

City of Reidsville  
City Council Meeting  
Monday April 13, 2026  
Approved by Council May 11, 2026

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Reidsville City Council was held on Monday April 13, 2026, at 5:00pm. Members of the Council present:

Dan Bennett  
Carolyn Crume-Blackshear  
Derrick Duckworth  
Donald Prestage  
Verdie Williams

City Attorney, Duann Cowart-Davis, was present.

Gina Sheridan prepared the minutes.

The meeting was brought to order by Mayor Vickie Nail at 5:01pm. The Mayor began the meeting by introducing the new Administrative Clerk at City Hall, Yahaira "Jai" Mendia-Rodriguez. Ms. Rodriguez replaces Zariah Anderson, who following her college graduation, accepted a position elsewhere that allowed her to work within her major. The prayer was given by Council Member Donald Prestage, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor advised the meeting minutes from last month's meeting were provided to the Council for review. If there are no questions and/or corrections needed to accept as written. Council Member Dan Bennett stated that on the last page of the minutes Council Member Williams' last name was missing an S at the end and he had no problem approving if corrected to reflect proper spelling. A motion was made to accept the minutes with correction.

Motion made by: Dan Bennett  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Derrick Duckworth  
Vote: Approved – Unanimous

Under Old Business, the Mayor stated that the Council had been presented with a rezoning request by Drew Darden for an air conditioning business to be constructed on US Highway 280 (2.09 acres Parcel ID R04 027) from an R1 to a C3. A motion was made to approve the rezoning.

Motion made by: Dan Bennett  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Derrick Duckworth  
Vote: Approved – Unanimous

The Department Supervisors were asked to present their monthly activity/statistics to the Council. Chief of Police Matt Lynn presented the monthly reports of the police department. Council Member Derrick Duckworth asked Chief Lynn if the police department worked the accidents that happened in the city. Chief Lynn advised Council Member Duckworth that they work all crashes, except those involving government employees/vehicles and/or fatalities, which are handled by the Georgia State Patrol. Fire Chief Jimmy Brown presented the monthly report for the Fire Department. Council Member Donald Prestage presented the report for the Public Works Department (Public Works Director Rodney Deloach was unable to attend the meeting due to a water/sewer emergency). Recreation Department Director Darien Renfroe was not present. Council Member Carolyn Crume-Blackshear advised that she was not given a Recreation report by Director Renfroe.

At this time Mayor Nail stated that under New Business the water service reconnect fee needed to be increased from \$20. Mayor Nail advised the Council that a door hanger is left advising of past due balance, water is then disconnected if not paid. She stated that often hours later the bill is paid and turned right back on. Mayor Nail stated that this happens repeatedly and that it is labor intensive and time consuming for Public Works to go back and to homes multiple times for \$20. Mayor Nail said that she would leave it to the Council what they feel should be charged and advised that neighboring communities charge upwards of \$75. Council Member Prestage made a motion to increase the fee to \$75. Council Member Williams asked if in the event it was after hours that a customer requests services to be turned back on if there would be an additional charge. Council Member Prestage advised that he had discussed with the Public Works Director Rodney Deloach, only turning water off Monday thru Thursday so that no one would be without water over a weekend and that hopefully the public works employees would not get called out for reconnects after hours on overtime. Council Member Bennett asked if paying online after hours was possible. Council Member Prestage stated that while they are able to pay online after hours that there is not a way for the city to assess the reconnect fee after hours. Council Member Carolyn Crume-Blackshear asked if there was any sort of grace period prior to disconnect. She was advised by Council Member Prestage that typically a door hanger is left after the 16<sup>th</sup> of the month advising of potential disconnect if payment is not made. Mayor Nail advised the council that customers have called 911 after hours for water being disconnected many times and this should not be happening. Council Member Carolyn Crume-Blackshear asked that an ad be placed in the newspaper advising the citizens of this change in fee from \$20 to \$75. Mayor Nail said she would have the ad run for two weeks with the new reconnect fee of \$75 taking effect May 1<sup>st</sup>. A motion was made to increase the reconnect fee from \$20 to \$75 following an ad being placed in the newspaper advising the citizens of the change.

Motion made by: Donald Prestage  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Verdie Williams  
Vote: Approved – Unanimous

The Mayor then addressed the Leak Adjustment Ordinance on the Agenda. The Mayor advised that this is a sample ordinance addressing how and when water/sewer account adjustments are made. Mayor Nail shared with the Council that a policy needs to be in place to handle account adjustment requests due to leaks. She stated that with the new meter system leaks can be identified online by City Hall thus allowing for early detection, knowledge of continued leak or leak repair. Council Member Prestage reminded the Council that the Ordinance would require

2(two) readings prior to a vote. City Attorney DuAnn Cowart Davis advised the Council that in review of the sample ordinance there were several items that were left blank and the ordinance needed to be customized to accommodate the City of Reidsville filling in these blanks prior to the reading(s). A motion was made to table the Leak Adjustment Ordinance.

Motion made by: Donald Prestage  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Carolyn Crume-Blackshear  
Vote: Approved – Unanimous

The Mayor then spoke about the eyeonwater.com feature available to all water customers in the City of Reidsville with the new meters in place. Mayor Nail demonstrated pulling up the page eyeonwater.com, entering the account number, zip code and then being able to see by the minute water consumption for the meter associated with the account. This will allow consumers to monitor their water usage and identify potential leaks. Mayor Nail said if anyone would like information on this feature City Hall will be happy to help.

Mayor Nail then explained that Quit Claim Deed – John O Parker Rd had been added to the agenda at the request of City Attorney DuAnn Cowart Davis. Mayor let everyone know that County Manager Frank Murphy was in attendance to explain the need for the Quit Claim Deed. Mr. Murphy explained that the County currently owns the land located between the County Yard and Agri-Tech. The County is selling the land to Agri-Tech to expand their business. County Attorney Tom Peterson advised Mr. Murphy that when the title search was done on the property it showed that the City of Reidsville had sold this parcel to Howard Willis in 1998 and retained the rights to the dirt on the property. Due to the City having rights to the dirt on the property a Quit Claim Deed would need to be signed by the City allowing for the property to be sold and closed the next day. A motion was made to sign the Quit Claim Deed.

Motion made by: Dan Bennett  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Donald Prestage  
Vote: Approved – Unanimous

The next item on the agenda was a Special Event Permit Request by the Tattnall County High School Cheerleaders for a bucket drive on May 16, 2026, from 8:45am to 12pm at the red light. A motion was made to approve the Special Event Permit.

Motion made by: Verdie Williams  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Dan Bennett  
Vote: Approved – Unanimous

Mayor Nail then addressed the citizens and asked if they had any questions. Mr. Sydney Clifton stated that at the Planning Session a Gun Buy Back was discussed but was not on the regular meeting agenda. Mayor Nail advised that the Gun Buy Back was off for now and may happen later. With no further questions the Mayor advised the audience that the Council will need to go into Executive Session.

At 5:24pm the Council was called into Executive Session regarding litigation.

Motion made by: Donald Prestage  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Derrick Duckworth  
Vote: Approved – Unanimous

The Council was called back in to session at 6:18pm

Motion made by: Carolyn Crume-Blackshear  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Donald Prestage  
Vote: Approved - Unanimous

No action will be taken following Executive Session.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn this meeting at 6:19pm.

Motion made by: Carolyn Crume-Blackshear  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Derrick Duckworth  
Vote: Approved - Unanimous

*Approved May 11<sup>th</sup> by Council*  
*Vicki Nail*