



CITY of POOLER
— GEORGIA —

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES

January 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. | 100 US Highway 80 SW, Pooler, GA 31322

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Karen Williams invited resident Cecily Cope to the dais and called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Karen Williams, Mayor
Wesley Bashlor, Councilmember
Michael Carpenter, Councilmember
Aaron Henry, Mayor Pro Tem
Tom Hutcherson, Councilmember
Craig Call, City Attorney
Heath Lloyd, City Manager
Chris Lightle, Chief Finance Officer
Kiley Fusco, City Clerk

Absent: John Wilcher, Councilmember
Shannon Valim, Councilmember

III. INVOCATION

Councilmember Tom Hutcherson introduced Pastor Mark Henrich from Risen Savior Lutheran Church.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pastor Mark Henrich led the pledge.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Karen Williams announced the award of a \$240,000 U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant to support the City's Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. Additionally, the following elected officials will earn Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) certifications at the upcoming GMA Cities United conference: Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Henry, Councilmember Tom Hutcherson, Councilmember Michael Carpenter, and Councilmember Wesley Bashlor. The City is also wrapping up its Comprehensive Plan update with a final community engagement session scheduled for January 27, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. Residents are reminded that the Kids Art Contest deadline is February 2, giving young artists a chance to have their artwork featured in the Comprehensive Plan update.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2026

**B. Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Murphy Oil USA, Inc. DBA
Murphy Express #8603 at 1555 Pooler Parkway
(Convenience/Gas/Drug Store; Existing License, Change of Licensee)**

**C. Department Reports (Public Works, Finance, Fire-Rescue, Police,
Recreation, Planning & Development)**

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the consent agenda for consideration.
Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Henry moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (4-0-0)

MOVER: Henry

SECONDER: Hutcherson

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Henry, Hutcherson

NAYS:

VII. SPECIAL EVENTS

**A. Special Event Permit Application (No Alcohol) for the Annual 5k
Friendship Fun Run on February 28, 2026, at 200 Tanger Outlets
Boulevard**

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the application for consideration.
Councilmember Michael Carpenter moved to approve the Special Event Permit
Application (No Alcohol) for the Annual 5k Friendship Fun Run on February
28, 2026, at 200 Tanger Outlets Boulevard, with fee waiver.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (4-0-0)

MOVER: Carpenter

SECONDER: Bashlor

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Henry, Hutcherson

NAYS:

VIII. ORDINANCES, PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS

**A. Ordinance O2025-11.B - Street and Development Naming (First
Reading; Public Hearing, Action)**

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the ordinance for consideration. Mayor
Karen Williams opened the public hearing, and member of the public Uma
Nagaraj commented. Mayor Karen Williams closed the public hearing, and
Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Henry moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance
O2025-11.B - Street and Development Naming (First Reading; Public Hearing,
Action).

Motion to Approve; PASSED (4-0-0)

MOVER: Henry

SECONDER: Hutcherson

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Henry, Hutcherson

NAYS:

B. Proclamation for Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Mayor Karen Williams presented a Proclamation for Human Trafficking Awareness Month to Julie Wade of Tharros Place.

C. Resolution R2026-01.A - Authorization to Proceed with Acquisitions and Condemnations for Pooler Parkway/Mill Creek/Benton Boulevard Improvements

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the resolution for consideration. Leon Davenport of Thunderbolt Consultants was present. Member of the public Uma Nagaraj commented. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Henry moved to approve Resolution R2026-01.A - Authorization to Proceed with Acquisitions and Condemnations for Pooler Parkway/Mill Creek/Benton Boulevard Improvements.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (4-0-0)
MOVER: Henry
SECONDER: Hutcherson
AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Henry, Hutcherson
NAYS:

D. Resolution R2026-01.B - Hotel/Motel Excise Tax Rate & Allocations

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the resolution for consideration. Members of the public Uma Nagaraj and Kristy Angels commented. Councilmember Michael Carpenter moved to approve Resolution R2026-01.B - Hotel/Motel Excise Tax Rate & Allocations.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (4-0-0)
MOVER: Carpenter
SECONDER: Bashlor
AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Henry, Hutcherson
NAYS:

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Agreement with Invoice Cloud for Third-Party Credit Card Processing Services

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the agreement for consideration. Chief Finance Officer Chris Lightle reported on the item. Member of the public Uma Nagaraj commented. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Henry moved to approve the Agreement with Invoice Cloud for Third-Party Credit Card Processing Services, Subject to City Attorney approval.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (4-0-0)
MOVER: Henry
SECONDER: Hutcherson
AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Henry, Hutcherson
NAYS:

B. Intergovernmental Agreement with Chatham County for Canal Maintenance

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the agreement for consideration. Councilmember Wesley Bashlor moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Chatham County for Canal Maintenance, subject to City Attorney approval.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (4-0-0)
MOVER: Bashlor
SECONDER: Henry
AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Henry, Hutcherson
NAYS:

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Member of the public Uma Nagaraj commented.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

With no further public business to conduct, Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Henry moved to enter Executive Session. Executive Session was entered at 7:01 p.m.

Motion to Enter; PASSED (4-0-0)
MOVER: Henry
SECONDER: Carpenter
AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Henry, Hutcherson
NAYS:

Mayor Karen Williams called the meeting back to order at 7:07 p.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Tom Hutcherson moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (4-0-0)
MOVER: Hutcherson
SECONDER: Bashlor
AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Henry, Hutcherson
NAYS:

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

The foregoing minutes are true and correct and are approved on this

_____ day of _____, _____.

CITY OF POOLER, GEORGIA

Karen L. Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kiley Fusco, City Clerk