

MINUTES
OF THE
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
DECEMBER 11th, 2025

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Henderson, Tennessee, met in regular session on Thursday, December 11th, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber of the City of Henderson City Hall. Present and presiding was Mayor Terry F. Bell. City Recorder Jim E. Garland called the roll, with the following being present:

Aldermen: Donna R. Butler, Buel Maness, Jason Rhodes, and Keith Smith
Absent: Mark A. Barber and Michael Phelps

Also present at the meeting were: City Recorder Jim E. Garland, City Attorney Jerry Spore, Police Chief Gary Davidson, Public Works Director Carter Scales, Building Official Brent Beshires, Utility Director Darryl Green, Fire Chief Doug Acred, and Assistant CMFO Alicia Holder

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at the appointed time. Pastor Sam Gilbreath from First Baptist Church gave the invocation, and Ald. Smith led the Pledge to the Flag. The following proceedings were entered here-to-wit:

The minutes of the previous regular meeting and Beer Board meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Ald. Smith to approve the minutes of the regular meeting and the Beer Board meeting, as presented, duly 2nd by Ald. Butler. Motion carried.

The accumulated accounts were presented for informational purposes. Ald. Smith referred to B-1, item 39, a payment of \$74,355.44 to Grinder, Taber, and Grinder, and asked if the park project was complete. Recorder Garland stated that the only thing left to pay is the retainage. The project has passed the final state inspection. A one-year warranty is provided from the completion date. There were no further questions about the accounts, and the meeting continued.

The first item on the agenda was a call for delegations to address the board. Chester County Library Director Crystal Richerson introduced a new pilot program called LegUp. This is a Library-based Employment, Growth, and Upskilling Program designed for entry-level job seekers. It helps in preparing the job seeker for potential job readiness and interviews. This is a free resource available through the library. There were no further delegations, so the meeting continued.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss and consider a resolution approving an application and matching funds for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Mayor Bell stated that they held a public hearing on Monday, December 8th, to get the public's input on ways to use CDBG funds. There were various ideas, but they discussed in depth the utility department's need for equipment for inspecting sewers. Melissa from SWDD did not feel like this would be approved through the CDBG. To accomplish the same thing but a different route, she thought they could write the grant to hire a company that has these types of tools to inspect the inflow and infiltration (I & I) of the lagoons. This would discover any problems and produce

a plan to correct them. The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) favors grant requests that are built on plans. If this is the route chosen, there will be surveys to complete, applications, requests for engineers, and preliminary reports. This is a competitive project, and the deadline for the application is February 2026. Recorder Garland stated that we would need to do between 300-400 surveys from sewer customers, so we would need to work on them quickly. To get the surveys, the utility department team would need to go door to door throughout the city. Every sewer customer will benefit from this project. A motion was made by Ald. Rhodes to proceed with the project to produce a plan, duly 2nd by Ald. Maness. Motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss the upcoming Local Park and Recreation Fund (LPRF) Grants. Mayor Bell stated that there has been discussion about lights at Gene Record Park. These are standalone solar power lights for the walking trail. Mayor Bell thought we could purchase the lights and install them ourselves without a grant. Recorder Garland will research different companies for different options and possibly purchase two or three with the Park Board budget. It was decided to hold off on the LPRF grant for 2026.

The next item on the agenda was to consider passage of an ordinance pertaining to Mobile Food Vendors. Mayor Bell stated that the planning commission has worked on this for three months. They used the City of Dyersburg's Ordinance as a basis for this ordinance. Building Official Beshires stated that for the last seven to eight years, they have had a list of seven items for the food truck vendors to abide by to operate in the city. There has been no application or fee locally, so there is no way of tracking if the business is licensed. This ordinance encompasses what we have and adds filling out an application, paying a fee, and proving that they are licensed to operate in the city. The permit will prove that they have met the criteria required by the ordinance. After further discussion, a motion was made by Ald. Smith to approve the ordinance on Mobile Food Vendors with the clarification adding the WTN State Fair to item 9-617, and adding the missing word 'permission' in section 9-607 item 2, on the first reading, duly 2nd by Ald. Butler. Upon a roll call vote, the following was cast:

Ayes: Donna Butler, Buel Maness, Jason Rhodes, and Keith Smith.

Absent and not voting: Mark A. Barber and Michael Phelps

Noes: None.

The second reading will take place at the next regular board meeting

The next item on the agenda was to appoint or re-appoint members to serve on the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Industrial Development Board, and the City Park Advisory Board. Mayor Bell is recommending the reappointments of Farris Stout to the PC, Darryl Thompson to the BZA, Cecil Hearn to the IDB, and Mark Barber to the Park Advisory Board.

Mayor Bell has spoken to all the members and they are all willing to serve on the respective boards. A motion was made by Ald. Butler to approve the appointments/re-appointments as recommended by Mayor Bell, duly 2nd by Ald. Rhodes. Motion carried.

Any other Business:

Mayor Bell stated that with UD Green's retirement next year, there has been discussion regarding the required residential policy for department heads. Currently, a department head must live within a five-mile radius of city hall, and they would like to change that to a 10-mile radius. It was also discussed that currently, full-time firefighters are required to live within a 10-

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mile radius of city hall, and they would like to change it to a 15-mile radius. The concern has been getting applicants for jobs that fit into those requirements, and with the housing market the way it is, even finding a home to purchase or rent with those tight restrictions. Recorder Garland will draft changes and send them to the board members and consideration at the January meeting.

Mayor Bell then mentioned that in the next few months, he would like to look at the false fire call monthly invoices. Currently, only the volunteer firefighters' time is billed. The time for full-time and part-time firefighters is not included in the invoiced amount. He would like to bill more fairly for everyone's time that shows up for the call.

Police Chief Davidson recognized Captain Cagle, who was killed in the line of duty 16 years ago this week. He was shot on December 10th while responding to a call and succumbed to those injuries on December 13th.

He stated that this year's Christmas with a Cop was the best event ever. They were able to provide Christmas gifts for 56 kids.

Fire Chief Acred stated that the old green ladder truck has been sold for \$11,100.00.

PWD Scales stated that they have finished the sidewalks on Mifflin, Crook, and Fifth Street.

Asst CMFO Holder wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ald. Smith stated that in talking about the park, it made him think about the BCBS Grant for the pickleball courts and what the status was on the grant. As of today, Mayor Bell has not heard anything. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ald. Butler wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ald. Rhodes wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ald. Maness wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mayor Bell stated that the last three months have been very busy with the BBQ Festival, the Fair, and the Christmas parade. He is proud of everyone for their help in making it all happen.

He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Ald. Butler to adjourn, duly 2nd by Ald. Smith. Motion carried.

Signed: Terry F. Bell

APPROVED: _____

MAYOR

Signed: Jim E. Garland

ATTEST: _____, CITY RECORDER