The regular monthly meeting of the Molena City Council was called to order on Monday, July 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall by Mayor Joyce Corley. Following the Pledge and Invocation, the meeting proceeded with the approval of the minutes and agenda.

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The agenda was approved as presented. Minutes from June 9, 2025, regular meeting were reviewed and approved.

Mayor Corley called for a motion to amend the minutes to correct a statement contained in it.

Motion: To amend and approve the minutes of the June 9, 2025, meeting.

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Damon Riggins, Post 5

Second: Councilmember Ted Meeks, Post 4

Vote 4/0

Motion: To approve the current agenda

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Damon Riggins, Post 5

Second: Councilmember Willie McDowell, Post 2

Vote 4/0

Police Chief Matt Polk provided his monthly report, including call volume, citations issued, and updates on department vehicle mileage to City Clerk Tina Lee due to pre-arranged vacation time.

* The current mileage of the Explorer is: 53,872
* The current mileage of the 2023 Dodge Charger is: 38,608.
* The balance on the Charger loan is $15,068.82.
* InterOps implementation update:
* Server is up and running after some issues were resolved by VC3.
* InterOps have begun training.
* FLOC permits not yet received but all paperwork has been filed.

Mayor Corley circled back around to Public Comments.

Kris Miller called in to ask whether her daughter, age 21, would be required to obtain an Occupational Tax License to operate a small vegetable and homemade goods stand in their yard, similar to McCrary’s.

Council, on advice of Counsel determined this was not something that would be regulated by the City of Molena

Committee reports followed.

Under Buildings, Streets, and Grounds, the Council discussed the failure of the 24-year-old air conditioning unit at City Hall and reviewed quotes received for its replacement.

Mayor Pro Tempore Damon Riggins, Post 5 proposed pulling money from Water fund to pay for this since it is necessary for someone to be able to be present in order to process water payments.

Councilmember Willie McDowell, Post 2 confirmed the length of the warranty for the new Air Conditioner unit is five years.

Mayor Pro Tempore Damon Riggins, Post 5 moved to pay the bill for AC And to pay it out of the water fund.

Councilmember Ted Meeks, Post 4 seconded.

Vote 4/0

Councilmember Ted Meeks, Post 4 discussed possibly asking McLeroy regarding removing the building across the street. His thought is since it benefits McLeroy’s trucks to remove the building, he plans to ask them to do it for free.

Council was in agreement. This is not an actionable item requiring a vote.

Discussed if a Request for Bids is required.

Limbs were trimmed around the parking lot and in the cemetery.

130 Garland Street has a large oak tree that is dead and needs to be removed. It is in the City’s right of way.

The question was raised if there were other limbs that need to be trimmed at the same time.

Tabled in order to determine if it is a requirement.

Will the County come out and trim limbs?

Recent request to trim limbs overhanging BJ Court. Because it is on private property, Molena cannot trim those limbs. Will ask Pike County if they can address those.

Mr. Meeks also discussed the Verizon request which will be listed below.

Councilmember Lisa Brogdon, Post 3 asked if there were any Broadband updates.

Mayor Corley reported Mr. Stewart has raised the antennas at Mr. Henry Jordan’s. Mr. Stewart is also looking for alternatives to continually having to raise those antennas as the foliage grows.

Additional committee updates were shared under Public Safety, Technology, Ways & Means, and Water, including progress at the water treatment plant.

There was no unfinished business.

Under New Business, the Council reviewed and approved invoices as necessary, considered other quotes, and noted that no action had been taken yet regarding the restroom renovations or the Tahoe auction. The purchase of a new air conditioning unit for City Hall was addressed if not previously approved.

A request by Verizon to expand their area in order to install a generator was also discussed.

Council approved the addition and the plat.

Further discussion is required regarding potential changes to the lease to reflect the additional space.

Motion: Approve the changes requested by Verizon including expansion

Moved: Mayor Pro Tempore Damon Riggins, Post 5

Second: Councilmember Ted Meeks, Post 4

There was no Executive session.

During the roundtable discussion, Councilmembers McDowell, Brogdon, Meeks, and Riggins, along with City Attorney L. Scott Mayfield and Mayor Corley, shared brief remarks regarding water, and Councilmember Willie McDowell, Post 2 provided an update on the W. Jones Road culvert and grading. Councilmember McCrary was not present.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.