



MINUTES CITY OF MORRISTOWN, TENNESSEE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JULY 7, 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, July 7, 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 K. Senter made a motion to add an item to the agenda as 10c11 Extend the current contract with LeBel Commercial Realty, LLC for real estate agent broker services for all real estate matters for 3 years, expiring June 30, 2029. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; Councilmembers Bivens, Garrett, J. Senter and K. Senter voted "aye". Mayor Chesney and Councilmembers Pedigo and A'Hearn voted "no". Councilmember A'Hearn then made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Recognition

Mayor Chesney recognized Fire Department Logistic Officer Danny Case, for being awarded the 2026 National Fire Protection Association Rising Star.

Proclamation - Retirement

Mayor Chesney presented Lieutenant Allen Epps with a proclamation recognizing his retirement from the City of Morristown and honoring his twenty-eight years of service to the citizens of the City of Morristown. Fire Chief Brian Shepard then presented Lt. Epps with a ceremonial axe in recognition of his dedicated service.

Proclamation - Retirement

Mayor Chesney presented Assistant City Administrator Larry Clark with a proclamation recognizing his retirement from the City of Morristown and honoring his more than thirty years of public service with the last sixteen serving the citizens of the City of Morristown.

Citizen Comments about Agenda Items Only

Mayor Chesney opened the floor for citizens comments related to agenda items. Louis Chan, Lisa Catron, Anita D'Hondt, Wayne D'Hondt and Linda Noe spoke.

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2026, meeting as circulated. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Second & Final Reading/Adoption of Ordinance - Temporary Right of Way Closures

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion on second and final reading to approve the ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance of the City Council of Morristown, Tennessee, Amending Certain Portions of Title 16 (Streets and Sidewalks, Etc.) of the Morristown Municipal Code (Temporary Right-of-Way Closures)." Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion, and upon roll call, all voted "aye." (Assigned Ordinance No. 4840)

Resolution - Public Works Early Voting Location and Signage

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to adopt a resolution establishing guidance for the placement of campaign signs at the Public Works facility when it is used as an early voting location. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye". (Assigned Resolution No. 2026-16)

Introduction & First Reading of Ordinance - Annexation of 863 Central Church Road

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to table action on the ordinance to annex certain territory and incorporate the same within the corporate boundaries of the City of Morristown, Tennessee, on first reading. The ordinance repeals Ordinance No. 4838, previously adopted on May 19, 2026, and pertains to the annexation of property identified as Hamblen County Tax Map Parcel 032.040-078.01, located at 863 Central Church Road. The motion included bringing the ordinance back for consideration on July 21, 2026. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call, Councilmembers A'Hearn, Bivens, Garrett, Pedigo, J. Senter and K. Senter voted "aye." Mayor Chesney voted "no".

Rock Salt Order - FY 27

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to authorize the purchase of rock salt from Morton Salt Company in an amount not to exceed \$95,000 via Statewide Contract (#507). Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Asphalt Rejuvenation Extension

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to approve a one (1) year contract extension for Asphalt Rejuvenation with Pavement Technologies Inc. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Change Order 1 for Landing Kitchen Modification Project

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to approve Change Order No. 1 to the contract with Holston Construction, LLC for the Landing Kitchen Modification project, adding 76 days and \$3,923.09 to the total construction cost, and authorize the City Administrator to execute the same. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Police Department Recruitment & Retention Grant - Amendment No. 4

Councilmember Bivens made a motion to acknowledge the execution of Amendment No. 4 to the Police Department's Recruitment & Retention Grant with the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Geographic Information System (GIS) Software

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to approve the sole source purchase of software and licensing for the GIS department from Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) totaling \$60,300 per year and authorize the City Administrator to execute a contract for the same. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Emergency Home Repair Program Revised Policy & Procedures Manual

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to approve the Revised CDBG-Funded Emergency Home Repair Program Policy & Procedures Manual. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Temporary Right-of-Way Closure Request - Peavine Alley

Councilmember Bivens made a motion to authorize the temporary closure of right-of-way at the request of Southeast Industrial, LLC until August 21, 2026, for the continued work on buildings at 113, 115, and 117 N Cumberland. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Easement Sale to Atmos Energy at Lorino Lane

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to authorize the sale of an easement to Atmos Energy at the corner of East Morris Boulevard and Lorino Lane to accommodate construction of a new supply line. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Inspection and Maintenance Agreement - Summit Greene

Councilmember A'Hearn made a motion to approve the Inspection and Maintenance Agreement (I&M) with Summit Greene HOA, Inc. for property known as the Summit Greene S/D, Morristown, Tennessee. Councilmember K. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Inspection and Maintenance - Lot 1 Bell Melling Subdivision

Councilmember Bivens made a motion to approve the Inspection and Maintenance Agreement (I&M) with Durham Landings MOB, LLC Inc. for property known as the Lot 1 of the Bell Property, Re-subdivision of Tract 3 of the Bell Melling Subdivision, Morristown, Tennessee. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Real Estate Broker Contract Extension

Councilmember K. Senter made a motion to approve the extension to the Real Estate Broker Services contract with LeBel Commercial Realty to June 2029. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Board Appointment - Morristown Utilities Commission

Councilmember Garrett made a motion to approve Mayor Chesney's nomination of J. Sid Boyd to the Morristown Utility Commission for a five (5) year term to expire on July 31, 2031. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Police Department Promotion - Patrol Sergeant

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to approve the Promotion of Paul Carter to Patrol Sergeant, Morristown Police Department. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Police Department Promotion - Patrol Corporal

Councilmember Bivens made a motion to approve the promotion of Michael Cameron to Patrol Corporal, Morristown Police Department. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Fire Department Promotion - Lieutenant

Councilmember Bivens made a motion to approve the promotion of David Smith to Lieutenant, Morristown Fire Department. Councilmember J. Senter seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Fire Department Promotion - Driver/Engineer

Councilmember Pedigo made a motion to approve the promotion of Dylan Robinson to Driver/Engineer, Morristown Fire Department. Councilmember Bivens seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

Fire Department New Hires

Councilmember Bivens made a motion to approve to hire Zach Fleener as an Entry Level Fire Firefighter for the Morristown Fire Department. Councilmember Pedigo seconded the motion and upon roll call; all voted "aye".

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

Line Item Transfers

The City Administrator reported on Line Item Transfers: General Fund - Document No. 2653 and 2654

Comments from Mayor/Councilmembers/Committees

Mayor Chesney opened the floor for citizens comments unrelated to the agenda. Louis Chan, Kayden Ogan, Lisa Catron and Jorge Guzman spoke.

Adjourn

Mayor Gary Chesney adjourned the July 7, 2026, Morristown City Council meeting at 6:08 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY ADMINISTRATOR