

Council Work Session

January 20, 2026

Meeting began at 5:00pm.

Invocation by Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Utility Superintendent, Chris Coleman.

Welcome Extended by Mayor J. Micheal Evans to all in attendance and all joining through social media tonight.

Present were Mayor J. Micheal Evans, Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr., Councilwoman Velicia Y. Lowe, Councilman Edward Armijo, and City Attorney Rebecca Tydings; absent from meeting Councilman Justin Wright and City Administrator Krista Bedingfield.

Public Comments

None.

Old Business

FLOST Intergovernmental Agreement: Mayor J. Micheal Evans, City Attorney Rebecca Tydings, and City Accountant Carol Harrison presented to the Governing Authority the FLOST IGA for approval. This agreement is between the City of Centerville, surrounding local cities and the county. City Attorney Tydings has reviewed the agreement and sees no legal issues. City Accountant Harrison provided an overview of the agreement mentioning the following key points:

- Centerville's estimated share: 2.94% (estimate - \$1.2 million/year), and the city's Net M&O digest is \$344,762,637. Percentage will be recalculated annually based on digest changes.
- The 1% FLOST tax will be put to referendum in a Special Election on May 19, 2026. And if approved, tax collection begins October 1, 2026.
- Estimated annual proceeds: \$41,500,000 (across all entities).
- County will distribute to cities by the 15th day for the previous month's collection.
- FLOST proceeds must be kept in a separate account before moving to the general fund.
- Usage restricted to property tax relief (per Article 8 of the agreement).
- Based on 2025 property taxes (\$3,068,000), the city expects to make up about \$1.8 million.
- The agreement is in response to House Bill 581, passed by the Georgia legislature.
- The IGA establishes processes ahead of the referendum.
- State will send funds to the county, which then distributes to the cities.

Discussion between council to clarified referendum process and timing. The tax will not affect the 2026 property taxes as collection begins October 1, 2026. First FLOST proceeds expected in November 2026.

Motion to approve the FLOST IGA given by Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. Second by Councilwoman Velicia Lowe. Motion carried. Unanimous.

New Business

Approval LMIG 2026: Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. and Superintendent Coleman requested approval to roll the 2026 LMIG funds over the 2027 LMIG, in order for it to be used for a larger project. Discussion between Mayor & Council, mentioning that this is the first time a request to roll funds has ever been made, which will be used to help fund the repaving of Carl Vinson Parkway (from Watson Blvd. to just south of Dunbar Rd.)

Motion to approve the rolling of 2026 LMIG funds to 2027 given by Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. Second by Councilwoman Velicia Lowe. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Comments from Council

Post 4: Councilman Edward Armijo offered his appreciation to city staff, both in the public safety and public works departments, for their help in keeping the city prepared and ready during the city's most recent weather event. Grateful for these staff member's continued support and protection provided to all the citizens of Centerville.

Post 3: Councilwoman Velicia Lowe reiterated the same comments offering her appreciation to the staff as well, and was happy to see everyone enjoying the snow. Councilwoman Lowe mentioned that voting was still going on tonight until 7pm, and to come out and vote for State Senate.

Post 2: absent.

Post 1: Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. reiterated similar comments encouraging citizens to come out and vote in the State Senate Election. Councilman Bird offered his appreciation to the city staff for all their support and help during the weather event.

Mayor J. Micheal Evans reiterated similar comments encouraging citizens to come out and vote in the State Senate Election. Mayor J. Micheal Evans offered his appreciation to the public works, police and fire departments and all administrative staff for their dedication and customer service. Mayor J. Micheal Evans mentioned that the Governing Authority will be attending the GMA Cities United Summit conference in Atlanta from Thursday through Monday. Mayor J. Micheal Evans explained that the classes and relationships made during these events are invaluable, and help the Governing Authority to serve and run the city better.

Mayor J. Micheal Evans adjourned the meeting at 5:15pm.

Mayor J. Micheal Evans

Attest by City Clerk Lee Siefert

Date