

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**  
**March 5, 2026**  
**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, March 5, 2026, in the Paris City Hall Courtroom.

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

**Present:** Mayor Kathy Ray  
Vice Mayor John Etheridge  
Commissioner Jackie Jones  
Commissioner Sam Tharpe

**Also Present:** City Manager Kim Foster  
City Attorney James Smith  
Community Development Director, Jessica Crouch  
Finance Director, Liana Compton  
Community Engagement Coordinator, Abby Pierce  
Fire Chief, Jamie Hinson  
Police Chief, Ricky Watson  
Building and Codes Director, Mike Brown

**Absent:** Commissioner Vickey Roberts

**Media:** Ken Walker, Paris Post Intelligencer  
Shannon McFarlin, WENK/WTPR

Commissioner Jackie Jones led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a prayer led by Commissioner Sam Tharpe.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 5, 2026

**DISCUSSION:** None

**ACTION:** The minutes stand approved as read.

**VOTE:** None

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:** Eric Kogut of 303 South Highland Street addressed the City Commission regarding the condition of roads and infrastructure within the community. He stated that he recently relocated from South Florida and has previously attempted to communicate concerns via email. Mr. Kogut expressed dissatisfaction with the current condition of infrastructure, describing it as unacceptable, and referenced photographic documentation he has compiled. He concluded by inviting members of the Commission to share their perspectives on the condition of roads and infrastructure.

Bailey McSwain 108 North College Street addressed the City Commission regarding a fire hydrant located on Washington Street between the meeting location and College Street that has been marked "out of service." He expressed concern about the potential impact on fire protection in the area and inquired about hydrant coverage and the proximity of the next available hydrant in the event of a fire.

River Byrd spoke in support of previous comments regarding conditions in the AP neighborhood, particularly streets and sidewalks. He stated that while he understands recent infrastructure work has impacted road conditions, the streets have not yet been fully restored. He also noted that some sidewalks have been improved, but many remain in poor condition, with some areas lacking sidewalks altogether or showing signs of deterioration. Mr. Byrd expressed concern that prior communications on this issue had not received a response and encouraged the City to address these concerns.

**COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION:** Mayor Kathy Ray asked Terry Wimberly to provide comments regarding the infrastructure projects. Terry Wimberly, President and CEO Paris BPU, addressed the Commission and acknowledged the current condition of streets and infrastructure in the AP neighborhood, offering an apology for the impact of ongoing work. He explained that Paris BPU's primary responsibility is to provide reliable, high-quality drinking water and noted that the area contains some of the oldest water lines in the system, necessitating significant upgrades.

Mr. Wimberly stated that the project represents a major infrastructure investment, requiring extensive planning and funding, and that the long-term outcome will be improved reliability and increased water flow for fire protection. He acknowledged that construction has caused temporary disruptions, particularly in a densely populated area, and noted that weather conditions such as snow and ice have contributed to delays.

He further explained that contractors are performing the work and that Paris BPU is actively monitoring the project to ensure work is completed appropriately. He stated that efforts are being made to maintain safe and passable streets during construction. Mr. Wimberly reiterated his apology for the inconvenience and emphasized the importance of the project for the long-term benefit of the community.

Vice Mayor John Etheridge acknowledged concerns regarding street conditions, stating that while conditions are currently poor, they are the result of necessary infrastructure improvements. He noted that the work is critical for long-term fire protection and reliable water service and described the project as a rare, large-scale investment that will not be needed again for many years. He added that street and sidewalk improvements are evaluated citywide each year and emphasized that infrastructure needs extend beyond a single neighborhood.

Commissioner Jackie Jones stated that current conditions are frustrating but explained that paving cannot be completed until underlying work is finished and materials have properly settled. She noted that asphalt production is limited during certain times of the year and emphasized that immediate paving would not be effective. She encouraged patience as the work progresses.

Commissioner Sam Tharpe expressed appreciation to Terry Wimberly for addressing the issue and acknowledged the necessity of replacing aging infrastructure, including decades-old clay pipes. He stated that while current conditions are difficult, the improvements are essential

and will ultimately benefit the community. He encouraged residents to remain patient during construction and to share any concerns once the project is complete if issues remain.

Commissioner Vickey Roberts echoed appreciation for the discussion and noted that the AP neighborhood is an older area with aging infrastructure. She stated that concerns raised by residents were reviewed and that responses were provided through the City Manager. She added that similar infrastructure challenges exist in many communities and emphasized the importance of patience as improvements are completed.

Mayor Kathy Ray thanked the residents for their concerns and emphasized the importance of community involvement. She reiterated that the City is committed to addressing infrastructure needs and asked for continued patience as work progresses. She also thanked Paris BPU and its leadership for their partnership and efforts in completing the project.

**SERVICE RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS**  
**AGENDA ITEM NO.1**  
**Rezoning Request for 43 Hillcrest Drive**

Community Development Director Jessica Crouch explained that this item was presented to the Planning Commission in February, which recommended approval of the rezoning request to B-1 (Highway Commercial District). She stated that due to timing constraints related to publication deadlines and a holiday, required public hearing notices could not be issued in time for this meeting. Jessica noted that notices will be mailed the following week, and the item will return for a public hearing and second reading in April 2026.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1334**

AN ORDINANCE to Amend Title 11, Chapter 104 of the Paris Municipal Code

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

Title 11, Chapter 104, Section B, identifying, "The Official Zoning Map of Paris, Tennessee," as adopted, is amended as follows:

That the following described property at 43 Hillcrest Drive be rezoned from R-1L to B-1 as shown on the attached Exhibit "A":

Known as the following:

Tax Assessor's Map 0950, Group G, Parcel 009.00

(See Attached Exhibit "A")

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 March 5, 2026.

Passed and adopted \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director

“Exhibit A”



Location of Requested Rezoning

**Discussion:** None  
**Action:** None  
**Vote:** Unanimous



**Monthly Operating Statement  
January 2026**

<b>REVENUES</b>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Yr to Date</u>	<u>Percent Realized</u>
Property Taxes	2,570,000	592,439	1,263,139	49.15%
Local Option Sales Tax	6,500,000	566,349	3,997,386	61.50%
Wholesale Liquor / Beer	880,000	82,309	505,277	57.42%
Business Tax	450,000	16,013	69,934	15.54%
Fees & Licenses	144,250	4,765	84,113	58.31%
In Lieu Payments	170,250	34,729	72,708	42.71%
Hotel-Motel Occupancy Tax	200,000	6,623	137,167	68.58%
Grants	3,447,160	13,736	690,715	20.04%
State Shared taxes	1,967,500	147,949	1,062,374	54.00%
TVA Impact Payment	242,500	0	270,210	111.43%
All Other	12,353,050	163,919	1,512,975	12.25%
ARPA/TDEC-WII	1,675,000	280,558	280,558	16.75%
<b>Total General Fund Revenue</b>	<b>30,599,710</b>	<b>1,909,389</b>	<b>9,946,557</b>	<b>32.51%</b>
Solid Waste Collection - BPU	1,400,000	119,434	824,979	58.93%
Solid Waste Disposal - Transfer	750,000	33,963	452,030	60.27%
Other Revenue	31,500	95,729	98,145	311.57%
<b>Total Sanitation</b>	<b>2,181,500</b>	<b>249,126</b>	<b>1,375,154</b>	<b>63.04%</b>
Gate Receipts - Brush & Debris	200,000	7,356	111,338	55.67%
County Share Operating Exp	35,000	16,914	16,914	48.33%
Gate Receipts - Tires	8,000	416	3,657	45.71%
Other Revenue	42,050	168	1,295	3.08%
<b>Total Landfill</b>	<b>285,050</b>	<b>24,854</b>	<b>133,204</b>	<b>46.73%</b>
<b>Total Drug Fund</b>	<b>59,040</b>	<b>1,234</b>	<b>13,752</b>	<b>23.29%</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>33,125,300</b>	<b>2,184,602</b>	<b>11,468,666</b>	<b>34.62%</b>

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Yr to Date</u>	<u>Percent Realized</u>
Grants & Donations	209,000	74,400	175,384	83.92%
General Administration	719,500	57,778	434,056	60.33%
Economic Development	200,371	15,349	116,276	58.03%
Chamber of Commerce	0	11,033	49,662	0.00%
Financial Administration	367,878	22,548	224,557	61.04%
City Hall Building	65,285	4,697	40,292	61.72%
Police Department	2,997,899	233,514	1,634,045	54.51%
Emergency Communications	1,130,104	103,693	642,043	56.81%
Fire Department	2,196,532	148,857	1,262,190	57.46%
Building Inspection	261,459	19,525	137,386	52.55%
Street Maintenance	1,936,893	116,101	1,113,559	57.49%
State Street Aid	1,715,000	4,118	1,179,733	68.79%
Storm Water Management	674,233	17,733	613,194	90.95%
Street Lighting	129,300	35,262	98,848	76.45%
City Garage	322,945	22,300	180,838	56.00%
Cemetery Maintenance	83,448	648	48,060	57.59%
Health & Animal Control	258,931	24,149	218,147	84.25%
Civic Center	866,806	53,079	381,312	43.99%
Parks & Recreation	1,407,825	120,635	895,589	63.62%
Library	212,019	35,337	141,346	66.67%
Community Development	14,359,210	120,429	756,908	5.27%
Debt Service	745,650	0	293,555	39.37%
<b>General Fund Expenditures</b>	<b>30,860,288</b>	<b>1,241,186</b>	<b>10,636,980</b>	<b>34.47%</b>
Sanitation Collection	1,523,292	58,997	948,945	62.30%
Contractual Services	925,000	61,043	537,631	58.12%
<b>Total Sanitation</b>	<b>2,448,292</b>	<b>120,040</b>	<b>1,486,576</b>	<b>60.72%</b>
<b>Total Landfill</b>	<b>243,150</b>	<b>19,738</b>	<b>119,151</b>	<b>49.00%</b>
<b>Total Drug Fund</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>14,793</b>	<b>35.22%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>33,593,730</b>	<b>1,381,164</b>	<b>12,257,501</b>	<b>36.49%</b>

<u>REVENUES OVER / (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Yr to Date</u>
General Fund	668,203	(690,423)
Sanitation	129,086	(111,423)
Landfill	5,115	14,053
Drug Fund	1,034	(1,042)

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** None

**NEW BUSINESS**  
**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2**  
**Appointments to Boards**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**  
**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3**  
**Rezoning Request for 1406 Industrial Park Lane**

Community Development Director Jessica Crouch explained that Savannah Vaughn submitted a rezoning request for property located at 1406 Industrial Park Lane. She stated that the property is currently zoned P-M (Planned Industrial District) and the request is to rezone it to P-M (Planned Commercial District).

Jessica noted that, while rezoning requests are typically referred to the Planning Commission, this request presents concerns related to spot zoning. She explained that rezoning only this parcel would create an isolated zoning district, as it is separated from similarly zoned properties by another parcel. To avoid spot zoning, any consideration of this request would require additional adjacent properties to be included.

She further stated that the property is surrounded by industrial uses, including adjacent and nearby industrial lots, which are important factors for the Commission to consider when evaluating the appropriateness of the requested zoning change.



# City of Paris

100 N Caldwell St  
P.O. Box 970  
Paris, TN 38242

<http://paristn.gov/>

## APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE

For Internal Use Only

Received By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### APPLICANT'S INFORMATION

Name of Individual: Savannah Vaughn Phone: 731-333-2774  
Address: 1016 Memorial Dr City/State: Paris, TN 38242  
Email Address: savannahsbray@yahoo.com  
Applicant's Interest in Property:  Owner  Agent  Lessee  Option to Purchase  
PROPERTY INFORMATION: Map: 110 Group: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel: 016.03  
Property Address: 1406 Industrial Park LN Paris, TN

### REQUEST TO REZONE PROPERTY

Current Zoning Classification: P-M(Planned Industrial) Requested Zoning Classification: P-B(Planned Commercial)  
Reason for Request/Remarks: open a salon

Site Plan Required: Yes No Map Required: Yes No Site Plan Required: Yes No

### REQUEST TO AMEND TEXT OF THE MUNICIPAL ZONING ORDINANCE

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Requested Amendments/Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the statements made by me herein and the maps and other accompanying data submitted herewith are true and correct.

Applicant Signature: Savannah Vaughn Date: 2/12/2020

City Commission Meeting: 3/5/20 Planning Commission Meeting: 3/12/20  
Planning Commission Recommendation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
Action by Board of Commissioners: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Discussion:** None

**Action:** Commissioner Vickey Roberts made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackie Jones to forward this request to the Planning Commission for their review and recommendation.

**Vote:** Unanimous

### **NEW BUSINESS** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 4** **Industrial Park Update and Request for Grant Match Commitment**

Executive Director, Paris-Henry County Industrial Committee Rob Goad provided an update on ongoing development at the industrial park. He reported that work is progressing under a current site development grant of approximately \$1.2 million, which includes clearing approximately 60 acres, removing stumps, and constructing detention and sedimentation basins. He noted that additional work is pending necessary permits and ongoing geotechnical evaluation of soil conditions to support future grading.

Mr. Goad explained that the project follows a master plan aimed at increasing the capacity and marketability of the industrial park, including multiple building pads ranging from 100,000 to 400,000 square feet and the addition of a rail spur to serve the entire site. He stated that the

plan allows for increased density and improved access, including the development of a transload rail facility.

He further outlined a proposed project focused on a 64-acre section of the site, which could support up to 600,000 square feet of manufacturing space. Planned improvements include significant grading work, roadway extension, and site preparation to make the property development-ready. He noted that asphalt is not being installed at this time due to cost considerations and anticipated heavy equipment use.

Mr. Goad stated that the total project match requirement is \$390,000 and requested that the City consider contributing \$195,000 toward that amount, with the remaining portion anticipated to be requested from the County. He added that additional grant opportunities are being pursued to further support the project and minimize local funding obligations. He concluded by noting that recent progress has significantly improved the site's readiness and marketability for future industrial development.

**Discussion:** Commissioner Jackie Jones asked when the City's financial contribution would be needed. Executive Director Rob Goad explained that a commitment is required by the end of May to meet TVA Invest Prep program requirements, though funds would not be needed unless the project is awarded. He noted that the process is highly competitive and that advancement to the next round is not guaranteed.

Commissioner Jones also inquired about the extent of wetlands on the property. Mr. Goad explained that certain wetlands and ponds on the site must remain due to regulatory requirements, as they are considered high-quality wetlands connected to water systems. He noted that while some smaller wetlands have been addressed, larger areas cannot be disturbed without significant cost and mitigation.

Vice Mayor John Etheridge asked about the timeline for achieving a certified site if the project moves forward. Mr. Goad estimated that, using grant funding, the process could take approximately five years, though it could be completed more quickly if fully self-funded.

Commissioner Sam Tharpe clarified the total match requirement and asked about coordination with the County. Mr. Goad stated that the total match is \$390,000 and that he plans to request the remaining half from the County.

City Manager Kim Foster clarified that the City would only need to commit funds at this time, not provide them immediately, and that the project could not proceed without full funding commitments. Vice Mayor Etheridge asked whether the City's commitment could be contingent upon the County providing its share. Discussion followed regarding the importance of partnership and shared investment.

Mr. Goad thanked the Commission for their support and noted that securing TVA funding would significantly enhance the project's competitiveness for additional state funding opportunities.

**Action:** Vice Mayor Etheridge made a motion to commit \$195,000 toward the project, contingent upon Henry County providing the remaining \$195,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sam Tharpe.

**Vote:** Unanimous

**NEW BUSINESS**  
**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**  
**Review of FY 2025 Audit**

Matt Wood, Partner & CPA with Alexander, Thompson, Arnold (ATA), presented the City's annual audit report. He stated that the audit resulted in an unmodified opinion, indicating a clean audit with no material misstatements or evidence of fraud. He also noted that a single audit was not required this year, as federal grant expenditures were below the \$750,000 threshold.

Mr. Wood reported that there were no internal control findings. He highlighted a pension asset of approximately \$879,000, noting that the City has improved its position significantly over time, shifting from a prior liability to an asset, which helps maintain stable contribution rates.

He also referenced the issuance of a \$10 million revenue anticipation note during the year, which impacted both assets and liabilities. Despite this, he stated that overall City financial activity remained consistent with the prior year.

Mr. Wood explained that the General Fund balance totaled approximately \$18.54 million compared to budgeted expenditures of \$16.35 million. When accounting for unspent bond proceeds, he noted the adjusted fund balance remains strong at approximately 50% of expenditures, well above the commonly recommended benchmark of 25%, indicating a healthy financial position. He further noted that the General Fund ended the year approximately \$178,000 under budget, which he described as a positive indicator of accurate and attentive budgeting practices.

Mr. Wood concluded by expressing appreciation for the opportunity to work with the City and offered to answer any questions from the Commission.

**Discussion:** None

**Action:** None

**Vote:** None

**NEW BUSINESS**  
**AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

**Resolution (No. 1729) regarding Interlocal Agreement – Paris Henry County Landfill**

City Manager Kim Foster explained that this resolution is a housekeeping measure to approve a restated interlocal agreement between the City and Henry County regarding the operation of the landfill. She stated that the agreement reflects the longstanding arrangement in which the City manages and administers landfill operations, with the County participating in the partnership. She noted that the landfill operates as an enterprise fund, with the City responsible for setting rates to ensure the operation remains self-sustaining.

Kim further explained that the only substantive change in the updated agreement is the formal dissolution of the landfill committee, which was established in the past to provide guidance during a period of transition but has not met in many years and is no longer needed. She added that the agreement is consistent with prior agreements and has already been approved by the County.

Resolution No. 1729

RESOLUTION REGARDING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF PARIS AND HENRY COUNTY  
REGARDING THE LANDFILL ON JONES BEND ROAD

**WHEREAS**, the City of Paris, Tennessee (hereinafter "City") and the County of Henry, Tennessee (hereinafter "County") co-own that certain landfill located on Jones Bend Road in Henry County (appearing on Map 096, Parcels 009.01, 009.03, 016.00, 016.01, and 021.00 of the Henry County Assessor, hereinafter the "Landfill") pursuant to those certain Interlocal Agreements dated February 2, 1995, and separately October 7, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and County desire to vacate the Interlocal Agreements dated February 2, 1995, and separately October 7, 2021, and restate an Interlocal Agreement pertaining to the operation of the Landfill;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing, and in consideration of the premises and promises, terms and conditions set forth herein, **IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**:

A. The Interlocal Agreements between the City of Paris, Tennessee and Henry County, Tennessee, regarding the landfill on Jones Bend Road which are dated February 2, 1995, and separately October 7, 2021, are **TERMINATED** and **VACATED**; and

B. The City of Paris, Tennessee shall enter into a restated interlocal agreement with Henry County, Tennessee regarding the landfill on Jones Bend Road as follows:

1. The City of Paris, Tennessee (hereinafter “City”) and the County of Henry, Tennessee (hereinafter “County”) co-own that certain landfill located on Jones Bend Road in Henry County (appearing on Map 096, Parcels 009.01, 009.03, 016.00, 016.01, and 021.00 of the Henry County Assessor.

2. The Landfill Committee, to the extent authorized and established by the City in Resolution 1231, and separately, to the extent authorized and established the County pursuant to Resolution 1-4-94, has been dissolved by the City and, separately, dissolved by the County.

2. The City shall operate the Landfill. All employees so engaged in operating the Landfill shall be the employees of the City and subject to the personnel rules and regulations of the City.

3. The City Commission shall set the appropriate rates and charges imposed by the Landfill. It is expressly understood by the City and the County that the Landfill must be operated and accounted for as an enterprise account in accordance with Tennessee law. All rates and charges must be sufficient to cover all expenditures.

4. The City and County shall share equally all operating cost and capital cost including but not limited to permitting costs, engineering costs, development costs, closure costs, and post closure costs.

5. In January, and separately, in July of each calendar year, the City Finance Director will certify to the County the actual cost incurred for the operation of the Landfill during the preceding six-month period. The County will pay one-half (1/2) of the actual cost incurred for each six-month period as certified to the County by the City’s Finance Director. In the event the County shall become delinquent for thirty (30) days in any of the above-described payments, the City shall have full right and authority to deny access to non-City residents.

6. This Interlocal Agreement shall continue in perpetuity unless and until terminated by either party. Each party has the right of termination upon written notice of 180 day.

6. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the City and the County with regard to the operation of the Landfill, and supersedes all prior agreements, whether written or oral.

7. Any amendments or modifications to this Interlocal Agreement must be in writing and signed by all parties.

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

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of the City of Paris, Tennessee go on record as approving the Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Paris, Tennessee, and Henry County, Tennessee, regarding the Landfill on Jones Bend Road, and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Paris, Tennessee to execute such Interlocal Agreement..

This Resolution shall become a part of and be spread upon the minutes of this meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Paris, Tennessee.

Unanimously adopted, this the   5   day of March, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director

ATTESTED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Discussion:** None

**Action:** Commissioner Sam Tharpe made a motion seconded by Commissioner Jackie Jones to approve Resolution No. 1729 amending the Interlocal Agreement on the Paris-Henry County Landfill.

**Vote:** Unanimous

**MONTHLY SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS**  
**“YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK”**

*February 2026*

<u>Department</u>	<u>Highlight/Service</u>	<u>Metric</u>	<u>Significance</u>
Animal Control	Animal Control Intakes	34 animals	Highlights Animal Control’s role in responding to calls, protecting public safety, and ensuring animals in the community are safely handled and cared for.
General Administration	Leadership Training Completed	28 hours	Reflects the City’s investment in staff development to strengthen leadership and improve public service.
Parks & Recreation	Civic Center Visitors	5,452 visitors	Highlights the Civic Center’s role as a busy community space for recreation, events, and connection.
Police Department	Alarm Registration	220 alarms	Helps improve emergency response efficiency and strengthens coordination between residents and public safety.

**Discussion:** City Manager Kim Foster shared an update regarding the Animal Shelter. She reported that the shelter has achieved a 90% live exit rate, meeting the standard defined by Best Friends Animal Society for designation as a no-kill shelter. Kim noted that this milestone was reached in a short time frame and that Best Friends recognized the shelter for exceeding expectations.

She commended Animal Control staff, particularly Zach Braham, for their efforts, highlighting coordination with rescue organizations, including instances where animals were transported out of state to increase adoption opportunities. Kim stated that the shelter has taken on increased responsibilities following the closure of the county facility and acknowledged the challenges associated with that transition.

Kim expressed appreciation for the team’s work and noted that the monthly service highlights help demonstrate the scope and impact of City services. She encouraged the Commission to provide feedback on areas they would like to see emphasized in future reports.

**STATUS OF VARIOUS PROJECTS**  
**March 2026**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>PRIMARY STAFF</b>	<b>TARGET COMPLETION DATE(S)</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
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	There has been an 8–11-month delay in traffic signal equipment. TLM will reschedule a pre-con later when the contractor can begin work.
Rison St Bridge Replacement	Foster/Crouch	Summer 2026	Utility coordination meeting was held on-site Feb. 25. BPU will need to temporarily relocate power lines to give the contractor room to work with a crane. A relocation plan is being compiled.
2020 Multimodal Access Grant for 4 Downtown Intersections	Foster/Crouch	Spring 2027	The bid concurrence package is under review at TDOT. TLM and City of Paris have followed up on the status of bid concurrence.
2022 Multimodal Access Grant for Tyson/M.W. Intersection Upgrades & Sidewalk	Foster/Crouch	Fall 2026	Construction is scheduled to begin on May 4, 2026. There is a 16–20-week lead time on pedestrian signals once the order is released.
2022 TA Grant for Sidewalk Project along Fairgrounds & Royal Oak	Foster/Crouch	Winter of 2027	TLM is continuing to work on preliminary plans for revised scope. TLM plans to submit to TDOT in March.

TDEC Water Infrastructure Improvement (WII) Grant	Foster/Crouch	Spring 2026	Construction for this project is on hold with an expected return in mid-February. Snow, ice, and other weather conditions could be delayed into March.
Paris City Wide Drainage Study	Foster	TBD	TLM continues to work on report.
2024 CDBG – Boardwalk at Eiffel Tower Park	Foster/Lawrence	Summer 2026	TLM sent plans and specifications to NWTDD and CDBG for review and approval.
Municipal Facilities Project – Municipal building on N. Caldwell St.	Foster	Winter 2027	Eykonic Group, the third-party cost estimator, is working on the project cost estimate based on the Design Development documents.
Municipal Facilities Project – Fire Station on Tyson Ave.	Foster	Summer 2026	The initial dirt work is almost completed. The storm water detention installation and storm water drainage piping is in progress. The local surveyor has completed the building survey, and the foundation layout is in the beginning stages. The submittals and shop drawings continue and material is being ordered. The current substantial completion date is March 6, 2027.

**Discussion:** City Manager Kim Foster provided updates on ongoing projects. She stated that there were no additional updates beyond those previously reported but noted that challenges have arisen with the Rison Street Bridge project related to utility coordination. Kim explained that major electrical infrastructure near the bridge, including critical three-phase lines serving the county, cannot be de-energized, requiring relocation and creating additional complexity and potential cost increases. She stated that staff are working with Paris BPU to address these issues and move the project forward.

Kim also reported that the independent construction cost estimate for the municipal building has been completed and came in close to the original estimate prepared by TLM, with slight increases attributed to inflation since the initial 2024 estimate. She noted that the estimate is being reviewed in detail, but the results validated the accuracy of the original project budget.

Regarding the Brooks Street project, Kim stated that representatives from TLM and the contractor will meet on-site to assess current conditions following recent weather. If conditions are favorable, construction is expected to resume mid-week; otherwise, additional drying time may be required, with work anticipated to restart within the next couple of weeks.

In response to a question from Commissioner Jackie Jones, Kim stated that there is currently no active construction underway at the site and that the recent winter storm is being evaluated for any potential impact. Vice Mayor John Etheridge noted that a recent water-over-the-road event further emphasized the importance of completing the project.

**Notes from the City Manager:**

- Kim also discussed the upcoming budget process and recommended adjusting the timeline to begin earlier in order to avoid scheduling final approval at the end of June. She proposed holding the first reading in May and the second reading in June, which would eliminate the need for a special-called meeting. To accommodate this change, she requested that a budget work session be scheduled for April.
- Kim asked the Commission to review their availability for the week of April 13. Following discussion, the Commission agreed to schedule the budget work session for April 14 at 9:00 a.m. in the usual meeting location. She noted that the session would likely last approximately one to two hours and that materials would be provided in advance to allow for focused discussion.

The meeting duly adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

---

Mayor

---

Finance Director