



City Council Meeting & Public Hearing

JANUARY 5, 2026

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Office of the City Clerk

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL

COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 2 PARK PLAZA | 6:30 PM

OFFICIAL MINUTES

The public is advised that the following minutes are not a verbatim transcription of business presented at the Council Meeting of the date shown; but are a synopsis of pertinent information. The public is further advised that the video recording for said meeting is a matter of public record and is available to be viewed at the City Clerk's office during normal business hours or viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/alpharettagov>.

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL

- Mayor Gilvin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- Council Members
 - Mayor Jim Gilvin
 - Mayor Pro Tem Dan Merkel
 - T. Kirk Driskell
 - Katie Reeves
 - Douglas J. DeRito
 - John Hipes
 - Fergal M. Brady
- Staff
 - Chris Lagerbloom, City Administrator
 - John Robison, Assistant City Administrator
 - Molly Esswein, City Attorney
 - Lauren Shapiro, City Clerk
 - Grace Orehosky, Municipal Records Officer
 - Adam Montgomery, Director of Information Technology

- Brad Denkinger, Fire Chief
- Charlie Jewell, Director of Economic Development
- Cris Randall, Director of Human Resources
- Kathi Cook, Director of Community Development
- Morgan Rodgers, Director of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services
- Pete Sewczwicz, Director of Public Works
- Tom Harris, Director of Finance
- Trent Lindgren, Chief of Police
- Deanna McKay, Public Communication & Engagement Coordinator
- Kelsie Mattox, City Solicitor
- David Will, Chief Municipal Court Judge

2. PRESENTATION OF COLORS

- Members of the Alpharetta Fire Department presented the American Flag and the Georgia Flag.

3. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

4. "THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER" BY ALPHARETTA COMMUNITY CHORUS

- Members of the Alpharetta Community Chorus performed "Star Spangled Banner."

5. PRAYER

- Steve Browning with First Baptist Church of Alpharetta lead the attendees in a prayer to begin the Swearing In Ceremony.

6. "WE TOAST THE DAYS" BY THE ALPHARETTA COMMUNITY CHORUS

- Members of the Alpharetta Community Chorus performed "We Toast the Days."

7. SWEARING IN OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

A. Council Member Post 1, T. Kirk Driskell

- Chief Judge, David C. Will, swore in Council Member T. Kirk Driskell.

B. Council Member Post 2, Katie Reeves

- Chief Judge, David C. Will, swore in Council Member Katie Reeves.

C. Council Member Post 3, Douglas J. DeRito

- Chief Judge, David C. Will, swore in Council Member Douglas J. DeRito.

8. SWEARING IN OF MUNICIPAL COURT CHIEF, ASSOCIATE, AND SUBSTITUTE JUDGES

A. Chief Judge David C. Will

- Mayor Jim Gilvin swore in Chief Judge David C. Will.

B. Associate Judge Jamie Bendall

- Chief Judge, David C. Will, swore in Associate Judge Jamie Bendall.

C. Substitute Judge Jared Mitnick

- Chief Judge, David C. Will, swore in Substitute Judge Jared Mitnick.

9. SWEARING IN OF SUBSTITUTE CITY SOLICITORS

A. Substitute Solicitors: Kianna Chennault, Kenneth Mitchell, Jr., and Thomas Elijah Francis

- Chief Judge, David C. Will, swore in Substitute Solicitors Kianna Chennault, Kenneth Mitchell, Jr., and Thomas Elijah Francis.

10. APPOINTMENT OF BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

A. Announcement of Mayor Pro Tem Merkel's Appointments

- Mayor Pro Tem Merkel appointed the following individuals to the following Boards and Commissions.
 - Board of Zoning Appeals – Craig Johnson

B. Announcement of Council Member Driskell's Appointments

- Council Member Driskell appointed the following individuals to the following Boards and Commissions.
 - Board of Zoning Appeals – Brent Beecham
 - Cultural Arts Commission – Susan Hanna
 - Design Review Board – Richard Kramer

- Historic Preservation Commission – Connie Mashburn
- Natural Resources Commission – Jacqueline Jenna
- Planning Commission – Todd Stratton
- Recreation Board – Tate Holcombe

C. Announcement of Council Member Reeves’ Appointments

- Council Member Reeves appointed the following individuals to the following Boards and Commissions.
 - Board of Zoning Appeals – Tammy Lucas
 - Cultural Arts Commission – Melody Cookson
 - Design Review Board – Chris Behm
 - Historic Preservation Commission – Bonnie Steadman
 - Natural Resources Commission – Lindsey Ann Burnett
 - Planning Commission – Karen Richard
 - Recreation Board – Arjit Saha

D. Announcement of Council Member DeRito’s Appointments

- Council Member DeRito appointed the following individuals to the following Boards and Commissions.
 - Board of Zoning Appeals – Lisa Shippel
 - Cultural Arts Commission – Sumita Patel
 - Design Review Board – Pat Corkill
 - Historic Preservation Commission – Shack Lewis
 - Natural Resources Commission – Herb Velazquez
 - Planning Commission – Jill Reynolds
 - Recreation Board – Karla Piedrahita

E. Announcement of Council Member Brady’s Appointments

- Council Member Brady appointed the following individuals to the following Boards and Commissions.
 - Natural Resources Commission – Teri Rondone

11.SWEARING IN OF BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Mayor Jim Gilvin swore in Board and Commission members who were appointed this evening.

12.PERFORMANCE BY THE ALPHARETTA SYMPHONY

- Members of the Alpharetta Symphony performed selections from Handel's "Music for the Royal Fireworks."

13.ADJOURNMENT

- With there being no further items to consider or discuss, Mayor Gilvin adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lauren Shapiro, City Clerk