

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
KIMBALL, TENNESSEE
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026**

A meeting of the Kimball Board of Mayor and Aldermen was held on Thursday, May 7, 2026, in the Meeting Room of Town Hall, 675 Main Street, Kimball, Tennessee.

Mayor Pesnell called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Pesnell requested Vice Mayor Case to say the invocation over the meeting.

Mayor Pesnell requested Alderman Sisk to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Pesnell asked Recorder May to call roll.

Those present were Mayor Rex Pesnell, Vice Mayor Jerry Don Case, Alderman Teresa Lofty, Alderman Johnny Sisk and Attorney William Gouger.

Alderman John Matthews was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by **Alderman Lofty**, seconded by **Alderman Sisk** the Minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Monthly Board Meeting for April 9, 2026, were approved unanimously on a board vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Pesnell had the following under Old Business:

- The new sanitation truck has been delivered, and it was used on the route on Monday, May 4th.
- The ARPA Force Main grant work is progressing. The town has made several payments on this project to the contractor, engineering firm and grant administrator. The town engineer, grant administrator and contractor went through a state site visit. The visit went well and the project was in compliance with the grant rules and regulations.
- The town has received the new Fire Truck; however, the Resolution concerning the CDBG grant and the amount for the fire truck needs to be revised to accommodate some change orders.

A motion was made by **Vice Mayor Case** seconded by **Alderman Lofty** to approve Resolution 2026-01 – A resolution of the Town of Kimball, Tennessee Authorizing the Allocation of Matching Funds for the Purchase of a Fire Engine Under the 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. This resolution will update the existing Resolution 2024-02. The motion passed unanimously on a board vote.

SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

a.) First Reading of Ordinance No. 302 – An Ordinance of the Town of Kimball, Tennessee Adopting the Annual Operating Budget & Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2026, and Ending June 30, 2027, including raises in the budget

A motion was made by **Alderman Lofty**, seconded by **Alderman Sisk** to approve on First Reading of Ordinance No. 302 – An Ordinance of the Town of Kimball, Tennessee Adopting the Annual Operating Budget & Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2026, and Ending June 30, 2027. Attorney Gouger approved the language in the ordinance concerning tax rate for the first reading. The motion passed unanimously on a board vote.

b.) Michelle Story with Animal Protective Services of Marion County

Alderman Lofty stated Michelle Story was here but had to leave for medical reasons. She left paperwork which has been distributed to all board members for review. Ms. Story will return to a meeting later when things have progressed on this topic.

c.) Approval of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System Employer Determined Contribution of a minimum of 8.10% for July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027

A motion was made by **Vice Mayor Case**, seconded by **Alderman Sisk** to approve Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System Employer Determined Contribution of a minimum of 8.10% for July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. The motion passed unanimously on a board vote.

d.) First Reading of Ordinance No. 303 – An Ordinance to Amend the Official Kimball Zoning Map to Rezone a Portion of Property at 839 Main Street from R-1 Low Density Residential District to C-2 Highway Business District within the Corporate Limits of the Town of Kimball, Tennessee

A motion was made by **Vice Mayor Case**, seconded by **Alderman Lofty** to approve on First Reading of Ordinance No. 303 – An Ordinance to Amend the Official Kimball Zoning Map to Rezone a Portion of Property at 839 Main Street from R-1 Low Density Residential District to C-2 Highway Business District within the Corporate Limits of the Town of Kimball, Tennessee. The motion passed unanimously on a board vote.

e.) Discuss Bidding Out the Project on Lofty Drive concerning the drainage under the roadway

The bid specifications and drawing were provided in the packet. The mayor and town engineer have reviewed this project. Quotes were obtained; however, the quotes were above the town's limit which now requires bids to complete the project.

A motion was made by **Vice Mayor Case**, seconded by **Alderman Sisk** to accept bids on the Project on Lofty Drive concerning the drainage under the roadway. The bids will be accepted by the town until June 3, 2026, at 2 pm. The motion passed unanimously on a board vote.

f.) Approve the Kimball Fire and Rescue Department to buy a Combo Tool as approved in the Rescue Squads Grant Program dated May 15, 2026, to May 14, 2027, up to \$16,150 through Sourcewell Pricing with MES

A motion was made by **Alderman Sisk**, seconded by **Alderman Lofty** to approve the Kimball Fire and Rescue Department to buy a Combo Tool as approved in the Rescue Squads Grant Program dated May 15, 2026, to May 14, 2027, up to \$16,150 through Sourcewell Pricing with MES. The motion passed unanimously on a board vote.

g.) Approve the Kimball Fire and Rescue Department to buy Vehicle Strut Kits as approved in the Rescue Squads Grant Program dated May 15, 2026, to May 14, 2027, up to \$12,000 through Sourcewell Pricing with MES

A motion was made by **Alderman Lofty**, seconded by **Vice Mayor Case** to approve the Kimball Fire and Rescue Department to buy Vehicle Strut Kits as approved in the Rescue Squads Grant Program dated May 15, 2026, to May 14, 2027, up to \$12,000 through Sourcewell Pricing with MES. The motion passed unanimously on a board vote.

h.) Park Director Position

The mayor stated that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen along with two of the Kimball Park and Recreation Members interviewed four applicants for the position.

A motion was made by **Alderman Lofty**, seconded by **Vice Mayor Case** to table the Park Director Position until a meeting can be held with the Kimball Park and Recreation Board to see their recommendation on how to move forward with this position. She stated that this is an advisory board, and she believes that they need to advise. Mayor Pesnell stated that he has no problem with tabling the topic but thought that was the reason for the Kimball Park and Recreation Board Members to be included in the interviews. Mayor Pesnell also stated that he had told the applicants that there would be a decision by May 7th. He requested that someone call and let them know why there was no decision. **Vice Mayor Case** withdrew his second to tabling the issue. **Alderman Sisk** seconded the tabling of the issue. Vice Mayor Case wanted to go over a check list concerning the park director's position. This was discussed in depth. It was stated there is \$40,000 in the budget for the wages, plus insurance, and all other benefits which comes to approximately \$55,947 with benefits. It was asked what will the park director do for the town. Alderman Lofty stated that her daughter, her son along with her personally have put in 136 hours for soccer during the Spring Season. It was suggested that the town hire a seasonal person for soccer. In 2023, the Maintenance Supervisor was given an increase to cover the additional responsibility of the supervisor for covering things at the park since there was no park director. Alderman Lofty stated that she does not want the park to sit dormant. It was requested to see if there was a department that did not have a full-time paid employee over the department. The other department that has volunteers and two part-time employees is the Kimball Fire and Rescue Department. Alderman Lofty stated that there have been numerous meetings where the Board of Mayor and Aldermen have voted to hire a park director. It was asked what the town does for our citizens in Kimball. Kimball is the only one that has a soccer program in Marion County and some of the surrounding areas. Citizen/Mayor's Wife Jayne Pesnell stated that there is a lack of volunteers for programs in today's society. Alderman Lofty stated that she has volunteers from the school to help with events. Mayor Pesnell stated that the town does not have enough baseball/softball players to develop our own league. It was mentioned that select ball teams want to come to our facility and use the complex. Vice Mayor Case stated the town had the first ball game in April 2014 at the Kimball Complex. South Pittsburg has been leasing the fields for several years. Mayor Pesnell stated that South Pittsburg had about 4-5 teams this season. Applicant Kimberly Stephenson stated that the park director is there to make connections with people to try and promote and draw people into the park. Alderman Lofty stated that according to Channel 3 news, in 2024, 11 (eleven) million visitors poured into Chattanooga according to their tourism department which contributed over 1 (one) billion dollars in their economy which was primarily due to sports.

Mayor Pesnell requested a roll call vote on the motion which was to table the Park Director Position until the Kimball Park and Recreation Board has had time to meet and make a recommendation back to the Kimball Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Recorder May asked if it should be regular roll call vote or reverse order roll call vote. Mayor Pesnell changed his mind and asked for a vote which was Alderman Lofty and Alderman Sisk voting aye and Mayor Pesnell and Vice Mayor Case voting no. The motion was a tie; therefore, it carries over as unfinished business.

i.) Recommendation from the Park and Recreation Board to Charge a Fee to Rent/Reserve the Soccer Field Complex

Alderman Lofty stated that a group wants to rent the complex when Kimball is not using the Soccer Complex. They want to use it exclusively and possibly have a tournament. Kimball Soccer League will have priority.

A motion was made by **Alderman Sisk**, seconded by **Alderman Lofty** to send this back to the Kimball Park and Recreation Board for them to set the fees for the exclusive usage or tournament fees for the Soccer Complex. The motion passed unanimously on a board vote.

j.) Maintenance Report

Mayor Pesnell stated that the new sanitation truck has been delivered and already been used by our maintenance department. The new tractor is being used now to verify that everything is working properly.

k.) Fire Report

Alderman Sisk gave the fire report for April 2026 as follows: the department responded to four calls for the month which were two mutual aid calls, and two smoke investigations.

Fire Chief Keef stated that the department is waiting to use the new truck until it is properly insured and loaded. The town is also waiting on the drive out tag. The department has viewed the new rescue tool and struts and approved the ones to order through the grant.

l.) Parks and Recreation Report

Alderman Lofty stated the Park and Recreation Board meeting for April was canceled. Soccer teams will be playing in Dunlap for the next two weekends and then traveling to Middle Valley for the final weekend. The year end gifts have been ordered. The next meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2026, at 5:30 pm at town hall.

m.) Police Report

Vice Mayor Case gave an update on the Police Department as follows:

Litigation Tax and Training Fees	\$47.25
Court Costs and Fines	\$538.75
Sessions Court	\$1,018.39
TOTAL	\$1,604.39

The department responded to 197 calls for the month of April.

n.) Planning Commission Report

Vice Mayor Case stated that the planning commission meeting was held on April 21, 2026. The commission approved the rezoning request on the property at 839 Main Street from R-1 to C-2. A site plan was approved for Tipton Crane Repair/Machine Shop which will be a new 14,000 square foot building on Industrial Boulevard. The building will exceed the town's height restrictions; therefore, a Board of Zoning and Appeals meeting will be scheduled for May 19, 2026, at 5 pm. The next planning commission meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2026, at 5:30 pm.

o.) Attorney Report

Attorney Gouger stated that the Cell Tower Company did get the appropriate approval concerning the waiver of the Restrictive Covenants on the Timber Ridge Properties. There is a 90-day waiting period before work can begin after the approval. After this waiting period, the required testing may begin concerning the cell tower location.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Pesnell had items under new business as follows:

- Congratulate all the Primary Winners and wish everyone the best in the General Election.
- Town Hall and Maintenance will be closed May 25th for the Memorial Day Holiday. Sanitation will be on Tuesday, May 26th.
- The next monthly meeting will be June 4, 2026, at 6 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Roger Haggard stated that it sounds like maybe a park director was not exactly what the town is looking for but maybe the name should be park coordinator. The town may look to hire someone that is social media savvy to promote the park. He stated he would be willing to volunteer to help with the egg hunt and the preparation of the eggs before the event.

Citizen/Park Board Member Taylor Case stated that the park cost more than a million dollars for the improvements. He stated that a park director for \$40,000 is not too much for the position. He stated that he fully supports a park director; however, he is against the park director being asked to perform certain tasks that are more maintenance tasks. He stated that there are lots of different expectations for the position. To be successful it will require an active employee to keep the park up to date and going, not just volunteers.

Katie, with James C. Hailey and Company, stated the force main project is coming along nicely and will be done prior to the deadline. The site inspection went well. The pressure testing should be done next week. The bid documents for the culvert replacement should have been sent to the town.

Vice Mayor Case wanted to congratulate Presley Powers on her Miss Tennessee win and would like to wish her great success in the future with this title.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was nothing further to come before the board, a motion was made by **Alderman Sisk** to adjourn. The motion was seconded by **Alderman Lofty**. The motion passed unanimously on a board vote.



Rex Pesnell, Mayor



Tonia May, Recorder