

**Stanford City Council
Regular Council Meeting
Lincoln County Public Library Meeting Room
6:30 pm EST (5:30 pm CST)
August 13th, 2026**

I. Call to Order, Welcome, Pledge and Prayer

Mayor Jeremy Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm, and welcomed all in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Councilman Wilkinson opened the meeting with prayer.

II. Roll Call

A roll call was conducted with the following members present: Eddie Carter, Ronnie Deatherage, Jason Hignite, Joe Tackett and Jerry Wilkinson. Absent was Bill Miracle. A quorum was recognized by Mayor Johnson. Also present were Fire Chief Scott Maples, Police Chief Zach Middleton, Mayoral Candidate and Detective Joe Gilliland, Jane Vanhook, Chief Deputy PVA Dawn Atkins, City Council Candidates Sadie Durham and Greg Pettit, Mayoral Candidate Nehemiah Wilkinson, City Attorney John Hackley and citizen Max Hester.

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Councilman Wilkinson (2nd by Councilman Tackett) to approve the minutes from the July 9th, 2026, City Council Meeting as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

IV. Citizen's Comments

There were no citizen comments.

V. Council Comments

Splash Pad Committee Update:

Chief Maples shared that the committee (consisting of Chief Maples, Councilman Carter and Councilman Deatherage) went to view the Danville splashpads and spoke to BGADD about grant funding opportunities, most of which come with a matching contribution required from the city. BGADD will help with searching and writing the best grant for us if we so choose. Danville and some other cities funded their own projects due to the restrictions and stipulations of the grants.

There are 2 types of pads: a recirculating system and one that is free flowing. The recirculating system is a lot more expensive and requires more maintenance. Danville's pads are free flowing and the cost of one was \$250,000. Danville's peak water usage during their hottest months was 14,000 gallons per day. The committee plans to approach the fiscal court to see if there is any interest in pursuing a joint project and then look at sites. The site they currently prefer is at the L&N Depot. They will continue to gather information and will report again at the next council meeting.

Councilman Carter asked about the Historical Easement with the Fort Property. Mayor Johnson shared that Councilman Carter had set up a meeting with himself and Zach Osborne who is with the Kentucky Heritage Council. He handles easements for the state for historical or conservation purposes. Mr. Osborne had planned to be at tonight's meeting but was unable to attend due to a conflict with a monthly city meeting that he is involved with. He stated that he would prepare a packet and send to the Mayor that can be shared with the city council members and city attorney to review and discuss.

VI. Motion to Accept 2025 Audit

A Copy of the 2025 City Audit was sent to the council in their monthly packet.

Motion was made by Councilman Tackett (2nd by Councilman Wilkinson) to accept the 2025 Audit as submitted by Kerbaugh & Rodes, CPA's. All in favor, motion carried.

VII. Presentation of 2026 Tax Rate Calculation

Various rates available to set for the 2026 tax year were reviewed by the city council. After discussion concerning the budgeting requirements and setting of tax rates for both real and personal property a motion was made by Councilman Tackett (2nd by Councilman Hignite) to set both the real and personal property rate for the 2026 tax year at .11 cents per \$100. All in favor, motion carried.

VIII. Set Time and Date for Public Hearing on Tax Rate to September 10, 2026 at 6:15pm EST (5:15 CST)

Motion was made by Councilman Deatherage (2nd by Councilman Carter) to set the date and time for the public hearing on the 2026 tax rate to September 10th, 2026 at 6:15pm EST (5:15pm CST). All in favor, motion carried.

IX. Possible 1st Reading of Ordinance T2026 City of Stanford Tax Rates on Real and Personal Property

Motion was made by Councilman Tackett (2nd by Councilman Hignite) to have the 1st reading of Ordinance T2026 setting both real and personal property rates at .11 cents per \$100. All in favor, motion carried. City Attorney Hackley made the 1st reading.

X. Mayor's Information to Council

Mayor Johnson shared the following events and information:

- Please look over the calendar of events, Jenny and the tourism Board do an excellent job of putting together those events and he hopes everyone can get out and attend.
- Recognized our schools as they go back into session, both public and private and all staff. We honor the way they go above and beyond to care for our students.
- Acknowledged a letter received from Mr. & Mrs. Dariano that was received both by himself and the council. He spoke with the Dariano's this afternoon, and they wanted to make sure we were aware of the letter and the stake that they have in any future development in the industrial park.

Councilman Carter referenced a letter that was received by the council (but was not received by the Mayor, the police chief or clerk) concerning FLOCK cameras. Chief Middleton stated that the PD is reviewing their current policy and looking to make some changes to shorten even more the amount of time the footage is kept, but even as it stands there must be a reason logged in the system to view the footage, otherwise it is not ever looked at or shared. A copy of the letter was sent to the City Clerk and Chief Middleton to review and add to the record.

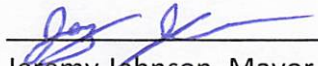
Councilman Deatherage asked about how the new law enforcement program at the high school is going. Chief Middleton responded that there are currently three different classes with at least 26 students. Captain Kirkpatrick is co teaching the class three days a week and is done by 11:00am. The students are taking classes in the Fundamentals of Law Enforcement, Constitutional Law and then receiving real-world hands-on training. The program is looking to implement a safe driver training course as well as some things they are partnering with the health department to do. When completed the students will be certified in CPR, First Aid, Stop the Bleed and have FEMA certification. This is already becoming a model program that

several neighboring counties are interested in sending their kids to and colleges are looking to recruit students from.

Mayor Johnson stated that this is just one more example of how our city employees go above and beyond just what their job descriptions say and where their paychecks stop, to other opportunities and fields that strengthen and grow our community and invest in our future.

XI. Adjourn

With no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Deatherage (2nd by Councilman Tackett) to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.



Jeremy Johnson, Mayor

9.14.26

Date:



Jone Allen, CKMC

9/12/2026

Date: