

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Zack Thompson, Juli Hayes, Abigail Guzman, Barbara Brooks, Jon Elliott
OFFICIALS ABSENT: Bob Norton
STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Lackey, Angela Sheppard, Abb Hayes, Alisa Grayson

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and served as the presiding officer.

City Manager Bryan Lackey provided the invocation after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

PRESENTATIONS / RECOGNITIONS:

Proclamation: Gainesville Safe Digging Month

Mayor Thompson read and presented a proclamation declaring April 2026 to be "*Gainesville Safe Digging Month*". Public Works Director Chris Rotalsky, Deputy Director of Public Works Todd Beebe and Engineering Project and Right of Way Manager Brian Wiley received the proclamation.

Proclamation: 2026 Georgia Cities Week

Council Member Juli Hayes read a proclamation declaring April 20-25, 2026 to be "*Georgia Cities Week*".

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Justin Holland, 4516 Hoskins Drive, and Downtown Gainesville business owner, expressed concerns with the paid public parking in the Downtown Square. He proposed that Council remove the paid parking and noted he has started a petition.

Mateo Penado, 529 Ridgewood Terrace, shared a quote from the Georgia Cities Week proclamation before commenting on efforts made in opposing detention and data centers. She urged the City Council to take action and stand in support of the residents.

NOTE: Council Member Brooks joined the meeting at 5:41 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Appointment - Chattahoochee Golf Course Advisory Committee – Appoint Sam Hulse

Appointment - Chicopee Woods Area Park Commission – Reappoint Emily "Sissy" Lawson

Appointment - Main Street Advisory Board – Appoint Aimee Hoecker

Motion to appoint Sam Hulse to the Chattahoochee Golf Course Advisory Committee; reappoint Emily "Sissy" Lawson to the Chicopee Woods Area Park Commission; and appoint Aimee Hoecker to the Main Street Advisory Board as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Hayes

Motion seconded by Council Member Guzman

Votes favoring the motion: Hayes, Guzman, Brooks, Elliott

Absent: Norton

Minutes: March 5-6, 2026 Council Retreat
Minutes: March 12, 2026 Work Session
Minutes: March 17, 2026 Mayor/Council Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes accepting edits as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Guzman
Motion seconded by Council Member Hayes
Votes favoring the motion: Hayes, Guzman, Brooks, Elliott
Absent: Norton

Resolutions

- A. BR-2026-11 Abandonment of City of Gainesville Owned Property on Harvey Street
- B. BR-2026-12 Establishing Just Compensation for the CDBG Program and Authorizing Property Acquisition from Laquita H. Pethel
- C. BR-2026-13 Establishing Just Compensation for the CDBG Program and Authorizing Property Acquisition from New Town Florist Club, Inc.
- D. BR-2026-14 Ratification and Approval of the Housing Authority Multifamily Note (Governmental) (Lakeside at Harrison Village)

City Manager Bryan Lackey provided a brief summary of the resolutions.

Motion to adopt the resolutions as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Hayes
Motion seconded by Council Member Guzman
Votes favoring the motion: Hayes, Guzman, Brooks, Elliott
Absent: Norton

PUBLIC HEARING:

BR-2026-15 Transmittal of the FY2025 Annual Update to the CIE

City Attorney Abb Hayes opened the public hearing and confirmed the public notice was properly advertised. He stated the request was presented at the Work Session noting the update is transmitted annually as a requirement of the DCA (Department of Community Affairs).

Attorney Hayes opened the floor for public comments. There being none, the hearing was closed and the matter returned to the governing body for consideration.

Motion to adopt the resolution BR-2026-15 as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Guzman
Motion seconded by Council Member Elliott
Votes favoring the motion: Hayes, Guzman, Brooks, Elliott
Absent: Norton

Request from G2 Industrial Partners, LLC to rezone a 1.1± acres tract located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Athens Street and Purina Drive (a/k/a 920 Purina Drive, SE; 937, 943 and 949 Athens Street, SE) from General Business (G-B), Light Industrial (L-I) and Heavy Industrial (H-I) to Light Industrial (L-I). Ward Number: Three.

Tax Parcel Number(s): 00-058-002-005 and 006; 01-058-002-005A. Request: Existing light industrial uses.

- **Proposed Rezoning Ordinance 2026-11**

City Attorney Abb Hayes opened the public hearing, confirmed the public notice was properly advertised and outlined the public hearing process.

Planning Manager Heather Dewese summarized the request. The Planning and Appeals Board and staff recommended approval with the following conditions:

1. Prohibited uses for the subject property shall include group homes, crisis centers, adult novelty stores, adult entertainment centers, pawn shops, dollar-type stores, massage parlors, tobacco or vaping stores, tire stores, auto parts stores, gas station/convenience store, auto body shops, vehicle sales, vehicle service, marine sales or repair stores, automated or non-automated car washes, truck stops, coin-laundry facilities, tattoo parlors, psychics, fortune tellers, clairvoyants and the like.
2. All outdoor storage shall be screened by an opaque fence or wall at least 8 feet in height or a staggered row of buffer trees consisting of a mixture of Cryptomeria, Arborvitae and Eastern Red Cedar trees or other approved trees at a minimum installation height of 8 feet. The location, number, spacing, size and type of trees planted shall be subject to the approval of the Community and Economic Development Department Director. A commercial marina with fuel sales is not permitted.

Attorney Hayes opened the floor for public comments. There being none, the hearing was closed and the matter returned to the governing body for consideration.

Motion to approve Ordinance 2026-11, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA, BY CHANGING THE ZONING ON A 1.1± ACRES TRACT LOCATED ON THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF ATHENS STREET AND PURINA DRIVE (A/K/A 920 PURINA DRIVE, SE; 937, 943 AND 949 ATHENS STREET, SE) FROM GENERAL BUSINESS (G-B), LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (L-I) AND HEAVY INDUSTRIAL (H-I) TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL WITH CONDITIONS (L-I-c); TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES **with conditions as presented.**

Motion made by Council Member Guzman

Motion seconded by Council Member Brooks

Votes favoring the motion: Hayes, Guzman, Brooks, Elliott

Absent: Norton

ADJOURNMENT: 5:56 PM

/ag

Zack Thompson, Mayor

Alisa Grayson, City Clerk