

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF KENNESAW
Council Chambers
(2529 J.O. Stephenson Avenue, Kennesaw, GA 30144)**

**Livestream: www.kennesaw-ga.gov/publicmeetings/
November 3, 2025
6:30 PM**

Present	Mayor Derek Easterling Mayor Pro Tem Pat Ferris Councilmember Madelyn Orochena Councilmember Tracey Viars Councilmember Antonio Jones Councilmember Anthony Gutierrez-Leon City Clerk Lea Alvarez City Manager Jeff Drobney City Attorney Sam Hensley, Jr.
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1. Invocation

City Resident Carlene Fregeolle led the Invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Kennesaw Police Chief Bill Westenberger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Call to Order

Mayor Easterling called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

4. Announcements

5. Presentations

6. Public Comment

This section is for comment on any item on the agenda.

6:30 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:31 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Committee and Board Reports

10. Public Hearing(s)

A. Ordinance: Chapter 22 Amendments

Consideration for approval an Ordinance to amend Chapter 22, entitled, "Businesses" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Kennesaw, Georgia.

City Attorney Sam Hensley, Jr. presented an Ordinance to amend Chapter 22, entitled, "Businesses" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Kennesaw, Georgia. The proposed amendments are part of an ongoing effort to comprehensively revise Chapter 22. Most of the revisions focus on clarifying the distinctions between occupational tax certificates and privileged licenses. Mr. Hensley, Jr. noted that staff had originally advertised this public hearing for tonight's meeting; however, the review and revision process is still underway, and the public hearing will need to be postponed indefinitely.

Mayor Easterling asked for the motion to be read as withdrawing the agenda item indefinitely.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ferris to withdraw an Ordinance to amend Chapter 22, entitled, "Businesses" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Kennesaw, Georgia indefinitely. Seconded by Councilmember Orochena.

6:31 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:32 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

Vote taken: motion unanimously approved 5-0. Motion passed.

11. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes: October 13, 2025 Work Session

Approval of the October 13, 2025, City Council work session minutes.

B. Minutes: October 13, 2025 Executive Session

Approval of the October 13, 2025, City Council executive session minutes.

C. Minutes: October 20, 2025 Regular Meeting

Approval of the October 20, 2025, City Council regular meeting minutes.

D. Minutes: October 20, 2025 Executive Session

Approval of the October 20, 2025, City Council executive session minutes.

E. Resolution: Settlement Agreement with Lance Oil Company

Consideration for approval of a Resolution authorizing a Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release of Claims between the City of Kennesaw and A.R. Brooks Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Lance Oil Company.

Resolution No. 2025-70

F. Resolution: Stormwater and Sewer Easements

Consideration for approval of a Resolution authorizing stormwater and sewer easements with Delta Performance, LLC.

Resolution No. 2025-71

G. Purchase Authorization: Vehicles and Equipment

Consideration to authorize the purchase of vehicles and equipment approved in the FY26 Budget.

H. Resolution: Chalker Park

Consideration for approval of a Resolution to award a contract with Gay Construction as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for Chalker Park.

Resolution No. 2025-72

Motion by Councilmember Viars to approve the Consent Agenda engross. Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez-Leon.

Vote taken: motion unanimously approved 5-0. Motion passed.

12. General and Administrative

13. Public Safety

A. Crime Stats: September 2025

Consideration to accept the September 2025 crime statistics.

Chief Bill Westenberger presented the September 2025 crime statistics [See **Exhibit A**].

Motion by Councilmember Viars to accept the September 2025 crime statistics as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Orochena.

Vote taken: motion unanimously approved 5-0. Motion passed.

14. Information Technology

15. Public Works and Building Maintenance

16. Recreation and Culture

17. Community Development

18. Public Comment

This section is for general comment.

6:35 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

ANDREW BRAMLETT [City Resident]: Mr. Bramlett provided some history on the near involvement of Kennesaw in the filming of *God's Little Acre* [See **Exhibit B**].

DONOVAN GIARDINA [City Council Post 3 Candidate]: Mr. Giardina was pleased to see that the Taste of Kennesaw was well attended over the weekend. He shared that his team canvassed approximately 400 homes in preparation for the upcoming election and reminded everyone to get out and vote tomorrow.

6:38 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

19. City Manager's Report

A. Reports, Discussions, and Updates

Dr. Drobney reminded the Council that he had sent an update earlier in the day.

20. Mayor's Report

A. Mayor and Council (re)appointments to Boards and Commissions. This item is for (re)appointments made by the Mayor to any Board, Committee, Authority, or Commission requiring an appointment to fill any vacancies, resignations, and to create or dissolve boards and commissions, as deemed necessary.

21. Council Reports & Discussions

Mayor Pro Tem Ferris asked what game the City would be displaying on November 15 at the Depot. He suggested showing the Georgia vs. Texas college football game. Dr. Drobney shared the City will update everyone once the licensing has been figured out.

Councilmember Jones had nothing to add this evening.

Councilmember Orochena hoped everyone enjoyed the weekend as much as she did. She went trick-or-treating on Friday, attended the Taste of Kennesaw on Saturday, and saw Paul McCartney in concert on Sunday.

Councilmember Gutierrez-Leon shared that he had a fun weekend with Halloween and the Taste of Kennesaw. He thanked all the vendors, staff, and volunteers who helped make those events possible.

Councilmember Viars reminded everyone to sign up to place a Christmas tree in Depot Park by November 16. Spots are first come, first served.

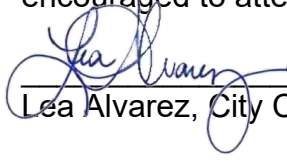
22. Executive Session

Pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A 50-14-3, the City Council could, at any time during the meeting, vote to close the public meeting and move to executive session to discuss matters relating to litigation, legal actions and/or communications from the City Attorney; and/or personnel matters; and/or real estate matters.

23. Adjourn

Mayor Easterling adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m. The next work session will be held on Monday, November 10, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The public is

encouraged to attend.



Lea Alvarez, City Clerk

September 2025 Crime Statistics



Group A Crimes	Sep 2025	Sep 2024	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	6 (+3)	3	39 (+7)	32
ANIMAL CRUELTY	0 (+0)	0	0 (+0)	0
ARSON	0 (+0)	0	1 (+1)	0
BRIBERY	0 (+0)	0	0 (+0)	0
BURGLARY	2 (-4)	6	25 (-3)	28
DRUG/ NARCOTICS OFFENSES	32 (+8)	24	273 (-4)	277
EMBEZZLEMENT	0 (+0)	0	3 (+1)	2
EXTORTION	0 (-4)	4	9 (-7)	16
FORGERY	1 (+1)	0	12 (-3)	15
FRAUD OFFENSES	14 (+3)	11	128 (+12)	116
HOMICIDE OFFENSES	0 (+0)	0	0 (-2)	2
INTIMIDATION	7 (+1)	6	92 (+44)	48
KIDNAPPING	1 (-1)	2	10 (-2)	12
LARCENY/ THEFT OFFENSES	16 (+3)	13	126 (+20)	106
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	2 (+0)	2	25 (+4)	21
PORNOGRAPHY OBSCENE MATERIAL	0 (-1)	1	2 (-6)	8
ROBBERY	0 (+0)	0	4 (+2)	2
SEX OFFENSES	4 (-3)	7	25 (-3)	28
SIMPLE ASSAULT	16 (+5)	11	123 (-37)	160
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES	0 (-2)	2	11 (-5)	16
VANDALISM	3 (-3)	6	52 (-6)	58
WEAPONS LAW VIOLATIONS	3 (+1)	2	39 (+9)	30
Totals	107	100	999	977

	Sep 2025	Sep 2024	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
Dispatched Calls for Service	823 (+69)	754	6,871 (+734)	6,137
Self-Initiated Activity	1,690 (+578)	1,112	12,993 (+3,305)	9,688
Traffic Citations	777 (+326)	451	5,687 (+725)	4,962
Traffic Warnings*	930 (+277)	653	7,174 (+1,761)	5,413
Arrests**	85 (+26)	59	733 (+7)	726

	Sep 2025	Sep 2024	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
Auto Accidents	104 (-1)	105	934 (+100)	834
Accident w/ Injury	8 (-4)	12	86 (+15)	71
Hit and Run	16 (+5)	11	117 (+33)	84
Hit and Run w/ Injury	0 (+0)	0	3 (+0)	3
Person Hit by Auto w/ Injury	2 (+2)	0	5 (+2)	3

* Warnings do not include verbal warnings
Arrests do not include juvenile arrests

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KENNESAW HISTORY

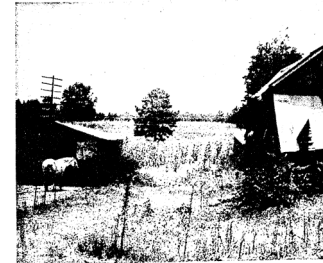
God's Little Acre

Georgia is now a major part of today's film industry, but in the 1950s it was a much smaller part of the state's economy. In 1957, Hollywood tried to film in Kennesaw, though they would be quickly rebuffed.

Georgia author Erskine Caldwell's 1933 novel *God's Little Acre* was an international bestseller, and it examined a dysfunctional farming family near Augusta. In 1957, United Artists began work on a film adaptation and planned to film in Augusta, but due to the novel's scandalous nature Augusta turned them down.

Kennesaw farmer N. L. "Red" Shivers and his neighbor Mrs. Trippe offered their land for the filming. The farmland featured an authentic Georgia farmhouse and a cotton field. Shivers faced pushback from the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce, who felt that *God's Little Acre* would paint Georgia in to negative a light and that filming it in Kennesaw would be a detriment to the state. At the same time, concerned citizens wrote the *Marietta Daily Journal* expressing opposition. After the controversy, the production company announced plans to film near Hollywood instead. The film was ultimately filmed in California, and released in 1958.

Is This "God's Little Acre"?



OLD GRAY NABE MUNCHES CORN. UNABARE THAT THE DAY BE DISTURBED. Bounded by Barn and Field of Corn. Tripple Local Color For Film Company



REAL GEORGIA COTTON WOULD GROW. GEORGIA SETTING FOR MOVIE. Shown in Background to Use of the Buildings on the Shivers Farm



SWEET HANGOVERS BEHOLD! MOUND EVERY CORN. BORN. Bounding Forth and Down. Yore Are Typical of Many Southern Farm Homes



THIS TRAMMEL SETTING FORTH. A HOUTCHER'S FEELING OF FARM LIFE. Would Take Some Working To Make Caldwell's Characters Feel at Home Here

SHIVERS OFFERS Kennesaw Farm As Set For Filming Caldwell

By JOYCE HOWARD

The possibility of filming Erskine Caldwell's controversial book "God's Little Acre" in Kennesaw, Ga., is being discussed by the Shivers family, who own the property.

Shivers, a 40-year-old farmer, said he was willing to rent the property for a period of six months to a year for a film company.

He said the property is a 100-acre farm with a large house and a barn.

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WALKER CUFFERS LEAVE LONDON (UP)—The British Walker Cup team which meets the U.S. in Kennesaw on Aug. 30 and 31, is expected to win the trophy next week, left for the U.S. today. "I hope it will make a good showing."

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August 14, 1957 Marietta Daily Journal

Presented by Andrew J. Bramlett at the November 3, 2025, City of Kennesaw Mayor & Council Meeting

Names and Addresses will be disclosed in the Permanent Minutes of the
City of Kennesaw

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR NAME IS LEGIBLE AND CLEAR

**City Council Meeting
11/3/2025
Public Comment Sign-in**

	Name	Address	Topic
1	<i>Andrew J. Bramlett</i>	<i>2990 Sonnenfield Ct.</i>	<i>Local history</i>
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