

**Friendsville Utility Board
Regular Meeting
May 7, 2026
Friendsville City Hall
Minutes**

Present:

Mayor Steven Cardwell	Building Official Barry Ottinger
Commissioner Shane Rogers	Earl Fields
Commissioner Margaret Maze	Janet Walton
Commissioner Dale Wilkins	Shelly Rios
City Recorder Janet Ledbetter	Sergio Rios
City Administrator Kim Rogers	Steve Palmer
City Attorney Rob Goddard	

Absent: Vice Mayor Jonathan Newberry

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:26 p.m.
2. Motion to approve minutes from April 2, 2026, by Commissioner Maze, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins. Motion passed.
3. Public comment: none
4. Discussion:

Commissioner Rogers asked Kim Rogers if she had talked to Nitzschke about moving the sewer up Highway 321. Kim told him that they couldn't do that job, but that Chris would get with Bob Colvin to get contact information for someone who could. Kim also mentioned the 26 new sewer customers where Turner Homes is building. They are not Friendsville Water customers, so there is no way to monitor their usage. They discussed meeting with Mark Clinton of TASS about the issue.
5. Staff Reports:

Kim gave the board some information about the TDEC/ARPA Blount County grant. The total allocated to the City of Friendsville was \$3,285,000, and the county spent \$1.5 million on the project. Friendsville contributed their

TDEC funds and spent \$33,000 on the first engineering contract that was not approvable. Friendsville spent \$662,655.25, and the county spent \$894,621.75. The difference they took from Friendsville is \$2,890,378.25, which was rumored to be spent on their new baseball field. Kim had reached out to Misty Davis, who was one of the county commissioners who allocated that money, and she agreed to meet with Kim. Misty also reached out to the new commissioners, Shannon Effler and Jasmine Satterfield, who also wanted to come and speak. Kevin McNeill had investigated the issue regarding the money, and Kim gave a copy of his report to the board.

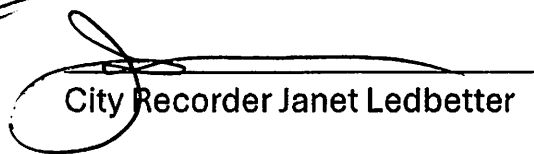
Water loss was at 22%. There were 61 delinquent accounts, and \$5,500 was collected after shutoffs were done. There are two that are still shut off. There are 3 pending Servline claims and one that was declined because the customer had already filed a claim in the fall. There were 4 new taps. Sergio Rios asked if the money from Blount County was for the sewer, and Kim told him yes, that it was to hook up all the customers to the line.

Financial report: Commissioner Rogers asked Janet Ledbetter to send out the amounts owed on all the bonds, with the payment amounts and years left. Janet told him she would do that.

6. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



Mayor Steven Cardwell



City Recorder Janet Ledbetter