HELENA CITY COUNCIL **SEPTEMBER 28, 2026, 5:00PM**

MINUTES HELENA CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

The purpose of the work session was to discuss and review City Council agenda items, projects, departmental updates, committee and board liaison reports, and tasks related to City operations and business.

The Helena City Council Work Session was held on September 28, 2026, at Helena City Hall. Council President Brooke Dodson called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM. And all council members were present except Councilman Wilson

1. Review of September 28, 2026, Council Meeting Agenda

Council President Dodson reviewed the agenda for the regular council meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the presentation of proclamations and resolutions. Councilwoman Hammann asked whether the proposed changes included in Resolution No. 09282026B regarding holiday pay had been budgeted and reflected in payroll projections. Councilman McDaniels stated he would review the employee handbook and related information.

Council also discussed Resolution No. 09282026D. Councilwoman Hammann expressed concern regarding the final sentence of the resolution, stating that the language was too open-ended. The Council generally agreed, and the City Clerk removed the language prior to the regular council meeting.

Mayor Rosener advised the Council that he intended to request an executive session during the regular council meeting following public comments and prior to council comments to discuss a land swap initiative and a legal matter with the City Attorney.

2. Accounts Payable/Bill Payments

Council President Dodson noted that the Accounts Payable and Bill Payment Report had been distributed to all Council Members for review.

No discussion was held.

3. Review of September 14, 2026, Work Session Minutes

Council reviewed the minutes from September 14, 2026, Work Session and Council Meeting

Councilwoman Hammann noted that the minutes should reflect the absence of the City Clerk and indicate that the minutes were attested by Finance Director Patti Morrow.

The correction was made.

4. Board and Committee Updates

Councilman Healy reported that Teacher Assistance Grant (TAG) applications had been distributed to teachers and applications were beginning to be returned for review.

Linda Wurstner, representing the Helena Historic Preservation Society, provided an update regarding the organization's ongoing initiatives and fundraising efforts. She reported increased social media engagement and advised that Ken Penhale would be inducted into the Shelby County Hall of Fame on October 22, 2026, in recognition of his contributions to the museum. She also discussed the continued sale of commemorative postcards.

Council Members thanked Ms. Wurstner for her dedication and service to the community.

Councilwoman Hammann provided an update on the Pumpkin House project and reported that it remained on schedule and would be ready for photographs by October 8, 2026.

5. Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Discussion

Mayor Rosener reported that the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 budget would remain generally flat, with only minor adjustments anticipated, primarily related to payroll and other limited expenditures.

He advised that he and Finance Director Patti Morrow were working to finalize August financial figures, which would provide eleven months of actual financial data for budget development purposes.

Discussion was also held regarding scheduling considerations related to the October 12, 2026 holiday and the need to conduct a public budget question-and-answer session.

Councilwoman Hammann asked whether department heads would present formal budget requests this year. Mayor Rosener responded that formal presentations would not be required and that Council Members would instead receive projected budget figures for review.

6. E-Bike Ordinance Discussion

City Attorney Brian Hayes discussed the proposed E-Bike legislation and advised that the document more closely resembled an ordinance due to the penalties prescribed therein.

Discussion was held regarding revisions to Section 4, specifically relating to speed limitations. Clarification was provided that the speed restriction should be listed as ten (10) miles per hour.

The proposed ordinance will be presented as Ordinance No. 1045-2026.

Council also discussed the distinction between electric bicycles and other motor-powered bicycles, noting that e-bikes are defined as bicycles equipped with motors producing less than 750 watts of power.

7. Social Media Policy Discussion

Councilman Healy presented a proposed social media policy for elected officials and employees.

Councilman Healy explained that the document was intended to serve as a voluntary pledge encouraging professionalism and appropriate conduct on social media platforms and that participation would be optional.

Councilman McDaniels stated that he was opposed to the policy, citing First Amendment concerns and expressing that he did not believe the proposal was necessary.

Councilwoman Hammann emphasized the importance of mutual respect among elected officials and encouraged members to avoid reactionary responses.

No action was taken.

8. Teen Council Budget Presentation

Representatives of the Helena Teen Council presented their budget, including projected revenues and expenditures.

Council Members commended the students for their presentation and thanked the Teen Council advisors for their continued leadership and support.

9. Public Comment Registration

Council President Dodson announced that members of the public wishing to address the Council during the regular meeting could register with the City Clerk between the conclusion of the Work Session and the start of the regular Council Meeting.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Work Session adjourned at 5:58 PM. And Council President Dodson stated that the city council meeting would begin at 6:05pm.

The next regularly scheduled Work Session was announced for October 15, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

ATTEST:
Kym Rollan
City Clerk

SIGNED:
Brooke Dodson
Council President

HELENA CITY COUNCIL **September 28, 2026**

MINUTES HELENA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
September 28, 2026

The Helena City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, August 24, 2026, at the Helena Municipal Building. The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m., the regular time and place designated for City Council meetings.

1. Meeting Called to Order

Brooke Dodson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. Invocation Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was delivered by Father Glenn Davis, Pastor Lamb of God Church

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Teen Council President.

4. Roll Call

Present: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Brooke Dodson, and Jeff McDaniels,

Absent: Dennis Wilon.

Visitors: Financial Director Patti Morrow, Police Chief Mike Wood, Library Director Dan Dearing, Fire Chief Chris Miller, Building Official August Mustoe, Public Works Director Jason Poe, Parks and Recs Director Bill Miller, City Engineer Blair Perry and others as reflected on the attached sign-in sheet.

Council President Brooke Dodson declared a quorum present, and the meeting proceeded with business.

5. Approval of Minutes

Council considered the minutes from September 14, 2026, Work Session and Regular Council Meeting with the correction per Councilwoman Hamman. Councilman McDaniels moved to approve the minutes as corrected, with a second by Councilman Healy. The following votes were cast:

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Brooke Dodson, and Jeff McDaniels
NAY: None

Motion carried. Minutes approved as corrected.

6. Revenue Report and Bill Payment Approval

Council President Brooke Dodson noted that all council members had received the financial report prepared by Financial Director Patti Morrow and asked if there were any questions. No questions were raised.

Councilman Healy moved to approve the bills for payment. The motion received a second by Jeff McDaniels. The following votes were cast:

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Brooke Dodson, and Jeff McDaniels
NAY: None

Motion carried.

7. Mayor's Municipal Operations Report

Mayor Rosener commended the HPD for their excellent work in apprehending the suspects related to the Husky Mart along with partnering agencies. The HOT board along with the Buck Creek Festival Committee hosted Octoberfest and the turn out was good and there were many compliments on the event. Buck Creek Festival is coming up October 9th and 10th along with cops and goblins on October 22, 2026. We partnered with what used to be known as National Night Out. There are also members of the homecoming court and teen council present tonight along with the awesome homecoming win that our Huskies pulled off this past weekend. Ken Penhale will be inducted into the Shelby County Hall of Fame on October 22, 2026, and there will be a Helena contingent there to represent and congratulate Mr. Penhale.

8. Resolution 09282026A – Recognition of Dr. Lewis Brooks Distinguished Career, contribution to our community and retirement.

Councilman McDaniels read the resolution, and Dr. Lewis Brooks was present for the presentation. He was presented with the resolution and a pin by Councilman McDaniels and then spoke of his love for his profession and the continued spirit and community that the children and residents of Helena have.

Council President Dodson entertained a motion to adopt Resolution 09282026A. Councilman McDaniels made the motion with a second from Councilman Healy and the following votes were cast:

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Brooke Dodson, and Jeff McDaniels
NAY: None

Motion carried. Resolution adopted.

9. Proclamation Declaring October 2026 Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Councilwoman Hammann read the proclamation with breast cancer survivors from our community along side her. Andrew Weed, Fire Fighter for the City of Helena, was also present and spoke about his personal experience in assisting a relative dealing with breast cancer. They are collecting money for the breast cancer awareness t-shirt initiative, and all proceeds will benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation of Alabama, which helps fund research, education and support efforts in the battle against breast cancer.

10. Proclamation Declaring October 2026 Down Syndrome Advocacy Month

Councilman Healy read the proclamation and invited all residents who are a part of the down syndrome community to be a part of this presentation.

11. Proclamation Declaring October 2026 Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Council President Brooke Dodson read the proclamation and invited anyone who was a part of this community to be a part of this presentation.

12. Resolution 09282026B-Resolution indicating the Holidays to be observed by City Employees for the 2027 FY.

This resolution was not read but a summary of the holiday schedule was presented. Councilman McDaniels read an excerpt from the Employee Handbook that dealt with the Holiday schedule and pay. For the record this resolution shall be adopted each year per the civil service agreement. The expense is already built into the budget per Mayor Rosener. Councilwoman Hammann stated her questions were just for clarity. Council President Dodson then entertained a motion to approve. Councilman McDaniels made a motion to approve with a second from Councilman Healy. A roll call vote was requested with the following votes cast:

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Brooke Dodson, and Jeff McDaniels
NAY: None

Motion carried. Resolution adopted.

13. Resolution 09282026C-Resolution dissolving the City of Helena Medical Clinic Board and repealing Resolution No.11052007.

Councilman Healy read the resolution, and nothing further was discussed. Council President Dodson entertained a motion. Councilman McDaniels made a motion to adopt resolution with a second from Councilwoman Hammann. A roll call vote was requested, and the following votes were cast:

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Brooke Dodson, and Jeff McDaniels
NAY: None

Motion carried. Resolution adopted.

14. Resolution 09282026D-Resolution approving the continuation of the budget process for Fiscal Year 2027

This resolution was read by Councilman McDaniels. The correction requested by Councilwoman Hammann was made prior to the council meeting. Council President Dodson then entertained a motion. Councilman McDaniels made a motion to adopt with a second from Councilman Healy. A roll call vote was requested, and the following votes were cast:

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Brooke Dodson, and Jeff McDaniels
NAY: None

Motion carried. Resolution adopted.

15. First Reading Ordinance 1044-2026-Establishing a Reserve Fund Policy for the City of Helena.

The ordinance was read by Councilman Healy. There were no comments or questions from the council. The floor was opened for public comment and there was none at this time.

16. Period for Public Comment

Council President Dodson opened the public comment period. Residents who had signed in prior to the meeting were provided with an opportunity to address the Council.

Dorothy Carlisle-Discussed social media policy and that the elected officials should be more mindful of the things that are said and should be held to a higher standard.

Tim Hill-908 White Barn Circle- Addressed the budget regarding the new sports complex sites and the options that were presented by Mayor Rosener. Mayor Rosener answered Mr. Hills questions regarding how the 23 million would be spent.

Tom Stanbury, 146 Cedar Bend Drive, Addressed the Mayor and Council regarding recent activities on social media. He explained why he used social media as his forum and that he is only allowed the public speaking venue to address the council and mayor. He stated that Councilman Wilson was called out publicly and did offer an apology, but it was not really an apology. He accepts it and that grace is given to Councilman Wilson as god gives him grace.

Marybeth Lindsey, 821 Stoneridge Drive, thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak and discussed the holiday pay policy and how those holidays are important to the first responders. She stated that the council changed that policy and instead of holiday time with their families, they are given pay and that is not a benefit for these families.

JoAnn Kneynsberg, 2603 Trillium Circle, stated that the HOA meeting for her neighborhood are held on the same night as the City Council meeting and that is a conflict. She stated that the conflict is intentional and that she encourages the council to intervene and stop the HOA conflict.

At this time a motion was made by Andy Healy to enter executive session with a second by Andy Healy. It is requested that the mayor and city attorney along with council meet for this session.

The following votes were cast:

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Brooke Dodson, and Jeff McDaniels
NAY: None

Motion approved. Executive session began.

Council president Dodson entertained a motion to end executive session and re-convene. A motion was made by Councilwoman Hammann with a second by Councilman McDaniels. The following votes were cast:

AYE: Cathy Hammann, Andy Healy, Brooke Dodson, and Jeff McDaniels
NAY: None

Motion carried. Meeting re-convened.

17. Council Comments

Councilman Andy Healy thanked the residents for coming and stated we had a good crowd and he appreciated the teen council being a part of the meeting.

Councilman Jeff McDaniels stated that he would shorten his comments and would like to take a moment to congratulate the 7th grade volleyball team on a great tournament and an impressive 18-4 season. His daughter is on that team, and they had a great season. He also mentioned the Helena Forward project and how important the town hall meeting forum and the comments from our residents are to achieving our goals. We should not miss an opportunity to take the feedback and listen to the concerns of our residents.

Councilwoman Cathy Hammann Thank you for coming out and have a great night all.

Council President Brooke Dodson Thanked everyone who came out to the meeting and would like to re-iterate Dr. Brooks achievements and the heartfelt thank you our community feels for him. Octoberfest turned out well and the Homecoming game was very exciting, and city hall was a popular place to take pictures for homecoming.

18. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

ATTEST:

Kym Rollan
City Clerk

SIGNED:

Brooke Dodson
Council President