

CITY OF ROCKMART
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2026

REGULAR MEETING

The Rockmart City Council met in regular session on Tuesday January 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Sherman Ross presiding. Council members present at the meeting were Joe Henderson, Mike Bradley, Marty Robinson, Lucille Harris, and Rick Stone. Others present at the meeting were City Attorney Carey Pilgrim, City Manager Stacey Smith, and City Clerk Jada Edwards. Others in attendance are listed on the attached sign in sheet.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ross called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was to approve the agenda was made by Councilman Stone, seconded by Councilwoman Harris. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

DELEGATIONS

A. None

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Oath of Office

- a. Oath of Office – Mike Bradley**
- b. Oath of Office – Lucille Harris**
- c. Oath of Office – Joe Henderson**

Mayor Ross introduced Carey Pilgrim to give the oath and read it to the individual as they affirmed the oath.

Attorney Pilgrim administered the oath to Councilman Bradley, Councilwoman Harris, and Councilman Henderson.

B. Downtown Development Authority

Chairman Scott Williams presented Joe Henderson with a plaque and thanked him for his service on the Downtown Development Authority Board.

PUBLIC HEARING

A. None

APPOINTMENTS

A. 2026 – Mayor Pro-Tem Vote

Councilman Henderson made a motion to nominate Councilwoman Harris for Mayor Pro-Tem. Councilman Robinson seconded the motion. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

B. 2026 – City Attorney – McRae Smith Peek Harmon & Monroe.

A motion was made to approve the appointment for City Attorney by Councilman Stone, seconded by Councilman Bradley. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

C. 2026 – Municipal Court Judge – James Edward Hulsey

A motion was made to approve the appointment for Municipal Court Judge by Councilman Henderson, seconded by Councilwoman Harris. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

D. 2026 – Auditor – Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC

A motion was made to approve the appointment for Auditor by Councilwoman Harris, seconded by Councilman Robinson. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

E. 2026 – Council Committee Appointments

F. Downtown Development Board

A motion was made to approve the appointment of Marty Robinson to the Downtown development Authority Board by Councilman Stone, seconded by Councilwoman Harris. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

1. Oath of Office – Marty Robinson

Attorney Pilgrim administered the oath to Councilman Robinson.

ADMINISTRATIVE

A. Approval – December 9, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the December 9, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes by Councilman Robinson, seconded by Councilwoman Harris. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

B. Approval – December 9, 2025, Executive Session Minutes

A motion was made to approve the December 9, 2025, Executive Session Minutes by Councilwoman Harris, seconded by Councilman Robinson. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

C. Approval – November 2025 Financial Reports

A motion was made to approve the November 2025 Financial Reports by Councilman Henderson, seconded by Councilman Stone. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

D. Approval – Donation Land - Axillion

City Manager Smith explained Axillion wanted to donate two parcels of land to the City. One being adjacent to city property behind North Marble and the other being behind fire department. A motion was made to approve the Donation of Land by Councilman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Henderson. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

E. Approval – PCDA – Exhibit A Incentives

Discussion between Council Members concerning portion of bond fee and binding the RDA to something they had not approved. City Attorney explained Exhibit A had not been updated since 2018. He explained this was just to get things in line with the State guidelines. He stated there had been some discussion on the fee between the Development Authorities. He stated that if Council agreed with Exhibit A, he recommended approval with the exception to remove the paragraph “specific to Polk County Tax Abatement” which details the one time bond fee and it being split between PCDA and the city development authority.

A motion was made to approve the Exhibit A with removal of said paragraph by Councilman Robinson, seconded by Councilwoman Harris. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A. None

NEW BUSINESS

A. None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance - None**
- B. Personnel – None**
- C. Public Safety – None**
- D. Regulatory & Property – None**
- E. Cultural Arts – None**
- F. Retirement - None**
- G. Recreation – None**
- H. Public Works & Utilities - None**
- I. SHR Library – None**
- J. Downtown Development Authority – None**

REPORTS

Mayor Ross

- Stated he had done a walk through the Amphiteater and the lighting was beautiful.
- Thanked Public Works for all the extra work they had done on the new Public Works Building.
- Stated the new Soccer Pitch is finished and should have a grand opening in April or March.

City Manager

- Stated everyone had a copy of her written report open for any questions.
- Reminded the Council of the Work Session on January 17, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

City Attorney

- Stated the need for executive session to discuss litigation.

Council Members

Councilman Henderson

- Thankful for another opportunity to serve a four-year term.
- Thankful for the Downtown Development Authority and thankful for Ms. Ann and all her help.

Councilwoman Harris

- Thanked the Council for nominating her for another year as Mayor Pro-Tem.
- Stated the GICH program would be moving forward with Housing issues and that they needed volunteers.

Councilman Robinson

- Congratulated Councilman Henderson, Councilwoman Harris, and Councilman Bradley for another four-year term.
- Thankful for the opportunity to serve on the Downtown Development Authority Board, he stated he has a vision for Downtown.

Councilman Stone

- Congratulated the Councilmembers for another four-year term.

Councilman Bradley

- No Comment

Department Heads

Fire - Chief Todd Queen

- Written report provided.

Police Department – Chief Randy Turner

- Written report provided.

Waste-Water – Robert Taff

- Written Report provided.

A motion was made to enter executive session by Councilman Stone, seconded by Councilman Bradley. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, a motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Bradley, seconded by Councilman Stone. All Council Members voted in favor of the motion. The Motion carried.



CITY CLERK


MAYOR