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April 2026

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS & WORK SESSIONS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

**MONDAY
 APRIL 20, 2026**

6:00PM Work Session
 7:00PM Meeting

Want to speak? Fill out the Speaker Request Form! (CullmanAL.gov)
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Cullman City Hall

Cullman City Council Working Session | April 20, 2026
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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS & WORK SESSIONS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

**MONDAY
 APRIL 6, 2026**

6:00PM Work Session
 7:00PM Meeting

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Cullman City Hall

Copy of Cullman City Council Meeting April 6, 2026
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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS & WORK SESSIONS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

**MONDAY
 APRIL 6, 2026**

6:00PM Work Session
 7:00PM Meeting

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Work Session of the Cullman City Council | April 6, 2026
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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS & WORK SESSIONS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

**MONDAY
 MARCH 23, 2026**

6:00PM Work Session
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Cullman City Council Meeting March 23, 2026
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Mayor & Council Recognize Local Hoop Shoot Champions

On April 6, the City of Cullman celebrated the achievements of several outstanding young athletes, recognizing five local students who excelled in the Elks District 12 Regional Hoop Shoot competition. Representing the Cullman Elks Lodge, these students demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication, with four earning first-place titles in their respective age divisions and advancing to the national finals in Chicago. This accomplishment marks a historic moment for the local program, as Cullman sent five competitors to regionals - the highest number in its history - and set a national record with four advancing to the finals. Among those recognized were Alex Wood, Avery Stricklin, Kylie Minor, John Carl Knight, and Paxton Plourd, a previous national champion.

Their success highlights the strength of Cullman's long-standing Hoop Shoot program, which has produced five of Alabama's six national champions.

City leaders also honored longtime program director Donnie Handley for his decades of leadership, emphasizing the community's continued commitment to developing confidence, sportsmanship, and excellence in its youth.



City Leaders Take the Runway for a Cause at the Pilot Club's Fashion Show Fundraiser

Cullman City Council President Kim Hall and Councilmember Paul Schaffer took part in the Pilot Club of Cullman's fashion show fundraiser on April 22 at The Venue at Cotton Creek, stepping onto the runway in support of several local nonprofit organizations. This year's event was themed around celebrating America's 250th anniversary, adding a patriotic backdrop to an afternoon focused on service and community impact.

Proceeds from the event benefit initiatives including Project Lifesaver, Pilot Light Home, Hope Horses, Cullman Therapeutic Recreation, Restoring Women's Outreach, the Margaret Jean Jones Center, and others, continuing the Pilot Club's longstanding commitment to giving back.



City Officials Attend Cullman Regional Foundation Spring Gala Supporting Local Healthcare Initiatives

Several city officials gathered this weekend at Cotton Creek to attend the Cullman Regional Foundation's Spring Gala, an evening dedicated to celebrating and strengthening local healthcare.

As the Foundation's largest annual fundraiser, the event plays a vital role in supporting programs, advancing services, and enhancing patient care at Cullman Regional.

In addition to raising critical funds, the gala also honored individuals and organizations whose contributions have made a lasting impact on healthcare in the community.

The evening brought together leaders, supporters, and healthcare advocates, all united in a shared commitment to improving the well-being of Cullman residents.



Cullman City Council President and City Attorney Complete Advanced Municipal Leadership Training at ALM Annual Convention

Cullman City Council President Kim Hall and City Attorney Brandy Lee recently represented the City of Cullman at the Alabama League of Municipalities (ALM) Annual Convention in Montgomery, where they completed continuing education sessions focused on municipal governance, legal compliance, zoning, economic development, and public policy.

Held at the Montgomery Performing Arts Centre and Renaissance Montgomery Hotel, the convention brought together municipal leaders, attorneys, and policymakers from across Alabama for intensive professional development designed to strengthen local government leadership and ensure cities remain informed on current legal standards, strategic planning, and community development practices.

During the multi-day convention, Hall and Lee participated in several high-impact sessions, including:

- **The Public Purpose Doctrine – Core Training:** A foundational legal session examining how municipalities must align spending, incentives, and policy decisions with public benefit standards.
- **Zoning (Core) and Decoding Your Downtown:** A strategic planning and zoning course focused on municipal zoning processes, downtown redevelopment, vacancy reduction strategies, and improving accessibility of zoning and permitting information for citizens and developers.
- **Ask Your Attorney:** A legal roundtable featuring ALM’s top legal counsel addressing municipal law, legislative updates, ethics, governance procedures, and practical legal scenarios facing Alabama cities.
- **Population-Based Roundtable Discussions:** Collaborative sessions where municipal leaders exchanged strategies and best practices with similarly sized communities.

Key learning themes included:

- Strengthening transparency and accountability in municipal governance
- Improving zoning accessibility and downtown revitalization
- Understanding ordinance development and legal interpretation
- Applying the Public Purpose Doctrine to economic development initiatives
- Enhancing strategic collaboration between elected officials and legal counsel

Hall emphasized the importance of ongoing professional development for city leadership: “Continuing education through the Alabama League of Municipalities helps ensure Cullman remains proactive, informed, and strategic as we work to strengthen governance, economic development, and quality of life for our citizens. These sessions provided valuable legal and operational insights that directly support our work on behalf of the City of Cullman.”

By participating in this advanced training, Cullman leadership continues to prioritize responsible governance, informed decision-making, and long-term strategic planning to better serve residents, businesses, and future community growth. The convention also reinforces Cullman’s commitment to aligning local initiatives with state best practices and emerging municipal trends.





Sweet Success!

Alabama Strawberry Festival Draws Big Crowds & Bigger Smiles

Can't believe it's over!

The [Alabama Strawberry Festival](#) returned to Depot Park on April 24–25 and delivered exactly what people have come to expect and then some: beautiful weather, strong crowds, and a full weekend that felt like Cullman at its best. From the moment the gates opened, the energy stayed steady, with families, visitors, and locals filling the park to enjoy fresh strawberries, live music, and everything in between.

This year's festival once again highlighted what makes it special. More than 90 vendors, strawberry-themed food and drinks, contests, and a packed music lineup across two stages kept things moving all weekend long.

The Publix Kids Zone, carnival rides, and family-friendly attractions stayed busy, while concerts each night brought crowds together to close out both days on a high note.

Beyond the schedule, the biggest takeaway was the atmosphere. The weather cooperated, the turnout was strong, and the community showed up in a big way. For a festival that celebrates Cullman's long agricultural history and its connection to strawberries dating back generations, it continues to feel both rooted and growing at the same time.

From the first bite of something sweet to the last song of the night, this year's Alabama Strawberry Festival was one for the books. Already counting down for next year!



Council Meeting Recap: April 9

Council updates highlighted continued progress across departments. Public Safety recognized National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, welcomed new personnel, and celebrated recent certifications and training completions, while Cullman City Primary School earned the Safe School Award for the second consecutive year. Tourism and Public Works reported ongoing improvements, including the Cullman Regional Airport project, Heritage Park splash pad upgrades, infrastructure maintenance, and ADA-compliant pedestrian enhancements.

Utilities continues to advance sewer system improvements, with Phase 2 complete, and the Logan Road project moving into its next phase.

General Government updates included the launch of a new HR system, continued staffing efforts, and recognition of Cullman as one of Alabama's fastest-growing cities. Economic development initiatives and technology upgrades - such as a new app, website, and transparency portal - are also underway.

Mayor Woody Jacobs shared updates on major infrastructure projects, including Logan Road and Highway 278, both of which are progressing with long-term improvements planned.

All business items were approved, including annexation and rezoning ordinances, infrastructure-related resolutions, and new equipment purchases. The next City Council meeting was scheduled for April 20, 2026.



Council Meeting Recap: April 20

The Cullman City Council's April 20, 2026, meeting kept things moving with a mix of routine business, forward planning, and a few key highlights.

One of the main action items was approval of an economic development agreement tied to the Rural King project planned for Olive Street. The agreement includes a one-time \$800,000 infrastructure payment, split between the City and County, and is structured to support public improvements related to the development rather than a direct tax incentive. The amount reflects a reduction from the original request, which exceeded \$5.4 million. The project itself is already underway and represents a \$14 million investment expected to bring new jobs, retail options, and additional revenue into the community.

Outside of that, the Council worked through a full agenda of regular business. This included adopting the City's FY2025 audit, reappointing the City Attorney, approving updated job descriptions, and passing an updated personnel handbook to help modernize and standardize policies for City employees.

The Mayor proclaimed April as Fair Housing Month in Cullman, recognizing the importance of equal housing opportunity across the community.

The Council approved two special events:

- From Glenn Hurley to hold a street preaching event at the intersection of US 31 and US 278 on May 29, 2026, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- From Katie Walker, Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, to host the 2nd Fridays downtown event series on June 12, July 10, and August 14 from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

There was also discussion tied to longer-term planning, including a request from the Planning Commission to begin a broader strategic planning process for the city, as well as early steps toward updating Cullman's master plan through consultant input.

Council members also received updates on ongoing work across the city, including coordination between street paving and sewer projects, equipment planning for the street department, and other infrastructure efforts already in progress. These updates help keep projects aligned and moving forward without delays.

The Council also took a moment to recognize a big accomplishment in the [Parks and Recreation Department](#). Christy Turner and Nathan Anderson both earned the Certified Parks and Recreation Executive designation, one of the highest honors in their field. Turner is the first woman in Alabama to earn it, and Anderson is the fifth person in the state to do so. It is a strong reflection of the work being done in that department.

Overall, it was a steady, productive meeting with progress on both major projects and the everyday work that keeps the city running.

The next City Council meeting was announced for May 11, 2026, at 7PM.



Message from Mayor Woody Jacobs

April was a full month across the city, and I appreciate everyone who continues to stay engaged with what's going on in Cullman.

April 27th marked the 15th anniversary of the tornado that devastated our downtown. That day changed this community, and it's important to remember the lives affected and the work it took to rebuild what we have today.

Our annual Employee Health Screening was held April 29 at the [Omniplex](#). I continue to emphasize participation in that program as part of taking care of our employees and keeping our workforce healthy.

I was also proud to join other area leaders in recognizing April as Wallace State Community College Month. Wallace State Community College continues to have a strong impact on our region through education, workforce development, and economic growth.

I was deeply saddened by the loss of the Stiefelmeyer Building following the fire in April. Built in 1892 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it was the last remaining wooden commercial building from that era in downtown Cullman. It was a part of our history and identity. I am grateful to Cullman Fire Rescue, Cullman Police Department, Cullman County EMA, and the outside agencies who traveled to Cullman to assist with the response. I also want to thank our Street, Water, Sanitation, and other City departments that stepped in and helped however needed, as well as the community members who supported those efforts.

I'm glad to see progress underway at Heritage Park. Construction has started on a new parking lot to help with the demand we've all seen out there. The dog park has been relocated behind Grace Chapel, and while some trails are shifting, all trail distance will be replaced. This project came directly from citizen feedback, and I believe it will make a noticeable difference. The Lazy River project at [WildWater](#) is also nearing completion, and I look forward to seeing that become another asset for families and visitors.

I also want to share some good news on the economic development side. The City received a \$750,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission that will help create a new community theater center downtown. That project, matched with local investment, will turn a vacant former church into a performance space and community venue. I see this as another step forward in building out our downtown and supporting continued tourism growth.

I had the opportunity to speak with the Cullman Lions Club recently and share updates on several projects, along with paving season, the Lazy River, the Festhalle Farmers Market, and other ongoing work. I appreciate the invitation and the chance to stay connected with groups across the community.

The [Festhalle Farmers Market](#) is now open for the season. It's always good to see vendors and folks back downtown, and I encourage everyone to come out and support them.

I also want to thank Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism and all City departments who helped make the Alabama Strawberry Festival, held April 24-25, another success. It takes a lot of coordination, and I appreciate the work that goes into it.

Finally, I want to recognize our public safety telecommunicators and the work they do every day. I hope everyone took the time to learn more about their role during Public Safety Telecommunicators Week last month.



As always, I appreciate the continued support of the City of Cullman.



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