

CITY OF HAMILTON
210 WALTON STREET
P.O. BOX 112
HAMILTON, GEORGIA 31811
MAYOR PATRICK WHEARLEY

September 14 2026
Public Hearing and Council Agenda Regular Session
7:00 PM

Opening : Mayor Patrick Whearley

- Pledge and Invocation

Approval of the minutes:

- August 10th 2026

Public Hearing-Rezoning Request:

- Dan Janik with Rooted Oaks LLC of Hamilton and Cornerstone Baptist Church of Ellerslie
 - R1 to Commercial
 - Townhomes
- Required notice and hearing procedures completed:
 - Signage, Ads, Letters and first hearing
 - First Hearing was August 18th 2026 by Planning and Zoning
 - 4-0 to approve (one member was absent)
- Public Comment:
 - Opposition
 - Support
- **Close Public Hearing**

Council Discussion

- Consideration and Action on Rezoning Request

Department Reports:

- Special Guest: Craig Rowan
 - **Annual American Legion Report**
 - Police Department
 - Streets/Maintenance Report
 - Fire Department Report
 - Water/Sewer Report
 - City Report

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- None

FYI/Updates/Housekeeping:

- Friday, September 25th 4:30 PM
 - Harris County Physical Therapy Ribbon Cutting
- Thursday, October 8th 5:00 PM
 - Harris County Homecoming Parade
- Saturday, October 10th
 - Humane Society of Harris County “Second Saturday”
- Thursday, October 22nd 5:00 PM
 - Hamilton/Harris County “*Truck or Treat*”
- Tuesday, October 27th 11-1 PM
 - GMA District 8 Fall Meeting
 - Buena Vista

Council Comments:

- Councilor Wall

- Councilor Farley
- Councilor Allen
- Mayor Pro Tem Howard
- Mayor Patrick Whearley

Attorney Comments:

Adjournment:

City of Hamilton
210 Walton Street
Hamilton, Georgia 31811
(706) 628-5321
Mayor Patrick Whearley

September 14, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes

Open session by Mayor Whearley

Pledge led by Mayor Whearley

Invocation by Mayor Pro-Tem Alvin Howard

Members present- Mayor Patrick Whearley, Mayor Pro-Tem, Alvin Howard, Councilor Ransom Farley, & Councilor Nancy Wall

Members absent- Councilor Greg Allen

Public Hearing- Rezone Request:

- Dan Janik with Rooted Oaks LLC of Hamilton and Cornerstone Baptist Church of Ellerslie
 - R1 to Commercial
 - Townhomes
- Required notice and hearing procedures completed:
 - Signage, Ads, letters and first hearing
 - First hearing was August 18, 2026 by planning and zoning
 - 4-0/ approved

Hearing Closed

Mayor Pro-Tem Howard made a motion to change the zoning from R1 to commercial. Councilor Farley seconded. Mayor Whearley, Mayor Pro-Tem, Howard, and Councilor Farley/ In favor. Councilor Wall/ Opposed. Vote 3-1. Approved.

Councilor Wall made a motion to approve the minutes for August 10, 2026. Councilor Farley seconded. All in favor. Approved.

Craig Rowan presented the annual American Legion Report.

Water/Sewer Report: Ben reported that maintenance on the lift stations is ongoing, including rebuilding and replacing pumps. Several pumps have been sent out for repair and are still awaiting return. Ben also stated that he believes it may be time for the City to consider increasing water and sewer rates due to rising operational costs. He reported that three vendors have already contacted the City regarding increases in their operational costs, with most costs increasing by approximately 5%.

Streets/Maintenance Report-Terrence reported that City Hall is currently being painted. He also reported an issue with the ice machine at the Fire Station, which is expected to be resolved within the next couple of days. Terrence stated that all other maintenance projects and operations are moving forward as planned.

Police report- Chief Weiss reported on the recent passing of Sergeant Chris Fisher of the Warm Springs Police Department. It was a difficult time for the local law enforcement community. The Hamilton Police Department, along with several other law enforcement agencies, responded to assist with the case. Chief Weiss stated that on September 8, 2026, he was honored and humbled to participate in the memorial service for Sergeant Fisher in Fayetteville, Georgia. He noted that Sergeant Fisher leaves behind a wife and two children. Chief Weiss stated that the loss serves as a reminder of the dangers associated with the law enforcement profession and that the incident was especially difficult because it hit close to home. Chief Weiss also reminded Council that the Hamilton Police Department utilizes Flock cameras as a tool to assist with law enforcement operations and investigations. He stated that the department follows a strict policy regarding the use of the system. The Flock camera system has become a valuable tool for the department and has assisted in resolving several investigations quickly. He further stated that the department has established reprimands for any deviations from the established policy.

City Report-City Manager Rhett Wade reported that the City's Second Saturday events have been very successful and well attended. He stated that the events are expected to continue.

Mr. Wade also reported that the City is currently addressing another road giveaway matter and is working through the process. He further announced that the City's Christmas Parade is scheduled for December 5, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. The Humane Society will also participate in the event, along with vendors.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Attorney Comments- City Attorney Danley stated that the firm will not be pursuing a renewal of its contract with the City for 2027. She advised that the December 2026 Council meeting will be her final meeting with the City. Attorney Danley reported that she has been speaking with references regarding potential candidates for a new City Attorney. She stated that she has enjoyed working with the City and is saddened to conclude her service. Attorney Danley also expressed her desire to complete the revision of the City's zoning ordinances prior to her departure. She requested directions from Council regarding how they would like to proceed with the zoning ordinance revisions.

Adjournment:

Councilor Wall made the motion to adjourn. Councilor Farley seconded. All in favor. Approved.

Adjourned