

Hahira City Council
August 6, 2026
Council Meeting
6:00 PM – Hahira Courthouse

Mayor Terry Davis called the Council Meeting of the Hahira City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Terry Davis, Mayor Pro Tem Klay Luke, Council Members Cindy Becton, Louise White, David Lindsey, City Manager Jonathan Sumner, and City Attorney Amy Holbrook. A quorum was present. Also present were Chief Stryde Jones, Chief David Thompson, and Public Works Director Willie Jones.

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. The Invocation was given by John Paul Zeigler.
5. Review/Correction of Minutes
 - A. June 30, 2026, Work Session
 - B. July 2, 2026, Council Meeting

Mayor Davis asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the minutes, there were none. Mayor Pro Tem Luke made a Motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman White. All were in favor.

6. Citizens to Be Heard: Mayor Davis asked Chief Jones if anyone was on the list for Citizens to be Heard. Chief Jones called the following individuals who were each given 3 minutes to speak; each spoke in support of the Main Street Program and Jennifer Price:

- Sharon Respass of 6002 Val Del Road and owner of Sew Blessed
- Jamie Parr of 7361 Union Road
- Elise Pierce of 5239 Hall Road and owner of The Looking Glass and The Buzz Restaurant
- Leesa Williams of 2832 Sapelo Drive and owner of Lilirayne
- Drew Duren who is owner of Little River Flooring
- Amanda Cornelius who is owner of Sweetwater Medical Spa
- Sandi Prine of 142 Cameron Cir, Morven
- Jessica Corbett of 4235 Val Del Road and owner of Hahira General Store

Mayor Davis made a brief statement and said the Main Street Program was not going away. He stated that this is what happens when someone takes the information prematurely and puts it out to the public. The council around this table decides the next budget. The budget was addressed Tuesday evening at the work session. The program is fully funded through year 2026 and budget hearings are underway for the 2027 budget. Nothing has been decided to date. He stated the State will work with us to keep the program at the same level. He stated he would fight as hard as he can to keep the Main Street Program at the same level, but money may have to be moved around. He stated Main Street would remain, but we might have a different director or different personnel. He apologized that anyone got information that the Main Street Program was going away, but that was not true and he understands that Council has no desire for the program to go away either.

7. Review of Bills/Budget Overages. Mayor Davis asked if there were any questions or comments, there were none. Councilwoman White made a Motion to approve the Bills/Budget Overages, seconded by Councilman Lindsey. All were in favor.

8. Consent Agenda

A. Request by Hometown Festivals for Gumbo Cookoff

Mayor Pro Tem Luke made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Lindsey. All were in favor.

9. Reports

A. Councilman Lindsey was appreciative of the Council for a productive work session Tuesday night. He expressed there was a lot of misinformation stated tonight and the only thing correct Ms. Elise said is that I am a Christian and not ashamed of being a Christian. He believes it is the greatest story in the world, and the greatest story is John 3:16 which was recited. He thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to speak on that behalf and wished everyone a great night. Mayor Pro Tem Luke thanked Mayor, Council and City Manager, and thanked everyone for coming tonight and sharing your heart and ideas with us. He stated we will be moving Hahira forward; we have no intention of doing away with the Main Street Program. Hahira is a growing city and wants to keep moving in that direction. He stated he is proud of all our directors and workers. He stated there is a lot of misinformation that is not correct. We will be working and moving forward and this council will be making things better here in Hahira. He stated he appreciates Councilman Lindsey's statements being a Christian and supports him, he's proud to be a Christian and proud to be in the United States of America. Councilwoman White stated she was glad to see everyone at the meeting. When everyone comes together it is great, that makes us a team. She stated we all love Hahira and we must band together and continue to love Hahira and pray for one another. Councilwoman Becton stated she has a business in Hahira of almost 20 years and that is a miracle in and of itself. She stated she very much valued Mrs. Price and everything she did. She loves Jennifer with all her heart and thinks she should still be here and wants everyone to know that. She stated we will continue as much as we can, and she will make sure of it. She appreciates everyone for coming.

B. City Manager Sumner thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to serve. Because there is such a good crowd it is great to talk about the budget. He stated an electronic copy is available for free to anyone and see us at City Hall. City Manager Sumner provided his e-mail address jsumner@hahiraga.gov and stated he was happy to transmit it. He stated he looks forward to those budget discussions. He invited everyone here to come back on September 1st for budget workshop II. He thanked the department heads for all that they do.

C. Mayor Davis invited everyone, not just in controversy, to come out and get involved. He stated often there are no citizens present and the meeting consists of just us and the department heads. He stated this is your city and you need to be here; come to the budget hearings and get involved and ask questions. One member stated she would like to come up and make suggestions after reviewing the budget, she was invited and welcome to do so. He touched on the costs we are presently incurring this year mainly due to the increase in fuel costs. He gave numbers of increases on different line items. He stated during his tenure with the police department, he was very familiar with that budget; but when he became mayor and started signing the checks, he was shocked. He stated it takes \$6 million a year just to keep the city running. He discussed the galvanized pipe mandates by the state that is going to be very costly. Mayor Davis cited the rainy-day fund recommendation of 90-

120 days by the auditors. He stated we are currently at 33 days rainy-day fund. He stated we do not want to be like the City of Quitman who started \$1.25 million in the red. Mayor Davis invited everyone to come to City Hall and we would go over everything with you. He further stated that Main Street was going to stay and work hard to keep it at the level it currently maintains.

12. Executive Session was not utilized.

Councilman Lindsey made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Luke.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 pm.



Mayor Terry Davis

City Clerk Victoria Ingram