

Regular Council Meeting

June 2, 2026

Meeting began at 6:00pm.

Invocation by Daryl Moore, member of Fellowship Bible Baptist Church.

Pledge of Allegiance led by City Clerk, Lee Siefert.

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

Welcome Extended by Mayor J. Micheal Evans to all those in attendance and on social media at the meeting.

Mayor's Moment

Mayor J. Micheal Evans presents a framed print of artwork given to the city by the Houston County Commissioners, commemorating America's 250th Anniversary, and depicts well known images of Houston County and surrounding cities.

Public Comments

No public comments made.

Adoption of Minutes

May 5, 2026; Regular Council Meeting

May 19, 2026; Council Work Session

Motion to approve both sets of minutes as written given by Councilwoman Velicia Y. Lowe. Second by Councilman Justin Wright. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

FY 2027 Proposed Budget Presentation: City Accountant Carol Harrison presented to the governing authority the FY2027 proposed budget. In Mrs. Harrison slide presentation, she reviewed several key points: fund structure, property tax and millage rate, revenues, and expenditures. Providing an overview of each fund and its function within the government.

- Mrs. Harrison explained that tax millage rate of 8.90 % (same as FY2026) was used to forecast a tax revenue of \$3,196,798 million (based on growth of 4%) for FY2027, until the FY2027 tax rate is set in early fall.
- She then provided an overview of each of the fund's revenue and the expected expenditures for the FY27 Total.
 - General Fund Revenue: \$5,767,749 (56% coming from property taxes); Enterprise Fund Revenue: \$7,920,528 million; Other Fund Revenues (SPLOST, LMIG, and CHIP) \$1,926,110 million, for a proposed total of \$15,614,387 million.
 - General Fund Expenditures of \$7,480,469 million (42%); Enterprise Expenditures (Water/Sewer, Stormwater, and Sanitation) of 7,477,401 million (80.44%) from the prior year. An increase of 16.85% (or \$2.5 million) from the Amended FY2026 Budget. This increase is due to increased SPLOST projects, additional personnel and continued Infrastructure projects in the Enterprise funds.

- Clarifying that 72% of the General Fund Expenditures and comes from Salaries & Wages (52% or \$3,861,652million) and Employee Benefits (20% or \$1.5million); and 20% of the Enterprise Funds Expenditures comes from Salaries & Wages (14% or \$1,061,830million) and Employee Benefits (6% or \$456,546); with a total staff of 77 full-time, 11 part-time, 5 elected officials, and lastly there will be five new positions (4-police dept. & 1-water dept.) added to the FY2027 budget year.

Mayor J. Micheal Evans requests that Mrs. Harrison go into more detail about the SPLOST Funds and how those funds will be distributed:

- Fire Engine Truck \$805,000; Fire Rescue Pump Truck \$400,000.
- LMIG Match \$36,000
- Police Vehicles \$300,000; Police Building Remodeling \$500,000
- Additional funds set aside for playground/old fire station renovation and engineering fees for the amphitheater & police renovation.

Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. requested an estimate of unspent funds for the FY 2026 from Mrs. Harrison:

- General Fund revenue of \$5,357,000; Expenditures of \$5,361,000, with a shortfall of \$4,754.
- Projection: Final year-end within \$200,000 of balanced. No significant funds unspent.

Councilman Armijo stepped out of the meeting to take a call at 6:12pm and returned at 6:17pm.

Appreciation expressed to Mrs. Harrison for the charts and explanations. Acknowledging that the budget is available here at the meeting and on the city website.

Council Meeting Closed at 6:28pm, by Mayor J. Micheal Evans

Public Hearing Opened at 6:28pm, by Mayor J. Micheal Evans

Public Hearing FY 2027 Proposed Budget: Mayor J. Micheal Evans.

No Public comments were made.

Public Hearing Closed at 6:29pm, by Mayor J. Micheal Evans

Council Meeting Opened at 6:29pm, by Mayor J. Micheal Evans

Work Detail Agreement Georgia Department of Corrections and City of Centerville: Utilities

Superintendent Chris Coleman presented a new work detail agreement to the Mayor and Council, which reflected a 5% increase for DOC work detail service (streets and grounds maintenance) effective July 1st. Special note mentioned that City Attorney Tydings has reviewed the agreement and found no issues.

Councilman Justin Wright inquires as to which option we will go with, GPS or Mobile Communication? Mr. Coleman explained the GPS in the vehicle option.

Appreciation offered for Mr. Coleman for his work on this, which helps keep the city clean.

Motion to approve Work Detail Agreement with GA Department of Corrections as written given by Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. Second by Councilman Edward Armijo. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Comments from Council

Post 1: Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. offered his appreciation to City Accountant Harrison, acknowledging how helpful the presentation was in covering everything clearly. Giving thanks to the

Department Heads for all their hard work in keeping the city in good shape. Councilman Bird invited everyone to come out this Friday to the Food Truck Friday event at CenterPark.

Post 2: Councilman Justin Wright made an announcement that the State Gas Tax Exemption will expire at midnight, encouraging everyone to go gas up.

Post 3: Councilwoman Velicia Y. Lowe offered her appreciation to City Accountant Harrison and Department Heads for keeping the city in a fiscally responsible state, which benefits the city and the citizens of Centerville. Councilwoman Lowe offered thanks to the citizens for voting for the SPLOST, it definitely helps fund city-wide projects and benefits everyone in the community. She encourages citizens to go online and review the budget to see all that is happening in the city.

Post 4: Councilman Edward Armijo offers congratulations and recognizes the Centerville Rotary Club (District 6920) for being selected as Small Club of the Year. Councilman Armijo makes a public announcement to respect CenterPark grounds and equipment, which is being monitored by our police department. Encouraging everyone to please take care of it, so that it can continue to be enjoyed by all.

Mayor J. Micheal Evans: Offers appreciation to all employees for all the hard work they do: Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works, and Administrative personnel. Mayor J. Micheal Evans mentioned the following upcoming events happening in the city: Independence Day Event (theme: America's 250th), Food Truck Friday, Market Days. Encouraging everyone to, "Live in the Center", and to come out and participate in these great events.

Executive Session: Potential Pending Litigation and Personnel Matters: Mayor J. Micheal Evans

Motion to go into Executive Session given by Councilman Justin Wright. Second by Councilman Edward Armijo. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Adjourned to go into Executive Session at 6:35pm.
Reconvened Council Meeting at 7:07pm.

Motion to approve Affidavit and Resolution given by Councilman Justin Wright. Second by Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. Motion carried. Unanimous.

1. Affidavit and Resolution: City Attorney Rebecca Tydings read resolution, and sworn by Mayor J. Micheal Evans affirming that items discussed during the executive session were as mention potential pending litigation and personnel matters.

Mayor J. Micheal Evans adjourned meeting at 7:08pm.

Mayor J. Micheal Evans

Attest by City Clerk Lee Siefert

Date