



Ms. Riggins informed Council that she, Management Consultant Mike Walker and City Engineer Will Owen met with Consolidated Utility District (CUD) regarding this situation. She stated that their direction to her was to remedy the situation, rather than monitor it.

Ms. Riggins conveyed that Mr. Owen felt that the situation was not adequately explained to CUD and that the City should stay the course and continue to monitor the situation.

Ms. Riggins noted that Mr. Wood has refused to mitigate the problem until he has a meeting with the Mayor, Vice Mayor and the City Engineer. Mayor Leeman stated that he had met with Mr. Wood and CUD and that it was clear to him that Mr. Wood will not comply.

Vice Mayor William Tollett stated that Sorelle's Restaurant (Mr. Wood's tenant) needs a larger tank and should not have to pump the tank monthly. He noted that it was not necessary to pump the tank when he owned his restaurant in town. Council Member Craig Campbell stated that his restaurant conducted this measure every six months.

Ms. Riggins noted that the commercial dishwasher intensified the problem, as the temperature is so high that it emulsifies the oil; allowing it to pass through the filter. She stated that CUD informed her that because of this, the oils could spread to City pipes; creating a larger problem as the oil cools.

Mayor Leeman impressed upon Council that if the City takes action against Mr. Wood's inaction, it will shut down the popular restaurant. He noted that this action would cause City Hall and Council to be inundated with complaints against the City.

Ms. Riggins stated that Sorelle's management has been kept apprised of the developments as they have unfolded and have a good understanding of the situation.

Ms. Riggins noted that Mr. Owen has advised Mr. Wood that he has 60 days to re-plumb his property and use the appointed chemicals to see if it will remedy the problem, otherwise he will need to install a third tank.

Ms. Riggins stated that she told Mr. Wood that he should hire a professional to create a plan to address the problem.

**c. Consolidated Utility District Fees**

City Manager Hellyn Riggins stated that when she, Management Consultant Mike Walker and City Engineer Will Owen met with CUD, they were informed that CUD's rates were increasing. She noted that it was suggested by CUD for the City to raise its rates accordingly.

Ms. Riggins informed Council that the rate increase will go into effect in January 2026. Mr. Walker stated that if the City did not raise its rates to meet the increase, it would cost the City.

Ms. Riggins stated that she will have an ordinance prepared for Council to consider at the next regular meeting to address this issue.

**d. Speed Limits Throughout City**

City Manager Hellyn Riggins recalled the speed limit study conducted by the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) for Highway 99 from the point city limits begin to where Highway 99 intersects with Main Street. She reminded Council that TDOT agreed to lower the speed limit from 55 miles per hour (mph) to 50mph. She stated that since then, several serious wrecks have occurred.

Ms. Riggins noted that, after Management Consultant Mike Walker conducted a considerable amount of research, it was concluded that the City would need to conduct another study. She stated that such a study would cost between \$2,500 and \$5,000. She further noted that there have been complaints regarding the area where Main Street intersects with Chapel Hill Pike. Ms. Riggins questioned whether this area should be included in the study and requested direction from Council.

Council Member Brandon Emamalie stated that he witnesses the traffic issues daily. He noted that the speed limit at the edge of town is 50mph where Main Street intersects with Chapel Hill Pike. He explained that there is excessive speeding and drivers passing other cars in a hazardous manner. He informed Council that the problem is much worse in the mornings.

Mayor Leeman stated that the speed limit by Eagleville School is 50-55 mph and that it is too fast. He declared his support to conduct the study for both areas. He noted that he rode with TDOT representative in this area twice before they reduced the speed limit to 50 mph and that their recommendations were contradictory.

Police Chief David Breniser stated that in the area of Old Highway 99, he believes, the speed limit should be 40 mph. He noted that the intersection of 41A and the Chapel Hill Pike, the speed limit should be reduced prior to reaching the intersection and that he advocates for a traffic signal to bolster traffic safety.

Ms. Riggins stated that a greater police presence was requested for these areas and reminded Council that two officers are now attending the Police Academy and that this leaves Chief Breniser and Officer Silva-Bieber to manage traffic for the remainder of the summer season.

Mr. Walker noted that TDOT allows certain cities to establish speed limits; usually cities that have engineers on staff to determine speeds appropriate to the area. He stated that a study is advisable to support lowering the speed limit.

Fire Chief Jonathan Armstrong stated that he has seen a number of violent accidents within city limits. He noted that the majority of accidents are due to distracted driving and accelerated speeds.

Chief Breniser stated that drivers pulled over for speeding are averaging 10-15 mph over the speed limit and that this is documented in the citations served.

Chief Breniser further noted that the main cause of accidents at the T intersection of Highway 99 and Main Street are due to drivers being unable to ascertain how the flow of the intersection works. He stated the same issue occurs at the Chapel Hill Pike intersection.

Mr. Walker noted that the speed limits are not balanced along Main Street in the measure of how long sections are 30mph and 40mph.

Ms. Riggins stated that she will prepare an ordinance to address speed limits throughout the City.

**e. Request for Rezoning Creating Potential for Lot Split – 598 Allisona Road**

City Manager Hellyn Riggins informed Council that the Planning Commission opted to continue this item to their next meeting in August. She stated that, while the commission had a quorum, they wanted to have more members present to weigh in on this item.

Discussion noted that the Planning Commission suggested that the applicant could position the proposed house further north or east to meet the two-acre requirement; however, the applicant refused.

**f. Fire Truck Fleet**

City Manager Hellyn Riggins state that the City has some steeply graded properties. She explained that consideration is being given to the proposal to sell a fire truck in order to purchase a fire truck that is equipped to address this issue. She confirmed her support for this plan, but it is not yet clear if the budget can support this unbudgeted expenditure.

Management Consultant Mike Walker stated that the secondary truck that is proposed for the sale was acquired for \$40,000. He noted that Fire Chief Jonathan Armstrong believes he can sell it for \$120,000. He confirmed his support for the proposition, but needed to assess the City's fiscal position once Fiscal Year 2024-2025 has closed.

Chief Armstrong stated that the truck he proposes to sell was listed for \$199,000 initially and that the owners needed to sell it. He stated he made a very low offer and they settled at \$40,000. He noted that he confirmed with Brindlee Mountain that the truck is currently worth \$120,000.

Chief Armstrong stated that the new truck would also be a Class A Pumper but would be 23-24 feet long and better able to maneuver the inclines. He noted that he would likely use it on most of the calls.

Discussion revealed that the possibility of trading the truck with Brindlee Mountain is being explored.

Mr. Walker stated that there are only 3 to 4 companies that build fire trucks, which is driving up the price value of used trucks. He noted that it is also difficult to compete with larger cities that purchase multiple trucks at a time, leaving fewer options for smaller cities.

**g. 250 Years America Celebration**

City Manager Hellyn Riggins stated that Tennessee Governor Lee plans to visit every county in the state for the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the United States. She asked Council if they wished Staff to prepare festivities to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday in July 2026.

Discussion noted that:

- July 4, 2026 is a Saturday and the City will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2026 in observance of the holiday.
- This topic will be carried over to the next Council meeting to give Council time to think about it.
- The City Manager will investigate if there is a name/theme to the Governor's celebration.

**h. State Championship Signs**

Vice Mayor William Tollett asked if the signs were being changed or if the City was moving to a different design.

Mayor Chad Leeman stated that he spoke with the vendor and that he will re-install the sign, soon.

Vice Mayor Tollett stated he wants to see the damaged signs replaced.

Mayor Leeman noted that there had been difficulty matching the color, which added to the delay.

**i. State Championship Teams**

Vice Mayor William Tollett questioned whether the City planned to celebrate the team's victory.

Mayor Chad Leeman noted that the City had not done so in the past.

Vice Mayor Tollett noted that winning the state championship four years in a row is unprecedented and should be celebrated. He further noted that the graduating seniors had won every year they were in high school.

It was noted that it would be difficult to bring the whole team back for a celebration.

City Manager Hellyn Riggins suggested that proclamations could be drafted and sent to the school.

Vice Mayor Tollett reiterated that four straight championships is a rare feat and should be recognized.

Council Member Brandon Emamalie suggested that the team could be recognized at First Friday. Ms. Riggins stated that she would discuss it with the Merchant's Association.

Discussion noted that August 1 is the Friday before school starts and may coincide with a back-to-school event.

**j. Veteran Acknowledgements**

Vice Mayor William Tollett noted that the City decorates the streets with flags for the holidays. He suggested having flags for Veteran's Day, as it is important to recognize veterans and the community will enjoy it.

City Manager Hellyn Riggins stated that she had seen other municipalities display banners with photos of veterans. She explained that the cities charge for the banners and brackets and manage displaying them.

Council Member Brandon Emamalie suggested using armed forces banners that said, "Thank you."

Ms. Riggins stated that she would look into veterans' flags and the cost.

**k. Proclamation**

It was noted that a proclamation had been prepared and signed for the celebration for Mattie Pruitt, scheduled for tomorrow at 6:30 p.m.

**l. Signage Update**

City Manager Hellyn Riggins noted that the "4<sup>th</sup> of July" message on the electronic sign looked good. She stated that City Clerk Catherine Sanderson had been in contact with Josslyn Signs and that they reviewed the sign and stated that it is working properly.

Ms. Riggins stated that Staff will continue to monitor the sign.

**4) NEW BUSINESS**

Council Member Craig Campbell stated that he received a SPAM email with City Manager Hellyn Riggins signature. He noted that he brought it to her attention and distributed paper copies of the email to Council.

Ms. Riggins informed Council that this is the third time an applicant to the Planning Commission has been targeted. She stated that the fraudsters are getting the applicants' contact information from the packets posted on the City's website. She emphasized that the City is taking the following measures to mitigate the problem:

1. A notice has been placed on the City's website and Facebook page with a link to instructions on how to protect themselves from cyber scams.
2. This warning and list of instructions will be distributed with every Planning Commission application.
3. Prior to posting packets to the website, applications will be redacted.
4. These offenses will be reported to law enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

5) **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Leeman confirmed there was no further business and adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

Approved by:

  
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Mayor Chad Leeman

Submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Recorder Christina Rivas

Date minutes approved: August 26, 2025