

CITY OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2026
Approved: June 2, 2026

On Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 7:01 p.m. Mayor Meyers called the regular Council meeting to order at 176 Johns Hill Road.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Gregory Meyers. Councilmembers Deborah Ball, John Braun, Gary Chinn, Patricia Hayley, Rene Heinrich, Jesse Hockenbury. A quorum was present.

Staff Present: City Administrator, Michael Giffen; Police Chief, Bill Birkenhauer; City Clerk/Treasurer, Jeanne Pettit; Code Enforcement Officer, Dave Fornash; Attorney, Michelle Eviston.

Staff Absent: Public Works Director, Steve Lehman

Minutes for Approval

- **Regular Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2026.** These minutes were previously emailed to the Mayor, Council Members, and City Staff for review.
- **Action Taken:** Member Chinn made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular council meeting held April 7, 2026. Seconded by Member Ball. Discussion: None. Yes: 5, No: 0, Abstain: 1. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Scheduled Guests

- Andy Schabel, Candidate for Campbell County Judge Executive. Introduced himself, discussed his background, profession, accomplishments, and the reasons he is running for judge executive.
- Steve Pendery, Candidate for Campbell County Judge Executive. Discussed his background, county services available for cities, and current issues facing the county.

Correspondence: None

Staff Reports

- City Administrator – Michael Giffen
 - Presented the fiscal year 2027 proposed budget.
 - **Ordinance – First Reading**
 - **Ordinance 02-2026:** An ordinance adopting the City of Highland Heights, Kentucky annual budget for the fiscal year 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2027 by estimating revenues and resource and appropriating funds for the operation of city government.
 - Investment Policy and internal controls were distributed to council for review.
 - Completion of the Greenspace Project Phase 1 is underway.
 - Sunset Road realignment grant and sidewalk grant expenditures were discussed.
- Police Chief – Bill Birkenhauer
 - Officer Audrey Rowland starts her 20 weeks of the police academy Sunday.
 - Police social worker, Angie Weinell, received the Vicky Henderson Legacy Award.
 - Blue Envelope Program – implemented to assist police communication with the public, particularly people with intellectual disabilities or cognitive challenges.
- City Clerk/Treasurer – Jeanne Pettit
- Code Enforcement Officer – Dave Fornash
 - If citizens need help with cutting grass or junk removal, Officer Fornash will try to find assistance.

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- Public Works Update
 - Update on projects, recreation events, and the city clean-up event.
- Attorney – Michelle Eviston
 - **Action Taken:** Member Heinrich made a motion to read ordinance 01-2026 in summary. Seconded by Member Hockenbury. Discussion: None. Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstain: 0. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.
 - **Ordinance – First Reading**
 - **Ordinance 01-2026:** An ordinance updating the official Zoning Map for Highland Heights to rezone approximately 11.4 acres at Sunset and University Drive from Residential One-E (R-1E) Zone and Institutional (INST) Zone to Residential Three (R-3) Zone with the adjacent rights-of-way.
 - **Municipal Order**
 - **Municipal Order 09-2026:** A municipal order appointing Trent Chowning to the unexpired term of Evan Gates on the Highland Heights Code Enforcement Board.
 - **Action Taken:** Member Heinrich made a motion to approve municipal order 09-2026 appointing Trent Chowning to the Highland Heights Code Enforcement Board. Seconded by Member Chinn. Discussion: None. Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstain: 0. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business

- **Action Taken:** Member Chinn made a motion to cancel the May 19, 2026 council meeting due to lack of business. Seconded by Member Braun. Discussion: None. Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstain: 0. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

Citizens to Address Council: None

Adjournment

- **Action Taken:** Member Chinn made a motion to adjourn the May 5, 2026 council meeting. Seconded by Member Heinrich. Discussion: None. Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstain: 0. Mayor Meyers declared the motion passed.

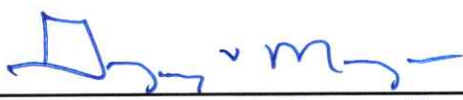
Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

Submitted by:



Jeanne M. Pettit, City Clerk/Treasurer

Signed:



Gregory V. Meyers, Mayor