

Record of Council Work Session Minutes City of Margaret

Date: Monday, January 26, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
Place: Margaret City Hall
Council Work Session

The City Council for the City of Margaret met on Monday, January 26, 2026, for a work session prior to the regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

The work session roll call is as follows:

Councilperson James Chapman – Present
Councilperson Martrece Bell – Present
Councilperson Kerry McIntyre – Present
Councilperson Samantha Davis – Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Jonathon Ray – Present
Mayor Matthew Tortorice – Present

The work session opened with a proclamation of Nick O'Rear Day on February 5th. Mr. O'Rear's parents were presented with a plaque and it was announced that flags in the city will be half-mast on February 5th.

Austin Stone was given the floor to speak on his book that tells of the history of Margaret. Mr. Stone will be presented with a proclamation at the next meeting.

The work session continued with a review of regular council meeting agenda items.


The work session adjourned.

APPROVED:



Mayor Matthew Tortorice

ATTEST:



Tabitha Hanner, City Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES CITY OF MARGARET

Date: Monday, January 26, 2026

Time: 7:17 PM

Place: Margaret City Hall

Council Meeting

ROLL CALL

Councilperson James Chapman – Present

Councilperson Martrece Bell – Present

Councilperson Kerry McIntyre – Present

Councilperson Samantha Davis – Present

Mayor Pro-Tem Jonathon Ray – Present

Mayor Matthew Tortorice – Present

The meeting was called to order at 7:17 PM.

The invocation was given by Mr. Gene Barker.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

Roll Call was taken and is recorded above.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to move all the consent agenda items to the regular agenda for individual voting. Councilperson Bell seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

The Department Heads gave updates. The Fire Chief was happy to report that the Fire Department is fully staffed and working on ALS certification.

Officers Ballard and Warrley were recognized by the Mayor and the Police Chief for their lifesaving actions on a recent call. They were presented with commendations.

The City Engineer gave an update on the water system and other projects.

The floor was open at 7:36pm for the Public Hearing on the proposed ordinances.

Ordinance #2026-001: Parking Ordinance – no public comments

Ordinance #2026-002: Nuisance Ordinance – one comment from a citizen who encouraged the city to show mercy in their decision-making on rectifying nuisances.

Ordinance #2026-003: Animal Control – no public comments

Ordinance #2026-004: Repealing Appointment Authority Restrictions – one comment

Ordinance #2026-005: Firearm Discharge within City Limits – three citizens spoke out against this ordinance. Points made included the unfairness to large property owners who use their property for hunting as well as infringement on property rights.

- Ordinance #2026-006: Bank Account Consolidation – no public comments
- Ordinance #2026-007: Annual Budget Ordinance – no public comments
- Ordinance #2026-008: Residential Rental Registration & Inspection and Related Code Updates – no public comment
- Resolution #2026-001: General Ledger (GL) Account Restructuring – no public comment.

Councilperson Chapman made a motion to table Ordinance #2026-005: Firearm Discharge within the City Limits. Councilperson Davis seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Councilperson Chapman made a motion to amend the previous motion to include the date of March 2nd for bringing Ordinance #2026-005 back to the council. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-tem Ray made a motion to table Ordinance #2026-007: Annual Budget Ordinance and Ordinance #2026-004: Repealing Appointment Authority Restrictions until July. Councilperson Chapman seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – no. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-tem Ray made a motion to approve Ordinance #2026-001: Parking. Councilperson Davis seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bell made a motion to approve Ordinance #2026-002: Nuisance Ordinance. Mayor Pro-tem Ray seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-tem Ray made a motion to approve Ordinance #2026-003: Animal Control. Councilperson Davis seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Councilperson Davis made a motion to approve Ordinance #2026-006: Bank Account Consolidation. Mayor Tortorice seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – no, Bell – no, McIntyre – no, Davis – yes, Ray – no, Tortorice – yes. Motion failed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to approve Ordinance #2026-008: Residential Rental Registration & Inspection and Related Code Updates. Councilperson Davis seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – no, Bell – no, McIntyre – no, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion failed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to table Resolution #2026-001: General Ledger (GL) Account Restructuring until July. Councilperson Chapman seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – no. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bell made a motion to reconsider the vote in the Employee Hearing from the previous meeting. There was no second. Motion died.

Councilperson Chapman made a motion to table Duke Street on account of the citizen bringing forward the issue was not in attendance. Mayor Pro-Tem Ray seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

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Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 31, 2025, and January 5, 2026, meetings with the corrections discussed in the work session. Councilperson Davis seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – abstain, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to approve a donation of \$300 to the Backpack Buddies Community Program. Councilperson Chapman seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to table the discussion of a littering fine structure to February 16th. Councilperson Davis seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to approve the purchase of Speed Bumps to the February 2nd meeting. Councilperson Bell seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to table hiring an HR consultant to create job descriptions and write standard operating procedures until July. Councilperson Chapman seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – no. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to table the Life Insurance for Employees discussion to February. Councilperson McIntyre seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to suspend the rules to add to the agenda: Tow Report and Accident Report Fees. Councilperson Bell seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – no. Motion to suspend the rules died.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to table the discussion of joining the Odenville Chamber of Commerce to the first meeting in March. Councilperson McIntyre seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – no. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to table the creation of a Revenue Officer position until July 1st. Councilperson Bell seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – no, Ray – yes, Tortorice – no. Motion carried.

Councilperson Davis made a motion to table the approval of funding the Smartboard purchase for Margaret Elementary School. There was no second. Motion died.

COUNCIL COMMENTS –

Councilperson Chapman had no comments.

Councilperson Bell had no comments.

Councilperson McIntyre had no comments.

Councilperson Davis chided the council on not working together and encouraged the council to consider their ability to multi-task as a council instead of focusing on only one issue at a time and stonewalling other issues.

As part of his Council comment time, Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to post the City Clerk job position for 30 days. Councilperson Chapman seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – no. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray continued his Council comment time to ask for the VIN#s for the surplus City vehicles. He continued his comments by making an accusation that a previously scrapped vehicle was hauled off and “someone got paid for it”. He wants to know where the money is. Mr. Barker, the building inspector, said he was told to “just get rid of” the vehicle after the fire department cut it up for practice. He states there was no money involved.

Councilperson Chapman exited the meeting at 8:45pm. Quorum was still maintained.

The Mayor reported that the City Administration is working hard to improve and refine City processes. There are many moving parts to City Administration to keep the City moving day to day. Current Council behavior is killing staff morale.

Mr. Barker, the Building Inspector asked the Council for guidance on the emergency road repairs in Hunter’s Crossing. He presented the Council with the quote options and asked how they wished to proceed.

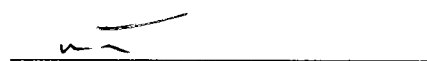
Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to suspend the rules to approve emergency road repairs in Hunter’s Crossing. Councilperson McIntyre seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.

Councilperson Chapman returned at 8:53 pm.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ray made a motion to approve the invoice for \$16,175.84 for the road repairs in Hunter’s Crossing. Councilperson Chapman seconded the motion. Roll call votes: Chapman – yes, Bell – yes, McIntyre – yes, Davis – yes, Ray – yes, Tortorice – yes. Motion carried.


Councilperson Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Davis seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:



Mayor Matthew Tortorice

ATTEST:



Tabitha Hanner, City Clerk