

clarifies the renewal process, providing licensees with clear expectations for annual alcohol license renewal as well as informing business owners of the penalties associated with the failure to maintain a valid license.

Councilmember Madelyn Orochena asked if there was a provision allowing smaller arts venues and blackbox theatres to obtain a license for less frequent use like a long weekend or several weekends.

Ms. Gordy advised Orochena that special events permits might be an appropriate use and that Finance could look into that type of permit for smaller arts venues and the like.

10. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes: February 9, 2026 Work Session

Approval of the February 9, 2026 City Council Work Session Minutes

B. Minutes: February 16, 2026 Regular Meeting

Approval of the February 16, 2026 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

11. General and Administrative

12. Public Safety

13. Information Technology

14. Public Works and Building Maintenance

A. Resolution: Landscaping at Southern Museum

Consideration for approval of a Resolution accepting the proposal from Creative Landscape Group to replace landscaping at the Southern Museum.

Public Works Director Ricky Stewart presented a resolution accepting a proposal from Creative Landscaping to provide landscaping services at the Southern Museum. After noticing many unhealthy, overgrown, and dying plants on the grounds of the Southern Museum, Public Works contacted Creative Landscaping for a cost estimate, which was \$47,725.00. Stewart recommended the expenditure citing the state of the grounds at the Southern Museum.

After receiving confirmation from the Council, Mayor Easterling suggested moving the item to the Consent Agenda for the regular meeting.

B. Resolution: 2026 Community Development Block Grant Subrecipient Agreement

Consideration for approval of a Resolution authorizing the program year 2026 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Subrecipient Agreement between Cobb County and the City of Kennesaw.

Public Works Director Ricky Stewart presented a resolution authorizing the annual 2026 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) subrecipient agreement between

Cobb County and the City of Kennesaw. Stewart explained that in order for the City to be part of the Cobb County CDBG instead of competing statewide, the City must enter into this agreement. The annual subrecipient agreement allots the City a set amount for the year instead of competing statewide for Georgia State CDBG funding. The funds must be used for disadvantaged neighborhoods, but Public Works uses the funds for sidewalk expansion and to address drainage issues in the City's lower income neighborhoods. The total funding available for 2026 is \$113,322.

Councilmember Orochena asked about the scope of work for City CDBG projects. She asked what parts of the city have projects slated to receive funding. Mr. Stewart advised that disadvantaged neighborhoods are eligible due to factors such as age, race, and income. Public Works has been focusing on sidewalk construction in the Woodland Acres area off Pine Mountain Road and will continue to work there over the next two years to create other connections to major roadways to ensure pedestrians in that neighborhood have sidewalk access. The demographics in Woodland Acres fit the requirements for funding. Public Works has performed work in the Kennesaw Heights/ Shirley Drive area and there is some eligibility for the Twelve Oaks neighborhood.

Councilmember Orochena asked if Council would be able to review the final scope of work for upcoming CDBG projects in the City of Kennesaw with specific locations. Stewart confirmed that Public Works will come back to Council with a list of projects and scopes of work.

After receiving confirmation from the Council, Mayor Easterling suggested moving the item to the Consent Agenda for the regular meeting.

15. Recreation and Culture

A. Resolution: All-Star Lighting and Electrical Services Proposal

Consideration for approval of a Resolution accepting the proposal from All-Star Lighting and Electrical Services, Inc. to install poles and upgrade lighting for baseball fields 5 and 6 at Adams Park.

Parks and Recreation Director Bill McNair presented a resolution authorizing the acceptance of a proposal submitted by All Star Lighting and Electrical Services, Inc. for the installation of lighting poles and lighting upgrades for baseball fields five (5) and six (6) at Adams Park.

After receiving confirmation from the Council, Mayor Easterling suggested moving the item to the Consent Agenda for the regular meeting.

B. Resolution: 2026 Athletic Association Facility Use Agreement

Consideration for approval of a Resolution renewing the 2026 Athletic Association Facility Use Agreement with the Kennesaw Baseball and Softball

Association.

Parks and Recreation Director Bill McNair presented a resolution authorizing the renewal of the 2026 Athletic Association Facility Use Agreement with the City of Kennesaw and the Kennesaw Baseball and Softball Association.

After receiving confirmation from the Council, Mayor Easterling suggested moving the item to the Consent Agenda for the regular meeting.

16. Community Development

17. Public Comments

6:39 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

STEVEN LUITJENS [City Resident]: Mr. Luitjens is the owner of Conservation Landscaping. He expressed support for a natural play area at Depot Park in downtown Kennesaw. He believes that nature-based play is increasingly absent in today's environment and a natural playground at Depot Park would be a meaningful and worthwhile investment by the City.

KRISTIN THOMAS [City Resident]: Ms. Thomas resides at 2976 N. Main Street, NW. She expressed support for a natural play space within downtown Kennesaw. She has two children, including one on the way. She takes her children to Depot Park and observes them "jumping from concrete to concrete and playing in the lighting equipment." She takes her children to play in Adams Park and Swift Cantrell Park, but she would like to see a play area downtown similar to what is in Acworth and Marietta.

BRITTANY HAUGEN [City Resident]: Mrs. Haugen resides at 2990 N. Main Street, NW. She expressed support for a natural playground in downtown Kennesaw. She and many other families attend Depot Park with their kids and friends. She would like to see a designated area at the park for kids to play in. She visits Adams Park and Swift Cantrell Park with her family, but Depot Park would be closer and more walkable like the park in downtown Woodstock.

JOHN HAUGEN [City Resident]: Mr. Haugen resides at 2990 N. Main Street, NW. Mr. Howgan supports a natural play area at Depot Park. He mentioned elected officials visiting his home over the years asking to place campaign signs in his yard and discussing ways to make Kennesaw more family-oriented. Howgan and his family utilized the playground at Depot Park before it was removed for park improvements. Walking to Swift Cantrell Park is not an easy journey and adding a play area a Depot Park would be very beneficial.

6:45 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

18. City Manager's Report

A. Reports, Discussions, and Updates

Kennesaw City Manager Jeff Drobney discussed the implications of Georgia House Bill 1105 (Georgia Criminal Alien Track and Report Act). The City of Marietta recently announced that they would be partnering with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Task Force in Georgia. New enforcement requirements have been added to Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which allows ICE to delegate limited immigration enforcement authority to state and local law enforcement agencies. Through signed memoranda of agreement, trained local officers identify, process, and detain individuals with criminal charges who are found to be in the country illegally. By joining the task force, municipalities avoid being stripped of current state funding and remain in consideration for future state funding. Dr. Drobney explained that the City has been in compliance, but we are not sure of the requirements. We will follow up on what is required of the City and the City Attorney is looking into it.

Councilmember Orochena asked Dr. Drobney if he would update Council upon receiving more information. He answered affirmatively.

Mayor Pro Tem Antonio Jones inquired about three (3) options related to 287(g) participation. Dr. Drobney informed him that the options require the City to have a jail, which it doesn't and Dr. Drobney explained that he would have to review Marietta's Task Force agreement as well as House Bill 1105.

Mayor Pro Tem Jones requested that the City Attorney determine who is held liable if certain things happen. He doesn't want our police officers to be held liable for a federal initiative.

Councilmember Anthony Gutierrez-Leon asked how much funding the City had received that could be potentially lost. Dr. Drobney responded that we have millions in designated federal dollars, not including CDBG funds or any other appropriations we may receive from the State.

Councilmember Orochena asked that, if the City had to enter into an additional 287(g) agreement, would Council approval be necessary. Dr. Drobney responded that the agreement would be entered into by the Chief of Police and the Kennesaw Police Department, and that approval by the Mayor and/or Council might not be necessary. He will follow up with the Mayor and Council when he has more information.

Mayor Pro Tem Jones inquired as to how the City could enter into the additional 287(g) agreement without approval from the Mayor and Council. Jones indicated that they could discuss after the meeting.

Mayor Easterling stated that the City Attorney will conduct research and provide the answers needed.

19. 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.

20. Council Reports & Discussions

21. 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.

Motion by Councilmember Jonathon Bothers to enter into Executive Session as allowed by O.C.G.A. Sec. 50-14-3 for the purpose of discussing land. Motion seconded by Councilmember Tracey Viars.

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

6:55 p.m. Recess to Executive Session

Mayor, City Council, City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Deputy City Clerk, and City Attorney attended Executive Session.

7:31 p.m. Reconvene to Open Session

Councilmember Jonathon Bothers read the Board back into Open Session and directed the Mayor and City Council to execute an affidavit in compliance with O.C.G.A. Sec. 50-14-4. Motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Antonio Jones. (See Exhibit A.)

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

22. Adjourn

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 Work Session

2/23/2026

Public Comment Sign-in

	Name	Address	Topic
1	<u>STEVEN LUITJENS</u>	<u>3840 JILES ROAD #1304 KENNESAW</u>	<u>DEPOT PARK</u>
2	<u>KRISTIN THOMAS</u>	<u>2976 N. MAIN STREET KENNESAW</u>	<u>DEPOT PARK</u>
3	<u>BRITTANY HAUGEN</u>	<u>2990 N. MAIN STREET KENNESAW</u>	<u>DEPOT PARK</u>
4	<u>JOHN HAUGEN</u>	<u>2990 N. MAIN STREET KENNESAW</u>	<u>DEPOT PARK</u>
5	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
6	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
7	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
8	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
9	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
10	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
11	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
12	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
13	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
14	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
15	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
16	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
17	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
19	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>