

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
JASPER, ALABAMA, HELD APRIL 21, 2026**

10:00 a.m. - The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 121 17th Street West, Jasper.

Present: Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short, Councilmembers Lincoln Moody, Jennifer W. Smith, and Willie Moore III, Mayor Josh Gates, City Clerk/Administrator Kathy Chambless, City Attorney Russ Robertson

Absent: Councilmember Sam Watts

Invocation: Building Inspector Adam Bolton

Pledge of Allegiance: Assistant Street Superintendent Billy Wade

Approval of Minutes:

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Moody that the minutes of the regular meeting held April 7, 2026, be approved.

Vote

Councilmember Lincoln Moody	Yes
Councilmember Sam Watts	Absent
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Consider amendments to the agenda. There were no amendments.

Consider approval of the agenda.

Motion

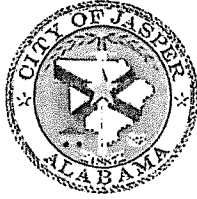
Moved by Councilmember Moody, seconded by Councilmember Smith that the agenda be approved.

Vote

Councilmember Lincoln Moody	Yes
Councilmember Sam Watts	Absent
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Present a Proclamation for Autism Acceptance Month. Mayor Gates read the proclamation aloud and presented it to Stephanie Kimbrell, organizer of the Autism Acceptance Walk, and others.

(See following page)



PROCLAMATION

Office of the Mayor of Jasper, Alabama

WHEREAS, April is recognized nationwide and across the State of Alabama as Autism Acceptance Month, a time to promote understanding, inclusion, and support for individuals on the autism spectrum; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder is a developmental condition that affects communication, behavior, and social interaction, and current data indicates that approximately 1 in 36 children in the United States has been identified with autism; and

WHEREAS, Autism Acceptance Month reflects a growing movement to move beyond awareness and toward meaningful acceptance, recognizing autism as a natural part of the human experience and affirming the value, dignity, and contributions of autistic individuals; and

WHEREAS, this month highlights the importance of expanding access to services, supporting families, and creating inclusive environments in schools, workplaces, and communities where individuals of all abilities can thrive; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jasper is committed to fostering a welcoming and inclusive community that embraces neurodiversity and ensures that all individuals are respected, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential; and

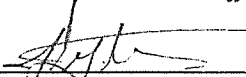
WHEREAS, the City of Jasper values programs and partnerships that promote inclusion through movement, literacy, and community engagement, creating meaningful opportunities for individuals of all abilities to connect and succeed; and

WHEREAS, local organizations, educators, families, and advocates in Jasper and Walker County work together to promote acceptance, reduce stigma, and celebrate the unique strengths and perspectives of individuals on the autism spectrum; and

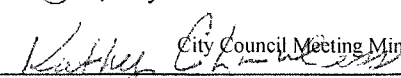
WHEREAS, the City of Jasper encourages community participation in events such as the Autism Acceptance Walk, to be held on April 25, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Gamble Park, providing an opportunity for residents to show support, build connections, and celebrate inclusion.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Josh Gates, Mayor of the City of Jasper, Alabama and on behalf of the Jasper City Council do hereby proclaim April 2026 as Autism Acceptance Month in the City of Jasper and encourage all residents to promote acceptance and inclusion of individuals on the autism spectrum, support practices that create accessible and welcoming spaces throughout our community, participate in local events, including the Autism Acceptance Walk, and celebrate the contributions, talents, and perspectives of autistic individuals.

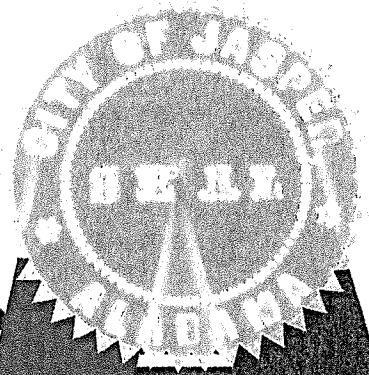
In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed this 21st day of April 2026.



Josh Gates, Mayor



Attest: Kathy Chambless, City Clerk



Councilmember Moore arrived at approximately 10:08 a.m.

Consider approval of event permits for: 1) Community Connections for Change Resource Fair requested by the Recovery Den to be held on May 23, 2026, from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Gamble Park; 2) Run for the Nations 5K requested by Desperation Church to be held on June 13, 2026, from 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM at the Courthouse Square and around downtown Jasper with a requested blockage on 3rd Ave from 18th to 19th St.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Moody to approve event permits for the Community Connections for Change Resource Fair and Run for the Nations 5K.

Vote

Councilmember Lincoln Moody	Yes
Councilmember Sam Watts	Absent
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore III	Yes
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Consider a request for permission to send bids for the following:

- a) Physician Services
- b) On-Call Concrete Services
- c) Animal Shelter Renovations

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Moody, seconded by Councilmember Smith to send bids for physician services, on-call concrete services, and animal shelter renovations.

Vote

Councilmember Lincoln Moody	Yes
Councilmember Sam Watts	Absent
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore III	Yes
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Consider adoption of Budget Amendment #2025/2026-09 to provide funding for the Walker County Children’s Advocacy Center expansion and the purchase of property on 10th Street West adjacent to Memorial Park.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Moore to adopt budget amendment #2025/2026-09.

Vote

Councilmember Lincoln Moody	Yes
Councilmember Sam Watts	Absent
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore III	Yes
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Consider adoption of Budget Amendment #2025/2026-10 by unanimous consent to provide funding for Blackwell Dairy Rd improvements, additional engineering fees for access lanes, and animal shelter renovations.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Moody, seconded by Councilmember Smith that the rules be suspended and unanimous consent be given for immediate consideration of and action on said budget amendment.

Vote

Councilmember Lincoln Moody	Yes
Councilmember Sam Watts	Absent
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore III	Yes
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Moody to adopt budget amendment #2025/2026-10 by unanimous consent to provide funding for Blackwell Dairy Rd improvements, additional engineering fees for access lanes, and animal shelter renovations.

Vote

Councilmember Lincoln Moody	Yes
Councilmember Sam Watts	Absent
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore III	Yes
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Consider a request to waive the permit fee for the final phase of construction for the Alabama Energy Infrastructure Training Center.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Moody, seconded by Councilmember Smith waive the permit fee for the final phase of construction for the Alabama Energy Infrastructure Training Center.

Vote

Councilmember Lincoln Moody	Yes
Councilmember Sam Watts	Absent
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore III	Yes
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Comments: No comments were made.

Consider adjournment of the meeting.

Motion

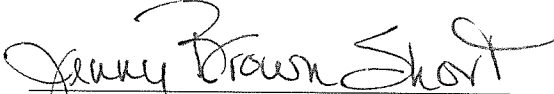
Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Moody to adjourn the meeting.

Vote

Councilmember Lincoln Moody	Yes
Councilmember Sam Watts	Absent
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore III	Yes
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

10:15 a.m. – Meeting adjourned.

A P P R O V E D:



Jenny Brown Short, Presiding Officer

A T T E S T:



Kathy Chambliss, City Clerk/Administrator