City of Perryville
Regular Meeting
August 6, 2026

The city of Perryville held a regular council meeting at City Hall at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Kernodle called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and offered a prayer.

Roll call conducted. Present were Councilmembers Reed, Caldwell, Simpson, Rita Bailey and Steve Bailey. Quorum determined. Councilmember Edwards was absent. City Clerk Mona Followell and Counselor Jordan Shewmaker also present.

Routine Business:
Motion made by Councilperson Simpson, second by Councilperson Rita Bailey to accept minutes from the July regular meeting. Motion carried.

Financial report approved upon motion by Councilperson Steve Bailey, second by Councilperson Caldwell, and unanimously passed.

Councilperson Caldwell moved to pay pending bills. Second by Councilperson Steve Bailey and unanimously passed.

Reports:
Main Street Director Aly Huff presented an oral report. She extended an invitation to the sneak peek of The Book Burrow, which will open August 22, and presented blueprints for the Opera House project, which will include a library and public restrooms for events.

Police report and ABC report were presented by Chief Hatter.

Counselor Shewmaker presented a written report. A copy is filed as part of city record.

Old Business:
Second reading was given to the ordinance to amend the budget, to correct the police chief's salary. Councilperson Simpson made a motion to approve. Motion seconded by Councilperson Steve Bailey and carried.

Counselor Shewmaker researched the use of golf carts on city streets and is of the opinion that such use does not include state highways. Councilperson Steve Bailey made a motion to allow the use of golf carts on Perryville city streets. Councilperson Simpson seconded. Counselor Shewmaker stated the motion should authorize drafting an ordinance. Councilperson Bailey amended his motion authorizing Shewmaker to draft an ordinance allowing the use of golf carts on Perryville city streets. Councilperson Simpson seconded. Motion unanimously passed.

Councilperson Steve Bailey obtained a price on two bronze dedication plaques for the new footbridge. Plaques will cost approximately $437.75 each and includes hardware for affixing to bridge. David Walden offered to purchase one of the two plaques and retrieve them, to save shipping costs. Motion made by Councilperson Steve Bailey to authorize purchase of plaques to state "Dedicated to Anne Sleet, whose life's work stands as a bridge uniting the community of Perryville" dated "October 3, 2026". Motion seconded by Councilperson Simpson and unanimously passed. The dedication ceremony is scheduled for October 3, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Aly Huff agreed to inform Sleet's children, church, newspaper, and state Senator Amanda Bledsoe.

New Business:
Discussion ensued regarding removal of the bollards from the new footbridge. Councilperson Bailey has received requests to take them down. Mayor Kernodle is in favor of removing them but wants to prohibit motorized vehicles. Counselor Shewmaker stated they serve a safety purpose and suggested painting them black to improve the aesthetics. Mayor Kernodle asked whether shortening them would be an option. Councilperson Simpson made a motion to paint them black. Councilperson Caldwell seconded, and motion carried.

Councilperson Reed asked about the possibility of extending the sidewalk from Shooting Star at end of Merchants Row across the City lot to the next house, stating it would allow safer accessibility for wheeled objects. After brief discussion, Councilperson Reed made a motion to seek bids to connect the sidewalk from 406 to 502 S Buell. Motion seconded by Councilperson Steve Bailey and carried.

Councilperson Steve Bailey would like to have the traffic light at the bridge repositioned, so that westbound traffic stops before approaching the bridge. He stated the stop bars are ignored and tractor trailers do not have ample room for turning. Mayor and Counselor agreed to ask the state transportation district about this, as well as repainting the stop bars and relocating the "No turn on red" sign.

Councilperson Steve Bailey asked that the state be contacted regarding repairing the rough pavement where Second Street abuts the bridge.

Mayor Kernodle informed the council of a leak at the apartment above the fire station. Bertice spoke with the renter and it appears the leak is above the awning and the gutter may need repair. Motion made by Councilperson Steve Bailey to obtain estimates to repair said gutter. Council- person Rita Bailey seconded the motion, and motion unanimously passed.

Discussion ensued regarding locations who utilize more than one garbage cart. The City is currently being billed for additional carts. Councilperson Steve Bailey recalls past discussion that residents will pay Republic $5.00 per month for each additional cart. Counselor Shemaker will review the garbage contract for clarification. In the meantime, requests for additional carts will be referred to Republic.

Open Forum:
Mayor Kernodle advised the council that open forum is only for citizen comments and that items requiring action must be listed on the agenda. Counselor Shewmaker confirmed this, and referenced recently changed state law regarding open forums, which now allows for public comments but no city business or council action.

This concluding the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm, upon motion by Councilperson Caldwell, second by Councilperson Simpson, and passed.

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Rob Kernodle, Mayor

Attest:

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Mona Followell, City Clerk