

**City of Plains
Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2025**

I. Call to Order

Mayor Joey Recker called to order the regular meeting of the Plains City Council at 7:00 P.M. on June 12, 2025, at Plains City Hall Council Chamber. This meeting was rescheduled due to the Juneteenth holiday.

II. Roll Call

City Clerk Cindy Bagwell conducted a roll call. The following members were present:

- Mayor Joey Recker
- Mayor Pro Tem Jackson
- Councilor Eugene Edge
- Councilor Ellen Harris
- Councilor Amy Wise
- Councilor Andrea Oates

Absent: Councilor Terry Westbury

III. Approval of Minutes

Councilor Harris made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Edge seconded the motion.
Motion carried (5-0).

IV. Briefings

None

V. Committee Reports

Public Safety (Councilor Westbury & Councilor Edge):

- Chief Johnson was not present; no report was given.
- Discussion of police car postponed.

Subdivision & Streets (Councilor Edge & Councilor Wise):

- Councilor Wise will look into someone to cut down limbs on Main Street. Discussion followed regarding whether this should be a one-time or ongoing task. The city should not take on responsibilities that belong to Georgia Power.
- Contact Railroad again regarding ongoing issues.
- Personal property concerns related to trees were noted.
- Councilor Harris will reach out to Georgia Power.
- DOT has fixed the crosswalk lights.

Water & Sewerage (Councilor Westbury & Councilor Oates):

- Councilor Oates has contacted Greg Ashworth regarding project bidding. The project is on an aggressive schedule with a proposed deadline in November. A quick meeting will be called once bids are received.
- Letters will be sent to 11 residents inviting them to attend a future meeting regarding upcoming work and property restoration.
- 2024 inventory is online and will not change.
- GRWA offers a free tool to locate water pipes.
- Water quality report is available online.

Personnel (Councilor Wise & Councilor Harris):

- The phone numbers for Chief, Officer on Call, Utility Worker and Street Worker will be sent to the Mayor and City Council members so they have access to these people.
- Devan Bolton has been suspended. Georgia is an at-will state.
 - Councilor Harris made a motion to terminate Devan Bolton.
 - Councilor Jackson seconded the motion.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
 - He will be paid for annual and comp time upon return of his uniforms.
 - Councilor Oates recommended that we not only post ads on our website but also establish a process for online submission

Hospitality & Public Relations (Councilor Oates & Councilor Wise):

- Only one application has been received for the utility worker position; none for the police officer position.
- Council discussed innovations for hiring and recommended posting applications and announcements online.

Industry, Trade & Tourism (Councilor Jackson & Councilor Harris):

- No report.
- Public restrooms remain a priority. Mayor has asked merchants to assist with opening and closing restrooms on weekends when the train arrives.

Finance (Councilor Jackson & Councilor Wise):

- Due to the meeting date change, the Cash Balance Report will be sent to all Council Members next week.
 - Councilor Harris made a motion to approve the proposed 2025–2026 Budget.
 - Councilor Jackson seconded.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
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VI. Other Business for Approval/Discussion

1. **Mayor's Attendance – 2025 Robert E. Knox, Jr. Municipal Leadership Institute**
 - Motion by Councilor Wise, seconded by Councilor Edge.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
2. **Advertisement in NAACP Annual Banquet Program**
 - Motion by Councilor Jackson, seconded by Councilor Harris.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
3. **Proclamation – President and Mrs. Carter's Anniversary**
 - Motion by Councilor Harris, seconded by Councilor Edge.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
4. **Alcohol Permit – Plains, Trains, and Fireworks (June 28th)**
 - Motion by Councilor Harris, seconded by Councilor Wise.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
5. **City-Issued Cell Phone Policy**
 - Motion by Councilor Jackson, seconded by Councilor Wise.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
6. **Porta Potties – Plains, Trains, and Fireworks (June 28th)**
 - Motion by Councilor Harris to rent:
 - (2) male
 - (2) female
 - (1) handicap-accessible
 - (1) handwashing station
 - Seconded by Councilor Wise.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
7. **Air Conditioner – Mayor's Office (Use of SPLOST Funds)**
 - Motion by Councilor Harris, seconded by Councilor Jackson.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
8. **Monthly Pest Control Services**
 - Motion by Councilor Harris to table until the June 26th called meeting pending additional estimate from Georgia Pest Control.
 - Seconded by Councilor Wise.
 - **Motion carried (5-0).**
9. **Main Street Sprinkler System Repairs**
 - Motion by Councilor Wise, seconded by Councilor Edge.
 - **Motion carried (4-1), Councilor Harris opposed.**
10. **SAM Shortline Tourism Support**

- Motion by Councilor Harris to allocate \$1,000 from Hotel/Motel Tax.
- Seconded by Councilor Jackson.
- **Motion carried (5-0).**

11. Friends of Jimmy Carter – Christmas Decorations

- Motion by Councilor Wise to allocate \$1,500 for new city decorations.
- Seconded by Councilor Jackson.
- **Motion carried (5-0).**

12. Amendment to Utility Worker Job Application

- Motion by Councilor Jackson to update wage range to \$12–\$15 per hour, depending on qualifications.
- Seconded by Councilor Harris.
- **Motion carried (5-0).**

13. Vendor Request – Mr. Lawrence Williams

- Request to sell vegetables in the park on Saturday, June 21st, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Motion by Councilor Harris, seconded by Councilor Jackson.
- **Motion carried (5-0).**

VIII. Adjournment

Mayor Recker adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Bagwell
City Clerk