

**CITY OF EUHARLEE
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 3, 2026 – 6:00 PM**

Mayor Craig Guyton called the meeting to order with the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present: Mayor Craig Guyton, Council Members Tim Abbott, Greg Free, and Jayson Frederick, City Manager James Stephens, and Community & Economic Development Director Katie Gobbi. Council Member Joe Turner was not present.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

2nd Reading Zoning Ordinance and Map Re Adoption - Katie Gobbi

Katie Gobbi, Community & Economic Development Director presented the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2026-01, an ordinance of the mayor and city council of the city of Euharlee, Georgia for the purpose of amending and readopting the zoning code and zoning map. She noted there were no changes from the first reading.

Key changes in the ordinance include:

- Enhanced definitions for manufactured, modular and mobile homes
- Enhanced definition of swimming pool
- Cleanup of general provisions to align with previous zoning decisions
- Enhanced regulations for certain uses to align with vehicle registration changes
- Changes to campground standards, specifically changing continuous camping period from 90 days to 14 days for privately owned campgrounds
- Sign regulations requiring permits prior to erection
- Allowing one extra foot of height for entrance signs
- Regulations for feather flags
- Allowing internally illuminated signs except within the historic district
- Updates to Section 15 regarding disclosures from opponents or proponents

Council discussion included questions about modular housing consistency with county regulations, internally illuminated signs in the historic district, and exterior illumination requirements for signs. Ms. Gobbi clarified that modular homes can be permitted in R1 zones but not in existing or new subdivisions, and that external illumination requirements were unchanged from previous ordinances.

Police Department 2025 Year End Report – Chief Jody Matthews

Police Chief Jody Matthews presented the annual police department report covering staffing, statistics, and programs. Current staffing includes 12 full-time sworn positions, 4 part-time sworn positions, code enforcement under Public Works, 2 non-sworn civilian positions, and K9 Blue, with one current opening for full-time position.

2025 Statistics:

- 5,044 total calls for service (increase of 9%)
- 420 total case/incident reports (down 16%)
- 43 accident reports (down 7%)
- 116 total arrest reports (down 15%)
- 2,625 total traffic stops (down 9%)
- 763 written citations, 844 written warnings for total of 1,607
- 71% of traffic stops resulted in warnings rather than citations

Crime statistics for 2025:

- 8 assaults (increase of 4)
- 3 burglaries (same as previous year)
- 4 child abuse and neglect cases (increase of 3)
- 44 domestic family violence cases (decrease of 28)
- 0 homicides

- 10 larceny thefts (decrease of 29)
- 0 motor vehicle thefts
- 2 rapes (increase of 2)
- 0 robberies
- 21 DUI cases (decrease of 18)

K9 Unit statistics showed 44 deployments with 11 drug arrests, recovering marijuana, methamphetamines, and heroin with total value of \$1,704.30.

School zone camera citations totaled 1,648 valid citations in 2025, down from 2,289 in 2024 and 3,127 when program started in 2022.

The department maintains GACP certification through 2028, being one of only 157 certified agencies out of over 1,100 in Georgia.

The inaugural youth summer camp served 12 kids aged 13-18, with the next camp scheduled for June 15-19, 2026.

Council discussion addressed community concerns about aggressive traffic enforcement. Chief Matthews emphasized transparency through body cameras and supervisory review, noting that complaints often differ from body camera evidence. He discussed the department's community policing efforts and commitment to accountability. The council said thank you to Chief Matthews and the police department.

Public Comments

Ron Hartman, resident, spoke advocating for electronic signs, requesting the council reconsider installation of electronic signs at parks for upcoming spring and summer activities.

Adjournment

With no further discussion, the work session was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

CITY OF EUHARLEE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 3, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Mayor Craig Guyton called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Public Comments – Agenda Items Only

No public comments were made regarding agenda items.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Greg Free motioned to approve the minutes as written for the Work Session and City Council Meeting for February 3, 2026. Council Member Tim Abbott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2nd Reading Zoning Ordinance and Map Re-adoption - Katie Gobbi

Katie Gobbi, Community & Economic Development Director recommended approval of Ordinance 2026-01 without any changes from the 1st reading or work session discussion. Council Member Jayson Frederick made a motion to approve the zoning ordinance and map re-adoption. Council Member Greg Free seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Council Member Jayson Frederick motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Greg Free seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.