Building project. A kickoff meeting with TLM and staff is scheduled for September 9 to confirm the footprint and floor plan before beginning detailed work such as electrical, plumbing, and data layouts. Foster noted that this will allow the project to move into the next phase of planning.

Foster then gave an update on the Brooks Street project. She explained that while residents have noticed utility work in the neighborhood, construction had not yet begun because the contractor was working through the required submittal and approval process with BPU for the relocation of water and sewer lines. Delays in obtaining certain materials, including manhole covers, also contributed to the timeline. Construction is expected to begin around the first of October.

Regarding the October Commission meeting, Foster reminded the Board that due to a scheduling conflict with a conference, the meeting will be moved to 4:00 p.m. on October 9.

Foster also provided information on the 2022 Multimodal Project, which includes improvements at the intersection of Mineral Wells, Tyson, and Veterans. A bid opening is scheduled for September 22, and work will consist of reconfiguring the traffic islands, upgrading pedestrian signals, and constructing a sidewalk from the intersection to the DMV and UT Extension Office. She emphasized that traffic will not be shut down entirely, but lane closures will occur during construction. Foster added that the project will improve both pedestrian safety and the overall appearance of the intersection. Depending on approvals and weather conditions, construction may not begin until spring 2026.

She then discussed the 2022 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Grant project, which will include a sidewalk along Royal Oak Drive and Fairgrounds Road, reworking the intersection, and adding a small handicap parking lot at the fairgrounds. Letters have been sent to affected property owners, and residents are strongly encouraged to attend the upcoming public meeting. Foster explained that while the meeting is open to the public, it will be especially important for property owners along the project route to participate.

Foster announced that Central Dispatch officially launched this week, calling it a major accomplishment for the community. She recognized 911 Director Mark Archer, Vice Mayor John Etheridge, Chief Ricky Watson, Sheriff Josh Fry, and County Mayor Randy Geiger for their leadership in bringing the project to completion. She also noted that a \$300,000 state grant was instrumental in finalizing the effort. Vice Mayor Etheridge emphasized that county support was essential to the project's success, and highlighted the efficiencies gained through consolidation. Foster confirmed that there will now be three dispatchers on shift at all times, providing better service to the community.

In conclusion, Vice Mayor John Etheridge acknowledged the quarterly report submitted by the W.G. Rhea Library. Commissioner Jackie Jones expressed appreciation for the Library's wide range of services, noting that it provides far more than just books. Other Commissioners echoed this sentiment and thanked the Library for its ongoing contributions to the community.

The meeting duly adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Mayor

Finance Director