

# CITY OF WILDER, KENTUCKY

May 4, 2026

The meeting of the Wilder City Council was held on Monday, May 4, 2026 at the Wilder City Building, 520 Licking Pike, Wilder, Kentucky 41071.

Lords Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

## **Roll Call:**

Roll call was answered by Councilwoman Sandy Decker, Councilman Jeff Moles, Councilman Brad Murphy, Councilman Jim Profitt, Councilman Andy Williams.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

Upon motion of Councilman Profitt, seconded by Councilwoman Decker to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 6, 2026. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.

## **Mayor Jones opening comments:**

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Mayor Jones introduced Dominic Michels, PE and Justin Verst, PE with Viox & Viox Engineers to discuss the Bentwood Drive culvert failure.

The engineers presented information regarding the culvert collapse, including:

- Timeline and progression of the sinkhole
- Structural failure of the existing 10-foot culvert pipe due to erosion.
- Utility concerns involving water, electric, and communication lines.
- Emergency measures taken to divert water flow and secure the area.
- Planned excavation and replacement of the damaged culvert.
- Discussion of potential replacement materials including coated metal pipe and concrete options.
- Estimated repair timeline of approximately two months, weather permitting.
- Safety concerns and instructions for residents to stay away from the collapse area.

Residents asked questions regarding roadway access, drainage concerns, traffic, and long-term repairs. City officials and engineers addressed concerns and provided updates regarding repair efforts and communication with residents.

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Mayor Jones thanked the engineers, Public Works, Police, Fire Department, HOA representatives, and city staff for their immediate response and ongoing assistance.

- Announced the city newsletter had been distributed in an upgraded color format.
- Thanked Laurie, Juanita, volunteers, and Public Works staff for assistance with the newsletter.

### **Citizens Comments:**

Citizen's comments were postponed until the end of the meeting.

### **Attorney's Report:**

Attorney Beck presented Executive Order 26-0501: **An Executive Order entering into a one-year contract with Jules Comte for police services.**

Attorney Beck presented Executive Order 26-0502: **An Executive Order entering into a one-year contract with Thomas J. Selby for police services.**

Attorney Beck presented Executive Order 26-0503: **An Executive Order appointing Benjamin Branch to the position of Public Works Laborer for the Wilder Public Works Department.**

City Administrator Vance stated Benjamin Branch would begin employment on May 7, 2026.

Attorney Beck presented Executive Order 26-0504: **An Executive Order appointing Max Dawson to the position of full-time patrolman for the Wilder Police Department.**

Attorney Beck administered the oath of office to Officer Dawson.

Attorney Beck presented Executive Order 26-0505: **An Executive Order entering into a one-year contract with Christopher Armstrong for police services.**

Attorney Beck administered the oath of office to Officer Armstrong.

### **City Administrator Vance:**

- Discussed installation and purpose of flock cameras and other city camera systems.
- Explained flock cameras are used as investigative tools for law enforcement and license plate recognition.
- Announced the splash pad is scheduled to reopen May 23, 2026 pending health department approval.
- Parking lot repaving begins May 5<sup>th</sup> to May 7<sup>th</sup>. Weather permitting.
- Discussed meetings with Senator McConnell's office and the Department of the Interior regarding restrictions on Frederick's Landing property.
- County cleanup – May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

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### **Department Reports:**

#### **Treasurer Report:**

- Active Aging starts May 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:45 – 11:45.
- Annual Yard Sale – May 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Coffee and Talk – May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00.
- Blood Drive – May 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Upon motion from Councilwoman Decker, seconded by Councilman Murphy to approve the financial report and authorize payment of the bills for General Fund ending March 2026. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

#### **Police Chief Comments:**

##### **Chief Martin:**

- Reported the Barleycorn's 5K event and DEA Drug Take Back event were successful.
- Welcomed the two new officers and returning contract officers.
- Thanked Mayor Jones, City Administrator Vance, and council for their support in bringing the department to full staffing.

#### **Fire Chief Comments:**

##### **Chief Neyman:**

- Thanked everyone who attended the Barleycorn's fundraiser.
- Reported interviews were scheduled to fill the fire department vacancies.

#### **Mayor Jones comments:**

- Thanked all city departments and volunteers for the success of the Barleycorn's 5K event.
- Thanked Campbell County Media for their help and support.
- Announced the city received a thank you card from Chicks & Chucks.
- Mid-month update was sent to council.
- Reported the city assisted the Red Cross in providing shelter accommodations after the Covington Fire.
- Provided an update on Bobby Mackey's project and ongoing site plan review.
- Reported the city experienced approximately 4.9% revenue growth year over year.
- Business meeting went well; and they are very excited about the coffee shop. Thanked Senator Funke Frommeyer for attending the business meeting.
- Discussed the upcoming Biggby Coffee project and lease negotiations.
- Coffee and Talk – May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Podcast is scheduled with Biggby Coffee after the lease is signed.
- Mayor Jones will be attending the grand opening for Riegler Asphalt and the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Castellini.
- Announced the city received additional opioid settlement funds.

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**Council Comments:**

**Councilman Blankenship:**

- Not in attendance.

**Councilman Proffitt:**

- Thanked everyone who assisted with the Bentwood culvert response.
- Congratulated returning and newly hired police officers.
- Offered assistance with splash pad operations and city maintenance projects.

**Councilwoman Decker:**

- Congratulated new and returning police officers.
- Requested cleanup and landscaping improvements around city property.
- Wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

**Councilman Williams:**

- Congratulated new and returning police officers.
- Thanked everyone involved with the Easter Egg Hunt.
- Welcomed residents in attendance.

**Councilman Murphy:**

- Congratulated police department personnel on reaching full staffing.
- Thanked everyone involved with the Barleycorn's event.
- Thanked city personnel responding to the Bentwood culvert collapse.

**Councilman Moles:**

- Recognized International Firefighters Day and thanked the fire department for their service.
- Congratulated the police department on full staffing.
- Thanked the residents for attending the meeting.

Mayor Jones stated council should have the FY27 budget along with the budget memo in a couple of weeks.

**Citizen's Comments:**

- Luke Glaser (Three Mile) commented regarding flock cameras and privacy concerns.

***Next meeting:***

***June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:15 - Road Fund Public Hearing***  
***June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 - Council meeting***

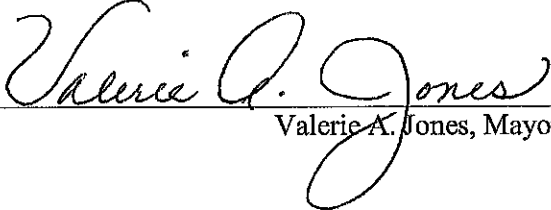
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*Mayor Jones reminded council there would be two meetings in June for the budget ordinance approval.*

**Adjournment:**

**Upon motion of Councilwoman Decker, seconded by Councilman Williams to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Jones called for a vote. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

  
Valerie A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Juanita Schultz, City Clerk