

Front Porch Town



Town of Brantley

Steve Walker, Mayor

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## COUNCIL MEETING: MARCH 10, 2026

The Town Council for the Town of Brantley met on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Brantley Armory with the following members present: Mayor Walker, Linda Berry, Scott Beck, Charles Tompkins, Lorey Bogen and Alfredia Wiley. Notice of meeting was posted at Town Hall, U.S. Post Office and Brantley Library. Others present were: Diane Mears, Bill Rayborn and several town residents.

Mayor Walker said prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken by Mayor Walker. All council members present (5).

**Motion was made by Councilman Beck and seconded by Councilwoman Berry to approve the February 10, 2026 Minutes. Approved 4-1 (Councilman Bogen opposed).**

Councilman Bogen did not agree with motion regarding meeting fees (\$25.00); requested Attorney General response.

### **MAYOR WALKER & COUNCIL COMMENTS & ACTIONS:**

- Brantley Basketball Team won Championship; Pep Rally (Proclamation) will be March 17; Parade will be March 28, 2026; time of day has not been set as of this date.
- Recreation – first game tonight (3/10/26); great crowd present.
- 2025 Statement of Economic Interest is due April 30, 2026; website is: [www.ethics.alabama.gov](http://www.ethics.alabama.gov).
- Chief Titus Averett was involved in an accident while traveling to attend Chief Conference in Montgomery and police truck was totaled; in process of stripping equipment before insurance company takes truck; estimated ins. value less deductible is app. \$16,000.
- During Chief Averett's trip to Birmingham for tournament on the 2019 Tahoe, the vehicle had problems and had to be towed back to Armory; Mayor stated that the Town previously replaced vehicles every 3-4 years; council needs to consider the sale of 2019 Tahoe.
- Ordinance (1-2026) to sell 2000 Ford Pickup (estimated purchase price of \$300.00); **Motion was made by Councilman Bogen and seconded by Councilman Tompkins to waive thirty (30) day waiting period. Approved 5-0.**
- **Motion was made by Councilwoman Berry and seconded by Councilwoman Wiley to accept Ordinance (1-2026) "Sell 2000 Ford Pickup". Approved 5-0.**
- Bailey buildings are near clean up completion (done for safety).

- Mayor stated that the Bailey properties (to sell or lease) has not been decided by council at this time. Councilwoman Berry objects to selling Town property because once sold the town has no control of the historical preservation; this opinion was agreed to by Councilman Tompkins. Councilman Tompkins suggested that a plan be developed for downtown.
- Pam Campbell spoke as representative of the (local) Historical Society;
- **Motion was made by Councilman Tompkins and seconded by Councilman Bogen to “unable” the Bailey building properties until a plan is established. Approved 5-0.**
- Ms. Ruby Coleman’s term on the Board of Housing expired February 7, 2026; not sure if this was executed properly.

**COMMENTS BY COUNCIL:**

- **Councilwoman Berry:**
  - o Garden club selling ferns until March 17
  - o Amend Zoning Ordinance to rezone certain properties from B-1 to R-1
  - o Urges council regarding responsibility in use of language/communication while addressing group text
- **Councilwoman Wiley:**
  - o Hiring/Applications; why is the town using inmates; Clerk replied that no one is refused an application and inmates are used because of brief work projects on short notice
- **Councilman Beck:**
  - o Striping of Sasser Street & Fulton Street
  - o Parking lot repair in Brantley Housing (Glenwood Rd.)
  - o Big hole on Mill/Emmett St.
  - o Progress on Recreation Grant
  - o Do we have a grant representative? Is this an option to appoint a representative? Clerk replied that former Mayor Sullivan had been the so called representative due to his relationship with several political figures; Council requested that Mayor speak with former Mayor Sullivan regarding position of Industrial representative for town.
  - o Scotty Abadilla (Bailey properties almost completed);
  - o Court was changed to quarterly; suggested that court be reverted back to monthly; Mayor said Brandon Coots had suggested transferring to district court rather than town court;
  - o **Motion was made by Councilman Beck and seconded by Councilman Tomkins to revert to monthly court until Labor Day, 2026. Approved 5-0.**
- **Councilman Tompkins:**
  - o What is status of Tuberville grant that is due March 27 (no progress at this time); Councilwoman Berry suggested police cars (law enforcement); Mayor suggests Recreation improvements; Councilman Beck questions water tank (ADEM requirement); clerk stated that U.S. Tank has given a 10 year maintenance quote to handle ADEM requirement; Councilman Tompkins stated that his conversation with Jim Majors about water availability should the town annex further north should be addressed in near future.
  - o Striping at Sasser ballfield; Mayor stated that recreation board discussed and parking lot will be washed and temporarily stripped.

- Drug issue at ballfield; need strong presence by law enforcement at games;
- James Sasser property across from ballfield is listed for rent; may be used for additional parking;
- **Councilman Bogen:**
  - Sorry for language used in group text
  - Jerry White behind Larry Mitchell – why are we cleaning? Health issue between two residential homes that join small property; (in April 16 meeting, Councilman Bogen questioned language used; clerk listening to tape and emailed Councilman Bogen of wording – Clerk said “health issue”; Mayor said “health hazard”).
  - Need to recruit someone for clerk position; Chief Averett stated that clerk was sick one time and paychecks for police were given on Friday instead of Thursday; also stated that there is no one certified to handle court; Clerk stated that she was certified as a Magistrate (was certified when working at Dozier) and police payroll checks are always dated for Friday;
- **Chief Titus Averett:**
  - Asked if any monies were received from DEA (Jason Burch); clerk stated that app. \$12,000 has been received (3 cases), several cases are still pending; clerk reminded Chief Averett that he was in attendance at town hall for phone conference (last month) with the DEA representative about use of funds ;
  - Is the Chief of Police and Fire Chief supposed to attend council meetings? Mayor replied that he didn’t know if it was a requirement but the Police Chief usually attends, not so much the Fire Chief; Councilman Bogen stated that it was good to have Police Chief at meeting to answer any council questions asked; Councilman Bogen stated that Police Chief didn’t get paid to attend council meeting; Chief Averett asked if council continued to receive police reports; clerk stated that the monthly reports that are furnished by the Magistrate are given to Mayor/council members. Councilman Beck stated that a daily log needs to be required since police are usually on 24 hours.
  - Councilman Bogen stated that Chief Averett should be at all Police Committee meeting. All Committee meeting are public (except for working meetings).

**Motion was made by Councilman Bogen and seconded by Councilman Beck to adjourn. Approved 5-0.**

  
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 Mayor Steve Walker

May 12, 2026  
 Date:

**NEXT SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING: APRIL 16, 2026**