

CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
May 4, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

The City Council Meeting of the City of Muscle Shoals, Alabama was called to order on Monday, May 4, 2026, at 5:30 PM by Council President Donnie Linley.

2. ROLL CALL

The following Council members were present:

Council President Donnie Linley

Council Member Chris Hall (Place One)

Council Member Gina Clark (Place Two)

Council Member Willis Thompson (Place Three)

Council Member Ken Sockwell (Place Four)

Mayor Hudson was also present.

Also present: City Clerk/Treasurer Brittney Walker; City Attorney Philip Hutcheson (Boardman, Carr, Petelos, Watkins, Ogle & Howard, P.C.).

3. INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was opened with an invocation by Chad Holden, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to amend the agenda to add Item H (Mayoral Veto Resolution).

Motion: Council Member Chris Hall | Second: Council Member Ken Sockwell | Vote:

Approved unanimously.

Motion: Council Member Willis Thompson | Second: Council Member Ken Sockwell | Vote:  
Approved unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 20, 2026 City Council Minutes

Motion: Council Member Gina Clark | Second: Council Member Willis Thompson | Vote:

Approved unanimously.

6. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor stated he is not opposed to a sports complex but expressed concerns regarding spending, lack of appraisal, and lack of inclusion in discussions. He noted the City is progressing and discussions with potential retail development are ongoing.

7. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

A. Parks and Recreation Director Dawn Woodall requested approval of a Program Coordinator position for after-school and summer programs, provided an update on pool

repairs, and addressed prior public comments.

8. COMMENTS OF THE PUBLIC

9. RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS & OTHER BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 3445-26 – Outside Investigator

Motion: Council Member Willis Thompson | Second: Council Member Ken Sockwell | Vote: Approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 3445-26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENGAGEMENT OF AN OUTSIDE INVESTIGATOR TO REVIEW A FORMAL GRIEVANCE

WHEREAS, a formal grievance has been filed by a department head of the City of Muscle Shoals against the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interest of the City to ensure that the grievance is reviewed in a fair, impartial, and independent manner; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to engage a qualified outside investigator to conduct an independent review of the grievance and provide findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds that the Council President is best positioned to identify, evaluate, and select a qualified independent investigator to perform such services on behalf of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City Council hereby authorizes the engagement of a qualified outside investigator to conduct an independent investigation regarding the grievance filed by a department head against the Mayor.
2. The Council President is authorized and directed to identify, evaluate, select, and contract with an appropriate independent investigator to perform such services on behalf of the City.
3. The City Council hereby authorizes payment of reasonable and necessary fees and expenses associated with the services of the selected investigator, subject to standard City payment procedures.

4. The investigation shall be conducted in accordance with applicable laws, City policies, and principles of fairness and due process.

5. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 4th day of May, 2026.

B. Resolution No. 3446-26 – Greensmaster TriFlex

Motion: Council Member Ken Sockwell | Second: Council Member Chris Hall | Vote:

Approved unanimously.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3446-26**

#### **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT FOR CYPRESS LAKES GOLF AND TENNIS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM GENERAL FUND RESERVES**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Muscle Shoals recognizes the importance of maintaining the quality, safety, and playability of Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis has identified the need to purchase specialized turf maintenance equipment to improve operations, efficiency, and facility conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the equipment will be purchased from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation through OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract No. 5069658, ensuring a competitive and compliant procurement process; and

**WHEREAS**, sufficient funds are available in the General Fund Reserves for these purchases.

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Equipment Purchase Approved.  
The City Council hereby approves the purchasing of equipment from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation for Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis:
  - One (1) Toro Greensmaster TriFlex 3400, 24.8 HP Kubota Diesel – \$65,872.56
  - Additional fees: Dealer Prep and Destination Fee.
2. Funding Source.  
The total amount shall be paid from the General Fund Reserves.
3. Cooperative Purchasing Authorization.  
The equipment shall be purchased through OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract No. 5069658.
4. Authorization to Execute Documents.  
The Procurement Officer is hereby authorized to execute all documents and take any

actions necessary to complete the purchase in accordance with applicable laws and City policies.

5. Effective Date.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 4th day of May 2026.

C. Resolution No. 3447-26 – Debris Blower

Motion: Council Member Gina Clark | Second: Council Member Willis Thompson | Vote:

Approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3447-26**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT FOR CYPRESS LAKES GOLF AND TENNIS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM GENERAL FUND RESERVES**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Muscle Shoals recognizes the importance of maintaining the quality, safety, and playability of Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis has identified the need to purchase specialized turf maintenance equipment to improve operations, efficiency, and facility conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the equipment will be purchased from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation through OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract No. 5069658, ensuring a competitive and compliant procurement process; and

**WHEREAS**, sufficient funds are available in the General Fund Reserves for these purchases.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Equipment Purchase Approved.

The City Council hereby approves the purchasing of equipment from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation for Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis:

- One (1) Toro Pro Force Debris Blower, 26.5 HP Rehlko Command Pro – \$11,574.42
- Additional fees: Dealer Prep and Destination Fee.

2. Funding Source.

The total amount shall be paid from the General Fund Reserves.

3. Cooperative Purchasing Authorization.

The equipment shall be purchased through OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract No. 5069658.

4. Authorization to Execute Documents.

The Procurement Officer is hereby authorized to execute all documents and take any actions necessary to complete the purchase in accordance with applicable laws and City policies.

5. Effective Date.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 4th day of May 2026.

D. Resolution No. 3448-26 – Salsco Roller

Motion: Council Member Willis Thompson | Second: Council Member Ken Sockwell | Vote:  
Approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3448-26**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF GOLF COURSE  
MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT FOR CYPRESS LAKES GOLF AND TENNIS AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM GENERAL FUND RESERVES**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Muscle Shoals recognizes the importance of maintaining the quality, safety, and playability of Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis has identified the need to purchase specialized turf maintenance equipment to improve operations, efficiency, and facility conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the equipment will be purchased from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation through OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract No. 5069658, ensuring a competitive and compliant procurement process; and

**WHEREAS**, sufficient funds are available in the General Fund Reserves for these purchases.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Equipment Purchase Approved.

The City Council hereby approves the purchasing of equipment from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation for Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis:

- One (1) Salsco HP 11-III Gas Roller with 13 HP Electric Start Honda Engine and Transport Trailer – \$27,865.00
- Additional fees: Dealer Prep and Destination Fee.

2. Funding Source.

The total amount shall be paid from the General Fund Reserves.

3. Cooperative Purchasing Authorization.

The equipment shall be purchased through OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract No. 5069658.

4. Authorization to Execute Documents.

The Procurement Officer is hereby authorized to execute all documents and take any actions necessary to complete the purchase in accordance with applicable laws and City policies.

5. Effective Date.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 4th day of May 2026.

E. Resolution No. 3449-26 – Groundskeeper

Motion: Council Member Willis Thompson | Second: Council Member Ken Sockwell | Vote: Approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3449-26**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT FOR CYPRESS LAKES GOLF AND TENNIS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM GENERAL FUND RESERVES**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Muscle Shoals recognizes the importance of maintaining the quality, safety, and playability of Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis has identified the need to purchase specialized turf maintenance equipment to improve operations, efficiency, and facility conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the equipment will be purchased from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation through OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract No. 5069658, ensuring a competitive and compliant procurement process; and

**WHEREAS**, sufficient funds are available in the General Fund Reserves for these purchases.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Equipment Purchase Approved.  
The City Council hereby approves the purchasing of equipment from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation for Cypress Lakes Golf and Tennis:
  - One (1) Toro Groundskeeper 4300, 43.4 HP Yanmar Diesel – \$81,688.98
  - Additional fees: Dealer Prep and Destination Fee.
2. Funding Source.  
The total amount shall be paid from the General Fund Reserves.
3. Cooperative Purchasing Authorization.  
The equipment shall be purchased through OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract No. 5069658.
4. Authorization to Execute Documents.  
The Procurement Officer is hereby authorized to execute all documents and take any actions necessary to complete the purchase in accordance with applicable laws and City policies.
5. Effective Date.  
This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 4th day of May 2026.

F. Resolution No. 3450-26 – Joint Use Agreement

Motion: Council Member Gina Clark | Second: Council Member Chris Hall | Vote: Approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3450-26**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR THE CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE A JOINT USE AGREEMENT WITH THE MUSCLE SHOALS BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE AIRPORT SPORTS COMPLEX

WHEREAS, the City of Muscle Shoals desires to facilitate the renovation of the Airport Sports Complex (the Facilities) owned by the City to better serve students and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Muscle Shoals Board of Education has agreed to renovate the Facilities at the Board's cost and share the use of such Facilities with the City; and

WHEREAS, the City has reviewed the proposed Joint Use Agreement, which outlines the joint use of the Facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that entering into this Agreement is in the best interest of the City of Muscle Shoals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Joint Use Agreement between the City of Muscle Shoals and the Muscle Shoals Board of Education, attached hereto, is hereby approved.
2. The Mayor or the City Council President is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City and to take such additional actions as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.
3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 4th day of May, 2026.

G. Resolution No. 3451-26 – Intent to Enter Real Estate Agreement

Motion: Council Member Willis Thompson | Second: Council Member Ken Sockwell | Vote: Approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3451-26**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING INTENT TO ENTER A REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION THEREOF

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Muscle Shoals, Alabama, has reviewed a proposed Intent to Enter a Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Muscle Shoals and Alabama Global Holdings, LLC, concerning certain real property located within the City; and

WHEREAS, the proposed agreement provides for the intent to sell and convey approximately 6.47 acres of property under the terms and conditions set forth therein; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interest of the City to approve the intent to enter into said agreement and proceed with the transaction in accordance with its terms;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. Approval of Intent.

The Intent to Enter a Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Muscle Shoals and Alabama Global Holdings, LLC is hereby approved in substantially the form presented to the City Council.

2. Authorization to Execute.

The Council President is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Intent to Enter a Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement on behalf of the City of Muscle Shoals and to take such additional actions as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

3. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 4th day of May, 2026.

H. Mayoral Veto Resolution (Resolution No. 3442-26)

Motion: Council Member Chris Hall | Second: Council Member Willis Thompson

**RESOLUTION NO. 3452-26**

WHEREAS, the City Council of Muscle Shoals unanimously passed Resolution 3442-26 authorizing the purchase of 57 acres of land; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Attorney General and the Alabama League of Municipalities both have determined that the purchase of land is not a resolution or ordinance of general or impermanent nature and, thus, cannot be vetoed; but

WHEREAS, Mayor Hudson has attempted to veto Resolution 3442-26, but the purported veto is of no force and effect, under Alabama law,

NOW, THEREFORE, COMES NOW the City Council of the City of Muscle Shoals and passes this Resolution reaffirming Resolution 3442-26 by at least a two-thirds majority, therefore, overriding any attempted veto.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution 3442-26 is in full force and effect.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this the 4th day of May, 2026.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member Chris Hall – No

Council Member Gina Clark – Yes

Council Member Willis Thompson – Yes

Council Member Ken Sockwell – Yes

Council President Donnie Linley – Yes

Result: Motion passed; the City Council overrode the Mayor's veto attempt and reaffirmed Resolution 3442-26.

#### 10. ADJOURNMENT

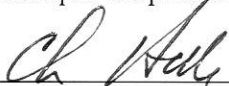
There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Chris Hall.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 18, 2026

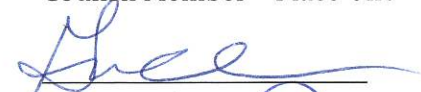
Attest

CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA

A Municipal Corporation

  
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Council Member - Place One

  
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Council Member - Place Two

  
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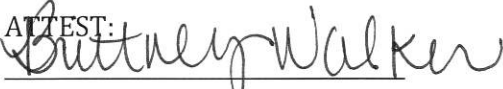
Council Member - Place Three

  
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Council Member - Place Four

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Council Member - Place Five

ATTEST:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

Brittney Walker, City Clerk/Treasurer

CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA  
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
May 4, 2026

**A. Sports Complex Discussion / Public Comments**

The following individuals addressed the Council regarding the proposed sports complex project and related matters:


- **William Underwood** at 2410 Village Way Muscle Shoals, AL- Spoke in opposition to the proposed sports complex project, expressing concerns regarding property value, appraisal issues, title work, infrastructure concerns, project costs, and requesting that the matter be submitted to a public vote.
- **Jennifer Canerday** at 2500 Avalon Ave Muscle Shoals, AL - Addressed concerns regarding transparency, financial impact, lack of independent appraisal, funding sources, and potential impacts on city services and employee benefits. Requested additional public involvement and consideration of a public vote.
- **Brian Smith** at 2105 Robbie Ave Muscle Shoals, AL -Spoke in support of the proposed sports complex project, discussing sports tourism, economic impact, community growth opportunities, and the potential benefits to local businesses and revenue generation.

Attest

CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS, ALABAMA  
A Municipal Corporation




Council Member - Place One



Council Member - Place Two



Council Member - Place Three



Council Member - Place Four



Council Member - Place Five

ATTEST:

*Brittney Walker*  
Brittney Walker, City Clerk/Treasurer