

Regular Meeting of the
Board of Mayor and Council
City of McKenzie
McKenzie, TN 38201
January 8, 2026

A. Call to Order – Mayor Griffin

- B. Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Griffin asked for a moment of silent prayer to honor Ms. Marsha Townes, mother of Councilperson Jessie Townes who had passed away. Prayer and Pledge were then led by Councilperson Alexander.

C. Roll Call

Vice Mayor Beeler - Present

Councilperson Alexander – Present

Councilperson Armpriest - Present

Councilperson McBride - Present

Councilperson Townes - Absent

Councilperson Young - Present

D. Mayor's Welcome:

Mayor Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. At this time, he extended a warm welcome.

E. Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Councilperson Armpriest, second by Councilperson McBride to approve the minutes dated December 11, 2025

Motion carries

F. Financial Matters:

None

G. Citizen's Input:

No one had signed in.

H. Old Business:

A. None

I. New Business:

A. Resolution honoring Joel Washburn for his time with the Industrial Board.

Motion made by Councilperson Alexander, 2nd by Councilperson Armpriest

At this time, Mayor Griffin read the resolution and submitted it to Mr. Washburn.

Motion carries

B. Proclamation honoring MHS Band

Motion made by Councilperson McBride, 2nd by Councilperson Armpriest

At this time, Mayor Griffin read the proclamation and presented it to Band Director Daniel Capua. (See attached)

Councilperson Young then asked to speak saying we have lots of things happening on Friday nights with football, but we also have a great band there performing and cheerleaders cheering the crowd on, so just wanted to thank them for the job they do.

Councilperson McBride then spoke and said Councilperson Young and him were band Geeks when they were in high school, so they are proud to see the band still going and being so successful in their endeavors.

Motion carries

C. Discussion/Approval for the 6 yr. appointment of Logan Drewry to the IDB Board

Motion made by Councilperson Armpriest, 2nd by Vice Mayor Beeler.

Roll Call vote

Councilperson Young: Yes

Councilperson McBride: Yes

Councilperson Armpriest: Yes

Vice Mayor Beeler: Yes

Councilperson Alexander Yes

No discussion

Motion carries

D. Discussion/Approval on Resolution 25-005 Annex Certain Territory into City Limits

Motion made by Councilperson Young, 2nd Councilperson Armpriest

Roll Call vote

Councilperson Young:	Yes	Councilperson McBride:	Yes
Councilperson Armpriest:	Yes	Vice Mayor Beeler:	Yes
Councilperson Alexander	Yes		

No discussion

Motion carries

E. Discussion/Approval on Ordinance # 576 Providing A Municipal Zoning Plan for Annexed Property

Motion made by Councilperson McBride, 2nd Councilperson Vice Mayor Beeler

Roll Call vote

Councilperson Young:	Yes	Councilperson McBride:	Yes
Councilperson Armpriest:	Yes	Vice Mayor Beeler:	Yes
Councilperson Alexander	Yes		

No discussion

Motion carries

F. Discussion/Approval on Resolution 26-001 Adopt a Plan of Service for the Annexation

Motion made by Councilperson Armpriest, 2nd by Councilperson McBride.

Roll Call vote

Councilperson Young:	Yes	Councilperson McBride:	Yes
Councilperson Armpriest:	Yes	Vice Mayor Beeler:	Yes
Councilperson Alexander	Yes		

No discussion

Motion carries

G. Discussion/Approval to proceed with reconstruction of the park pond's water.

Motion made by Councilperson McBride, Vice Mayor Beeler.

Mayor Griffin explained that he and Park Director Hollowell had been in discussion with TWRA to breach the current pond, so that it could dry out and we could dig and dredge it deeper. Public Works Director Mercer and I have spoken with Director Hollowell talking about being able to use a lot of that dirt to push to one side that is lacking support. Each year TWRA stocks our pond and typically when it gets hot, the pond flips and we lose a lot

of our fish. After speaking with TWRA , Director Hollowell and I were told to wait until March. If we move forward with this, we will work with Ms. Lacy Lane, who is on our fire department and also a TWRA employee. Lacey will help us save as many fish as possible by moving to other ponds. If we do this, it will be 2028 before we can open up again, due to restocking. TWRA has committed to restocking as soon as we can put water back in. So, the goal is hopefully by the fall of this year, we will have it filled back up. Also, while in the process of doing this, we would add a water feature, which will help add oxygen to the water to help us maintain the fish.

Any comments or questions?

Councilperson Armpriest asked if we had budgeted for this. Mayor Griffin explained there shouldn't be a large cost, as Director Mercer would be using the city back hoe, he then asked Director Hollowell if he wanted to add to this. Hollowell's response was that only foreseeable cost was if we had to rent something larger than the city backhoe.

J. Department Head Reports:

Chief Tucker with Fire Department stated they had responded to 57 calls. Chief Tucker informed everyone the Safe Haven Baby Box had been completely paid for and we should be receiving it before long, and then installation would start.

Water Superintendent Earnest Umstead reported a lot of renovations were happening at the sewer plant. The new bar screen was working well. He also stated that with the new homes being built, his department would experience a lot growth.

Parks Director Hollowell stated his crew had gotten all the Christmas lights down that had been in the downtown. They were busy getting the new playground equipment for the splash pad together and erected.

Police Chief White reported 981 calls from his department. 484 of these were security checks, 96 traffic stops, 46 ambulance, 39 log information, 28 welfare checks and 26 officer investigations and various other calls. Chief White took this time to propose to the council about taking \$ 48,550.00 of DUI money to purchase a new vehicle costing approximately \$ 54,320.00. The additional \$ 5,717.00 could be taken from the LEPO account, resulting in no cost to the city.

Attorney Pemberton responded that the department could spend this money. Even though there is no major cost to the city, it has to be presented so the public is aware.

Codes Enforcer Darrow reported that there would be two gentlemen coming into city Court. One concerning a fence matter, and the other a house demolition. He had three dogs that would be in the process of being adopted.

Superintendent Mercer reported they were in the process of removing all the Christmas lights. They had opened the road on Mulberry at the soccer complex. His crew was working on David Street culvert and they were running their regular weekly pick-up routes.

City Recorder Jennifer Waldrup reported that after tax season, the office ladies would take time to start cross-training.

Mayor Griffin reminded everyone that the city had now started the four-day work week of 10 hours per day Monday – Thursday.

J. Council Reports:

Councilperson Alexander took this time to thank the band for representing McKenzie in a special way.

Councilperson McBride said he would also like to thank the band members for the great Job representing McKenzie.

- K. With no further business, a motion was made by Councilperson McBride to adjourn @ 6:20 p.m., 2nd by Vice Mayor Beeler.
Motion carries

APPROVED: _____

Ryan Griffin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Jennifer Waldrup, City