

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held at Dublin City Hall on Thursday, August 6, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Joshua Kight called the meeting to order. Council members Bennie Jones, Tess Godfrey, Bill Brown, Chris Smith, and Brandon Chain were present. Council person Sarah Kolbie and Councilman Paul Griggs were absent.

The invocation was given by Councilman Bennie Jones, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of July 16, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Jones. The motion was put to a vote and passed unanimously, (5,0).

APPROVAL OF BILLS OVER \$15,000

The Council reviewed the bills over \$15,000, A motion to pay the bills was made by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilman Smith. The motion was put to a vote and passed unanimously, (5,0)

Date	Amount	Type	Description
07/28/2026	141,300.00	Check	PALADIN DRONES INC.
07/28/2026	67,215.86	Bank Draft	CITY OF DUBLIN-WELLS FARGO CLAIMS ACCOU
07/28/2026	15,604.96	Bank Draft	CITY OF DUBLIN-WELLS FARGO CLAIMS ACCOU
07/24/2026	193,151.73	Check	TOTAL EARTH SERVICES LLC
07/24/2026	61,158.78	Check	THOMAS & HUTTON ENGINEERING CO
07/24/2026	47,517.61	Check	LAURENS COUNTY SWMA
07/24/2026	69,933.89	Check	LAURENS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
07/24/2026	28,323.83	Check	CALIX, INC.
07/24/2026	120,279.04	Check	TRUIST BANK
07/24/2026	27,177.00	Check	RYLAND OIL COMPANY
07/24/2026	376,700.91	Check	AXON ENTERPRISE INC.
07/24/2026	79,379.00	Check	AMERICAN TANK MAINTENANCE LLC
07/22/2026	81,752.54	Bank Draft	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
07/22/2026	51,361.28	Bank Draft	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
07/22/2026	22,297.68	Bank Draft	DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
07/22/2026	19,119.48	Bank Draft	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
07/22/2026	143,585.37	Check	CITY OF DUBLIN-SELF INSURANCE FUND
07/21/2026	17,927.19	Bank Draft	ONE AMERICA
07/21/2026	856,846.99	Bank Draft	MUNICIPAL GAS AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA
07/21/2026	17,102.00	Bank Draft	MUNICIPAL GAS AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA
07/21/2026	58,072.52	Bank Draft	CITY OF DUBLIN-WELLS FARGO CLAIMS ACCOL
07/20/2026	38,796.55	Bank Draft	GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES AUTH.
07/17/2026	17,486.50	Bank Draft	GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
07/17/2026	217,859.18	Check	TOTAL EARTH SERVICES LLC
07/17/2026	16,860.00	Check	SOUTHERN FLOW, INC.
07/17/2026	40,707.00	Check	GMA WORKER'S COMPENSATION SELF
07/17/2026	40,149.99	Check	CSLRA

07/14/2026	16,500.13	Bank Draft	CITY OF DUBLIN-WELLS FARGO CLAIMS ACCO
07/10/2026	19,440.40	Bank Draft	EMPLOYEE BENEFIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES,
07/10/2026	22,912.67	Check	LAURENS COUNTY LIBRARY
07/10/2026	41,987.46	Check	VISIT DUBLIN GA
07/10/2026	18,221.59	Check	UTILITIES, CITY OF DUBLIN
07/10/2026	18,960.00	Check	TEEN CHALLENGE SOUTHEAST REGION - DUBL
07/10/2026	18,274.43	Check	T. LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN
07/10/2026	20,246.00	Check	GEORGIA POWER COMPANY
07/10/2026	102,636.67	Check	GA POWER COMPANY
07/10/2026	41,987.46	Check	DUBLIN-LAURENS CO. RECREATION
07/10/2026	352,935.67	Check	DUBLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION
07/10/2026	20,993.79	Check	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
07/10/2026	16,850.00	Check	A&H SERVICES LLC
07/08/2026	80,479.76	Bank Draft	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
07/08/2026	51,450.24	Bank Draft	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
07/08/2026	24,926.64	Bank Draft	DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
07/08/2026	18,822.00	Bank Draft	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
07/08/2026	126,949.70	Check	DUBLIN-SELF INSURANCE FUND, CITY OF
07/07/2026	128,549.35	Bank Draft	DUBLIN-WELLS FARGO CLAIMS ACCOUNT, CITY
07/06/2026	37,500.00	Check	DUBLIN-LAURENS LAND BANK
07/06/2026	60,000.00	Check	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
07/02/2026	6,500,000.00	Bank Draft	DEPOSIT TO GA FUND 1
07/02/2026	52,862.01	Bank Draft	STRATEGIC BENEFIT RESOURCES LLC
	10,661,152.85		

APPROVAL OF PUCHASES OVER \$15, 000

City Manager Powell explained the following purchase requests:

a. Tire Changing Machines - Shop

To help with efficiency in the maintenance shop, we budgeted to purchase a large truck tire machine and also a regular tire machine. Our current machines are very old and no longer suited to service today's newer wheel and rim designs. We budgeted \$58,000 for these purchases and recommend authorizing the purchase from Napa Auto Parts, which submitted a quote of \$40,969 for both. Napa Auto Parts is a national distributor and has a firm and good reputation with the city. They also can provide any service needs locally. They are not the low quote, but are within five percent of the low quote, the lowest being from Bethlehem, Georgia, over two hours away. This is \$17,031 below budget and will be paid out of '24 SPLOST funds

b. Firefighter Turnout Gear - Fire

We budgeted to purchase 6 sets of fire turnout gear this year, which will be for six recent hires that do not currently have a set of their own gear and also four fire helmets for firefighters who have helmets expiring soon (10-year life). Turnout gear is the basic personal protective equipment firefighters wear when they are fighting fire or extricating victims from vehicle accidents. We have thirty-eight positions that are required to have turnout gear that is less than 10 years old for each of them. Thirty-one of those positions

need to have two sets, so they have a set they can use while their primary is being repaired, cleaned, or decontaminated. We budgeted \$27,342 for these purchases and recommend the Council approve this purchase from Bennett Fire Products in the amount of \$27,134. This is \$208 below the budget. Bennett has provided high-quality gear and customer service for our fire department for the past 10 years.

c. Automated Side Loader Garbage Truck - Sanitation

We budgeted \$315,000 to purchase an automated side loader garbage truck for residential garbage collection. This would be the first automated side loader of our fleet and, after previously using one of these trucks through a demo, and based on our Public Works Director's prior experience with these trucks at his prior job, we anticipate this truck will be safer to operate, provide an opportunity to shift existing labor to other sanitation services, such as yard debris collection and roll-off services, and more efficient once the public is trained on the proper placement of their roll carts. We have an opportunity to purchase one through the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) purchasing Cooperative for \$284,584.60, which is \$30,415.40 below our budget. Staff recommend approval of this purchase. This will be paid for out of '24 SPLOST funds

d. Five Vehicles -Police

We budgeted \$350,000 in the '24 SPLOST to purchase five vehicles for the police department this fiscal year. This is a continuation of the incremental replacement of our fleet to keep from having to purchase more than a few vehicles at a time. The department currently has 68 vehicles. We are requesting to purchase 4 SUVs and 1 pickup truck. This purchase will replace the following units:

Unit 109 - 2015 Dodge Charger

Unit 107 - 2009 Ford F150

Unit 115 - 2013 Chevy Tahoe

Unit 121 - 2015 Dodge Charger

And Unit 142 - 2009 Dodge Dakota - will be replaced with the pickup truck. This vehicle will be used by the Senior Police Patrol Lieutenant. The new SUVs will be used for patrol officers. The SUVs cost \$46,615 each and the truck costs \$50,922.80. Total vehicle cost is \$237,382.80.

These will be purchased through a statewide contract through Hardy Family Ford out of Dallas, Georgia. Upfitting for these vehicles is \$110,616.78 and will be through Interceptor Public Safety Products, Inc. out of Forsyth, Georgia. The total purchase is \$347,999.58 and will be paid out of '24 SPLOST and we also recommend you authorize the use of the remaining ARPA interest funds, which is slightly more than \$22,000. This

would obligate all of the remaining ARPA funds, and Mr. Daniels would be able to submit the final reporting on the fund. As you know, we are required to have all of the ARPA grant funds spent by December 31, 2026. We have already done that but have not yet spent all of the interest. This would accomplish that. The remaining balance after depleting the ARPA funds would come from the budgeted '24 SPLOST. The accounts involved here are 230-3223-542200 (ARPA) and 322-3223-542200 ('24 SPLOST). Staff recommend the approval of this purchase. The department is planning on submitting an additional vehicle (Unit 117, a 2005 Chevy Trailblazer) for surplus, so the net result of this purchase will be 67 vehicles in the department.

A motion to approve was made by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilman Jones. The motion was put to a vote and passed unanimously, (5,0)

SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE #26-10 TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATED TO ALCOHOL DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS

City Manager Powell explained that the state law allows local governments to establish distance requirements for consumption on the premises of licenses to schools, churches, and colleges. Our ordinance currently has exemptions from the normal distance requirement from those facilities for a section of Hillcrest Parkway, Shamrock Drive and the main area of downtown. Staff recommend that we expand the areas where the distance from a school, church, or college would not limit the licensing of a business for consumption on the premises to some of the major corridors in town. Those areas include all the places indicated in green on the map below, but are generally, Hwy 441 N and S, Hwy 19 S., Hwy 257, Veterans/Bellevue Ave/Hwy 80, Industrial Blvd, and Hillcrest Parkway. The areas in red are already exempted by our ordinance. At council's direction, we have amended the language in this ordinance to provide that the exemption applies to restaurants or other businesses - but it does not apply to billiard rooms, nightclubs, lounges, private clubs, or the like. This is the second reading and public hearing on this ordinance that will require a roll call to vote by council if a motion is made to act.

Mayor Kight closed the regular meeting and opened for public hearing. The following were public comment:

Mr. Patel, a Dublin resident and local property owner, spoke in support of granting a liquor license to La Michoacana Mexican Restaurant. He stated that although the restaurant is located within the required distance of a church, the two properties operate independently, with separate parking lots and no shared access or interference. Mr. Patel noted that La Michoacana is an established and well-respected local business that has responsibly served the community for approximately six years. He explained that the liquor license would allow the restaurant to expand into a larger space, better serve its customers, increase revenue, and potentially create additional jobs. He further stated that offering alcoholic beverages would help the restaurant remain competitive and meet customer expectations.

Mr. Patel respectfully requested the Council's support of the liquor license, emphasizing the restaurant's proven record and commitment to the community.

There being no further comments Mayor Kight closed the public hearing.

A motion to approve was made by Councilman Brown and seconded by Council person Godfrey. The motion was put to a vote and passed unanimously, (5,0)

Roll Call vote was given by City Clerk, Dorothy Rozier:

Councilman Bill Brown, Yes

Councilman Bennie Jones, Yes

Council person Tess Godfrery, Yes

Councilman Chris Smith, Yes

Councilman Brandon Chain, Yes

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #26-11 TO REZONE D15D 077 AND D15D 036 FROM R-4 (Multi-Family Residential) TO B-3 (Neighborhood Business) .

City Manager Powell explained this ordinance is to rezone tax parcel D15D-077, which is approximately .09 acres of property and tax parcel D15D-036, which is approximately .17 acres of property which are found on the corner of North Decatur Street and East Mary Street. The proposed use is a neighborhood barber shop. These properties are currently zoned for R-4 Multi-Family Residential. There is a staff report analyzing this request in your materials. Please review that report. The Planning and Commission met on July 16th to review this application and unanimously recommends the council approve of this rezoning. This is the first reading of this ordinance, and the second reading and public hearing will be at the August 20th city council meeting at 12:00pm.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #26-12 TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATED TO CERTAIN WEEDS, GRASSES, AND PLANTS THAT ARE DECLARED A NUISANCE

City Manager Powell explained we've been working on a draft of an ordinance that would streamline our nuisance actions a little better when it comes to enforcing the vegetation ordinance, which requires individuals to maintain their properties by cutting the grass and controlling weeds and other overgrowth. The current process has a two-step approach that is not practical to quickly address these matters. It currently could take 45 days or more to get someone to court or be able to do anything about the overgrown property. This updated ordinance makes clear it applies to all property in the city, it streamlines the notice/hearing process to reduce the number of days before the city can abate the nuisance and makes clear the city's right to seek costs from the property owner along with a civil penalty. Under this new ordinance, the city can abate the

nuisance 10 days after the date of notice, which is the date the notice is personally served or notice deposited in the mail and posted on the property.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Ms. Vonda Morton, a seventh-generation Laurens Countian, requested that the city prohibit data center development in Dublin and Laurens County. She expressed concern that data centers are inconsistent with the area's rural character, natural resources, and quality of life. Ms. Morton referenced the August 2024 Joint Comprehensive Plan, noting its emphasis on preserving agricultural and forestry uses, open landscapes, natural resources, and low-density development. She stated that data centers do not align with these goals and urged the city to ban their development.

Ms. Nicole K. Nolan, a new Dublin resident, spoke on behalf of residents in the Caswell and Robert Street areas. She expressed concern about heavy pedestrians and vehicle traffic and the lack of street lighting, particularly at night. Ms. Nolan requested that the Mayor and Council consider installing streetlights in the area to improve visibility and enhance the safety of residents, families, and pedestrians.

Mr. Peter Lipski, a Dublin resident, raised concerns regarding the increasing use of e-bikes within the city. He expressed concerns about riders operating e-bikes without helmets, rearview mirrors, horns, rear lights, or turn signals. Mr. Lipski suggested that the City consider adopting regulations requiring e-bike registration and safety equipment for those operating on City streets. He emphasized that such measures could help protect both e-bike riders and motorists and encouraged the Mayor and Council to begin discussing regulations as e-bike use continues to increase.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON BOARD APPOINTMENTS

There were none.

STAFF COMMENTS:

City Clerk Dorothy Rozier: No comment

City Attorney Duke Groover: It's good to be here.

City Treasure Blake Daniels: No comment

Council Comments:

Councilman Bill Brown reminded residents that school has started and encouraged everyone to exercise caution, particularly around children and school-related traffic. He wished everyone a safe and wonderful weekend.

Councilman Bennie Jones reminded residents to exercise caution as the school year has begun. He encouraged drivers to be mindful of school buses, noting that motorists must stop when buses display their stop signs, and to watch children walking to

and from bus stops. He wished everyone a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Council person Tess Godfrey welcomed Ms. Nolan to Dublin and offered her assistance if needed. She noted that, as an at-large council member, she can serve residents across all wards and encouraged Ms. Nolan to reach out if she could be of assistance.

Councilman Brandon Chain thanked residents for remaining involved and providing feedback and observations from the community. He noted that residents often see things that City officials may not encounter day to day and encouraged them to continue bringing concerns and information to the Council so they can be addressed.

Council Chris Smith thanked everyone for coming out and having a safe weekend.

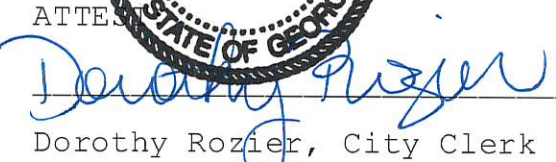
City Manager Powell advised that Councilman Jones had already been working on the North Franklin Street lighting concern and that a Georgia Power contract was in progress to install an additional streetlight. He also thanked City staff and public safety personnel for their response to the recent storm and encouraged residents to share photos or videos of stormwater issues to help inform future improvements.

Adjournment

There being no further business; the mayor adjourned the Council meeting at 6:02 p.m.



ATTEST


Dorothy Rozier, City Clerk



Joshua E. Kight, Mayor