

CITY OF SUMPTER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 26, 2026
4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 4:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Marsha Demaris, Sherry Brandt, and Darold Smith

VISITORS

Matt Armstrong, Richard Crowe, Cindy Remington, Terry Valentine, Kathy Valentine, John Young, Ron Shapland, Kurt Clarke, Rebecca Patterson, Jon Patterson, Jennifer Lake, Lyell Olsen

APPROVED MINUTES

- a. May 12, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes: Minutes were unavailable for review. Topic tabled for the following Council Meeting.

REPORTS

SVFD: John Young (FD): The fire department had two medical calls. The city burn pile is closed until further notice after a nonscheduled fire incident occurred during the Flea Market. The fire department has taken all fire equipment/vehicles out to assess they are fire ready. All equipment and vehicles are ready and prepared for the fire season.

Mayor Linda Wise: Please be respectful and courteous of the ban on dumping at the city burn pile. It is currently a safety concern, and until the concerns are addressed, it will remain closed. The water restriction that were put into place was real. There was a leak that was discovered and fixed over the holiday weekend. Mayor Wise then thanked the Utility workers for all their hard work over the long weekend and getting the issue resolved.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Budget General/Parks Resolution:** This topic was tabled by recommendation of Gaslin Accounting and will be readdressed at the following City Council Meeting.
- b. **5% Sewer Rate Increase:** The proposed sewer rate increase is 5% and will increase the sewer base rate from \$30.00 to \$41.50 with the \$10 Land Usage Fee.
- c. **J. Young 4th of July @ Volunteer Park:** Volunteers will manage the trash and Portable bathrooms. Mr. Young explained that having the proposed music at Volunteer Park was in hopes that it would draw more vendors and visitors to that end of town. Mayor Wise explained to Mr. Young that this topic was in a recent council workshop. The

council has concerns about the dust abatement, parking, and lack of space at the park. Mayor Wise explained that the council felt that this type of venue would be better suited at the Event Grounds where there is plenty of space, parking, bathrooms, and electricity to support a music event. Mr. Young asked Rex (band member who is working with Mr. Young.) Rex asked the council if there were any rules against having the band play on private property. The council informed Rex that there was no rules against it.

- d. Zoning: Magnolia House/Address Assignment: Proposed address on 09S37E29CA TL 215 parcel 28 be given address 555 Magnolia Ave. **MSP**: To approve the address of 555 Magnolia Ave to TL 215 parcel 28. **Councilor Brandt/Councilor Demaris. Mayor Wise, Councilor Darold Smith, Sherry Brandt, and Marsha Demaris voted to approve.**

OLD BUSINESS

Cemetery Update: Matt Armstrong presented updates for the cemetery. The city had brief training session on the software system for the cemetery documentation. Further training will be provided once the city is closer to the launch date. Five out of the six scheduled gravel deliveries have been made by RD Mac for the roads/paths. Terry Valentine thanked everyone who has been involved in helping with the Blue Mountain Cemetery Project and would like to continue getting the burn piles cleaned up in the near future.

COUCILOR COMMENT

Darold Smith: The council is not opposed to new ideas for the town. The gas station paid for the dust abatement on Mill St. The council is responsible to look at all aspects and make sure they are making the right decision that satisfies all those involved. It is not always an easy decision, but the council is trying to do what is right for the city and its people.

Marsha Demaris: The City of Sumpter does not have an official Facebook page. There are a few pages out there that are attempting to look like it is coming from the city, but it is not. People who post issues such as water leaks on these pages are getting frustrated because the city is not responding. Please call the city to let us know about urgent issues. Social media posts are not reliable ways to communicate with the city.

Sherry Brandt: No Comment

Linda Wise: There were comments on social media about the miners using city water for their mining operations. This claim is false. The mining operations do not use any city water for mining. The city water source is nowhere near where the miners are operating.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Crowe: We all need to take what people hear and say with a grain of salt and let it go. Everyone needs to work together and get their information straight from the source.

Matt Armstrong: Concerned with the new address assignment on 555 Magnolia and its closeness to his house which also has a house number of 555.

Jennifer Lake: Saw a post on Facebook about the amount of noise from the Flea Market. Believes there are serious issues with the flea market and thinks that the event that Jon and Rebecca Pattersons hosted during Memorial Day for the ATV association needs to be on a different weekend and not during the Memorial Day weekend. Jennifer also suggested the possibility of a flea market foundation/board that would manage the flea market in the future.

Jon Patterson: Trailfest was created to help bring people up to the flea market to help boost the event. Mr. Patterson felt that the Baker Chamber of Commerce's involvement in the flea market is not helping and is overpriced. He then thanked the SVFD for putting out the fire at the city shop burn pile.

Rebecca Patterson: Felt that vendors should be given the option to stay through Monday. She also felt that the fees being charged at the Event Grounds is to high and should be reassessed.

ADJOURNMENT: 4:50PM

MSP: To adjourn. Councilor Demaris/Councilor Brandt. Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Sherry Brandt, and Marsha Demaris voted to approve.

Approved by the City Council this 23rd day of June, 2026.

Approved: 

Attested: 