



Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 15, 2026, 5:30 PM
City Hall, Lakeland, Tennessee 38002

I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Josh Roman 5:31 p.m. on Thursday, January 15, 2026.

II. INVOCATION:

The invocation was offered by Mayor Josh Roman.

III. PLEDGE:

The Pledge to the Flag was led by Mayor Josh Roman.

IV. ROLL CALL BY RECORDER:

Commissioner Jim Atkinson	Present
Vice-Mayor Michele Dial	Present
Commissioner Connie McCarter	Present - arrived late 5:35pm
Mayor Josh Roman	Present
Commissioner Derek Johnston	Present

Staff personnel in attendance were Interim City Manager Emily Harrell, City Attorney Will Patterson, Public Works Director Nick Pulido, ITS Director Josh Thompson, Finance Director Sue Matthews, Planning Director Paul Luker, Parks and Recreation Director Andrew Fisher, Recreation Manager John Proctor, Administrative Assistant Olivia Wing, and City Recorder pro tempore Lisa West.

V. PUBLIC HEARING:

None.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Fiscal year to date through December 31, 2025

Finance Director Sue Matthews offered the Treasurer's Report.

VII. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS & OTHER OFFICERS:

2. Sheriff's Report

The Sheriff's report was not discussed.

3. City Manager's Report

Interim City Manager Emily Harrell offered the City Manager's Report.

a. City Works Update

ITS Josh Thompson offered the CityWorks update.

4. Commissioners' Report

a. Lakeland Board of Education - *Commissioner McCarter*

Commissioner McCarter offered the Lakeland Board of Education report.

b. Municipal Planning/Design Review Commission - *Commissioner Jim Atkinson*

Commissioner Atkinson offered the Municipal Planning/Design Review Commission Report.

c. Parks & Recreation/Natural Resources Board - *Vice-Mayor Dial*

Vice Mayor Dial offered the Parks & Recreation Report.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mayor Roman opened the floor for Public Comments.

Richard Gonzales, at 5300 block of Conifer Ln, made public comment.

Stan Hopper, at 1400 block of Twisting Pine Ln, made public comment.

Valerie Crabtree, at the 1000 block of Mt McKenzie, made public comment.

IX. SEWERAGE COMMISSION BUSINESS:

None.

X. CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Josh Roman motioned to move items under Consent Agenda to item # 11 under the Regular Agenda. No opposition was heard and items were moved.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from Previous Meetings:
 - a. Regular Meeting Minutes - December 4, 2025
 - b. Special Called Meeting Minutes - December 9, 2025

XI. REGULAR AGENDA:

Mayor Josh Roman moved to add an item to the Regular Agenda, item #12 land purchase discussion. Opposition was heard, so a roll call vote was called.

When the question was called the addition of the item #12 passed to be added, roll call vote, 4 in favor 1 against 0 abstain (4-1-0).

Yea: Commissioner Atkinson, Vice Mayor Dial, Commissioner Johnston, Mayor Roman

Nay: Commissioner McCarter

Abstain: None

Mayor Josh Roman motioned to move regular agenda items #2, #6, and #9 in that order to the top of the agenda. No opposition was heard and the items were moved.

2. **Resolution** - authorizing reappointment to the Board of Appeals / Storm Water Board of Appeals of the City of Lakeland, Tennessee.

Mayor Roman moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Vice Mayor Dial.

Discussion ensued.

When the question was called the resolution passed as presented, voice vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

For the record at 8:05pm: Commissioner Johnston moved this item be reopened for discussion, seconded by Mayor Roman.

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Roman moved to amend the resolution to include the name Byron Ledbetter in place of Jason Eaton, seconded by Commissioner Johnston.

When the question was called the motion to amend passed, voice vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

When the question was called the resolution passed as amended, voice vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

6. **Resolution** - approving the form of a nonbinding Letter of Intent regarding a proposed donation of real property to Mid-South Veterans League, Inc. and authorizing negotiations toward a definitive agreement. *Sponsored by Mayor Roman*

Mayor Roman moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Vice Mayor Dial.

Attorney Will Patterson presented this item.

Discussion ensued.

Terry Adams, president of MidSouth Veterans League Inc., addressed the Board and answered questions.

When the question was called the resolution passed as presented, roll call vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

Yea: Commissioner Atkinson, Vice Mayor Dial, Commissioner McCarter, Commissioner Johnston, Mayor Roman

Nay: None

Abstain: None

9. **Discussion** - Sketch Plan for Chapel Lakes.

Commissioner Atkinson moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Vice Mayor Dial.

Planning Director Paul Luker presented this item.

Discussion ensued.

David Bray, Bray Engineering, addressed the Board and answered questions.

Louis Ricci, representing Cummings LLC. addressed the Board and answered questions.

1. **Ordinance - First Reading** - amending the fiscal year 2026 annual budget passed by Ordinance O-6-2025.

Mayor Roman moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Vice Mayor Dial.

Finance Director Sue Matthews presented this item.

Discussion ensued.

Public Works Director Nick Pulido answered questions of the Board.

When the question was called the resolution passed as presented, roll call vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

Yea: Commissioner Atkinson, Vice Mayor Dial, Commissioner McCarter, Commissioner Johnston, Mayor Roman

Nay: None

Abstain: None

3. **Resolution** - approving an agreement with A & B Construction Co., Inc. for the FY26 Concrete Project.

Mayor Roman moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Commissioner Atkinson.

Interim City Manager Emily Harrell presented this item.

Discussion ensued.

When the question was called the resolution passed as presented, roll call vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

Yea: Commissioner Atkinson, Vice Mayor Dial, Commissioner McCarter, Commissioner Johnston, Mayor Roman

Nay: None

Abstain: None

4. **Resolution** - approving the Inter-Governmental Agreement Between Lakeland and Shelby County Government related to the Hazardous Household Waste Facility.

Commissioner Atkinson moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Vice Mayor Dial.

Public Works Director Nick Pulido presented this item.

Discussion ensued.

When the question was called the resolution passed as presented, voice vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

5. **Resolution** - authorizing the Interim-City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with the MidSouth Development District for grant administrative services related to the TDEC Local Parks and Recreation Fund Grant Program.

Vice Mayor Dial moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Commissioner Atkinson.

Parks and Recreation Director Andrew Fisher presented this item.

Discussion ensued.

When the question was called the resolution passed as presented, roll call vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

Yea: Commissioner Atkinson, Vice Mayor Dial, Commissioner McCarter, Commissioner Johnston, Mayor Roman

Nay: None

Abstain: None

7. **Resolution** - adopting the fiscal year 2027 annual budget preparation calendar.

Commissioner Atkinson moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Mayor Roman.

Finance Director Sue Matthews presented this item.

Discussion ensued.

When the question was called the resolution passed as presented, voice vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

8. **Discussion and Resolution** - Board of Commissioners' priorities for the fiscal year 2027 annual budget, and approving the strategic goals of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Lakeland, Tennessee.

Vice Mayor Dial moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Commissioner Atkinson.

Interim City Manager Emily Harrell presented this item.

Discussion ensued.

When the question was called the resolution passed as presented, voice vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

10. **Resolution** - appointing a City of Lakeland liaison to attend the Lakeland Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meetings, in accordance with the funding agreement between the City of Lakeland and the Lakeland Area Chamber of Commerce

Mayor Roman moved to bring this item to the floor, seconded by Vice Mayor Dial.

Mayor Josh Roman presented this item.

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Roman nominated himself to remain in the liaison position. Commissioner McCarter offered to take the role if Mayor Roman could not.

Mayor Roman moved to amend by adding Mayor Josh Roman to the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Atkinson.

When the question was called the motion to amend passed, roll call vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

Yea: Commissioner Atkinson, Vice Mayor Dial, Commissioner McCarter, Commissioner Johnston, Mayor Roman

Nay: None

Abstain: None

When the question was called the resolution passed as amended, voice vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

11. **Consent Agenda** – approval of meeting minutes from previous meetings.

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes - December 4, 2025
- b. Special Called Meeting Minutes - December 9, 2025

Mayor Roman moved to bring item A to the floor, seconded by Commissioner Atkinson.

Discussion ensued.

When the question was called the regular meeting minutes passed as presented, voice vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

Mayor Roman moved to bring item B to the floor, seconded by Commissioner Atkinson.

Discussion ensued.

When the question was called the special called meeting minutes passed as presented, voice vote, 5 in favor 0 against 0 abstain (5-0-0).

12. **Discussion** - land purchase.

Mayor Roman moved to bring the item to the floor, seconded by Vice Mayor Dial.

Discussion ensued.

No action was taken on this item.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A resident thanked the Board for their work.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business on which to act, the meeting was adjourned without objection at 8:08pm on Thursday, January 15, 2026.

These minutes were approved on February 5, 2026.

Michele Dial

Michele Dial
Vice-Mayor

ATTEST:

Sue Lipscomb

Sue Lipscomb
City Recorder pro tempore