



City Council Meeting
July 28, 2026 – 7:00 PM
Pendergrass City Hall

I. Call to Order and determination of a quorum. Motion made by Basak; seconded by Bigley. All in favor

Attendee Name	Position	Present	Absent
Basak, Sylvia	Councilmember	X	
Bigley, Laura	Councilmember	X	
Gomez, Gabriel	Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tem	X	
Ellis, Bill	Mayor	X	
Carter, Bob	Councilmember		X
Robinson, Kathrine	Councilmember	X	
Geiman, Holly	Councilmember		Resigned

II. Pledge to the Flag and Invocation

III. Review Clerks Minutes:

The Council reviewed the meeting minutes from the June Council Meeting and July Work Session. Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

- **MOVER:** Basak
- **SECONDER:** Gomez
- **RESULT:** Approved
- **AYES:** All in favor
- **NAYS:** None
- **ABSTAIN:** None

IV. Review Treasury Report:

The council reviewed the Treasury Report for the month of June. Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to receive the report for filing.

- **MOVER:** Gomez
- **SECONDER:** Basak
- **RESULT:** Approved
- **AYES:** All in favor
- **NAYS:** None
- **ABSTAIN:** None

V. Renee Martinez provided the library report for the month of July.

VI. Old Business: None

VII. New Business:

- **457 Deferred Compensation Plan:** Council considered a resolution to establish an optional 457 deferred compensation plan for City employees through the Georgia Municipal Association. Participation is voluntary, employee contributions are tax deferred, and the City will not provide matching funds. The plan is separate from the City-funded pension plan. Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-0728B.

- MOVER: Gomez
- SECONDER: Basak
- RESULT: Approved
- AYES: All in favor
- NAYS: None
- ABSTAIN: None

- **Master Fee Schedule:**

Council reviewed proposed amendments to the City's master fee schedule, including changes to the fence permit fee and the formal addition of fees collected for copies, notary services, and fax services. Mayor Ellis asked for a motion to approve the amendment.

- MOVER: Gomez
- SECONDER: Basak
- RESULT: Approved
- AYES: All in favor
- NAYS: None
- ABSTAIN: None

- **Downtown Development Authority:**

The City Attorney explained the process for reactivating the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). The authority would consist of seven members: one Council member and six people who either reside in Pendergrass or own a business within the City. A map of the proposed downtown development area was included in the Council packet.

VIII. Public Comment

Donald Roberts asked about the former Downtown Development Authority, including who previously served on the board and when it stopped meeting. It was explained that the DDA was originally established in 2018 and that the City is now considering reactivating it.

Discussion followed concerning a loan held by the DDA. It was clarified that the loan has not yet been paid off and that the reactivated DDA may be responsible for deciding whether to pay it off.

Donald Roberts also asked when the DDA would begin meeting again and whether the former board members would be reinstated. It was explained that the City must first identify and appoint new members. The City hopes to receive applicants and consider appointments the following month.

David Rainey: Addressed the Council regarding a personal dispute and allegations involving the City Attorney. The Mayor thanked him for his comments.

Tavares Bethel: Introduced himself as a new City resident, retired military service member, Amazon People Pillar Champion, and founder of Deploy AI Academy. He expressed interest in connecting Amazon volunteer services and resources with community initiatives and offered to help build local partnerships.

Adjourn

- MOVER: Bigley
- SECONDER: Gomez


Renee Martinez

City Clerk

July 29, 2026