



**MINUTES
CITY OF MORRISTOWN, TENNESSEE
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 17, 2026**

Call to Order and Roll Call

The City Council for the City of Morristown, Hamblen County, Tennessee, met in regular session at the regular meeting place for the Council in the Morristown, City Center at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 17, 2026, with the Honorable Mayor Gary Chesney presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Al A'Hearn, Chris Bivens, Bob Garrett, Joseph Senter, Kay Senter and Tommy Pedigo.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember A'Hearn led in the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

Adoption of the Agenda

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to adopt the March 17, 2026, agenda as presented. Councilmember A'Hearn seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Citizen Comments about Agenda Items Only

Mayor Gary Chesney opened the floor for citizens comments related to Agenda items. Wayne D'Hondt spoke.

Approval of the Agenda

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to approve the minutes of March 3, 2026, meeting as circulated. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Consider to Take Back from the Table - Resolution Plan of Services for the Annexation of 863 Central Church Road

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to take from the table the Resolution regarding the Plan of Services for the Annexation of 863 Central Church Road, addressing it at 9a3. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call: all voted "aye".

Consider to Take Back from the Table - Ordinance Annexation of 863 Central Church Road

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to take from the table the Ordinance regarding Annexation of 863 Central Church Road, addressing it at 9a4. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call: all voted "aye".

Item Taken From Table (9a3) - Resolution Plan of Services Consider to Take Back from Table Annexation of 863 Church Road

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing on the Resolution adopting a Plan of Services regarding Annexation of 863 Central Church Road for April 21, 2026, and schedule action for the item on that same agenda. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call: all voted "aye".

Item Taken From Table (9a4) - Ordinance Annexation of 863 Central Church Road

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to schedule the Ordinance regarding Annexation of 863 Central Church Road for 2nd and final reading on the April 21, 2026, agenda following action on the Plan of Services. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call: all voted "aye".

Ordinance - Vesting Rights for Site Plans and Subdivisions

A Public Hearing was held relating to the proposed ordinance being an ordinance of the City Council of Morristown, Tennessee amending Title 14 (Zoning and Land Use Control), of the Morristown Municipal Code. Title 14 Chapter 2, Section 14-203 and Section 14-1907 (Vesting Rights for Site Plans and Subdivisions). No one spoke. Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to approve the ordinance on second and final reading. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Ordinance No. 4833)

Resolution - ORec LPRF Grant Application

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to approve the Resolution of The City Council of Morristown, Tennessee authorizing The City of Morristown to submit an application to Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation's Office of Outdoor Recreation for a Local Parks & Recreation Fund ("LPRF") Grant. Councilmember Garrett seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Resolution No. 2026-03)

Resolution - Acceptance and Dedication of a Public Street {Promise Lane}

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to approve the Resolution to Accept and Dedicate Public Streets, Rights of Way and Street Names Located Within the City of Morristown, Tennessee {Promise Lane}. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Resolution No. 2026-04)

Resolution - Comptroller's Financial Excellence Award Submission

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to approve the Resolution of The City of Morristown, Tennessee Confirming Compliance and Review of Financial Policies and Authorizing an Application for The Comptroller's Financial Excellence Award. Councilmember A'Hearn seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Resolution No. 2026-05)

Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance - Budget Amendment General Fund

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion on first reading to amend ordinance number 4806, The City of Morristown, Tennessee annual budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 necessary to appropriate funds for the Frank Lorino pickleball courts, SBITAs, to purchase picnic tables for the pavilion at Fulton Hill Park, and unforeseen building and maintenance items related to Morristown Landing and to establish the corresponding funding source. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance - Rezone Portion of Veterans Parkway

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to approve the ordinance Entitled an Ordinance to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Morristown, Tennessee, Appendix B. Rezoning of 11.87 acres of Hamblen County Tennessee Tax Parcel ID # 032048 03800 from A-1 (Agriculture-Forestry District) to HI (Heavy Industrial District) (portion of Veterans Parkway) on first reading and schedule a public hearing relative to the final passage of said ordinance on Public Hearing April 7, 2026. Councilmember Garrett seconded the motion and upon roll call; Councilmembers A'Hearn, Bivens, Garrett and K. Senter voted "aye". Councilmember J. Senter voted "nay".

Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance - Rezone two (2) parcels on W. Andrew Johnson

Hwy from OMP, IB, & LI to IB

Councilmember Bivens made a motion to approve the ordinance Entitled an Ordinance to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Morristown, Tennessee, Appendix B. Rezoning of two adjoining parcels (parcel ID: 032041H C 01300 and 032041B B 00100) on W. Andrew Johnson Hwy from OMP (Office, Medical, Professional District), IB (Intermediate Business District and LI (Light Industrial District) to IB (Intermediate Business District) on first reading and schedule a public hearing relative to the final passage of said Ordinance on April 7, 2026. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance - Rezone 209 W. 2nd North St. from R-2 to CB

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to approve the ordinance entitled an Ordinance to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Morristown, Tennessee, Appendix B. Rezoning of 209 W. 2nd North St. (parcel ID: 032033L G 00600) from R-2 (Medium Density Residential District) to CB (Central Business District) on its first reading and schedule a public hearing relative to the final passage of said ordinance on April 7, 2026. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance - Rezone 46 lots in Village Greene Subdivision from R-2 to RP-1

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to approve the ordinance Entitled an Ordinance to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Morristown, Tennessee, Appendix B. Rezoning of all 46 lots of Village Greene Subdivision (parcel IDs: 024K N 001.00 -- 024K N 046.00) from R-2 (Medium Density Residential District) to RP-1 (Planned Residential Development District) on its first reading and schedule a public hearing relative to the final passage of said ordinance on April 7, 2026. Councilmember Garrett seconded the motion and upon roll call; Councilmembers A'Hearn, Bivens, Garrett, Pedigo and K. Senter voted "aye". Councilmember J. Senter "abstained".

TEMA Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to acknowledge award of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant through the TN Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) and authorize the Mayor to execute said grant. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Conversion Agreement - Long-Reel Track

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to approve an agreement with The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation for services to pursue Conversion of the Long-Reel Track to enable consideration of future ownership arrangements, and authorize the Mayor to execute the same. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Executive Session

Mayor Chesney recessed the meeting at 5:43 p.m. to enter into Executive Session. He reconvened the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

Action from Council following Executive Session

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to accept a settlement from Holston Connect regarding recent litigation on the topic of outstanding franchise fees and allow the City Attorney and City Administrator to execute any necessary documents to that effect. Councilmember A'Hearn seconded the motion and upon roll call: all voted "aye".

Line Item Transfers

The City Administrator reported on Line Item Transfers: General Fund - #2625 - #2637, Solid Waste Fund - #2602, and Stormwater Fund - #2604.

Adjourn

Mayor Gary Chesney adjourned the March 17, 2026, Morristown City Council meeting at 5:50 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY ADMINISTRATOR