



City Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM

The Tom Hardin Room – 100 Public Square, Mount Pleasant, TN

1. Call to Order

Mayor White called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation

Commissioner Davis led the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner Johnston gave the invocation.

3. Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Bill White

Vice Mayor Willie Alderson

Commissioner Mike Davis

Commissioner Pam Johnston

ABSENT

Commissioner Loree Knowles

4. Approval / Correction of Minutes from Prior Meetings

A. Study Session - April 10, 2025

Mayor White asked for approval of the minutes from the Study Session on April 10, 2025.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis to approve the Study Session minutes on April 10, 2025, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston.

B. Regular Session - April 15, 2025

Mayor White asked for approval of the minutes from the Regular Session on April 15, 2025.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis to approve the Regular Session minutes on April 15, 2025, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston.

5. Awards/Presentations/Appointments

A. Proclamation - National Police Officers Memorial Day

Mayor White stated there are two proclamations for tonight. The first one is for National Police Officers Week. He asked the group present for this proclamation to come forward and then he read the proclamation aloud.

B. Proclamation - National Public Works Week May 18-24, 2025

Mayor White stated the next proclamation for tonight is for National Public Works Week. He asked the group present for this proclamation to come forward and then he read the proclamation aloud.

6. Completion / Review of Unfinished Business from prior meeting

A. Ordinance 2025-1132 - (Public Hearing/Final Reading) - An Ordinance of the City of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee amending Title 8 of the Mount Pleasant Municipal Code by increasing the number of Beer Permit Licenses.

Mayor White presented the ordinance regarding beer permit licenses on second reading, public hearing and asked Chief Hay to discuss this with them.

Chief Hay stated we are proposing that we increase Off Premises from 10 to 15, On Premises from 15 to 25 and On/Off Premises from 3 to 6. We have also established a downtown area which goes along with the historical overlay map.

Mayor White asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak on this, no one signed up to speak, it is a public hearing.

Commissioner Davis stated he is not against drinking, but as far as him as a Commissioner that doesn't give anybody the right to overindulge.

Mayor White stated if they do, they will find out what happens.

Chief Hay stated they would take care of it. There were no further comments.

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston to accept Ordinance 2025-1132 as presented. Seconded by Vice Mayor Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston

7. Monthly report from Mayor

Mayor White stated the streetlights are up. They keep telling us substantial completion they hope before the end of the month. He encouraged everyone to go out and look at the progress, it is really looking good.

8. Monthly Financial / Budget report

Mrs. Cox presented the monthly financial and budget report and discussed the highlights.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis to approve the monthly financial and budget report as presented. Seconded by Vice Mayor Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston.

9. Monthly report from City Manager

Mr. Grooms updated them on the bridge project and stated it is very close to being completed. He stated the first of June or a little after. He stated regarding the Downtown Project they will be here next week milling and paving. The streetlights should be up, and they want to be out of here the first of June. We do know that our landscaping may be done in the fall season, but they should be out of here the first of June. On the East Merchant Street Project, the crew is starting tomorrow. He sent the Commissioners a letter this week from the Tennessee Board of Regents Higher Education, they are recognizing our community for supporting the TCAT Program in Hohenwald. He stated the employee recognition for this month in the State of the City is Mrs. Grace Burchell

who is one of our newer employees in customer service, she has been with us about 8 months and is a valued employee already. The last thing he has to report is we are closed Monday for Memorial Day.

10. Special reports from other City Departments or Committees if applicable

A. Wastewater Liaison Report - Barge Design Monthly Report

Mr. Grooms stated we think substantial completion will be the first of June and actually final somewhere around July. He asked Dale to give them some highlights on the project. He stated he is very enthusiastic about this.

Mr. Dale Brown stated he is very excited about wastewater right now because the quality that we are putting out to the back end of the treatment, the effluent he would almost drink it. It meets most drinking water parameters. Once it hits that chlorine, the chlorine is doing some work, so he is very excited about what is in the future for the plant. Once we start getting the benefits from that treatment, we've seen some effects, and it is going to handle more. Right now, we are just working out all the bugs and kinks, but everything is looking fantastic. He stated if they have any questions later on to give him a call or come and see him.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

B. Mount Pleasant Gas System Report

Mr. Grooms stated the comptroller sent them an email about not being a publicly operated business so on the agenda is the third-party rate study. We will talk more about that when we get to that item.

11. New Business

(Comments from citizens may or may not be included, dependent on the issues.)

A. Ordinance 2025-1133 - (First Reading) - An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2024-1125 said ordinance appropriating the revenues and expenses of operating and maintaining the departmental functions of the City of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025; providing an effective date.

Mrs. Cox stated she left them some highlighted notes on the amendments in this ordinance and discussed these with them.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to accept Ordinance 2025-1133 as presented.

Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston.

B. Ordinance 2025-1134 - (First Reading) - An Ordinance of the City of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee adopting the Annual Budget and Tax Rate for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

Mrs. Cox stated this is the budget and they all have the detailed notes in front of them. She then highlighted those notes for them. She did point out the tax rate stayed the same at \$1.69. The biggest highlight in General Fund is budgeting for paving. She pointed out other highlights in the budget.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to accept Ordinance 2025-1134 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.
Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston

- C. Resolution 2025-19 - Resolution of the Commission of the City of Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee to approve the issuance of tax-exempt revenue bonds or other tax-exempt debt by the Health and Education Facilities Board of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee for the benefit of Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Mayor White stated we had a gentleman show up Thursday night to speak on this stating this is for a new helicopter at Maury Regional Airport.

Mrs. Jones stated Vanderbilt University Medical Center (“VUMC”) will borrow bond proceeds through the Nashville Health and Educational Facilities Board to finance this helicopter, along with several other projects. The Nashville Board already held a public hearing on this financing on May 5th. The purpose of this resolution is to approve the Nashville Board’s issuance of the bond because some of the bond proceeds will be used in Mt. Pleasant.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston to accept Resolution 2025-19 as presented.

Seconded by Vice Mayor Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston

- D. Resolution 2025-20 - A Resolution to approve a professional proposal with TriStar Energy Solutions for rate study & valuation of the natural gas utility.

Mrs. Jones stated the purpose of this resolution is to engage TriStar Energy Solutions to perform a gas rate study and a valuation of the gas system. The cost of the rate study is \$15,000; the cost of the valuation is \$3,750. This should take approximately 3 months to complete.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Davis to accept Resolution 2025-20 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston

- E. Resolution 2025-21 - A Resolution to adopt amended restrictions for Howard Field.

Mrs. Jones stated there are restrictive covenants on the Howard Field property that only allow for the property to be used for “recreational uses”. As you heard last month, the County would like to use this property for a new library, but it is not clear whether a library is a recreational use. The purpose of this resolution is to amend the restrictive covenant to allow the property to be used for recreational uses and as a library and for other associated library uses. The actual amendment to the restrictions will be in your packet. The County will be considering a similar resolution this month, and if it passes both government bodies, we will present an MOU for the property exchange and library next month.

Mayor White stated the County is looking at building a brand-new library here over on Howard Field. The cost will be \$5.4 million, for a 10,000 square foot building and developing a kid's softball field right behind it. There was some money appropriated through the budget committee for that as well. We get the current library back.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston to accept Resolution 2025-21 to adopt amended restrictions for Howard Field as presented. Seconded by Vice Mayor Alderson.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston

- F. Resolution 2025-22 - A Resolution of the City of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee accepting a donation of land to be added to Arrow Mines Park.

Mrs. Jones stated the purpose of this resolution is to accept a donation of property adjacent to Arrow Mines. It is valued at \$10,500.00. It is being donated by J & N Bannister Living Trust. If passed the City will accept the land and donation of the property as well as all liability and responsibility for the property going forward. The plan would be to get this deed signed and then add it to Arrow Mines Park.

Mayor White stated they are donating us the property.

Ms. Jones stated we did this a couple years ago with the property right beside it.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to accept Resolution 2025-22 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston

- G. Resolution 2025-23 - A Resolution in support of creating Arrow Mines State Park on private land located partially within and otherwise near the City of Mount Pleasant, Tennessee.

Mayor White stated everybody had copies of the map of this. He stated this will be great for children, great for pedestrians, TWRA is looking at putting in a full shooting complex to support the youth. This will be phenomenal. Arrow Lake will be reclaimed and there is a lot of little dots for rental cabins. It is about 3,000 acres; a lot of this property you could not do anything else with anyway because most of it is brown fill. That is why a lot of it is going to pedestrians because you do not have to disrupt it to do that.

Mrs. Jones stated the only thing they are doing with this resolution is they are showing support for exploration and proposed creation of this state park on Arrow Mines property which is currently owned by StarLink. There is action that you would consider at a later date for this project. Her understanding from conversations with the Mayor is that would be regarding extending utilities. This is just to confirm exploration of this project.

Commissioner Davis stated he would like to thank everyone who was involved in this because this will mean a lot to our community.

Mayor White stated we have been working on this for 2 1/2 years.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Johnston to accept Resolution 2025-23 a resolution in support of Arrow Mines State Park on private land. Seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston

- H. Resolution 2025-24 - A Resolution approving amendment to TDOT Contract for the Downtown Revitalization and Economic Development Project, Phase 1 (TDOT PIN: 126660.00)

Mrs. Jones stated the purpose of this resolution is to approve this amendment to the TDOT contract for the Downtown Revitalization Project, Phase 1. The amendment replaces the Exhibit A to the contract and extends the completion date to November 30, 2025. Work done by this date is eligible for reimbursement by TDOT. The new Exhibit A describes the project as follows: SR-166 (North Main Street) from Hay Long Avenue to Park Avenue in Mount Pleasant (Downtown Revitalization Ph 1). This project will construct sidewalks along Main Street and Public Square through the intersection of Church Street. The project also includes ADA upgrades, signage, retaining wall, landscaping, pedestrian lighting and pedestrian amenities. The new exhibit also shows the change in cost. The new amendment, as well as the letter from TDOT is in your packet.

Mayor White stated we know what is going on and you can see it. This is not a bad one for a change.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to accept Resolution 2025-24 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston

12. General comments from citizens (May be limited in time and/or number of comments.)

13. Board / Staff Comments / Adjournment

Mayor White introduced Hannah Miller to them.

Ms. Miller stated her official title is Code and Commission Officer for the City of Columbia. That is a long title for PR and Communications.

Mayor White stated she used to do this for Columbia Fire Department.

Ms. Miller stated yes, she started out at the Columbia Fire Department and then moved to City Hall.

Mayor White stated for those that did not know she sang on the front porch of Manor Hall a couple of years ago.

Mayor White stated it was a pleasure to have her here.

Commissioners discussed. For more details refer to the audio/video recording attached to the agenda.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Alderson to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Voting Yea: Mayor White, Vice Mayor Alderson, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Johnston