

Town of Gainesboro

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Mayor: Ricky Head

Alderman: Tom Goetz

Alderwoman: Beth Young

Alderwoman: Deborah Whitaker

MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

1. THE MAYOR RICKY HEAD, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.
2. ALDERMAN/ALDERWOMEN PRESENT: TOM GOETZ, BETH YOUNG AND DEBORAH WHITAKER.
3. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS OBSERVED BY ALL PRESENT.
4. ALDERWOMAN DEB WHITAKER MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERWOMAN BETH YOUNG AS 2ND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR AUGUST 13, 2026. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED

PUBLIC COMMENT: MAYOR ASKED EVERYONE TO BE RESPECTFUL WHEN COMMENTS ARE BEING MADE. SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS COMMENTED ON THE PROPOSAL FROM HRP, LLC TO PURCHASE CITY HALL BLDG ON N. MURRAY ST.

JOSH ABBOTOY – PRESENTED AN ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY FOR STARTUP MANUFACTURING CO. HE APPRECIATED THE CONSIDERATION BY THE ALDERMEN FOR THE UNSOLICITED OFFER TO BUY CITY HALL BUILDING, \$340,000 YRLY IN COMBINED LOCAL AND STATE REVENUE. STATE OF THE ART FACILITY, NO POLLUTION, NOISE STUDY ETC. ASKED ALDERMEN TO CONSIDER PAYCHECKS OVER POLITICS. ALSO STATED LATER THAT IS CITY IS NOT WILLING TO SELL THE BACKUP PLAN IS TO LOOK FOR SOMETHING IN JACKSON COUNTY TO START THE COMPANY.

AURORA WELLS – LIBERALS AGAINST THE PROJECT. SPOKE ABOUT THE GROUP WHO WANT TO PURCHASE THE BLDG AS OVERWHELMING AND DIVIDING OUR COMMUNITY AND ASKED THE ALDERMAN TO CONSIDER NOT APPROVING THE PROPOSAL

UNNAMED FEMALE – WHAT IS WRONG IS PUTTING PAYCHECKS OVER POLITICAL VIEWS.

UNNAMED FEMALE – QUESTIONED WHY POLITICS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN PEOPLES PAYCHECKS. SAID PEOPLE WOULD BE HIRED ACCORDING TO THEIR VALUE TO THE COMPANY, COMPANY IS WILLING TO TRAIN PEOPLE. WOULD BRING VALUE TO THE PROPERTY. ENCOURAGES ALDERMEN TO APPROVE THE SALE OF THE BLDG.

UNNAMED FEMALE – ASKED HOW MANY PEOPLE AT THE MEETING ACTUALLY WORK IN JACKSON COUNTY. BUSINESS WANTING TO COME IN AND GIVE THE COMMUNITY JOBS WE SHOULD ACCEPT THE OPPORTUNITY.

UNNAMED MALE – WANTS TO KNOW WHAT THE CITY WOULD DO IF THERE IS EXPANSION AND WE NEED LARGER BUILDING OR AREA WOULD WE BUY IT BACK FROM THIS GROUP OR BUY PROPERTY ELSEWHERE. ALSO ASKED ABOUT LEASING THE BUILDING INSTEAD OF SELLING.

MAYOR HEAD - STATED IF THE CITY WANTED TO SELL IT WOULD GO UP FOR PUBLIC AUCTION AND WE COULD NOT LEASE.

CITY ATTORNEY KAYLA CANTRELL - STATED THE CITY MIGHT BE ABLE TO LEASE IF THAT'S THE OPTION, THERE MAY BE SOME LEGAL EXCEPTIONS WITH REQUIREMENTS THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE MET, SINCE OUR CHARTER DOES NOT ALLOW IT.

JANE FORKUM – LIVES BEHIND CITY HALL, STATED SHE WORRIED HOW IT WOULD AFFECT HER WAY OF LIFE.

UNNAMED MALE – THINKS THE BOARD IS GOING TO WIND UP CHOOSING WINNERS AND LOSERS AND DOESN'T THINK THEY SHOULD PUT THEMSELVES IN THAT POSITION. AGREES IF BLDG SALES IT SHOULD BE AT AUCTION.

UNNAMED FEMALE – THINKS WHAT HAPPENED IN NASHVILLE COULD HAPPEN HERE, STATES NEW PEOPLE MOVED IN AND NOW IS A DIFFERENT PLACE. CLAIMS MR ABBOTOY STATED AT A PUBLIC MEETING THAT THE FIRST GROUP OF PEOPLE COMING IN WOULD BE FROM OUT OF TOWN. THINKS THIS WOULD NOT BENEFIT THOSE WHO LIVE HERE.

CASSIE KESSLER – ASKED ABBOTOY COULD HE GUARANTEE THE JOBS WOULD GO TO CURRENT JC PEOPLE, MR ABBOTOY SAID HE COULD GUARANTEE THERE IS A COMMITMENT TO POST AND TRY TO HIRE LOCAL PEOPLE FIRST. SAID HE COULD NOT GUARANTEE ALL JOBS TO LOCALS. APPLICANTS WOULD NEED TO BE QUALIFIED FOR THE POSITION.

UNNAMED FEMALE – CLAIMS MR TOTTER IS BEING MIS-REPRESENTED. SHE STATES HE IS SOON TO BE RETIRED MILITARY AND A DEACON OF A BAPTIST CHURCH.

BARRY NAFF – LIVED HERE FOR OVER 60 YRS CLAIMS THERE IS NOTHING WE HAVE SEEN IN THIS TOWN THAT WILL SHOW WHAT HE IS DOING HERE. STATED WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT MR ABBOTOY HAS GOT COMING TO OUR COMMUNITY. CLAIMS RIDGE RUNNER IS THE SECOND LARGEST LAND OWNERS IN JACKSON COUNTY WITH 4000 ACRES EITHER ACQUIRED OR UNDER CONTRACT. WANTS A SMALL SPACE HERE IN TOWN AMONGST THE HOUSES IN THE MIDDLE OF GAINESBORO TO BRING A MILITARY MANUFACTURING CO. MAKES NO SENSE TO HAVE IT IN MIDDLE OF TOWN. ASKS THE BOARD TO DENY THE REQUEST AND NOT SELL TO MR ABBOTOY.

HUGH CAMERON – SUPPORTER OF MILITARY, DON'T MIND WHERE THE PLANT WOULD GO BUT THE BUSINESS STRUCTURE AND ENGINEERING OF THE DEAL AND THAT'S WRONG, THE PEOPLE HAVE FRANCHISED WHICH HAS ECONOMIC IMPACT TO THEM. CANNOT SUPPORT BECAUSE IT IS NOT A GOOD DEAL. THEY HAVE THE MONEY TO PURCHASE IN THE APPROPRIATE AREA BUT THEY WANT TO LOWBALL IT INTO OUR CITY.

ROGER GORE – IS BUILDING INSURED, YES IT HAS LIABILITY INSURANCE. WHAT ARE THE CITY'S PLANS FOR THE BUILDING. NEEDS TO BE SOLD AND IF NOT, THEN THE CITY NEEDS TO REPAIR IT AND GET IT INSURED. SAID THE ALDERMEN WERE THE ONES THAT HAD TO MAKE THE DECISION AND IT WAS GOING TO BE A HARD ONE BECAUSE YOU CAN'T MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY.

UNNAMED FEMALE – FROM ANDERSON INDIANA, LOT OF PEOPLE FROM THERE THAT LIVE HERE NOW. CLAIMS THAT THERE YOU CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A ZOMBIE AND SOMEONE ON METH OR OTHER DRUGS, SAID THIS HAPPENED BECAUSE OF ONE PERSON STEPPING IN AND BRINGING IN A GROUP OF PEOPLE AND SAYING WE ARE GONNA DO THIS THING THIS WAY, IT DOESN'T ALWAYS COME OUT FOR THE BETTER TO JUST HAND OVER SOMETHING FOR 40 JOBS OR POLITICS.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

NONE

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/BOARD OF ALDERMEN/OTHER OFFICERS/SUPERVISORS:

1. POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL SMITH GAVE A SUMMARY OF EVENTS FOR POLICE DEPT. THERE WERE 138 TOTAL EVENTS FOR AUGUST. ALDERWOMAN BETH YOUNG MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERWOMAN DEB WHITAKER AS 2ND TO APPROVE PAYING OUT ANY UNUSED VACATION TIME FOR ANY EMPLOYEE FOR THIS YEAR AND 2027 YEAR WILL BE RESTRUCTURED TO BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF THE EMPLOYEES. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED.
2. WATER LOSS JULY 15 THROUGH AUGUST 14, 2026 WAS 35.343%.
3. WATER DIST SUPERVISOR JOSEPH LYNCH STATED INSTALLATION OF MASTER METERS WOULD BE \$4250 AND JCUD WOULD PAY FOR HALF THE COST AS WELL AS HALF THE COST FOR THE METERS. CITY ATTORNEY KAYLA CANTRELL THE CITY WOULD NEED SOMETHING IN WRITING FROM JCUD STATING THEY WOULD PAY FOR HALF THE COST OF METERS AND INSTALLATION. ALDERMAN TOM GOETZ MADE A MOTION TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL MASTER METERS WITH ALDERWOMAN BETH YOUNG AS 2ND. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED. ALDERWOMAN DEB WHITAKER MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERMAN TOM GOETZ AS 2ND TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A LEAK DETECTOR FROM TRACER ELECTRONICS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5348.00 WITH FREE TRAINING. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED.
4. WASTEWATER SUPERVISOR CHAD SCOTT – ALDERMAN TOM GOETZ MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERWOMAN DEB WHITAKER AS 2ND TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A NEW AC UNIT AT THE WASTEWATER PLANT FROM CENTER GROVE MECHANICAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9900.00 ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED.
5. TOWN RECORDER DARLA PIPPIN INFORMED THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF A CD RENEWAL FOR 24 MONTHS AT 3.91%

OLD BUSINESS:

1. THERE WAS NO ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD ON THE PROPOSAL TO SELL THE BUILDING.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ALDERMAN DEB WHITAKER MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERMAN TOM GOETZ AS 2ND TO REMOVE LLOYD WILLIAMS FROM THE TOWN'S FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND ADD NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR RICKY HEAD. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED.
2. ALDERWOMAN BETH YOUNG MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERWOMAN DEB WHITAKER AS 2ND TO APPROVE **RESOLUTION #2026-09-01** AUTHORIZING THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE TO SIGN CHECKS FOR THE TOWNS FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS. RICKY HEAD MAYOR, DARLA PIPPIN TOWN RECORDER, LISA DODSON TOWN CLERK, THOMAS GOETZ ALDERMAN, NANCY "BETH" YOUNG ALDERMAN, AND DEBORAH WHITAKER ALDERMAN. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED.
3. ALDERWOMAN BETH YOUNG MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERMAN TOM GOETZ AS 2ND TO APPROVE **RESOLUTION #2026-09-02** AMENDING CHAPTER 2 SECTION 18-203, 18-205, AND 18-206 OF WATER AND SEWER ADMINISTRATION INCREASE SEWER AND WATER TAP FEE RATES. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED.
4. ALDERMAN THOMAS GOETZ MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERWOMAN BETH YOUNG AS 2ND TO APPROVE ALLOWING ENGINEER NATHANIEL GREEN TO NEGOTIATE ON THE CITY'S BEHALF NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000 FOR THE FINAL CHANGE ORDER FOR THE WATER INTAKE PROJECT. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED.
5. ALDERMAN THOMAS GOETZ MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERWOMAN BETH YOUNG AS 2ND TO APPROVE THE TOWN OF GAINESBORO TO CONTRACT WITH WATER LEAK RELIEF TO PROVIDE A WATER LEAK RELIEF PROGRAM FOR CUSTOMERS.

THEY SELECTED THE 2,000 GALLON LIMIT FOR QUALIFYING LEAKS, WITH A \$2.95 MONTHLY CHARGE TO CUSTOMERS ALONG WITH AN ADDITIONAL \$.15 ADMINISTRATIVE FEE PER BILL EACH MONTH TO COVER ADMINSTRATIVE COST ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROGRAM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED.

6. ALDERWOMAN BETH YOUNG MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERWOMAN DEB WHITAKER AS 2ND TO APPROVE TAKING BIDS TO REPAIR TILE ON WARREN DRIVE. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED.

ADJOURNMENT:

ALDERMAN TOM GOETZ MADE A MOTION WITH ALDERWOMAN BETH YOUNG AS 2ND TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:09 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION PASSED

MAYOR



TOWN RECORDER

