

## Molena City Council Meeting Minutes

**Location:** 10 Spring Road, Molena, GA 30258

**Date:** April 13, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 PM

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

#### I. Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Joyce Corley

#### II. Invocation

An invocation was offered by Councilmember Willie McDowell

### Roll Call

Members present: Mayor Joyce Corley; Councilmember Christy McCrary, Post 1; Councilmember Willie McDowell, Post 2; Councilmember Lisa Brogdon, Post 3; Councilmember Ted Meeks, Post 4; Mayor Pro Tempore Damon Riggins, Post 5; L. Scott Mayfield, Attorney; Chief of Police Matthew Polk; Assistance Chief of Police Phillip Perry; Officer Hogan; City Clerk Tina L. Lee; Assistant City Clerk Alla Drake

**Public present:** Eric Patterson, Amanda Huddleston, Heather Maddox, Chris Childress, David Paulson

---

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**I. Motion:** To approve March 2026 minutes

**Moved by:** Damon Riggins, Mayor Pro Tempore

**Seconded by:** Lisa Brogdon, Post 3

**Vote:** 5/0

---

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**I. Motion:** To approve current meeting agenda

**Moved by:** Damon Riggins, Mayor Pro Tempore

**Seconded by:** Lisa Brogdon, Post 3

**Vote:** 5/0

---

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS/INVITED GUESTS/REQUESTS (WITH POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS)**

I. Invited guest Dianne Lyle was not present for discussion. The council recommended to proceed with disconnecting her water services on April 16 unless she pays the full balance by the end of April 15 workday.

### **II. Ted Meeks Ted Meeks – Agricultural Well Discussion**

Ted Meeks discussed drilling a well for agricultural business operations, not for drinking water. The location is outside city limits; therefore, no city approval is required. Counsel noted potential legal issues if water from the well were supplied back into city limits. Griffin was suggested as a possible system connection option.

II. Chris Childress – Water Authority & Infrastructure Chris Childress introduced himself as a contender for the post of County Commissioner and discussed the county water authority plan completed several years ago but not acted upon. He emphasized the need for county–city cooperation on water infrastructure and noted immediate needs that were identified but not implemented.

### **III. Alla Drake – Pick Up Molena Cleanup Initiative**

Alla Drake presented plans for a cleanup event on April 22–23. Short notice created logistical challenges, equipment and dumpsters were unavailable. Fifty-four parents have committed to participate per resident Amanda Huddleston. Council approved an informal “bring your own supplies” cleanup next week and a formal cleanup event in the fall. The Clerk’s office was authorized to arrange a dumpster within mayoral authority. Chief Polk offered police department assistance for trash pickup.

## **COUNCIL ACTION ON GUEST REQUESTS**

- Informal cleanup approved for April 22–23
  - Clerks authorized to secure a dumpster
  - Formal cleanup event to be scheduled for fall
-

## **CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT – MATTHEW POLK**

### **I. Personnel Introductions**

Chief Polk introduced Assistant Chief Phillip Perry (formerly Jonesboro PD) and Officer Hogan.

### **II. Number of Calls & Citations**

**105 total** incidents, **77** of them **traffic stops**

### **III. Vehicle Status & Mileage**

A. 2020 Explorer: 55,681 miles

B. 2023 Dodge Charger: 54,682 miles

C. Status of other vehicles currently in use: No issues reported

### **IV. Asset Forfeiture Account Compliance**

Chief Polk reported that the current account setup improperly commingles asset forfeiture funds with the general account and stressed this needs to be corrected immediately. Motion passed to remove all names except Chief Polk from the signature card and to establish dedicated checks and debit card access.

Department does not own guns or bulletproof vests; officers currently provide their own. Asset forfeiture funds may be used for necessary equipment purchases.

---

## **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES**

### **I. Buildings, Streets, and Grounds**

Council discussed a parking shortage downtown. All current spaces are full, and reopening vacant buildings may increase demand. Potential solutions include gravel or paved parking areas, eminent domain considerations, and required lighting. Hayes was consulted for land-use planning.

Clerk's office advised to meet with businesses and ask them to park out back leaving on street parking available for customers.

Pavilion maintenance needs were discussed, including exterior painting, replacement of two non-functional fans, and repair/repainting of signage.

### **II. Public Safety**

Burning restrictions were noted: red flag conditions prohibit burning, and the May 1 burn ban is approaching.

### **III. Technology**

Nothing to report

#### IV. Ways & Means

Nothing to report

#### V. Water

No additional items beyond ordinance discussions.

---

### OLD BUSINESS

I. Water Ordinance Amendments Mr. Mayfield will draft the new water ordinance based on Council's approval of the sample ordinance language provided for council review.

II. Nuisance / Blight Ordinance Discussion regarding possibilities. Clerks were advised to provide Mr. Mayfield with the worst properties and he will assist in working with the Prosecutor to prompt action.

---

### NEW BUSINESS

#### I. Quotes and Invoices

Two pressure-washing quotes were rejected.

**Motion:** to approve the pressure washer invoice:

**Moved by:** Damon Riggins, Mayor Pro Tempore

**Seconded by:** Lisa Brogdon, Post 3

**Vote:** 5/0

Gutter cleaning quotes remain pending

#### II. Audit Firm Selection

**Motion:** To approve Nichols Cauley for audit services at \$6,250 per audit year.

**Moved by:** Damon Riggins, Mayor Pro Tempore

**Seconded by:** Lisa Brogdon, Post 3

**Vote:** 5/0

This selection supports restoration of grant eligibility after a 6–7 year audit gap.

#### III. Estimated Rollback Millage Rate (HB 581)

Discussion held.

**Motion:** To approve the estimated rollback rate and authorize the clerk's office to certify and provide to appropriate authorities.

**Moved by:** Damon Riggins, Mayor Pro Tempore

**Seconded by:** Lisa Brogdon, Post 3

**Vote:** 5/0

#### IV. Proposal by Lisa Brogdon – Minimum Building Lot Size Increase

Discussion held.

Clerks instructed to advertise and include notices in water bills regarding a called Townhall Meeting at the next City Council Meeting.

V. Utility Account – Diane Lyle cutoff scheduled for April 16 if no payment is received. Must be brought to a zero balance.

VI. Discussion of Parcel 019A 053 – Former Well Site (.02 acres on Grubbs Street)  
Council discussed the options and agreed to sell the parcel at a reduced rate of \$800.

---

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session

---

#### **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

General discussion about items presented; no formal actions taken

---

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** to adjourn the April 2026, Regular City Council Meeting:

**Moved by:** Damon Riggins, Mayor Pro Tempore

**Seconded by:** Christy McCrary, Post 1

**Vote:** 5/0

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Next Regular Meeting: May 11, 2026, at 6:00 PM.