

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen met on March 17, 2026, at 5:00 P.M., this being the regular meeting time. Mayor Graves called the meeting to order, and the following Aldermen were present: Underwood, Dear, McConnell, Garrett, and Tanksley. Also present were: City Attorney Kenneth Stockton, City Clerk Katie Harbin, Deputy City Clerk Francis Johnson, Police Chief Vanderford, Fire Chief Foresman, FLSE/PIO Chantay Rhone, Dan Etherton – SHPC, Director of Operations Stephen Hodges, Brevin Holden, Administrative Director Erika Holden, Community Development and Tourism Director Jamie Sowell, Dan Etherton – SHPC, Carl Davis, Ricky Stevens, Tate County, Brett Brown – Tate Record, Ashley Casey, Clint Casey, Andi Hannaford, and Michael Cathey.

Alderman Underwood gave the invocation.

Approve Agenda

**City of Senatobia
Mayor and Board of Aldermen Agenda**

March 17, 2026
City Hall 5pm

1. Call to Order, Prayer, Roll Call
2. Welcome
3. Approve Agenda
4. Request from the Tate County Fair for funding, Bo Humphrey
5. Request from Senatobia Main Street to temporarily close streets for the Five Star City Festival
6. Request from Senatobia Main Street for funding of the Five Star City Festival
7. Discussion of revised quote to repair the Weather Sirens software
8. Discussion of Street Sweeper / Paving Machine
9. Council of Government meeting update, Alderman Garrett

Consent Agenda

10. Approve Minutes from the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on March 3, 2026
11. Approve Docket of Claims numbers: 42197 - 42371 for a total of \$319,346.81
12. Authorize Police Sergeant Foster to attend the Spring STORM Conference in Biloxi, MS from May 3 – 7, 2026, also authorize travel expenses
13. Authorize a representative of the City to attend the NPDD Conference in Biloxi, MS on April 21-24, 2026, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses (Alderman Dear)
14. Authorize to terminate employment with a Downtown Beautification Employee for violating city policy
15. Authorize to terminate employment with a Public Works employee for violating city policy
16. Authorize to hire Caleb Dresner as a full-time Public Works Street Department employee at the rate of \$15 per hour, pending background and drug screening results

17. Authorize to hire Cade Pegram as a full-time Public Works Water Department employe at the rate of \$15 per hour, pending background and drug screening results
18. Authorize to hire Scottie Pittman as a full-time Certified Police Officer at the rate of P4, pending background and physical screening results
19. Authorize the City to apply for the Entergy's 2026 Excellerator Grant
20. Authorize to approve agreement for the demolition of City property at Center Street, 102 S Center St., at a price not to exceed \$40,000 (Downtown Revit. Project funds)
21. Executive Session – Personnel

Mayor's Corner

Cheebo
Budget Workshop
Police Update

Motion was made by Alderman Underwood, seconded by Alderman Dear, to approve the agenda. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Request from the Tate County Fair for funding, Bo Humphrey

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to approve the funding request from the Tate County Fair in the amount of \$2,500.00, finding that this is a means for advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities, and resources of the City of Senatobia. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Request from Senatobia Main Street to temporarily close streets for the Five Star City Festival

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to approve the request from Senatobia Main Street to temporarily close streets for the Five Star City Festival. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Request from Senatobia Main Street for funding of the Five Star City Festival

Motion was made by Alderman McConnell, seconded by Alderman Dear, to approve the funding request from Senatobia Main Street for the Five Star City Festival in the amount of \$5,000.00, finding that this is a means for advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities, and resources of the City of Senatobia. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Discussion of revised quote to repair the Weather Sirens software

Fire Chief Foresman advised the Mayor and Board that Integrated Communications advised him they mistakenly left off items on their previous quote and therefore resubmitting this revised quote.

Motion was made by Alderman Garrett, seconded by Alderman Tanksley, to approve the quote from Integrated Communications in the amount of \$17,240.38 for repairing the weather sirens, in order for Dispatch to take over the signal control for them, replacing the previously approved quote. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Discussion of Street Sweeper / Paving Machine

Director of Operations Stephen Hodges went over information and quotes received for a street repair machine, a street sweeper and a leaf vacuum. The City previously looked at, approved, doing a paving program spending about \$200,000 a year. Mr. Hodges stated that he looked at that option versus purchasing our own equipment to see which would be more beneficial to the City. If we had our own pothole patcher machine, we would be able to repair the holes the correct way and then a paving company could come in to do the overlay when needed. We could have a crew doing this daily. Mr. Hodges went over the prices and recommendations of equipment we would need. Mr. Hodges stated we could start with the patching machine and then maybe next year look at getting the leaf vac truck.

Alderman McConnell stated it takes about 45 days to get the patcher.

Stephen Hodges stated that is correct. We would have to make sure off of the correct equipment for us is on it.

Alderman McConnell stated the training for employees is also included in the purchase. Alderman Underwood stated I know of some very rough spots, will this equipment be able to handle those.

Stephen Hodges answered yes, this particular machine is a 4 ton.

Mayor Graves stated we'd just purchase our own asphalt to use, correct.

Stephen Hodges answered yes sir. We can do it all year long, as long as we have access to asphalt.

Alderman Dear stated I think it's a good plan.

Mayor Graves advised the Board to look over all of the information and get any questions together for us to discuss further at the April 7th meeting.

Stephen Hodges stated we can ask for a demo also.

Council of Government meeting update, Alderman Garrett

Alderman Garrett gave an update to the Mayor and Board from his Council of Government meeting in Jackson last week. Alderman Garrett stated that he met with the representatives, thanked them for all of the funding we have received. Alderman Garrett stated he also met with MDOT. They advised us to get a list of MDOT road issues to them, and they will get those added to their schedule for repairs. Alderman Garrett advised of how important it is for the Council of Government meetings and Washington trip. Alderman Garrett stated the outcome of these are very beneficial to the City and County. Tate County has received a lot of funding for the Hospital and Chrome Craft property projects. We are also asking for funding for a full-time Fire Department in the County, which will also help the City.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Graves went over consent agenda items 10 - 20, asked if anyone had any questions.

No questions were asked.

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to approve the consent agenda, as presented. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Approve Minutes from the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on March 3, 2026

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to approve the Minutes from the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on March 3, 2026. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Approve Docket of Claims numbers: 42197 - 42371 for a total of \$319,346.81

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to approve the Docket of Claims numbers: 42197 - 42369 for a total of \$318,801.23, as funds are available. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize Police Sergeant Foster to attend the Spring STORM Conference in Biloxi, MS from May 3 – 7, 2026, also authorize travel expenses

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to authorize Police Sergeant Foster to attend the Spring STORM Conference in Biloxi, MS from May 3 – 7, 2026, also authorize travel expenses. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize a representative of the City to attend the NPDD Conference in Biloxi, MS on April 21-24, 2026, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses (Alderman Dear)

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to authorize Alderman Dear to attend the NPDD Conference in Biloxi, MS on April 21-24, 2026, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to terminate employment with Downtown Beautification Employee Brian Baughman for violating city policy

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to authorize to terminate employment with Downtown Beautification Employee Brian Baughman effective immediately for violating city policy. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to terminate employment with a Public Works employee for violating city policy

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to authorize to terminate employment with Public Works employee James Bowling effective immediately for violating city policy. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to hire Caleb Dresner as a full-time Public Works Street Department employee at the rate of \$15 per hour, pending background and drug screening results

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to authorize to hire Caleb Dresner as a full-time Public Works Street Department employee at the rate of \$15 per hour, pending background and drug screening results. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to hire Cade Pegram as a full-time Public Works Water Department employe at the rate of \$15 per hour, pending background and drug screening results

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to authorize to hire Cade Pegram as a full-time Public Works Water Department employe at the rate of \$15 per hour, pending background and drug screening results. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to hire Scottie Pittman as a full-time Certified Police Officer at the rate of P4, pending background and physical screening results

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to authorize to hire Scottie Pittman as a full-time Certified Police Officer at the rate of P4, pending background and physical screening results. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize the City to apply for the Entergy's 2026 Excellerator Grant

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to authorize the City to apply for the Entergy's 2026 Excellerator Grant. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to approve agreement for the demolition of City property at Center Street, 102 S Center St., at a price not to exceed \$40,000 (Downtown Revit. Project funds)

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to authorize to approve agreement for the demolition of City property at Center Street, 102 S Center St., at a price not to exceed \$40,000 (Downtown Revit. Project funds). All voting yea, motion carried.

Mayors Corner

Cheebo – Mayor Graves advised that Cheebo is staying booked and they have great food. Mayor Graves advised the Aldermen they needed to go visit and try it out. Mayor Graves also acknowledged our Public Works department's great work; they bent over backwards to get the restaurant up and going.

Budget Workshop – Mayor Graves stated that Alderman McConnell had requested we review the budget to see the possibility of giving raises. That task proved to be a little more involved and recommended that we should look at doing a budget workshop. Mayor asked the Board to let him know if and when they would like to hold a budget workshop. No Aldermen suggested a day or time.

Police – Mayor Graves advised that there was a shooting this past Sunday night. Mayor Graves asked Police Chief Vanderford to speak on that.

Police Chief Vanderford advised the Mayor and Board that there was a shooting Sunday night. Chief advised it was an active investigation, but he could report that no one was hurt.

Go into Closed Session to discuss going into Executive Session for Personnel

Motion was made by Alderman Tanksley, seconded by Alderman Underwood, to go into Closed Session to discuss going into Executive Session for Personnel. All voting yea, motion carried.

Go into Executive Session for Police Personnel

Motion was made by Alderman Tanksley, seconded by Alderman McConnell, to go into Executive Session for Police Personnel. All voting yea, motion carried.

Come out of Executive Session

Motion was made by Alderman Tanksley, seconded by Alderman Underwood, to come out of Executive Session. All voting yea, motion carried.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Alderman Underwood, and seconded by Alderman Tanksley, to adjourn. All voting yea, motion carried.

Greg Graves, Mayor

ATTEST:

Katie Harbin, City Clerk