



City Council Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
Monday, September 14, 2026 at 7:00 PM

AGENDA

Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

Adjustment and Approval of the Agenda

Items will only be added or removed with the approval of the Mayor and City Council.

Special Presentations

1. **Recognition of Mason Wilder:** City Council will recognize Mason Wilder for his outstanding achievement as the 2026 Senior Riding World Champion at the Youth Bull Riding World Finals.

Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment

This is an opportunity for members of the public to express items of interest to the Mayor and City Council. This is not a time to respond or take action. Any necessary action will be taken under advisement. Speakers are asked to use proper decorum and to limit comments to no more than three minutes.

2. **Public Comment Acknowledgment:** City Manager, Josh Ross will provide clarity on items mentioned during public comment, if needed.

Consent Agenda

The items of the Consent Agenda are adopted on a single motion and vote, unless the Mayor and City Council wish to withdraw an item for separate vote and/or discussion.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** City Council will consider adopting the Meeting minutes of the August 10, 2026 Regular Session.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** City Council will consider adopting the Meeting minutes of the August 25, 2026 Work Session.
5. **Street Closure - Trunk or Treat:** City administration is requesting the temporary closure of the 100 Block of West and East Virginia Avenue for the Halloween Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 31st, 2026.

Business Items

6. **Public Hearing - Text Amendment (Chapter 52) Water Shortage Conservation:** City Council will hold a public hearing to hear public comment regarding a text amendment to Code of Ordinances Chapter 52, Water Shortage Conservation Provisions.

7. **Proclamation- Dyslexia Awareness Month:** Council will consider adopting a proclamation recognizing October 2026 as Dyslexia Awareness Month.
8. **Proclamation- Domestic Violence Awareness Month:** Council will consider adopting a proclamation recognizing October 2026 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
9. **Resolution- SRF Funding Application:** City Council will consider adopting a resolution supporting development and submission of a water and sewer funding application.
10. **Resolution- CIP Update:** City Council will consider adopting a resolution regarding an update to the 10 year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) that is part of a previously adopted Asset Management Plan (AMP).

City Manager's Report

Council General Discussion

This is an opportunity for the Mayor and City Council to ask questions for clarification, provide information to staff, request staff to report back, or place a matter on a future agenda.

11. **Closed Session - 143.318.11 (a)(3)(attorney client- privilege):** City Council will go into closed session as permitted under NCGS 143.318.11(a)(3) to consult with the City Attorney.
12. **Closed Session - 143.318.11 (a)(6)(personnel matter):** City Council will go into closed session as permitted under NCGS 143.318.11(a)(6) to discuss a personnel matter.

Adjourn



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Presented to

Mason Wilder

2026 SENIOR RIDING WORLD CHAMPION

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Bessemer City proudly recognize **Mason Wilder** for his outstanding achievement in youth rodeo competition. After a year of dedication and competition in local rodeos, Mason earned **1st Place in Steer Riding in every association in which he competed**, qualifying him for the Youth Bull Riding World Finals in Abilene, Texas.

Competing against riders from around the world, Mason advanced to the Short-Go round after entering the round ranked **4th in the world**. With determination, hard work, and an incredible ride, Mason won the Short-Go round and earned the title of **2026 Senior Riding World Champion** at the Youth Bull Riding World Finals.

The City of Bessemer City commends Mason for this remarkable accomplishment and for representing his community with dedication, perseverance, courage, and excellence.

Presented this ____ day of _____, 2026

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

City Council Chambers

Monday, August 10, 2026 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present

Mayor Becky S. Smith; Council Members Bill Whitmire, Nellie Floyd, Allen Hook, Brenda Boyd, Manny Tsambouniery and Chris Harmon were present. City Manager Josh Ross was also present. A quorum was established.

Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. A prayer was offered, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustment and Approval of the Agenda

City Manager Josh Ross requested that Item #8, Ordinance - Conditional District - Urban Residential (Hidden Valley), be moved to follow Item #9, Closed Session. By motion of Manny Tsambouniery and unanimous vote, the August agenda was approved with this revision.

Special Presentation

National Health Center Week Proclamation-

Mayor Smith read a proclamation recognizing August 2-8, 2026, as National Health Center Week. Martha Beltaton and colleagues from Kintegra Health were present and expressed appreciation for the partnership with Bessemer City and for the opportunity to provide care to City residents. Mayor Smith thanked Kintegra Health for its partnership with the community.

By motion of Brenda Boyd and unanimous vote, the National Health Center Week proclamation was approved.

Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment

Mayor Smith opened the floor for public comment. The following came forth:

- Scott Noblett: Mr. Noblett thanked those who had taken time to review videos and photographs he previously provided. He congratulated Kintegra Health and noted that he receives care through the organization. Mr. Noblett again encouraged the City to include informational flyers or a newsletter with utility bills to communicate code reminders, general City information, and other notices to residents. He thanked the City for acknowledging and considering his prior comments regarding improved communication.

Consent Agenda

The following items on the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved by motion of Allen Hook:

1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting minutes of the July 13, 2026 meeting.
2. Approval of Minutes: Work Session Meeting minutes of the July 28, 2026 meeting.

3. Establish a Public Hearing: A public hearing was established for Monday, September 14, 2026 at 7:00 PM to hear public comment regarding a text amendment to Code of Ordinances Chapter 52, Water Shortage Conservation Provisions.
4. Temporary Street Closure - 5th Annual Brew & Que Festival: The temporary closure of the 100 Block of West Virginia Avenue, East Virginia Avenue, West Pennsylvania Avenue, and the 100 Block of North and South 12th Street was approved for the 5th Annual Brew & Que Festival on Friday, October 2 and Saturday, October 3, 2026.

9/11 Proclamation

City Council considered a proclamation recognizing September 11, 2026, as a Day of Service and Remembrance.

By motion of Chris Harmon and unanimous vote, the 9/11 proclamation was approved.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Josh Ross provided the City Manager's Report. The following items were presented and discussed:

- Ella May Wiggins Mural- (BCSP Goal 1)
 - Façade improvements have finished; Hardware install is underway this week and next
 - Community unveiling scheduled for September 14, 2026
- Upcoming Events- (BCSP Goal 1)
 - 9/11 Memorial Service: Friday, September 11, 2026
 - 5th Annual Brew & Que Festival: Friday, October 2, 2026
- Public Safety Capital Project- (BCSP Goal 2)
 - LIO signed for property purchase along Virginia Ave.
 - Due diligence items underway
 - Project contracts will be on the September Regular Meeting Agenda for approval
- Drought Conditions- (BCSP Goal 3)
 - We remain in a Stage 1 Voluntary Conservation and currently in a D0 designation (abnormally dry)
 - Review of Ordinance at August Work Session
- Infrastructure Focus- (BCSP Goal 3)
 - Staff is preparing SRF grant applications for four priority water/sewer infrastructure projects on Tennessee Ave., Florida Ave., Texas Ave., & Georgia Ave.
- Citizens Academy Pilot Program- (BCSP Goal 4)
 - Pilot Program participants identified and committed
 - Program will start next in September; weekly meetings for 6-8 weeks
 - General program will start next year

Council General Discussion

Council Member Allen Hook requested that a speed limit sign located in front of a B&B be relocated.

Council Member Manny Tsambouniery referenced Bessemer City Police Department call-log activity and traffic stops on East Maine Ave. and thanked the Police Department for its patrol efforts.

Council Member Chris Harmon requested an update regarding 618 E. Ohio Avenue. David Smith explained that the property was in bank foreclosure and the legal process is continuing.

Closed Session - NCGS 143.318.11(a)(3)

By motion of Nellie Floyd and unanimous vote, City Council entered closed session at 7:30 PM pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11(a)(3) to consult with the City Attorney.

By motion of Brenda Boyd and unanimous vote, City Council returned to open session at 8:00 PM. Mayor Smith stated that there was nothing to report from closed session.

Ordinance - Conditional District - Urban Residential (Hidden Valley)

City Council returned to Item #8 regarding the conditional rezoning request from Development Solutions Group (DSG) for parcel numbers 151790, 151791, 151792, 151793, 151794, and 202266, totaling approximately 10.53 acres.

By motion of Manny Tsambouniery and unanimous vote, the Hidden Valley Conditional District - Urban Residential ordinance was tabled to the August Work Session.

Land Development Code Text Amendment - Section 3.3.F

By motion of Allen Hook and unanimous vote, City Council directed that a proposed text amendment to Section 3.3.F of the Bessemer City Land Development Code be added to the August Work Session for discussion.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM, by motion of Bill Whitmire and unanimous vote.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

City Council Chambers

Tuesday, August 28, 2026 at 3:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order

Mayor Becky S. Smith called the meeting to order.

Members Present

Present at the meeting were Mayor, Becky S. Smith, Council Members: Brenda Boyd, Nellie Floyd, Bill Whitmire, Allen Hook, Manny Tsambouniery and Chris Harmon. City Manager Josh Ross and department heads were also in attendance. A quorum was established.

Gaston County Tax Office – Reappraisal Process Presentation

Chelsea Tarbush with the Gaston County Tax Office thanked Council and provided an overview of the 2027 countywide reappraisal process. Natalie Pasour, Reappraisal Administrator, presented information regarding the purpose and process of reappraisal.

Ms. Pasour explained that Gaston County contains approximately 117,000 parcels and that North Carolina requires property reappraisal every four years. The most recent Gaston County reappraisal occurred in 2023. Property values are determined by considering the size and location of the land, buildings and improvements, market and sales information, income information, and other relevant data.

The Tax Office emphasized that reappraisal does not establish the tax rate. The applicable governing body establishes the tax rate, and the tax base multiplied by the tax rate determines revenue.

Ms. Pasour reviewed sales-ratio information and public-facing property information tools available on the County website. Citizens who disagree with a property valuation may file an appeal. An appeal may result in the value remaining the same, increasing, or decreasing.

Information was also provided regarding agricultural classifications and tax exclusion programs, including homestead, disabled veteran, and circuit breaker programs. Council discussed recent state legislative activity and potential changes to property tax levy authority. The Tax Office advised that additional parameters regarding the proposed constitutional amendment had not yet been established. City Manager Josh Ross reminded Council of the public meeting scheduled for September 22 at the Allan Farris Community Center.

Department Reports

Michael Gordon, Fire Chief

Fire Chief Gordon reported that he attended the fire service conference and expects the City's fire truck to return to service soon. The Fire Department's annual barbecue is scheduled for November 13 and 14, 2026. Chief Gordon also reported that the department recently received help on two mutual-aid calls while assisting neighboring jurisdictions. City Manager Ross recognized mutual aid as an important community asset.

JoD Franklin, Parks & Recreation Director

Mr. Franklin reported that approximately 120 children have registered for soccer, the highest registration total to date. Upcoming events include the September 3 trail grand opening event, September 22 Touch-a-Truck, the Brew & Que Festival on October 2 and 3, and the September 11th Public Safety Day and remembrance service. The City's car show has been rescheduled for November 14 in connection with Veterans Day activities and to raise awareness for the Veterans Memorial. The event will be held on Pennsylvania Avenue. Council discussed street closures and accommodations for downtown businesses, with staff planning to stagger the closure beginning between noon and 2:00 PM.

Chris Vaughn, Police Chief

Chief Vaughn reported that Kyle Rosenthal has been sent to the School Resource Officer (SRO) Academy. The radar sign and drone projects are in the purchasing stage. The department is negotiating with a community partner that has pledged \$15,000 toward speed signs, allowing the City to utilize budgeted funds without using the full amount. Recruitment and retention remain challenges, including limited flexibility for additional compensation based on certifications and experience. Council discussed the City's Flock camera system. Staff explained that the cameras capture vehicle license plates and do not identify race or gender. Access is controlled through two-factor authentication, usage is audited, and information is retained for a limited period before deletion. Council discussed communicating accurate information about the system to residents, and City Manager Ross suggested using the City's Bessemer City Fact Check page.

Shelley Stevens, Planner Director

Planning Director, Shelley Stevens reported that the Planning Department continues to process plats and subdivisions and is working on Land Development Code (LDC) updates to comply with Chapter 160D and the City's Code. The LDC update is being completed in multiple phases, including review of policies and plans, public input, and development of proposed text amendments. Council discussed the review process, with staff review to precede Planning Board and City Council consideration. City Manager Ross stated that staff will obtain input from consultant Karen Mallo before moving into the Comprehensive Plan review. Council discussed the possibility of a half-day special session for additional engagement.

Jamie Watkins, Stormwater Administrator, reported that she received letters from McGill regarding stormwater mapping required under the City's permit and is completing the required report due August 31. She also reported participating in the Regional Stormwater Board meeting and representing the City.

Hydeia Hayes, City Clerk & Human Resources Director

Ms. Hayes provided an update on the Gaston County 250 time capsule and agenda training for Council members. She also reported that applications are being received for the Keep Bessemer City Beautiful board.

Amber Bridges, Community & Economic Development

Ms. Bridges reported that planning continues for the Citizen Academy, which is scheduled to begin in September. Work on the Ella May Wiggins mural is progressing, with painting scheduled to begin during the week. She thanked Pamela Gladney for assisting the building owner at the mural site. Additional downtown development projects, including the Central Drug property redevelopment and American Mill No. 2, are progressing. Ms. Bridges also provided updates on the Veterans Memorial and Veterans Banner projects.

Jamie Ramsey, Operations & Special Projects Director

Mr. Ramsey reported that work on the drainage issue at Eighth Street and Virginia Avenue is expected to begin shortly. The roadway is maintained by NCDOT, and staff will meet on site to review the contractor's grading plans. Work is anticipated to begin September 2, 2026. Mr. Ramsey also reported that approximately \$27,000 remains for sidewalk repairs, which may be sufficient for larger repairs and patches.

Diane Jenkins, Finance Director

Ms. Jenkins reported that Customer Service is preparing informational brochures regarding the City's new utility rates. Finance Staff are approximately four weeks away from the annual audit and continues working on required reports. The Finance Department will be short-staffed during the week of September 21 due to audit-related activities. Ms. Jenkins also reported an increase in Waste Pro complaints associated with new drivers and an increase in utility cutoffs, from approximately 35–40 per period to approximately 70 during the past two months. She noted that the City has been removed from the Unit Assistance List (UAL), reducing certain reporting requirements.

LDC Project Update

City staff provided an update on the ongoing Land Development Code project. Staff continues reviewing the City's existing policies, plans, and public input and is working toward proposed text amendments to bring the City's regulations into compliance with Chapter 160D and the City's Code.

Ordinance- Text Amendment 3.3.F of the Bessemer City Land Development Code

By motion of Manny Tsambouniery and unanimous vote, the text amendment for section 3.3.F of the Land Development Code (LDC) was approved.

Reasonableness and Consistency Statement Text Amendment 3.3.F of the Bessemer City Land Development Code

By motion of Manny Tsambouniery and unanimous vote, the reasonableness and consistency statement for section 3.3.F of the Land Development Code (LDC) was approved.

Ordinance- Conditional District – Urban Residential (Hidden Valley)

By motion of Manny Tsambouniery and unanimous vote, the rezoning request for the Hidden Valley conditional district was approved.

Reasonableness and Consistency Statement Conditional District – Urban Residential (Hidden Valley) Major Subdivision

By motion of Manny Tsambouniery and unanimous vote, the reasonableness and consistency statement regarding the Hidden Valley rezoning request was approved.

Ordinance- Text Amendments for Stormwater Compliance

Discussion ensued amongst staff and council regarding several concerns raised by Council member Harmon. Council Member Harmon raised several concerns regarding the scope, enforcement, and potential impact of the proposed stormwater ordinance. The primary concerns included whether prioritizing stormwater fee payments over water and sewer payments could ultimately result in water service being denied or disconnected; and the extent of property-owner liability for violations involving contractors working on private property. Council Member Harmon also questioned the proposed provision regarding pet waste on private property, including how the City would determine what constitutes an “excessive” amount. Overall, concerns were expressed that certain provisions may lack clear limits, definitions, or specific guidance regarding how they would be applied in typical residential situations. Attorney Walker advised the Board that similar provisions are found in other municipal ordinances and explained that some provisions are included as a precautionary measure and to provide the City with the necessary authority and tools to effectively enforce the ordinance when circumstances warrant. City Manager Ross also noted that the city was found to be out of compliance back in March 2026 during an audit with the EPA. These text amendments are needed to help the city become compliant when enforcing the MS4 permit.

Discussion regarding stormwater fees led to a broader discussion of utility fees and the City's utility account cutoff procedures. Finance Director Jenkins noted that, historically, previous management had allowed a threshold of outstanding debt of \$30 or less to remain on an account before initiating cutoff procedures. Following Council consensus, consideration of the requirements established by the City's ordinance, and management direction, staff will move forward with consistently enforcing the existing zero-balance requirement. Council consensus was to require utility accounts to have a zero balance to avoid cutoff, consistent with the City's current ordinance.

By motion of Allen Hook and unanimous vote, the text amendment for stormwater compliance was approved.

Resolution- Adoption of Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP)

By motion of Allen Hook and unanimous vote, the resolution regarding a stormwater management plan was approved.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Ross reported that the Public Safety Capital Project remains under environmental review. The City anticipates closing on the property within approximately 30–60 days. A design-build item will be presented at an upcoming Regular Meeting, with the selected builder expected to attend the September Regular Meeting. The proposed design-build project is approximately \$3 million, and Council will be presented with the necessary contract items as part of the required approval process.

Council General Discussion

Council Member Bill Whitmire informed everyone that the BC historical society is in search of historical photographs associated with the theater downtown.

Council Member Allen Hook asked how quickly the footprint of the Public Safety Capital Project would be determined. He also suggested that the remaining property could potentially be sold and the proceeds used toward the Public Safety building.

Council Member Nellie Floyd invited Council and the public to attend the Vantine Collective event scheduled for Saturday, September 12, from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the St. James Baptist Church.

Council Member Manny Tsambouniery reported receiving a communication regarding a personnel conflict. Attorney Walker informed him that this was a closed session matter and would need to be discussed during a closed session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, by motion of Brenda Boyd and unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 5:01 PM.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk



ORDINANCE REQUEST TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE STREET

WHEREAS, the City of Bessemer City wishes to allow recreational entertainment for the citizens of Bessemer City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bessemer City understands the importance of allowing such entertainment in the downtown central business district of Bessemer City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bessemer City acknowledges that a special event requires rerouting traffic and providing safety measures for citizens attending said events; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bessemer City wishes to host a Trunk of Treat Event along the:

- 100 Block of West and East Virginia on Saturday, October 31st, 2026 from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Bessemer City pursuant to the authority granted by N.C.G.S. 160A-296.4 that they do hereby declare a temporary road closure during the days and times set forth below on the following described City Street:

Dates: Saturday, October 31st, 2026

Times: 8:00 AM - 2:00PM

Route Description: 100 Block of West and East Virginia Avenue with proper barricades and traffic control (temporary use)

Adopted by City Council on this 14th day of September 2026.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk

**TITLE V - PUBLIC WORKS
CHAPTER 52 - WATER
WATER SHORTAGE CONSERVATION PROVISIONS**

WATER SHORTAGE CONSERVATION PROVISIONS

Sec. 52.30. Purpose.

A water shortage shall be deemed to exist when water demand by customers connected to the city water system reaches the point where continued or increased demand will equal or exceed the system supply and transmission capabilities. When demand results in the condition whereby customers cannot be supplied with water to protect their health and safety then the demand must be substantially curtailed to relieve the water shortage. For the purpose of this subchapter, the term *water system* shall mean the water system of the city both inside and outside the city limits.

(Ord. passed 8-8-88)

Sec. 52.31. Declaration of water shortage.

In the event it appears that water demand on the city water system may exceed supply and transmission capabilities, the Water superintendent may recommend to the city manager that voluntary water conservation measures be implemented. The city manager, following consultation with the city council, may declare a Stage I water shortage condition advisory requesting voluntary water conservation by consumers. In the event that voluntary conservation measures fail to relieve the demand on the system, the city may advance to a Stage II or Stage III water shortage condition. The city manager, following consultation with the city council, may, with or without the recommendation of the water superintendent, declare that a Stage II or Stage III water shortage condition exists.

(Ord. passed 8-8-88; Am. Ord. passed 5-14-18)

Sec. 52.32. Stage I water shortage conditions; guidelines.

- (A) In the event a Stage I water shortage condition is declared, the following guidelines apply:
- (1) An extensive publicity campaign will be initiated using public media and specialized methods to inform the public of an impending or existing water shortage.
 - (2) Conservation measures will be encouraged and recommended.
- (B) In the event a Stage I water shortage condition is declared, the following guidelines shall apply and the public shall be encouraged to adhere to the following:
- (1) Limit car washing to the minimum.
 - (2) Limit lawn and garden watering to that which is necessary for plants to survive.
 - (3) Cease washing down outside areas such as sidewalks, patios, parking lots, service bays or aprons, and the like.
 - (4) Cease leaving faucets running while shaving or rinsing dishes.
 - (5) Limit watering shrubbery to the minimum required, reusing household water when possible.
 - (6) Limit use of clothes washers and dish washers and when used, operate fully loaded.

- (7) Use showers rather than bathtubs for bathing, and limit showers to no more than four minutes.
- (8) Limit flushing of toilets by multiple usage.
- (9) Use disposable and biodegradable dishes as much as possible.
- (10) Use flow restrictive and water saving devices.
- (11) Limit hours of operation of water cooled air conditioners.
- (12) Temporarily delay new landscape work by all residents, businesses, and institutions until the water shortage has ended.

(Ord. passed 8-8-88; Am. Ord. passed 5-14-18)

Cross reference(s)—Penalty, see § 10.99.

Sec. 52.33. Stage II water shortage conditions; unlawful uses of water.

- (A) In the event the raw water storage facilities drop to 90 percent or less of storage, the city manager may declare a Stage II water shortage. The city manager may also declare a Stage II water shortage if he finds it in the public's best interest and welfare to enact Stage II restrictions. In exercising the authority for declaring a water shortage condition consideration shall be given to water shortage levels and available sources of supply, available usable storage on hand, drawdown rates, the projected supply capability, outlook for precipitation, daily water use patterns and availability of water from other sources.
- (B) In the event the city manager issues a declaration of a Stage II water shortage condition, then it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to use or permit the use of water from the water system for any purpose hereinafter set forth until such time as the declaration of water shortage has been rescinded. In addition to the voluntary guidelines already in effect, it shall be unlawful to use water supplied by the city water system in the following manner:
 - (1) Irrigation, except from the hours of 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday through 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday and 8:00 p.m. on Saturday through 8:00 a.m. on Sunday.
 - (2) To wash automobiles, trucks, trailers, boats, airplanes, or any other type of mobile equipment more than once a week.
 - (3) To wash down outside areas such as streets, driveways, service station aprons, parking lots, office buildings, exterior of homes or apartments, sidewalks, or patios, or to use water for other similar purposes, except newly constructed projects including homes, businesses, and industries.
 - (4) To operate or induce water into any ornamental fountain, pool, or pond, or other structure for similar use of water.
 - (5) To use water for any unnecessary purpose or to intentionally waste water.

(Am. Ord. passed 09-14-26)

Cross reference(s)—Penalty, see § 10.99.

Sec. 52.34. Stage III water shortage conditions; unlawful uses of water.

- (A) In the event a Stage II water shortage condition is in effect and the raw water storage facilities drop to 60 percent or less of storage, then the city manager may declare a Stage III water shortage. **The city manager may also declare a Stage III water shortage if he finds it in the public's best interest and welfare to enact Stage III restrictions** In exercising the authority for declaring a water shortage condition consideration shall be given to water shortage levels and available sources of supply, available usable storage on hand, drawdown rates, the projected supply capability, outlook for precipitation, daily water use patterns and availability of water from other sources.
- (B) In the event the city manager issues a declaration of a Stage III water shortage condition, then it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to use or permit the use of water from the water system for any purpose hereinafter set forth until such time as the declaration of water shortage has been rescinded. In addition to the voluntary guidelines already in effect, it shall be unlawful to use water supplied by the city water system in the following manner:
- (1) To water lawns, grass, shrubbery, trees, flowers, and vegetable gardens except in accordance with the following schedule set forth below for specific areas of the city. Such watering shall be done by handheld hose or container or drip irrigation system only. All areas north of the tracks of the Southern Railroad on Sundays and Thursdays between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. All areas south of the tracks of the Southern Railroad on Saturdays and Wednesdays between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.
 - (2) To fill newly constructed swimming and/or wading pools or to add water or to refill private swimming and/or wading pools which have been drained.
 - (3) To wash automobiles, trucks, trailers, boats, airplanes, or any other type of mobile equipment, including commercial washing.
 - (4) To wash down outside areas such as streets, driveways, service station aprons, parking lots, office buildings, exterior of existing or newly constructed homes or apartments, sidewalks, or patios, or to use water for other similar purposes.
 - (5) To use water from public or private fire hydrants for any purpose other than fire suppression or other public emergency.
 - (6) To operate or induce water into any ornamental fountain, pool, or pond, or other structure for similar use of water.
 - (7) To serve drinking water in restaurant cafeterias, or other food establishments, except upon request.
 - (8) To operate watercooled air conditioners or other equipment that does not recycle cooling water, except when health and safety are adversely affected.
 - (9) To use water for any unnecessary purpose or to intentionally waste water.

(Ord. passed 8-8-88; Am. Ord. passed 5-14-18; **Am. Ord. passed 09-14-26**)

Cross reference(s)—Penalty, see § 10.99.

Sec. 52.35. Stage IV water shortage conditions; restrictions.

- (A) In the event a Stage III water shortage condition exists and city raw water storage facilities drop to 40 percent or less of storage, then the city manager may declare a Stage IV water shortage. **The city manager may also declare a Stage IV water shortage if he finds it in the public's best interest and welfare to enact Stage IV restrictions** In exercising the authority for declaring a water shortage condition consideration shall be given to water storage levels and available sources of supply, available usable storage on hand, drawdown rates, the projected supply capability, outlook for precipitation, daily water use patterns and availability of water from other sources.
- (B) In the event the city manager issues a declaration of Stage IV water shortage condition then it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to use or permit the use of water from the city water system for any purpose hereinafter set forth until such time as the declaration of water shortage has been rescinded. In addition to the restrictions for Stage I and Stage II water shortage conditions, the following restrictions shall also apply:
- (1) To fill or add any water into any pool.
 - (2) Use water outside a structure for any use other than an emergency involving a fire.
 - (3) Fire protection to be maintained by the drafting of ponds, rivers, and the like, wherever possible.
 - (4) The use of throwaway utensils and plates is encouraged and recommended at all eating establishments.
 - (5) To operate an evaporative air conditioner which recycles water except during operating hours of business.

(Ord. passed 8-8-88; Am. Ord. passed 5-14-18; **Am. Ord. passed 09-14-26**)

Cross reference(s)—Penalty, see § 10.99.

Sec. 52.36. Lifting of water shortage restrictions.

- (A) Water shortage conditions will expire when the city manager, after consultation with the city council and upon recommendation of the water superintendent, deems that the condition which caused the alert was abated.
- (B) The expiration or cancellation of a water shortage declaration shall be promptly and extensively publicized.

(Ord. passed 8-8-88; Am. Ord. passed 5-14-18; **Am. Ord. passed 09-14-26**)

Sec. 52.37. Penalties and disconnection for noncompliance.

Any person who violates any provision of this subchapter shall be subject to the following civil penalties:

- (A) Any residential water customer who violates any provisions of this subchapter shall be subject to civil penalties. Civil penalties for a residential violation of Stage II, III or IV mandatory restrictions shall be as follows:
- (1) A written warning for the first offense.
 - (2) A civil penalty in the amount of \$100.00 for the second offense.
 - (3) A civil penalty in the amount of \$200.00 for the third offense.

- (4) Disconnection of service for the fourth and successive offenses.
 - (B) Any nonresidential water customer who violates any provision of this subchapter shall be subject to civil penalties double in amount to the above penalties.
 - (C) Violations shall be accumulated by all persons so long as the restrictions contained in this subchapter, in any of its stages, are continuously in effect, and until no stage of this subchapter has been in effect for a period of one calendar year.
 - (1) Violations of any of the mandatory restrictions of any stage shall accumulate with violations of other stages.
 - (2) Should a person move, or cease and renew service during the period described herein, the person's violations shall continue to accumulate as if such move or cessation had not occurred.
 - (D) Each day's continuing violation shall be a separate and distinct criminal and civil offense. Each violation of the subchapter shall be a separate offense even if occurring on the same day.
 - (E) Notwithstanding the above penalty structure, pursuant to the provisions of G.S. § 162A-88, service may be temporarily discontinued for willful disregard of this subchapter, and fees may be imposed before restoration of service.
 - (1) For non-potable uses, this disconnection may be without prior notice.
 - (2) In the event of such discontinuation, the meter may be removed and all tap fees and deposits forfeited.
 - (3) Reconnection will only be made by payment of current due amounts, penalties as set forth above, and new tap fees.
 - (4) It shall be unlawful for customers to reconnect water service discontinued for noncompliance.
 - (a) Any customer reconnecting such services shall be guilty of meter tampering.
 - (b) A fine of \$500.00 will be assessed for such violation.
- (Ord. passed 8-8-88; Am. Ord. passed 1-14-08; Am. Ord. passed 5-14-18; Am. Ord. passed 09-14-26)



**PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 2026
DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, dyslexia is a language-based learning disability that affects approximately one in five individuals, regardless of race, gender, age, or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia is neurological in origin and affects the way the brain processes language and information, often resulting in difficulties with reading, writing, spelling, and language processing despite average or above-average intelligence; and

WHEREAS, individuals with dyslexia possess unique strengths and abilities and can thrive when provided with appropriate support, including specialized instruction from highly trained educators, multisensory learning approaches, assistive technology, and individualized educational strategies; and

WHEREAS, early identification and intervention, combined with effective instruction and the encouragement and support of families, educators, and communities, can help students with dyslexia build confidence, reach their full potential, and achieve success in the classroom, in their personal lives, and ultimately in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, increasing awareness and understanding of dyslexia helps reduce stigma, encourages early recognition, promotes acceptance, and ensures that individuals with dyslexia have meaningful opportunities to learn, grow, and succeed; and

WHEREAS, Dyslexia Awareness Month provides an opportunity for the City of Bessemer City to recognize the many individuals in our community who live with dyslexia and to encourage greater awareness, understanding, compassion, and support for individuals and families affected by dyslexia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Bessemer City that October 2026 is Dyslexia Month in Bessemer City, North Carolina.

Adopted this the 14th Day of September, 2026.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Attest:

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk



PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 2026 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Whereas, 1 in every 3 teenagers, 1 in every 4 women, and 1 in every 6 men will experience domestic violence during their lifetime; and

Whereas, approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year; and

Whereas, when a family member is abused, it can have long-term damaging effects on the victim that also leave a mark on family, friends, and the community at large; and

Whereas, the problem of domestic violence is not confined to any group or groups of people, but crosses all economic, racial, gender, educational, religious, and societal barriers, and is sustained by societal indifference; and

Whereas, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse; and

Whereas, it is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who provide services to victims of domestic violence and work to increase public understanding of this significant problem; and

Whereas, local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and its prevalence, and to eliminating it through prevention and education; and

Whereas, the United States President and Congress as well as other federal agencies have expressed a commitment to eliminating domestic violence both nationally and internationally; and

Whereas, our Nation has a moral obligation to work to prevent domestic violence and to address its brutal and destructive effects.

Now, therefore, I, Mayor Becky S. Smith and the City Council do hereby proclaim the month of October 2026 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all citizens to actively participate in activities and programs designed to work towards the elimination of domestic violence.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Bessemer City to be affixed on this 14th day of September, 2026.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF APPLICANT

WHEREAS, The City of Bessemer City, has need for and intends to construct, plan for, or conduct a study in a project described as Drinking Water System Improvements, and Wastewater System Improvements, and

WHEREAS, The City of Bessemer City intends to request State loan and/or grant assistance for the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BESSEMER CITY:

That the City of Bessemer City, the **Applicant**, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State loan and/or grant award.

That the **Applicant** will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That the **Applicant** will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

That the governing body of the **Applicant** agrees to include in the loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of the City of Bessemer City to make a scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the City of Bessemer City any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan.

That Joshua Ross, City Manager, the **Authorized Representative** and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the **Applicant** with the State of North Carolina for a loan and/or grant to aid in the study of or construction of the project described above.

That the **Authorized Representative**, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application or the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the **Applicant** has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, and funding conditions applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 14th day of September, 2026 at Bessemer City, North Carolina.

FORM FOR CERTIFICATION BY THE RECORDING OFFICER

The undersigned duly qualified and acting City Clerk of the City of Bessemer City does hereby certify: That the above/attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the State of North Carolina, as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the City Council duly held on the 14th day of September, 2026; and, further, that such resolution has been fully recorded in the journal of proceedings and records in my office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of September, 2026.

(Signature of Recording Officer)

(Title of Recording Officer)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF BESSEMER CITY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, The City of Bessemer City has a current [10-year] Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that is part of a previously adopted Asset Management Plan (AMP), and

WHEREAS, The City of Bessemer City held a City Council Meeting on September 14, 2026, to present only the updated CIP with project costs that reflect the current construction market.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BESSEMER CITY

That The City of Bessemer City does hereby adopt the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as updated for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget, as presented at the September 14th, 2026 City Council Meeting.

Adopted this the ____ day of September, 2026 at Bessemer City, North Carolina.

Signature of Mayor

Becky S. Smith

Mayor, Printed Name

CERTIFICATION BY RECORDING OFFICER

The undersigned duly qualified and acting City Clerk of the City of Bessemer City does hereby certify: That the above/attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution authorizing the adoption of the updated 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan, as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the City Council of the City of Bessemer City duly held on the 14th day of September, 2026; and, further, that such resolution has been fully recorded in the journal of proceedings and records in my office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ____ day of September 2026.

Signature of City Clerk

Hydeia Y. Hayes

City Clerk, Printed Name

Bessemer City - Distribution and Collections

10-YEAR Capital Improvements Plan FY 2027

REVIEW COPY

City of Bessemer City - FY26/27 Capital Improvements Plan
(Distribution and Collections)

Project Number	Project Description	10-Yr CIP Cost Cost	Current Yr 2027	FY 1 2028	FY 2 2029	FY 3 2030	FY 4 2031	FY 5 2032	FY 6 2033	FY 7 2034	FY 8 2035	FY 9 2036	FY 10 2037	Years 11 - 15
Water Distribution System														
1	Tennessee And Florida Avenue Water System Improvements Project	3,000,000	-	3,000,000										
2	Holland Memorial Church Road Water Line Extension	778,550	-					150,000	628,550					
3	North Side Loop Closures	71,300	-		71,300									
4	Sunset Tank Connectivity Improvements	2,266,650	-			266,000	1,800,000	200,650						
5	Southeast Water Tank	5,862,700	-							5,862,700				
6	Southridge Parkway Phase 1 Water Line Extensions	86,825	-									86,825		
7	Ramseur Road and Sunset Drive Water Line Extension	1,528,350	-										1,528,350	
8	Southridge Parkway Phase 2 Water Line	4,157,250	-	-	-	-	-	-						4,157,250
Subtotal - Water Distribution		17,751,625	-	3,000,000	71,300	266,000	1,800,000	350,650	628,550	5,862,700	-	86,825	1,528,350	4,157,250
Sewer Collection System														
1	Georgia and Texas Avenue Sewer Improvements Project	2,450,000	-	2,450,000										
2	Long Creek Outfall Sewer, Phase 1	6,373,300	-			373,000	4,500,000	1,500,300						
3	Long Creek Outfall - Arc Street Pump Station Gravity Sewer Extension	2,869,250	-				500,000	2,000,000	369,250					
4	Southeast Pump Station Gravity Sewer Extension	4,654,050	-						4,654,050					
5	9th Street Pump Station Upgrades	43,700	-	43,700										
6	Shopping Center Pump Station Gravity Sewer Extension	2,262,050	-								2,262,050			90,000
7	Exit 14 Gravity Sewer Extension	1,804,350	-								2,147,000			
8	Long Creek Outfall Sewer, Phase 2	6,844,800	-									6,844,800		
9	Long Creek Outfall - Ninth Street Pump Station Gravity Sewer Extension	5,019,750	-										5,019,750	
10	Oates Road Pump Station and Force Main	2,070,000	-											2,070,000
Subtotal - Sewer Line Improvements		34,391,250	-	2,493,700	-	373,000	5,000,000	3,500,300	5,023,300	-	4,409,050	6,844,800	5,019,750	2,160,000
Total 10-Yr Distribution and Collections CIP		52,142,875	-	5,493,700	71,300	639,000	6,800,000	3,850,950	5,651,850	5,862,700	4,409,050	6,931,625	6,548,100	6,317,250
	Capital Project funded or patially funded using external source(s). ARPA, Direct Allocation, etc.													
	Capital Project funded or patially funded using debt issue(s)													
Total 10-Yr CIP: Distribution and Collections		52,142,875		5,493,700	71,300	639,000	6,800,000	3,850,950	5,651,850	5,862,700	4,409,050	6,931,625	6,548,100	6,317,250