

KATHY RAY, MAYOR
KIM FOSTER, CITY MANAGER
JAMES SMITH, CITY ATTORNEY



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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PARIS, TENNESSEE
July 10, 2025
4:00 P.M.

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Paris, Tennessee held a Regular Meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 10, 2025, in the Paris City Hall Courtroom.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kathy Ray with the following roll call:

- Present:

Commissioner Kathy Ray
Commissioner Vickey Roberts
Commissioner John Etheridge
Commissioner Jackie Jones
Commissioner Sam Tharpe
- Also Present:

City Manager Kim Foster
City Attorney James Smith
Finance Director, Tammie Hopper
Community Development Director, Jessica Crouch
Fire Chief, Jamie Hinson
Police Chief, Ricky Watson
Community Engagement Coordinator, Abby Pierce
- Absent:

None
- 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 John Etheridge.

- APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Special Called Meeting – June 26, 2025
- DISCUSSION: None
- ACTION: The minutes stand approved as read.
- VOTE: None

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: None

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION: None

SERVICE RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO.1

Request to Acquire Undeveloped Alley on North College Street (Second Reading)

Community Development Director Jessica Crouch explained that the City had received a request from Mr. Walker Araya of 110 N. College Street to acquire the undeveloped alley located behind his property. The City Commission had referred the request to the Planning Commission for review in May. The Planning Commission considered the request at their May meeting and recommended approval with the Keenan Amendments attached. The City Commission approved the request on First Reading at the June meeting. The item was presented for Second Reading at this meeting.



----- Mensaje original -----

De: Diana López <dlc0311@hotmail.com>

Fecha: lun., 28 abr. 2025 9:45 a. m.

Para: renkel@cityofparis.gov

Asunto: RV: 110 N. College St Paris 38242

Good morning Ms. Renkel,

How are you? Hoping that all is well, I would like to request the alleys marked with blue on my property plot that I am attaching with this email. I am basing this request on a undated city directive by Chris Moseley, Public Works Director, titled "Change In Policy and Procedure Due to an Increase in the size of our equipment and a narrowing of our city-wide alleys, due to fences, landscaping, outbuildings, etc. we will no longer be able to provide services in our alleys...As of Monday 3, 2025"

Based on that City directive, i would like to respectfully request the adhesion of both alleys, partially or totally, as marked, one is currently abandoned as noted in the plot, the other one is in used (by high speed cars causing unnecessary hazards, personal, property, and animal) This alley ends at Poter Street which has three different accesses, through West Wood, Depot Street, and North Porter Street, thus not causing any future traffic situations.

Feel free to contact me or visit me, whatever it is convenience for you.

Respectfully,

Walker G. Araya, MBA
U.S. Army Retired
731-363-9028

Discussion: Commissioner Vickey Roberts confirmed that although Mr. Araya originally requested two alleys, staff recommends only approving acquisition of the one undeveloped alley that is behind his property. Jessica Crouch verified this and added that the other alley that was requested was not an undeveloped alley.

Action: Commissioner Vickey Roberts made a motion seconded by Vice Mayor John Etheridge to approve divesting of the undeveloped alley located behind the property of 110 North College Street with the Keenan Amendments attached.

Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM NO.1

Financial Update

Narrative to the May 2025 Operating Statement

Finance Director Tammie Hopper reported that the Retail Sales Tax Revenue showed a 7.09% increase compared to April of the previous year, with an overall annual decrease of 2.18%.

General Fund revenue exceeded expenditures in May. Total revenue and expenditure percentages stood at 90.25% and 91.35%, respectively.

Notable expenditures for the month included a \$148,985.29 debt service payment for the Energy Conservation Bond. The Fire Department purchased a 2025 Ford Interceptor, and an irreparable air conditioning unit was replaced.

The City issued three new standard business licenses to: Cladding and Component Solutions, Inc. (ACM Panel System – Construction), Paris Pro Properties (Residential Property Management), and Volunteer Portable Building LLC (Building Sales).

One new minimal business license was issued to Roadside Grubs (Food Truck).

Police Captain John Brewer retired in May. A full-time Patrol Officer and an Emergency Communications Dispatcher were hired. The Parks Department replaced eight part-time seasonal positions and hired one full-time Program Coordinator.

Monthly Operating Statement

April 2025

EXPENDITURES		<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Yr to Date</u>	<u>Percent Realized</u>
Grants & Donations		189,000	0	178,390	94.39%
General Administration		653,008	60,951	617,372	94.54%
Economic Development		194,980	15,723	181,210	92.94%
Financial Administration		345,400	23,525	320,160	92.69%
City Hall Building		115,529	4,701	79,744	69.02%
Police Department		2,864,733	206,793	2,562,234	89.44%
Emergency Communications		739,201	62,620	771,788	104.41%
Fire Department		2,161,696	236,525	2,024,442	93.65%
Building Inspection		308,585	19,820	265,834	86.15%
Street Maintenance		1,979,901	141,603	1,730,489	87.40%
State Street Aid		1,851,000	23,004	1,736,488	93.81%
Storm Water Management		121,577	7,886	99,640	81.96%
Street Lighting		128,180	16,235	136,288	106.33%
City Garage		315,648	18,726	283,570	89.84%
Cemetery Maintenance		79,152	15,048	71,593	90.45%
Health & Animal Control		278,866	21,095	224,935	80.66%
Civic Center		752,085	50,357	610,091	81.12%
Parks & Recreation		1,352,224	113,214	1,218,043	90.08%
Library		207,862	34,644	207,862	100.00%
Community Development		1,425,210	118,772	1,358,464	95.32%
Debt Service		290,000	148,985	260,104	89.69%
General Fund Expenditures		16,353,837	1,340,225	14,938,741	91.35%
Sanitation Collection		1,219,977	71,741	1,033,015	84.67%
Contractual Services		830,000	94,443	855,962	103.13%
Total Sanitation		2,049,977	166,184	1,888,977	92.15%
Total Landfill		240,953	13,934	185,593	77.02%
Total Drug Fund		82,000	40	58,652	71.53%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		18,726,767	1,520,383	17,071,964	91.16%

<u>REVENUES OVER / (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Yr to Date</u>
General Fund	6,076	(343,081)
Sanitation	74,695	196,517
Landfill	3,420	2,107
Drug Fund	2,738	1,663

Discussion: Commissioner John Etheridge asked how sales tax revenue for April compared to April of the previous year, noting that there had been a significant adjustment in earlier reporting periods. Finance Director Tammie Hopper did not have the specific figures readily available, so Commissioner Etheridge asked her to look into it and follow up with him later, as he was interested in understanding the trend.

City Manager Kim Foster explained that some businesses submit sales tax payments in three-month intervals, which can make month-to-month comparisons less accurate. She added that Tammie had made some recalculations for several larger retailers to provide a more accurate estimate. Commissioner Etheridge clarified that he was simply trying to understand the overall trend.

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO. 2
Appointments to Boards

The following appointments to boards were presented for the commission's consideration.

Paris Housing Authority				
<u>Appointment And Term</u>	<u>Current Member</u>	<u>Proposed Member</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>	<u>New Expiration</u>
Mayoral Appointment / 5 year term	Carl Holder	Logan Warren	July 7, 2025	July 7, 2030

Discussion: None
Action: Mayor Kathy Ray appointed Logan Warren to the Paris Housing Authority Board.
Vote: None

City’s Representative to the Heritage Center Board of Directors				
<u>Appointment And Term</u>	<u>Current Member</u>	<u>Proposed Member</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>	<u>New Expiration</u>
City Commission Appointment	Carl Holder	Vickey Roberts	N/A	N/A

Discussion: None
Action: Commissioner John Etheridge made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackie Jones to appoint Vickey Roberts as the City's Representative to the Heritage Center Board of Directors.
Vote: Unanimous

Beer Board				
<u>Appointment And Term</u>	<u>Current Member</u>	<u>Proposed Member</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>	<u>New Expiration</u>
Mayor with Commission Approval / 3 year term	Ricky Searcy	Ricky Searcy	June 4, 2025	June 4, 2028

Discussion: None
Action: Commissioner Vickey Roberts made a motion seconded by Commissioner Jackie Jones, to reappoint Ricky Searcy to the Beer Board.
Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

**Resolution (No. 1725) to Authorize the City of Paris to Participate in Public Entity Partners
Matching Grant Programs**

City Manager Kim Foster explained that, as in previous years, Public Entity Partners was once again offering their matching grant program to eligible members. These were 50/50 matching grants with a combined potential value of \$12,500 if awarded.

With the Commission's approval, staff planned to submit the following applications:

- Paris Parks and Recreation: Property Conservation Grant – Class II, with \$4,000 eligibility (allowing for \$8,000 in total spending at a 50% match)
- Paris Public Works: Safety Partners Grant – Class II, with \$3,000 eligibility (allowing for \$6,000 in total spending at a 50% match)
- City of Paris: Cybersecurity Grant – Class II, with \$1,500 eligibility (allowing for \$3,000 in total spending at a 50% match)
- Paris Police Department: James L. Richardson Driver Grant – Class II, with \$4,000 eligibility (allowing for \$8,000 in total spending at a 50% match)

Staff requested the passage of a resolution allowing the City to participate in these programs and pledging the required matching funds if the grants were awarded. Foster noted that in previous years, the City had passed individual resolutions for each grant. However, it was discovered last year that a single resolution could cover all grant applications. Therefore, one consolidated resolution was submitted this year to reflect the City's intent to apply for all four grants and to commit the required matching funds if awarded.

Resolution No. 1725

A Resolution Authorizing The City Of Paris, Tennessee
To Participate In Public Entity Partner's
"James L. Richardson Driver Grant, Judy Housley Safety Partners Grant, Property Conservation Grant, and Cyber
Security Grant" Matching Grant Program

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of the employees of the City of Paris is of the greatest importance; and

WHEREAS, all efforts shall be made to provide a safe and hazard-free workplace for the City of Paris employees; and

WHEREAS, Public Entity Partners seeks to encourage the establishment of a safe workplace by offering the "James L. Richardson Driver Grant, Judy Housley Safety Partners Grant, Property Conservation Grant, and Cyber Security Grant" Matching Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Paris now seeks to participate in these important programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Paris, Tennessee the following:

SECTION 1. That the City of Paris is hereby authorized to submit applications for the "James L. Richardson Driver Grant, Judy Housley Safety Partners Grant, Property Conservation Grant, and Cyber Security Grant" Matching Grant Program through Public Entity Partners.

SECTION 2. That the City of Paris is further authorized to provide a matching sum to serve as a match for any monies provided by these grants.

Resolved this 10th day of July in the year of 2025.

Mayor

Finance Director

Discussion: None

Action: Commissioner Sam Tharpe made a motion seconded by Commissioner Jackie Jones to approve Resolution NO. 1725 to Authorize the City of Paris to Participate in Public Entity Partners Matching Grant Programs.

Vote: Unanimous


NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

Certificate of Good Moral Character – Drew Gilmer

City Manager Kim Foster reported that Mr. Drew Gilmer was the new manager of the Paris Moose Lodge. In order to obtain a liquor license from the State, a Certificate of Good Moral Character was required. Mr. Gilmer had already been granted a beer license by the local Beer Board, during which time an appropriate investigation of his character had been conducted.

M.J. Stancook contacted Mr. Gilmer to remind him of the meeting, but he stated that he did not believe his attendance was necessary, as Vice Mayor John Etheridge had already signed the Certificate of Good Moral Character on his behalf.




STATE OF TENNESSEE
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION

Davy Crockett Tower
500 James Robertson Parkway, 3rd Floor
Nashville, TN 37243
615-741-1602

4420 Whittle Springs Road
Knoxville, TN 37917
865-594-6342

One Commerce Square
40 South Main Street
4th Floor, Suite 415
Memphis TN 38103
901-543-7284

540 McCallie Avenue, Suite 341
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2055
423-634-6434



CERTIFICATE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER

SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO T.C.A. § 57-4-201(C)(2)

Paris Moose Lodge #1915
(NAME OF PRIVATE CLUB)

This is to certify that Drew Gilmer, who will be in actual charge of the sale of alcoholic beverages, at the premises, of the above named private club, which club has made application for a license to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on its premises which is located in the Municipality of City of Paris, and/or or the County of Henry, State of Tennessee;

(a) Is personally known to the undersigned and a person of good moral character
OR
(b) Is not personally known to the undersigned, however, the undersigned has/have made careful investigation of the said applicant's general character and from such investigation it is found to be good.

This the 10th day of July, 20 25.

If premises located outside Municipality:

County Executive, Print Name	OR	County Executive, Signature
Chairman of County Commission, Print Name		Chairman of County Commission, Signature

If premises located within Municipality:

Mayor or other official head of Municipality, Print Name	Mayor or other official head of Municipality, Signature
Member of Legislative Body of Municipality, Print Name	Member of Legislative Body of Municipality, Signature
Member of Legislative Body of Municipality, Print Name	Member of Legislative Body of Municipality, Signature
Member of Legislative Body of Municipality, Print Name	Member of Legislative Body of Municipality, Signature

AB-0119 (Rev 9/14)

RD A 2116

Discussion: Commissioner John Etheridge confirmed that he had signed the Certificate of Good Moral Character for Mr. Drew Gilmer but had not provided him with further guidance. City Manager Kim Foster clarified that the certificate was required by the State in order to obtain a liquor license and that it must be signed by the mayor or another official head of the municipality. She referred to City Attorney James Smith, who confirmed that, according to state guidelines, the certificate must be signed either by the mayor or by all members of the legislative body.

Foster explained that neither she nor Mayor Kathy Ray personally knew Mr. Gilmer, and Mayor Ray did not feel comfortable signing the certificate without that familiarity. Commissioner Sam Tharpe asked who was authorized to sign the certificate, and Attorney Smith reiterated that

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either the mayor alone or the entire commission could sign it.

Smith added that, in the past, similar state forms had typically been brought before the entire commission out of courtesy and in the interest of transparency. While such items did not come before the commission frequently, this practice helped avoid the appearance that one individual, such as the mayor, was making decisions unilaterally when the full commission could be involved.

Commissioner Etheridge asked if the commission could make a motion and sign the certificate collectively. Smith confirmed that was an option, but it would also be appropriate for the mayor to sign it alone.

Action: Mayor Ray stated that she would sign the certificate based on the Vice Mayor's attestation of Mr. Gilmer's good moral character.

Vote: None

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

Ordinance (No. 1324) to Amend Title 10 Chapter 1, Section 10-103 of the Paris Municipal Code

City Manager Kim Foster presented an ordinance outlining the City's existing and proposed municipal court fees. She explained that recent state legislation now requires the municipal court cost to increase from \$1.00 to \$2.00. Additionally, the Police Department planned to implement software for issuing electronic citations, and Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) permits a \$5.00 fee to be added to such citations to help offset the cost of the new system.

Foster noted that when she became aware of the new requirements, she consulted with Municipal Court Clerk Jinny Pritchett and City Attorney James Smith. They discovered that the City's existing ordinance did not clearly outline all the fees that must be collected or remitted under T.C.A. Attorney Smith explained that the previous ordinance was disorganized and lacked several required elements. As a result, the revised ordinance was reorganized and expanded to reflect all applicable court fees.

One notable addition was the inclusion of a \$1.00 municipal court tax required under the City's charter. Smith clarified that, under the manager-commission form of government, state law requires the City to assess this \$1.00 tax, which can be used at the City's discretion. Although the City had been remitting this amount, it had not been formally collected through court costs as required.

The ordinance also included the newly authorized \$5.00 fee for electronic citations. Smith explained that this fee would help cover the cost of implementing the new citation system, which allows officers to enter citation information electronically in their vehicles and print the ticket on-site. This system would reduce time spent roadside during traffic stops and improve the clarity and efficiency of citations.

ORDINANCE NO. 1324

AN ORDINANCE to amend Title 10 Chapter 1, Section 10-103 of the Paris Municipal Code.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Paris, Tennessee, Title 10, Chapter 1, section 10-103 of the Paris Municipal Code shall be amended to insert the phrase "city court clerk" before the phrase "shall collect the following" in the introductory paragraph and shall be further amended to add subsection designations a, b, c, d, e, and f, so that section 10-103 states in pertinent part as follows:

10-103 Court Costs, Privilege Tax and Fees.

In addition to the appearance bond provided for in 10-102, the city court clerk shall collect the following privilege taxes and court costs in all cases in the city court :

- a. State privilege tax on litigation of \$13.75 as provided by Tennessee Code Annotated 16-18-305(a).
- b. State privilege tax on litigation of \$1.00 for violation of municipal laws governing the use of a public parking space as provided in Tennessee Code Annotated 16-18305(b).
- c. Municipal privilege tax on litigation of \$13.75 as provided in Tennessee Code Annotated 16-18-305(c).
- d. Municipal court arrest fee of \$20.00.
- e. Municipal court docket fee of \$7.50.
- f. Municipal court affidavit and warrant fee of \$10.00.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Paris, Tennessee, Title 10, Chapter 1, section 10-103 of the Paris Municipal Code shall be amended to add the following subsections:

- g. Municipal court tax of \$1.00 as set forth in the City of Paris, Tennessee, City Manager Commission Charter, Chapter 21, Part 5, section 6-21-507
- h. Municipal court costs of \$2.00 pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated 16-18-304(a).
- i. In addition to all other fees, taxes and charges, pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated 5510-207, an electronic citation fee of \$5.00 for any offense cited in an electronic traffic citation issued and delivered that results in a plea of guilty or nolo condendere, or a judgment of guilty.

SECTION 3. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect on and after final passage and adoption.

Passed and adopted July 10, 2025.

Passed and adopted _____.

Mayor

Finance Director

Discussion: Commissioner John Etheridge asked for confirmation that the purpose of the ordinance was to bring the City’s municipal court fees into alignment with T.C.A. City Attorney James Smith confirmed that this was correct, noting that while the City was not strictly obligated to charge the \$5.00 fee for electronic citations, many municipalities did so as an incentive to help cover implementation costs.

City Manager Kim Foster added that the citation software would need to be installed in every police vehicle, making it a significant investment. She noted that it would likely be the most expensive software purchase the City would make in the near future. However, the system would automate a wide range of processes—not only for officers in the field, but also for police reporting to the State and for municipal court operations. The result would be a more streamlined, efficient, and modernized workflow. Foster also noted that the software would include additional features to benefit the department.

Police Chief Ricky Watson noted that the \$5.00 fee authorization included a five-year sunset clause. Foster and Smith added that they had already made a note to revisit the issue at that time. When the sunset period ends, the City could consider increasing the municipal court cost

from \$2.00 to \$5.00, which is permitted under state law if the City wishes to continue collecting a fee to maintain the citation software system.

Commissioner Etheridge summarized that the ordinance addressed three primary goals: organizing and clarifying existing fees, bringing the City into alignment with T.C.A., and exercising the City’s authority to implement a fee structure to support the new electronic citation system.

Action: Commissioner John Etheridge made a motion seconded by Commissioner Jackie Jones to approve Ordinance No. 1324.

Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO. 6
2025 – 2026 Property Tax Rate Ordinance

City Manager Kim Foster explained that the current property tax rate was \$0.90 per \$100 of assessed value. She presented an ordinance for consideration that set the new rate at \$0.5703 per \$100 of assessed value, which reflected no increase from the certified rate. Foster noted that while the certified rate had been discussed at the previous meeting, it had not yet been presented in ordinance form. The ordinance now formalized the certified rate, which had been provided by the State as the neutral rate. Although the rate was not available at the time the budget was passed, the budget had been based on the expectation of a revenue-neutral certified rate, which this ordinance confirmed.

ORDINANCE NO. 1325

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE PROPERTY TAX RATE AT THE
CERTIFIED TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

SECTION 1:

WHEREAS, every five years, Henry County and the City of Paris undergo property reappraisals pursuant to state statutes found in *Tennessee Code Annotated* § 67-5-1601 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the process of reappraisal is intended to keep property tax assessments stable even though property values may increase; and

WHEREAS, this year was a reappraisal year for the city of Paris; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the city of Paris passed the annual budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 on June 26, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the budget was passed without a stated property tax rate, but with the stated intention that the city would adopt the certified tax rate once received; and

WHEREAS, the state has determined the certified tax rate to be \$0.5703 per \$100 of assessed value on all real and personal property; and

WHEREAS, the city of Paris desires to set the tax rate at the certified tax rate of \$0.5703 for the Fiscal Year 20252026.

SECTION 2: This ordinance shall become effective upon final passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed on First Reading: July 10, 2025.

Passed on Second Reading: _____

SIGNED: _____
Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Finance Director

Discussion: None

Action: Commissioner Sam Tharpe made a motion seconded by Commissioner Jackie Jones, to approve the 2025 – 2026 Property Tax Rate Ordinance.
Vote: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM NO. 7
Interlocal Agreement between the City of Paris and Henry County regarding the W.G. Rhea Public Library

City Manager Kim Foster explained that, during the process of replacing certain Library Board members, both the City and County realized that the existing interlocal agreement, originally signed in 1971, no longer reflected the current structure and procedures outlined in the Library Board's updated bylaws.

Foster noted that, as some board members' terms were expiring, there was some confusion from the new County Mayor regarding the funding and operational responsibilities of the library. Upon reviewing the original interlocal agreement, it became clear that it was outdated and no longer aligned with current practices.

In response, the County Mayor requested an updated agreement. City staff assisted in preparing a revised interlocal agreement that accurately reflected current operations and responsibilities of both entities. Foster presented this updated agreement for consideration and approval.

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF PARIS AND HENRY COUNTY
REGARDING W.G. RHEA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

THIS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made and entered into as of July 1, 2025 ("Effective Date"), by and among the City of Paris, a municipal corporation located in Henry County, Tennessee ("City") and Henry County, Tennessee ("County").

WHEREAS, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-3-101, et seq., since April 1959, the parties have cooperated to provide a public library to the citizens of Henry County and The City of Paris;

WHEREAS, such public library has operated as the W.G Rhea Public Library under the direction and operational control of a Board of Trustees comprised of individuals appointed to that Board by the parties;

WHEREAS, the parties desire to continue to support and maintain the W.G. Rhea Public Library;

WHEREAS, the parties desire to clarify their mutual responsibilities with regard to the W.G. Rhea Public Library and the appointment of members to the W.G. Rhea Public Library Board of Trustees;

WHEREAS, the parties hereto possess the authority to enter into this agreement pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-9-101 et seq., and Tenn. Code Ann. § 5-1-113, respectively;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

1. TERM

a. This Agreement shall commence on July 1, 2025, and continue from fiscal year to fiscal year until modified in writing by both of the parties, or terminated by either of the parties.

2. W.G. RHEA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The W.G. Rhea Public Library Board of Trustees shall be comprised of nine (9) persons appointed as follows:

a. The City of Paris shall appoint four (4) persons to the W.G. Rhea Public Library Board of Trustees;

b. Henry County shall appoint five (5) persons to the W.G. Rhea Public Library Board of Trustees;

c. The term of each person appointed to the W.G. Rhea Public Library Board of Trustees shall be three (3) years;

d. A person appointed to the W.G. Rhea Public Library Board of Trustees may be immediately re-appointed to a second three-year term;

e. Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-3-103(b)(2), no person may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms as a member of the W.G. Rhea Library Board of Trustees;

f. Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-3-103(b)(2), a person who has served two (2) consecutive terms as a member of the W.G. Rhea Public Library Board of Trustees may be re-appointed to that Board after a minimum three-year break in service.

3. **FUNDING**

a. The parties agree that the W.G. Rhea Public Library shall be funded by the parties equally at 50% pursuant to an annually acceptable amount as agreed by both parties and consistent with the Tennessee Code as it relates to maintenance of effort.

b. The W.G. Rhea Public Library Board of Trustees, in addition to submitting annual statements of operation, shall submit its final proposed fiscal year annual operating budget to the City of Paris and, separately, Henry County, each year at least three (3) months prior to the adoption of budgets by each of the parties.

c. Neither the City of Paris or Henry County shall be obligated for any expense of the W.G. Rhea Public Library other than their respective equal shares of the annual operating budget agreed by both parties.

d. The W.G. Rhea Public Library Board of Trustees is authorized to seek funding from other sources, public and/or private, as that Board deems appropriate to facilitate the mission of the W.G. Rhea Public Library.

3. **MISCELLANEOUS**

a. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties and supersedes all prior agreements, whether written or oral.

b. Any amendments or modifications must be in writing and signed by all parties.

c. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Tennessee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

CITY OF PARIS

By: _____
Title: City Mayor
Date: _____

HENRY COUNTY

By: _____
Title: County Mayor
Date: _____

Discussion: Commissioner Sam Tharpe commented that the library was a significant asset to the community and emphasized that both the City and County must remain committed to its funding and ongoing maintenance.

City Attorney James Smith pointed out that Section 3, Paragraph A of the updated interlocal agreement stated that the City and County agreed to fund the library equally at 50% each, based on an annually accepted budget approved by both parties. He explained that the proposed library budget was submitted to both the City and County, reviewed and approved by each, and then funded equally.

Smith also noted that a new provision had been included in the agreement to ensure consistency with Tennessee’s “maintenance of effort” requirements. This clause formally committed both local governments to maintaining their level of financial support for the library—something that had not been explicitly stated in the original agreement.

Commissioner Tharpe, who serves on the Library Board, added that the library had strong staff and a dedicated director who worked hard and contributed greatly to the value the library brings to the community.

City Manager Kim Foster added that the updated interlocal agreement would also need to be approved by the County, and if not approved, it would be considered null and void. However, she expressed confidence that the County would agree to the terms.

City Attorney James Smith stated that if the County requested changes, those revisions would be reviewed and brought back to the City Commission for consideration.

Commissioner Jackie Jones asked what determined whether the City made four or five appointments to the Library Board. Foster responded that she had not been aware of the provision either until the recent discussions, and that historically it had varied—some years the City appointed four members, and other years five. She noted that this fluctuation had not occurred during her tenure as City Manager and had not been consistently applied. Foster said that, due to the confusion, she had suggested the City appoint four members and the County appoint five moving forward.

Foster added that, given the City comprises roughly one-third of the County's total population, she believed the proposed representation was fair.

Commissioner John Etheridge expressed support for the updated agreement. He stated that he appreciated the clarity provided by Library Director Kathy Ray and her staff, and particularly valued the maintenance of effort provision, which ensured that neither the City nor County could reduce their financial commitment once the agreement was approved by both parties.

Action: Commissioner Sam Tharpe made a motion seconded by Commissioner John Etheridge to approve the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Paris and Henry County regarding the W.G. Rhea Public Library.

Vote: Unanimous

STATUS OF VARIOUS PROJECTS

July 2025

	PRIMARY STAFF	TARGET COMPLETION DATE(S)	
Back Alley Paris	Foster/Ray	June 2026	This year’s grant is 100% with no required match. The suggested project is a mural to be painted on the side of the new restroom building planned to be built next to the Levi Miles Foundation playground. An application is being completed for submission.
2018 STBG Project for Signalization & Safety Upgrades at 3 Intersections Downtown	Foster/Crouch	Spring 2026	Bid opening was held on June 24, 2025, at 10:00 AM. TLM is working on concurrence package to submit to TDOT. The low bidder was Martin Paving.
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. Review Appraisals have been received by the City and sent to TDOT for review.
2020 Multimodal Access Grant for 4 Downtown Intersections	Foster/Crouch	Spring 2026	ROW package submitted to TDOT on June 2, 2025 and is under review at TDOT. Additional funding of just over \$113,000 was requested from TDOT due to delay in getting the project to bid. TDOT approved the request.
2022 Multimodal Access Grant for Tyson/M.W. Intersection Upgrades & Sidewalk	Foster/Crouch	Fall 2025	Construction plans have been approved. Specifications Additional funding of just under \$20,000 was requested from TDOT due to delay in getting the project to bid. TDOT approved the request. and construction estimates are under review at TDOT.
2022 TA Grant for Sidewalk Project along Fairgrounds & Royal Oak	Foster	Winter of 2026	Comments addressed on SDC form and returned to TDOT.
TDEC Water Infrastructure Improvement (WII) Grant	Foster	Spring 2026	Project bid opening will be held on July 10, 2025. TLM is assisting with easements.
Paris Culvert Replacement (Lakeway Circle)	Foster	Fall 2025	Project bid opening will be held on July 10, 2025.
2024 CDBG – Boardwalk at Eiffel Tower Park	Foster/Lawrence	Summer 2026	Coordination of preliminary layout and grading continues with Landscape Architect. Analysis of existing pond continues. Met with TLM on 6/23/2025 to discuss the preliminary layout and grading.
Municipal Facilities Project – Municipal building on N. Caldwell St.	Foster	Winter 2027	Working on floorplan modifications.
Municipal Facilities Project – Fire Station on Tyson Ave.	Foster	Summer 2026	Received approval from USDA-RD to prepare for bidding. Pre-bid conference will be held July 17 and the bid opening is scheduled for August 7.

City Manager Kim Foster formally thanked the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) for granting additional funding for several long-term grant projects. She reported that the City had been awarded an additional \$135,000 for the Downtown Signalization Project.

Notes from the City Manager:

City Manager Kim Foster revisited the ongoing discussion regarding Chickasaw Road. She noted that while the condition of the road was poor and had been discussed at multiple meetings, the street continued to require frequent cuts due to ongoing utility issues. Temporary repairs had been attempted by heating and smoothing certain areas, which provided limited improvement. Foster asked the Public Works Department to estimate the cost of resurfacing the road with an overlay only, without milling,

and the cost was approximately \$200,000.

Commissioner Sam Tharpe asked for an update on the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) water rehabilitation project that was prompting the frequent street cuts. Foster reported that BPU estimated the project was still at least two to three years away from receiving funding, and it would require fully cutting up the entire street.

BPU President Terry Wimberly added that connections to the zero line continued to fail regularly—on average once a month—necessitating additional patching. He stated that even if the full project began in two to three years, it would likely not be completed for another three to five years, and in the meantime, patching would continue.

Foster explained that Chickasaw was currently included on the City's paving list, but it was the most expensive project on that list. If it were removed, the City could redirect those funds to resurface several other streets in need of attention. She noted that Chickasaw covered approximately 7,350 linear feet, which could instead be applied to an equivalent length of other streets. Several streets originally identified as problem areas had been dropped from the list when Chickasaw was added. Public Works used a ranking system each year to prioritize paving projects.

Commissioner Jackie Jones asked for Foster's opinion on the patch smoothing work done by PRI on Chickasaw. Foster said she felt some areas had improved and that while the project wasn't expensive, she remained unsure whether it was ultimately worth the investment. Mayor Kathy Ray commented that the repairs had made a noticeable improvement near her residence.

Commissioner Vickey Roberts asked whether the alternate streets were in worse condition and how many could be paved instead of Chickasaw. Foster reiterated that Chickasaw's 7,350 linear feet could be redistributed to resurface other streets and that several had been deferred due to its inclusion.

Commissioner Tharpe acknowledged Chickasaw's poor condition but expressed concern about paving it now only for it to be repeatedly cut and patched. Commissioner Jones confirmed that paving priorities could be re-evaluated annually. Foster agreed and stated that no formal motion was required but asked for consensus.

Commissioner Tharpe made a motion to remove Chickasaw from this year's paving list and redirect those funds to other streets. Foster asked if anyone disagreed. Commissioner John Etheridge noted that Chickasaw was in poor shape, but BPU had made 12–18 cuts last year, and if similar activity was expected this year, resurfacing the street would not be the best use of funds.

The final decision, agreed upon by the full City Commission, was to hold off on paving Chickasaw Road this year.

City Manager Kim Foster provided an update on the Brooks Street Drainage Project, reporting that the City had opened bids approximately one hour prior to the meeting. The project is supported by a state grant in the amount of \$1.4 million, with a 10% local match, meaning the City had budgeted to contribute just under \$150,000. However, the lowest bid received came in at \$1.89 million—nearly \$500,000 over budget.

Foster explained that the City now faced two options: either proceed with the project by drawing approximately \$400,000 from the fund balance, or shelve the project for a later date. She added that, due to the overage, the City would no longer be able to include the replacement of culverts in Lakeway Circle, as had originally been anticipated.

She also mentioned the possibility of scaling back some paving work to reduce costs, though Commissioner John Etheridge expressed concern about cutting paving from a project that would involve heavy equipment on the road surface. He asked whether the cost estimate aligned with what had been projected by Bob Saffin of TLM Engineers. Foster responded that the bid had exceeded the original estimate provided by the engineer and noted that the complexity of the project likely discouraged smaller contractors from submitting bids.

Commissioner Vickey Roberts requested clarification on the scope of the project. Foster explained that it involved diverting a portion of stormwater underground to help reduce flooding in the area. When Commissioner Etheridge asked for an estimate of the water to be diverted, Community Development

Director Jessica Crouch reported that Bob Saffin had estimated the project would divert approximately 25% of the surface water underground. Foster clarified that the project would not completely eliminate the flooding but would significantly reduce the severity of the issue.

Commissioner Etheridge asked if this was the worst flooding area within the City limits. Foster confirmed that it was one of the most persistent and problematic areas. Etheridge also inquired about the City's current fund balance, which Foster stated was approximately \$8 million.

Commissioner Sam Tharpe expressed support for proceeding with the project immediately. Foster then requested a motion. Commissioner Tharpe made a motion to move forward with the project using the additional funds from the City's fund balance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Etheridge. Commissioner Jackie Jones commented that the project had been under consideration for a long time and that delaying it further would only increase future costs.

The final decision, approved by the City Commission, was to proceed with the Brooks Street Drainage Project using the additional funds needed from the City's fund balance.

The meeting duly adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Mayor

Finance Director