



MINUTES CITY OF MORRISTOWN, TENNESSEE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MAY 19, 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, May 19, 2026, with the Honorable Mayor Gary Chesney presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Al A'Hearn, Chris Bivens, Bob Garrett, Tommy Pedigo, Joseph Senter and Kay Senter.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Don Lamb, Morristown Fire Department Chaplain led in the invocation. Councilmember A'Hearn led the "Pledge of Allegiance".

Adoption of the Agenda

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to adopt the May 19, 2026, agenda as presented. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Citizen Comments about Agenda Items Only

Mayor Chesney opened the floor for citizens comments related to agenda items. No spoke.

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2026, meeting as circulated. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Public Hearing & Adoption of Resolution - Plan of Services for the Annexation of 863 Central Church Road

A Public Hearing was held relating to the proposed resolution adopting a Plan of Services for the annexation of the remainder of Hamblen County Tax Parcel Id #032040 07801 located at 863 Central Church Road. Linda Noe spoke. Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Garrett seconded the motion and upon roll call; Councilmembers A'Hearn, Garrett, Pedigo and K. Senter voted "aye", Councilmember Bivens "nay" and Councilmember J. Senter abstain. (Assigned Resolution No. 2026-13)

Public Hearing & Adoption of Ordinance - Annexation of 863 Central Church Road

A Public Hearing was held regarding the proposed ordinance entitled an Ordinance to Annex certain territory and to incorporate same within the corporate boundaries of the City of Morristown Tennessee. Annexation of property identified as Hamblen County Tax Map Parcel 032040 07801 located at 863 Central Church Road. Lisa Catron, Wayne D'Hont, Judy Stockard, Linda Noe and Louis Chan spoke. Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to approve the ordinance. Councilmember Garrett seconded the motion and upon roll call; Councilmembers A'Hearn, Garrett, Pedigo and K. Senter voted "aye", Councilmembers Bivens and J. Senter "nay". (Assigned Ordinance No. 4838)

Public Hearing & Adoption of Resolution - Plan of Services for the Annexation of Greenbriar Road/W. Andrew Johnson Highway

A Public Hearing was held regarding the proposed resolution adopting a Plan of Services for the annexation of properties identified as lots 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35 of the Cloyd L. Cornwell Estate as shown on a plat of same which appears of record in the Register's of Deeds Office for Hamblen County, Tennessee in Plat Book A Page 176. Ingrid Clevinger, Chris Ricci, Curtis Maples, Ann Chafin, Kelley Harold, Linda Noe, Louis Chan and David Hurst spoke. Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to defer action on the resolution to the June 16, 2026 agenda. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Public Hearing & Adoption of Ordinance - Annexation Request Greenbriar Road/W. Andrew Johnson Highway

A Public Hearing was held relating to the proposed ordinance entitled an Ordinance to annex certain territory and to incorporate same within the corporate boundaries of the city of Morristown, Tennessee. Annexation of properties identified as Lots 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35 of the Cloyd L. Cornwell Estate as shown on a plat of same which appears of record in the Register's of Deeds Office for Hamblen County, Tennessee in Plat Book A Page 176. McKenzie Tucker, Amber Doren, Curtis Maples, Lisa Maples, Robert Stinson, Ann Chafin, Robert Byerley, Chris Rici, Perry Smith, Louis Chan, David Nooncastle and Linda Noe spoke. Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to defer action on the ordinance to June 16, 2026 agenda. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Recess

Mayor Chesney recessed the meeting at 6:25 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 6:35 p.m.

Second & Final Reading/Adoption of Ordinance - Budget Amendment General Fund

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion on second and final reading to amend ordinance number 4806, The City of Morristown, Tennessee annual budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 necessary to appropriate funds for the Bellwood Development, pickleball courts at Frank Lorino Park, Fulton-Hill Park driveway, ROW purchases for the multi-modal Freddie Kyle Greenway, a dehumidification system for the pool area at Morristown Landing, and for the purchase of a detective vehicle and hazmat equipment and to establish the funding source. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Ordinance No. 4806.13)

Resolution - Merchant's Crossing Development TIF

Councilmember Garrett made a motion to adopt a Resolution approving an Economic Impact Plan for the Merchant's Crossing Development Area, enabling Tax Increment Financing for the proposed development. Said action has been approved and recommended by the Industrial Development Board. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Resolution No. 2026-09)

Resolution - City Ward Redistricting

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to adopt a resolution establishing reapportioned City Ward boundaries. {A Resolution of the City Council of Morristown, Tennessee to adopt a redistricting plan for the City of Morristown.} Councilmember A'Hearn seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Resolution No. 2026-10)

Resolution - THDA 2026 HOME Grant

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing application for the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) 2026 HOME grant. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Resolution No. 2026-11)

Resolution - ROW Closure Bellwood Road

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to approve the resolution to close and abandon rights of way and streets within the City of Morristown, Tennessee, {a portion of S. Bellwood Road}. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Resolution No. 2026-12)

Airport Terminal Rehabilitation Project Bid Award

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to acknowledge receipt of bids for the Airport Terminal Rehabilitation Project, award the bid to Horner Building Company in the amount of \$269,106. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

ROW Acquisition Services - Central Church Rd.

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to approve an agreement with Telecommunication & Industrial Consulting Services Corporation (TELICS) for consulting services associated with the acquisition of right-of-way for the Central Church Road widening project, and authorize the City Administrator to execute the same. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

ROW Acquisition Services - East-West Multimodal Project

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to approve an agreement with Telecommunication & Industrial Consulting Services Corporation (TELICS) for consulting services associated with the acquisition of right-of-way for the Morris and West Andrew Johnson Highway Multimodal sidewalk project, and authorize the City Administrator to execute the same. Councilmember A'Hearn seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Morris & AJ Multimodal ROW Acquisition

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to authorize the purchase of right-of-way necessary for multimodal/sidewalk project along Morris Boulevard and West Andrew Johnson Highway and the execution of all related TDOT documentation for said purchases. Councilmember A'Hearn seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Board Appointment - Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to reappoint Randy Greene, Paul Lynch and Bryan Cooper to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a three (3) year term to expire June 1, 2029. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Fire Department New Hire

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to hire Todd Lewis as an Entry-Level Fire Firefighter for the Morristown Fire Department. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Police Department New Hire

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to hire Brandon Goskie as an Entry Level Police Officers for the Morristown Police Department. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Police Department New Hires

Councilmember Bivens made a motion to hire Elijah Shirley and Jailynn Looney as Entry Level Police Officers for the Morristown Police Department. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Line Item Transfer

The City Administrator reported on Line Item Transfers: General Fund #2643, #2645-#2648

Citizen Comments

Mayor Chesney opened the floor for citizens comments unrelated to the agenda. Louis Chan spoke.

Adjourn

Mayor Gary Chesney adjourned the May 19, 2026, Morristown City Council meeting at 7:08 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY ADMINISTRATOR