

**CITY OF WALKER
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

April 13, 2026

6:00 PM

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at the Walker City Hall located at 13600 Aydell Lane. At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Watson called the council meeting to order and followed with the invocation from Tracy Girlinghouse. Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, conducted the roll call of the council members.

The following council members were present: David Clark, Eric Cook, Tracy Girlinghouse, Gary Griffin and Scarlett Milton-Major.

Mayor Watson requested a motion to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2026 council meeting. With there being no comments or questions, a motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Clark, to adopt the minutes.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Major, Griffin
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Finance Director, Mike Cotton, presented the February 2026 finance report. Mr. Cotton reported that the net profit ending February 28, 2026 was \$1,546,551. Sales tax revenue was up by 5%. Natural gas sales increased by 13%.

Trey Sanders of Hannis T. Bourgeois, LLP addressed the mayor and council regarding the matter of the 2025 annual audit. He reviewed the letter of engagement and terms of engagement that will govern the audit process. The audit is expected to be conducted from April 13 - June 30, 2026.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Girlinghouse, the letter of engagement and audit proposal terms was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Mr. Girlinghouse introduced an ordinance for 2026 Budget Amendment No. 1; Professional Services for Software. There were no discussions.

A motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Major, to enter into a public hearing.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Mr. Cook presented for the council's consideration the proposed *Ordinance to Rezone Pickleball Kingdom located at 28145 Walker South Road from RC to RC-CAB-2*, as recommended on the March 16, 2026 resolution from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Co-owners of Pickleball Kingdom were present to address the council. After all concerns were addressed, a motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Major, to approve Ordinance 04-2026-01.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABENT: None

A motion was made by Mr. Girlinghouse, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to close the public hearing.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Tim Oxley of Water Services reviewed before the mayor and council the 2025 Municipal Water Pollution Prevention report (MWPP).

Chief of Operations, Jamie Etheridge, presented before the mayor and council the following resolutions:

- ❖ *Resolution Acknowledging Receipt of the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit Report from the La. Department of Environmental Quality and Authorizing Certain Actions to Address the Problems Contained in the Audit Report*

A motion was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Major to accept the audit report as presented.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

- ❖ *Resolution to Declare City of Walker Property as Surplus*

A request was made to declare FA#963 (2004 F-350 one-ton Dump Body) as surplus property in accordance with Louisiana State Law.

A motion made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to approve the resolution.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Mayor Watson read aloud the 2026 Fair Housing Proclamation to commemorate the 57th Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law of the Civil Rights Act of 1968. This proclamation shall be posted to reaffirm the City of Walker's commitment to fair housing opportunities for all citizens.

Chief David Addison brought before the mayor and the council full-time rehire candidate, Isaiah Chester. Mr. Chester is post-certified, TASER certified and has successfully completed the required tests and screenings.

A motion was made by Mr. Girlinghouse, seconded by Ms. Major, to approve the rehire of Isaiah Chester.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Next, Chief Addison presented a request for the council to approve the promotion of Pfc. Blake Cavalier to the rank of Corporal.

A motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to approve Chief Addison's recommendation as presented.

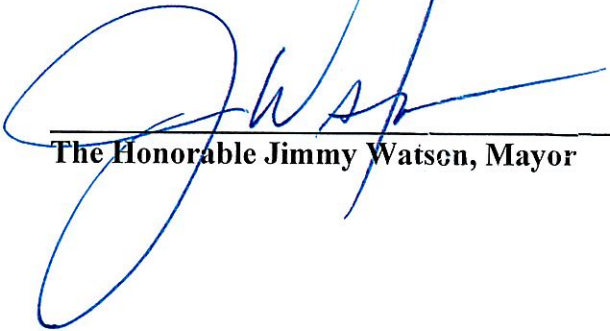
YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Mayor Watson announced the retirement of Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton. He presented her with a plaque that signified her 21 years of dedicated service to the City of Walker.

Additional Comments

- Mayor Watson announced that there will be a Cross-Roads Challenge DiscGolf tournament on April 18, 2026.
- The Easter in the Park event was a hugely attended event. It was estimated that three thousand people turned out.
- The National Day of Prayer is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m. in the courtyard of the Walker City Hall.
- The July 4th celebration will be held at Sidney Hutchinson Park to celebrate the 250th anniversary of America.
- The City of Walker received a grant award which was dedicated to the upkeep of the park. Slideshow pictures were shown of the fields that were turfed.

With no further business to discuss, the April 13, 2026 council meeting was adjourned.


The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest:

Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk