

February 23, 2026

The Eastman City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting on the above date at 6:00 p.m. The following members were present: Graham Snyder, John Battle II, and Debra Sheffield. Others present were City Attorney Rita Llop, City Manager Spencer Barron, Police Chief Billy Cooper, City Clerk April Sheffield, Assistant City Manager Dayna Winslette, Code Enforcer Gerald Fordham, Public Works Director Wynnott Pittman, and Water Operator Rodney Harrell. Present from the community were Susan and Mitchell Coffee, Gil Harrington, Patty and Ashley Randall, and Lonnie Lewis Jr.

The meeting was called to order by Councilor Snyder.

Invocation was given by Councilor Battle.

Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

On a motion from Councilor Sheffield and seconded by Councilor Battle, the agenda was unanimously approved with no changes.

APPROVE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilor Sheffield and seconded by Councilor Battle to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2026, regular meeting. Motion was approved unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

SECOND READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE FOR 048A 028:

The final required reading was presented with no other objections from the public or the council. **The second reading of the ordinance to annex in the property described as Parcel 048A 028 at 414 Congo Lane was unanimously passed on a motion from Councilor Sheffield and seconded by Councilor Battle.**

GENERATOR BIDS:

Rodney came forward to discuss all the quotes received for a generator for the Legion Drive well. There were a broad range of sizes and specifications quoted. After some discussion, it was suggested that Rodney contact one of the city's engineers to discuss the quotes received. The vote will be postponed until the first council meeting in March.

NEW BUSINESS:

TIA RESOLUTION:

City Clerk Sheffield explained that this **agreement and resolution need to be approved in order to move forward on the Creighton Street sidewalk project.** This project was chosen 7-8 years ago by the previous city manager and council when the second TIA was applied for. The TIA is spread over 10 years and consists of many projects chosen several years prior. This sidewalk project is the next project scheduled for completion at an **estimated cost of \$71,742** provided by TSPLOST tax dollars. **The council unanimously agreed to move forward with the project and approved the resolution on a motion from Councilor Sheffield and seconded by Councilor Battle.**

IT VENDOR:

The city is looking to find a single vendor to handle all IT needs for the city. All departments except one are currently using one vendor and the police department is using a separate one. The council has already entertained a presentation from one vendor. **After some discussion, the council unanimously voted to postpone deciding on an IT vendor in order to advertise for an RFP to receive more**

comparative quotes. This was decided on a motion from Councilor Sheffield and seconded by Councilor Battle.

POLICE CARS:

The police department has several older vehicles that are in need of replacement. They have a 2011 Crown Vic, 5 of the 2015 Ford Explorers, and 2 2016 Explorers. Several of them are having transmission issues. Chief Cooper presented his request for two new vehicles for his department. He asked for a **Dodge Ram truck in the amount of \$50,900 and a Durango for \$50,500.** These prices include a 5-year extended warranty with unlimited mileage that is in addition to the standard 3-year warranty that is already included. Barron stated that the money has already been allocated from SPLOST/ARPA to cover the cost. Chief Cooper also reminded the council that an additional \$15,000 will be needed for each vehicle to cover the cost of upgrades for lights and other equipment. **Council unanimously approved the purchase of the two vehicles on a motion from Councilor Sheffield and seconded by Councilor Battle.**

HOME OCCUPATION LICENSE:

LUXE LENS EVENTS LLC:

Ms. Ashley Randall applied to operate her event equipment rental business from her home located at 5425 Eastman Street. There will be no traffic in and out of her residence. The equipment will be stored at another facility. She will only be using her home for an administrative office. **With no objections to her request, Councilor Sheffield made a motion to approve the license and Councilor Battle seconded her motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

ALCOHOL LICENSE:

FOOD FOR LESS EASTMAN, LLC:

Owner Cody McDaniel from McDaniel Family Investments, LLC has applied for an alcohol license at 6237 Oak Street. He is requesting to sell packaged beer and wine at the new Piggly Wiggly located in the old Harvey's Supermarket location. Clerk Sheffield states that Mr. McDaniel has met all of the necessary requirements. **With no objections, the council unanimously approved the alcohol license on a motion from Councilor Sheffield and a second from Councilor Battle.**

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager Barron reminded everyone not to put old furniture, TVs, mattresses, etc., by the road expecting the city to pick it up. The city no longer picks those things up. The county has a transfer station to accept those things. Also, do not blow grass clippings in the road. It is against a city ordinance, and the offender will be fined. Lastly, please pen up all cats and dogs to reduce the amount of animal bites that are happening. The city has an ordinance regulating that also.

NO OTHER BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL

On a motion from Councilor Sheffield and a second from Councilor Battle, the meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote.

CHAIRMAN

CITY CLERK