



HELENA CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

April 13, 2026, 5:00PM

PRE-COUNCIL: Work Session

A discussion and review of City Council agenda items, projects, department, committee, and board liaison reports, and tasks assigned for City operations and business.

All Members present. Work Session started at 5:01PM.

1. Review 04/13/2026 Agenda Items

- AP/Bill Payments
- 03/23/2026 Meeting Minutes Review

2. Update from Council Boards and Committee Business

Dodson states that he has been compiling a list of all of the applications received and will organize and distribute those to the liaisons to get to their respective boards for review. Healy asked the Clerk if the applications were now closed; Clerk confirmed that they will be removed today.

3. Davidson Family Letter – Time Capsule

Chief Miller discovered a letter in the drawer of the hall tree that was in the lobby of City Hall. The hall tree was dedicated to the City by Frank E. Cox in 1972. The letter referred to a resolution instructing the Davidson family to read the letter in a Council meeting in 2022, but was just discovered by Chief Miller last week. The resolution is to be entered into the official minutes of the City and was read by Joe Davidson.

4. Discussion on LSV Ordinance

Chief Wood invited for discussion. Mayor Rosener states that the ordinance does not have the necessary teeth, first fine is \$100 and escalates for each offense. Chief Wood states that the root of the issue is informing the citizens of the contents of the ordinance and explaining it all, no underage drivers, etc. Mayor states that we can inform through the website and social media, perhaps send a letter to all of those with permits via email explaining the fines/costs associated with the ordinance. Wilson asks if those breaking the City ordinance are also breaking state law? Chief Wood states not necessarily as the ordinance does not allow for driving on state/county streets. Hammann asks if these fines have been in effect since the passage of the ordinance, Dodson confirms yes. Hammann asks if residents were informed at the time of getting their permits, Clerk confirms that this information was part of the registration packet given to all. Hammann asks if we can get this information out at some upcoming local events, and then see if we still have complaints/concerns down the road, if so maybe look at updating the ordinance then.

5. Discussion on Adding Additional Members to the Utility Board

Wilson states that the Utility Board currently consists of three members, and on occasion they do not have a quorum and cannot meet if any one member is absent; feels like the board should consist of at least five members to combat this issue. Mayor states that Rhonda from Utility Board reached out to him and stated that she would like to speak to the Council about this issue, asking for the majority of the discussion to wait until that time. Wilson states it would just be updating their bylaws if they agree to that, and approving those. McDaniels expressed concerns that adding to the board is not justifiable at this time; additional board members will incur additional expenses for the Utility Board, and doing that immediately after a rate increase, while a de minimis expense, is not good timing. Dodson agrees that three members is too small for such an important board, thinks that it definitely should be an odd number, but will wait for Utilities to speak to Council directly.

6. Confirmation of Next Meeting

04/27/2026 – 5PM work session

There being no further business, the work session was dismissed at 5:24PM.

ATTEST:

Madison Harris
City Clerk

SIGNED:

Brooke Dodson
Council President



HELENA CITY COUNCIL

April 13, 2026

MINUTES HELENA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING April 13, 2026

The Council of the City of Helena met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday night, April 13, 2026, in the Helena Municipal Building at 6:00 P.M., the regular place and time for holding said meetings.

Council President Brooke Dodson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Pastor Josh Knierim, Church at Old Town, led the prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Leigh Hulsey.

4. Roll Call

Present: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Dennis Wilson, Brooke Dodson, Jeff McDaniels

Members: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Dennis Wilson, Brooke Dodson, Jeff McDaniels

Absent:

Visitors: Fire Chief Chris Miller, Police Chief Mike Wood, Dan Dearing, Bill Miller, Jason Poe, Keith Martin, and others
(see attached list)

Council President Brooke Dodson declared a quorum present, and meeting was open for business.

5. Minutes Approved/Corrected from Prior Meeting(s)

Andy Healy made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from March 23, 2026, with a second by **Jeff McDaniels**.

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Dennis Wilson, Brooke Dodson, Jeff McDaniels

NAY: None

Motion carried.

6. Revenue Report: Bill Payment

Andy Healy made a motion to approve the bills with a second by **Jeff McDaniels**.

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Dennis Wilson, Brooke Dodson, Jeff McDaniels

NAY: None

Motion carried.

7. Municipal Operations Report from Mayor Billy Rosener:

Mayor welcomed all to the new building, stating that we did not get here without some controversy, but that we are here now and are looking forward to the possibilities. Medic 67 will go into service this week, and Medic 65 will go into reserves as a back up unit. It is National Telecommunications Week, thank you to our Dispatchers who do a great job. Dan Dearing from the Library spoke about a grant that the Library received from Vulcan Materials for \$2500, Charlie Smith from Vulcan Materials also in attendance tonight. Dearing also states that the National Library Week is coming up with lots of events planned, be sure to check their calendar on the website and on Facebook. Mayor states that Vulcan Materials has also been a great vendor to the City, donating the gravel for the new parking lot in Old Town for upcoming events, and that a sidewalk will be installed in the upcoming weeks/months for better access over the hill, and that gravel lot will have three ADA compliant parking spaces. Thank you to Daniel from Helena Hollow for donating the fish to restock the pond at Joe Tucker Park, he will also be donating a fish feeder. Daniel and the rest of the Kiwanis Club also spent Saturday at Joe Tucker Park working on updating and painting pavilions and the playground, thank you all for your hard work. The Helena Autism Walk is this Saturday at Joe Tucker Park and will have some vendors present; Beautification Board will meet this Saturday at the Caboose in Old Town to plant the hanging baskets and are always looking for volunteers. Old Town Live's first concert of the season will be April 25, and gates will open at 5PM. Thank you to all of our department heads, leaders, and city employees that helped get this move completed, everyone contributed to get this move accomplished and it was a lot of work for all.

8. Hal Woodman: Donation Presentation from the Taste of Helena Event

Former Council member Hal Woodman presented a donation from Taste of Helena for \$3498.92 to the Helena High School business students.

9. Representative Leigh Hulsey – Donation Presentation for New Public Safety Substation

Representative Hulsey presented her donation of \$10,000 to the Police and Fire Departments to help renovate the former Indian Ford Fire District into a Public Safety Substation.

10. Proclamation – April 2026 as Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month

Presented to the Brown Family.

11. Proclamation – April 2026 as Child Abuse Prevention Month

Presented to Owens House.

12. Proclamation – April 2026 as National Donate Life Month

Presented to Legacy of Hope.

13. Approve/Deny – ABC License – SEESAW AND CRICKET LLC, as HELENA HOLLOW – 6027 HWY 17 – 160 SPECIAL RETAIL (MORE THAN 30 DAYS)

Dennis Wilson made a motion to approve ABC License – SEESAW AND CRICKET LLC, as HELENA HOLLOW – 6027 HWY 17 – 160 SPECIAL RETAIL (MORE THAN 30 DAYS); with a second by **Andy Healy**.

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Dennis Wilson, Brooke Dodson, Jeff McDaniels

NAY: None

Motion carried.

14. Period for Public Comment – 3 Minutes per Resident, to Sign in with City Clerk between Work Session and Council Meeting

Residents wanting to speak will sign-in with City Clerk prior to the meeting and will be given three minutes to speak.

15. Council Comments

Jeff McDaniels: I want to say thank you to the citizens, this has been the largest audience tonight so far. In our efforts to advocate for transparency, we learned tonight about closed captioning and how we can better serve our residents; also learned that some residents aren't hearing about some of these events going on in town. We have a beautiful Senior Citizens room space downstairs, it would be wonderful to get more seniors involved. This new building does belong to the City and there is more that we can do with it. Thank you all for being advocates for our community.

Andy Healy: So nice to see our community out tonight in attendance. I'd like to thank Alex Miller and the Kiwanis Club for the work that they are continuing to do at Joe Tucker Park, it does not go unnoticed. On the topic of closed captioning, I know YouTube has the option for captions, but that does not help those in person. I was honored to read the proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month, and also happy to see the National Donate Life proclamation as an organ donor. And congrats to Helena Hollow for ABC approval, seems like it's been a long time coming!

Dennis Wilson: It's hard to follow others and say the same thing, but thank you all for coming out tonight to our first meeting in the new building. Like it or hate it, it is our building now, so we will do our best with what we have. Also our Seniors Program is for those over 55, we hope that all of those able to join will come and see; they are doing great work to secure grants, including a 15-passenger van for the Seniors to use on outings. Also want to say welcome to two new businesses in town—Due Amici in Old Town, and Daylight Donuts near Walmart. Thank you all for pitching in for our community, Kiwanis Club, Beautification Board, we have lots of upcoming events this summer including Old Town Live, and that crew works all year round to get these events together.

Cathy Hammann: The Gould Hike with the Helena Historic Preservation Committee has been cancelled for this month, it may be rescheduled for the fall. If you need to regenerate or reconnect with the earth, come get dirty with us Saturday morning at the Caboose as we plant the hanging baskets. Ditto to what the others have said as well!

Brooke Dodson: As some have mentioned, this building has come with some controversy, but it is ours now. We are working on the best possible uses for our community; attend Council meetings and events that are held here, as this building is part of the community. HHS track and field will be hosting the Shelby County Championship this Wednesday. Thank you to Representative Hulsey and Charles Smith from Vulcan for giving to our community, and also to the Kiwanis and Helena Hardware for all of your contributions to our community. This piece of furniture up here if you missed the presentation during the Work Session was dedicated to the City in 1972 by Frank E. Cox in memorial to the 1968 plane crash that killed Mayor R. Davidson, Leonard Bearden, and Dr. Stanley Lacey. Inside this hall tree was a letter and resolution that was written in 1972 to be read at a Council meeting in 2022, but no one knew it was there so we read it tonight! Thank you to the Mayor and department heads for all of your hard work getting this move completed.

16. Adjourn

There being no further business meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.

ATTEST:



Madison Harris
City Clerk

SIGNED:



Brooke Dodson
Council President