# City of Andersonville
# City Council Minutes
# August 10, 2026

The Andersonville City Council met on Monday, August 10, 2026, at 6:00 pm in the City Conference Room at the Depot. The following council members were present: Mayor Brandon Gross, Chris Hobbs, Penny Williams, Velma Coley, Chris Wooden and Scottie Barnes. Also present were City Clerk Teresa Owens, City Clerk Designate Karen Sanford, Public Works Supervisor Mark Hall, Utility Clerk Jeff Smith, Deputy Bonnie Jones, Stephanie Wooden, City Attorney Kathryn Moore, Lisa Smith and guest Randy Dillard from NPS.

Mayor Brandon Gross opened the meeting at 6:04 pm.

Chris Wooden gave the invocation.

## July 2026 Minutes

A motion to accept the July 2026 minutes was made by Chris Wooden and seconded by Velma Coley. **The motion was unanimously approved**.

## Financial Reports

A motion to accept the July 2026 financial statement was made by Chris Hobbs and seconded by Chris Wooden. **The motion was unanimously approved**.

## Guest Speaker

**Randy Dillard, Andersonville National Historic Site, Interim Superintendent**

Mr. Dillard introduced himself and stated the park wishes to work with and support the City of Andersonville in every way possible.

## Items Voted on by Council

- Chris Wooden made a motion to allow Teresa Owens to rent the Town Hall per her proposal and Velma Coley seconded the motion. **The motion was unanimously approved.**
- Chris Wooden made a motion to table the Landfill/Yard Waste discussion until Scottie Barnes could check on an alternate solution and Velma Coley seconded the motion. **The motion was unanimously approved.**
- Chris Wooden made a motion to approve getting a city credit card with $1000 limit and Velma Coley seconded the motion. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

## Discussion Items

- Teresa Owens Town Hall rental proposal.
    - Teresa Owens presented a proposed rental agreement for her to rent the Town Hall for business use, noting that her proposal included commitments such as clearing the overgrown yard, providing electricity through Georgia Power, maintaining the building's interior and exterior in a neat and clean condition, performing minor cosmetic repairs with prior council approval, supplying the required fire extinguisher, and agreeing not to

store highly flammable solvents in the building. She also proposed operating the business on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
    - **See Items Voted on by Council**

- RV Park Report
    - Mark reported that there are 2 jobs from last month's list that are left to be completed.

- SPCC Report
    - Stephanie reported Bingo is scheduled for next Monday 6-8 PM.
      Stephanie Wooden reported that she had obtained a CPR/First Aid training quote from Raissa Welch, who provided a cost of $60 per person for SPCC volunteers.

- City Clerk Report
    - Land Fill – City Clerk Teresa Owens reported on ongoing efforts to identify a compliant solution for yard-waste disposal. She stated that she had spoken with Kale at Imerys regarding the parcel adjacent to the City's old landfill. Imerys plans to conduct core samples—hopefully by the end of August—and if no minerals are present, Kale indicated that although he does not have final authority, he intends to recommend offering the City the entire parcel at an "extremely good price."
        - Teresa provided the council with a copy of Harpers' proposal and reported that Harpers has agreed to allow the City to take all yard waste to their pile at the shop yard for $450 per month until the City can come up with a more permanent solution
        - City Attorney Kathryn Moore advised that it was probably best for the city to contract the handling of the city's yard waste collections rather than the city operating it's own yard-trimmings landfill due to several state requirements, including maintaining a 200-foot setback from all property lines, spreading and compacting material in layers with at least one foot of clean earth cover monthly, grading and draining the site to prevent runoff and erosion, and limiting access to authorized entrances only. These requirements would make compliant operation difficult without additional land and resources.
        - Scottie Barnes may have a less expensive solution but he needs to check first.
        - **See Items Voted on by Council**

        - Animal Control – Teresa asked the city attorney what options the city had for animal control, including feral cats, since the city does not have an agreement with a licensed animal control shelter for to provide for impoundment and euthanasia. City Attorney Kathryn Moore stated that the city either needs to have a contract or not offer animal control services at all. She added that she was trying to determine if a private non-profit could help with the occasional dog and the cat problem without getting into actual services.

    - Bond for City Clerk – The Baldwin Agency is checking whether the current bond for Teresa Owens can be rolled over to Karen Sanford rather than issuing a second bond.
    - Signature card for the City – discussion on credit card vs debit card
        - **See Items Voted on by Council**

- Public Works Report
    - Mark asked for clarification on how long they are to pick up the additional trash at Greg Stuckey and Bridgette Ford's property on Confederate Street. Council agreed to make one final pickup and get anything there.
    - Mark has gotten a price of $550.00 per 10 tons of hot patch. Council approved the purchase. Holes will be filled with crusher run before purchasing the hot patch.
    - This past week they have had multiple water and gas lines hit on Freeman and have had to repair those breaks.

New Business

- Mayor Brandon Gross has not been able to get any additional quotes for the city's FYE June 30, 2026 audit other than the one from the city's previous auditor for $16,000.
    - Chris Wooden will contact the mayor of Ellaville and see who their new auditor is.
    - Penny Williams will contact Nigel Ford, the city's GMA representative regarding a list of auditors that GMA is working with to assist smaller cities.
    - The issue is tabled for now
- Chris Wooden notified council there is a Sept 10 gas liaison meeting from 11:30 to 1:00 and lunch will be provided. All elected officials are invited and asked to RSVP.

Old Business

- FYE June 30, 2027 Budget
    - A work session was set for September 17th at 5:30 PM.
- Street Light Audit/Pole Attachments
    - Scottie Barnes reported that he had spoken with the Georgia Power contact provided by Teresa Owens, and that the representative had come to Andersonville and said that the city is good.
- Comprehensive Plan Update
    - No update
- Nuisance Code Enforcement Board
    - Mayor Brandon Gross is talking with Sumter County about an intergovernmental agreement for them to manage enforcement.
- City Logo
    - Karen Sanford presented a draft logo and will email to the mayor to review.

**Other Business**

- Jeff Smith - Retirement
    - Jeff gave the city council members a letter announcing his retirement by December 30, 2026
- Velma Coley brought up the trash is still on Prison Walk at the Housing Authority
    - The city attorney, Kathryn Moore stated she works with the Housing Authority as their legal counsel so she may be able to help with this issue.
    - Lisa Smith added that she has sent emails with pictures to the Housing Authority and will be sending another email

- Mayor Brandon Gross asked Lisa to send him a copy of the emails she has sent to the Housing Authority

Penny Williams motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:16 to discuss personnel matters and Scottie Barnes seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The mayor called the Executive Session to a close and reconvened open session at 7:40 PM.

There being no further business, the monthly meeting was adjourned at 7:41 PM.