

City of Crossville

392 North Main Street
Crossville, Tennessee 38555



Minutes

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

5:00 PM

Conference Room 317

Call for Special Meeting

Mayor R.J. Crawford
Council Member Art Gernt
Council Member Mike Turner
Council Member Mark A. Fox
Council Member James Mayberry
City Manager Valerie Hale
City Clerk Baylee Rhea

Call to Order

The Crossville City Council met for a special called meeting on Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at Crossville City Hall. Mayor Crawford was present and presiding. He called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Roll Call

Present 4 - Mayor R.J. Crawford, Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, Council Member Mike Turner, and Council Member Mark A. Fox

Absent 1 - Council Member James Mayberry

Others present were City Manager Valerie Hale, City Clerk Baylee Rhea, Kevin Music, Sue York, Tom Isham, Jessie Brooks, Burt Allaire, Mike Moser, John Murray, Randall Kidwell, Chris Kendrick, Jeff Dyer, Chris South, Jenna Walls, Danny Wyatt, Kevin Dean, John Stubbs, Jacob McGonigle, Samantha McGonigle, Leah Crockett, Ethan Hadley, Rolf Weeks, and Shea James.

City Attorney Randy York joined via Zoom.

Public Comment

Randall Kidwell commented regarding water resources in the State of Tennessee.

John Murray commented regarding data centers.

Jacob McGonigle commented regarding data centers.

1. Other Business**a.** Discussion and action regarding approval of SRO grant application and contract

Chief Jessie Brooks requests approval to apply for an endowment grant from the State of Tennessee in the amount of \$300,000. The grant is specifically to pay for SROs.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, seconded by Council Member Mark A. Fox, to approve the grant application and contract. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Mayor R.J. Crawford, Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, Council Member Mike Turner and Council Member Mark A. Fox

Absent: 1 - Council Member James Mayberry

b. Discussion and action regarding approval of a resolution declaring a vacant Council seat

A resolution declaring a vacant seat on the Crossville City Council is recommended by the City Attorney to be sent to the Cumberland County Election Commission. The Election Commission will be able to hold an election for Council member Mayberry's

seat for the remainder of his term.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, seconded by Council Member Mark A. Fox, to declare a vacant seat on the Crossville City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Mayor R.J. Crawford, Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, Council Member Mike Turner and Council Member Mark A. Fox

Absent: 1 - Council Member James Mayberry

c. Discussion and action regarding appointment to Crossville City Council

Due to the recent passing of Council member James Mayberry, an appointment may be made to fulfill his term until the next regular election, which will be held in November 2026.

Council discussed not filling the seat since the election will occur in 4 months.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, seconded by Council Member Mike Turner, to not fill the vacant seat on Crossville City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Mayor R.J. Crawford, Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, Council Member Mike Turner and Council Member Mark A. Fox

d. Discussion regarding matters relative to the water assets transfer referendum/action

Council member Fox requested to discuss the water asset transfer resolution that was adopted at a previous meeting. Depending on the results of the referendum vote in November, he would like to hold three Public Hearings after the election to gain input from citizens. City Attorney Randy York stated if the referendum fails, there will not be a need for any further action. Mayor Crawford asked if Council member Fox's concern was if the referendum passes. Council member Fox stated his concern is that if it does pass, he feels that it is an important enough issue to hold multiple Public Hearings. Mayor Crawford asked City Attorney Randy York if they could legally bind future Councils. Council member Fox mentioned a similar situation regarding the vote to not proceed with the dam project for one year. City Attorney Randy York stated those are more or less advisory resolutions and cannot pass a resolution that would bind future Councils. The referendum was written so that the future Council could choose to move forward with a resolution or ordinance in regards to the transfer of assets at Meadow Park Lake. He continued that at that point, it would be left up to the future Council that would be sworn in in December following the election. Mayor Crawford asked if that made Council member Fox's motion mute. Council member Fox stated he would wait until the new Council was sworn in and make his motion at that time. Council member Fox withdrew his motion.

A motion was made by Council Member Mark A. Fox to hold three Public Hearings prior to moving forward with the transfer of assets at Meadow Park Lake.

e. Ordinance adding Title 14 Chapter 12 Data Centers

An ordinance adding a section to the Municipal Code regarding Data Centers within City limits.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, seconded by Council Member Mike Turner, to approve the ordinance on second reading. The motion carried

by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Mayor R.J. Crawford, Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, Council Member Mike Turner and Council Member Mark A. Fox

f. Ordinance amending FY25-26 budget for end of year adjustments

A budget amendment is necessary for the end of year adjustments.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, seconded by Council Member Mark A. Fox, to approve the ordinance on second reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Mayor R.J. Crawford, Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, Council Member Mike Turner and Council Member Mark A. Fox

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member Mike Turner at 5:31 p.m., seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Art Gernt, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.