

Mayor
Eartha T. Cummings

City Attorney
Michael Howard



Council Members
Brainard Crawford, Mayor Pro-Tem
David Hartley
Deborah E. Rhodes
Rhonda L. Lemons
Sidney A. Swan
Clifford B. Coleman, Sr.

COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Tennille Fire Department
May 04, 2026
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

A work session of the Tennille City Council was held on Monday, May 04, 2026, with Mayor Eartha Cummings presiding.

Council Members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Brainard Crawford, Clifford B. Coleman, Rhonda L. Lemons, Sidney A. Swan, David Hartley, and Deborah E. Rhodes.

Others in attendance were Danielle Ferguson, *City Clerk*, Tanisha Ball, *Asst. City Clerk/Court Clerk*, Cassandra Jackson, and Kenya Poole.

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mayor Eartha Cummings.

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Eartha Cummings.

Invocation

The invocation was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Brainard Crawford.

Minutes For Review

The minutes for March 02, 2026 and April 06, 2026, were presented to council for review.

Monthly Reports

- The Sheriff's Office incident report for 04/2026 was emailed to council for review.

New Business

- 2026-2027 GIRMA Liability Insurance Renewal
 - o The annual liability insurance renewal, quoted at \$88,731 is presented to council. City Clerk, Danielle Ferguson, recommends Council proceed with the renewal by selecting payment option 3 – requiring 25% down and the remaining balance paid in 4 monthly installments.

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- Attorney Michael Howard was not present.

Mayor/Council & Committee Concerns

- Mayor Pro-Tem Brainard Crawford
 - Mayor Pro-Tem Brainard Crawford notes that public works has been finding liquor and beer bottles at MLK park and would like to get the cameras back up due to this.
 - Council Member Swan notes that he will actively monitor this as well.
- Council Member David Hartley
 - Council Member David Hartley shares that current projects are underway and still on schedule.
- Council Member Rhonda Lemons
 - Council Member Rhonda Lemons follows up on the limb pick up protocol.
 - Mayor Cummings confirms that the limb truck will run a regular schedule around the City and residents do not have to call and request pick-ups.
 - Council Member Rhonda Lemons shares that only one bid was received for the City flower bed maintenance.
 - Mayor Cummings notes additional LMIG funding has been awarded that can be used for this project.
- Council Member Deborah Rhodes
 - Council Member Deborah Rhodes notes she is still looking forward to hosting music nights at the Depot and is working on bringing this to life. Council Member Rhodes also notes agencies that may be open to sponsoring historical based projects.
- Council Member Sidney A. Swan
 - Council Member Swan notes the second goal is back up at the MLK Park, and the swings are being repaired regularly at the park behind City Hall. Swan is continuing to work with WACO reads to plan Tennille Water Day and aims to host this event over the summer. Swan goes on to share the firewall has been replaced at City Hall and he is currently working on completely revitalizing the City website.
- Mayor Eartha Cummings
 - Mayor Eartha Cummings shares update that Derrick Dunn will be working with Mike Wiggins to shadow his duties and learn the Code Enforcement position to assist while Mr. Wiggins will be out due to health reasons.
 - Mayor advises Mr. Wiggins, Mr. Dunn, Council Member Rhodes, and Council Member Lemons to form a committee and review the landscaping bid submitted to recommend a decision to council.
 - Mayor Eartha Cummings goes on to share the City was awarded \$500,00 to complete the interior of the train depot. Funds are expected to be disbursed within

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30 days.

- Mike Wiggins and Derrick Dunn will prepare the RFQ (Request for Qualifications) to begin work on this project.
- Mayor Eartha Cummings highlights that space will be renovated to best serve the citizens and Council will revisit how the facility will be available for community use.
 - Council Member Rhodes notes the original plans included a community center, kitchen, and small museum area.
- Mayor Cummings concludes but noting the City has been awarded an additional 2.5 million dollars through GEFA for the water filtration project. This will allow some items that were originally cut due to cost to be completed. Mayor notes if equipment costs do not increase, some funding may be left over, and she would like Council to consider digging another well location if possible.

Adjourn

With no further business, Council Member Rhonda Lemons makes a motion, seconded by Council Member Clifford B. Coleman to close the work session. The work session is adjourned.