City of Cumming Council Meeting
Regular Scheduled Meeting
August 18, 2026

I. Call Meeting to Order – Troy Brumbalow, Mayor

The scheduled work session of the Mayor and Council of the City of Cumming was held Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 6:00 P.M., at City Hall in Cumming, Georgia. The Mayor and all Council Members were properly notified as required by law and all were present. Mayor Troy Brumbalow presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order.

II. Invocation: Mayor Brumbalow asked Administrator Phil Higgins to deliver the invocation.

III. Pledge to the Flag: Mayor Brumbalow led everyone in the Pledge to the American Flag.

IV. Consider Agenda for Adoption:

Mayor Brumbalow requested a motion to adopt the agenda for the August 18, 2026, meeting. A motion was made by Susie Carr and seconded by Chad Crane to adopt the August 18 meeting agenda. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

V. Consider for Adoption the Following Meeting Minutes:

A. Regular Meeting of August 4, 2026.

A motion was made by Christopher Light and seconded by Chad Crane to adopt the August 4 meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

B. Executive Session Minutes of August 4, 2026

A motion was made by Susie Carr and seconded by Jason Evans to adopt the August 4 Executive Session Meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

VI. Acknowledgements, Proclamations, Resolutions, etc.

No items were presented.

VII. Old Business:

A. Administration

1. Resolution in Support of the Cottage of Providence Housing Development (Public Comments)

Mayor Brumbalow explained the purpose of the resolution. If approved, the resolution would allow St. Vincent de Paul the initial city consent to apply for a grant that would help fund an affordable housing project. May Brumbalow opened the floor for citizens to speak for or against the resolution. Speaking in favor of the resolution were Marielle Siveny, Cathy Johnson, Lisa Springfield, Joan Welty, Eva McReynolds, Cindy Mills, Bettina Hammond, Dan Bailey, Jimmy Springfield, Mary Helen McGruder, Margarita Jimenez, Sandra Wetney, and Rosanne Santo. Mary Helen McGruder asked to state on the record that the city considers five conditions. 1. St Vincent de Paul would be responsible for maintaining the homes and not the city. 2. Rent should cover the upkeep of roads. 3. This should be for adults 18 and over. 4. Rent is required but on a sliding scale. 5. Proper Fencing is in place. There were no comments against the resolution.

Upon closing of public comments, Mayor Brumbalow expressed his personal challenges as a citizen growing up in the community and Susie Carr shared similar experiences. Jason Evans asked City Attorney Jonah Howell to clarify if the city was bound to anything outside of this resolution for grant purposes to which Attorney Howell advised it is not. Chad Crane, Joey Cochran, and Christopher Light all expressed their support for the need for this in the community after hearing the comments.

A motion was made by Susie Carr and seconded by Chad Crane to approve the resolution in support of the Cottages of Providence Housing Development. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

VIII. New Business

A. Cumming Aquatic Center

1. Request to Purchase – Dive Blocks

Director of Aquatics Center, Carla Sordoni presented the following staff report.

The Aquatic Center is requesting approval to replace the existing starting blocks, which were originally purchased and installed in 2011. While the existing blocks have provided many years of service, their age, construction, corrosion, and repeated maintenance concerns have reached a point where replacement needs to be considered from a safety, operational, and long-term financial standpoint.

The existing blocks are single-post, flat-top design with the tops welded to the base - the Spectrum Record Breaker model. These have a large non-slip cover over the platform with stainless steel frames. in 2011, this was advanced technology, however as the sport of competitive swimming has evolved, more elite blocks have become available. We host about 50 swim meets each year, high school and club-hosted meets with teams who are not contracted with the CAC. In addition to ensuring our dive blocks are safe, having the newer technology makes our facility desirable for rental.

*<u>Issues **with** Existing Blocks</u>*
Single-post, flat-top design with tops welded to the base. As the equipment ages and with continuous corrosion, it is increasingly difficult to identify failures at the welding point.

The stick top tread must be replaced continuously. This can be a safety concern because if ripped and part of the platform be exposed, a swimmer could lose their footing during the start. We check and replace these regularly, but It is quite labor Intensive because the entire block needs to be removed in order to do so.

Continuous corrosion. Due to continuous exposure to moisture, humidity, pool chemicals, and a corrosive atmosphere, the existing block frames rust easily, Continuous corrosion can affect not only the visible exterior but also welds, seams, mounting point, and anywhere water collects. There are temporary solutions that address the symptoms (stainless steel cleaner), but those measures do not restore the original condition or service life of the underlying structure.

Options for Replacement
As expected, there are only a handful of companies who manufacture elite-level starting blocks. We would like to stick with a single post design as that is what we currently have, rather than having to drill more holes in the concrete with a dual post or alternative design. Spectrum model blocks are the only blocks that are compatible with our existing anchors.

The recommended action is replacement of the existing twenty-seven (27) starting blocks originally installed in 2011 with twenty-seven (27) Sprint with Rapid Lock *blocks. This will be a proactive replacement of safety-critical aquatic equipment that has reached the end of a reasonable service period. Replacing the blocks allows the City to establish a new equipment lifecycle rather than continuing to invest thousands of dollars into the maintenance of the existing blocks, while also being able to provide advanced, updated technology/equipment for swim meets.*

Carla continued to explain that all the funding for the recommended purchase was budgeted except for approximately $3,600. Jason Evans asked that warranties be reviewed on the powder coating. A motion was made by Christopher Light and seconded by Chad Crane to approve the purchase of dive blocks for the Cumming Aquatic Center from Spectrum Sprint with Rapid Lock in the amount of $136,412.50 as defined in the staff report. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

B. Planning and Zoning

1. Alcohol License Application – Tavern Off The Green, 400 Vision Drive

Planning and Zoning Director, Scott Morgan presented the following staff report:

The Department of Planning and Zoning has received an Alcoholic Beverage License application for the sale of distilled spirits, malt beverages and wine for consumption on the premises for the business of Tavern Off the Green located at 400 Vision Drive, Cumming, GA.

In accordance with the City's alcohol ordinance, a background check was conducted on the license applicant, and no issues were found to deny the applicant the license. Additionally, the applicant has met all the requirements of the application process and has paid all fees due to the City. It is recommended that consideration be given for the applicant to be approved for the requested license by the City of Cumming.

Property Manager Ryan Lucht spoke about the anticipated opening by college football season and looked forward to working with the City of Cumming. A motion was made by Christopher Light and seconded by Chad Crane to approve the alcohol license application for Tavern Off the Green, 400 Vision Drive as defined in the staff report. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

2. **Capital Improvements Element Update (Public Hearing)**

Planning and Zoning Director, Scott Morgan presented the following staff report and included a copy of the annual update to the Capital Improvement Element:

Attached, please find the annual update of our CIE, including our FY 2025 Impact Fee Annual Financial Report and our 2026-2030 Schedule of Improvements, for your approval.

After the public hearing, I am requesting the Council authorize the mayor to sign the Transmittal Resolution, forwarding these draft documents to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), for their review.

After our CIE annual update has been approved by both the ARC, and subsequently the DCA, I will request the Mayor & Council to adopt the update and notify the ARC of its official adoption.

A motion was made by Chad Crane and seconded by Jason Evans to open the public hearing. The motion caried unanimously 5-0. Nothing was discussed in favor or against the item. A motion was made by Joey Cochran and seconded by Jason Evans to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously 5-0. A motion was made by Joey Cochran and seconded by Susie Carr to authorize the mayor to sign the Transmittal Resolution and forwarding the draft documents to the Atlanta Regional Commission and Georgia Department of Community Affairs as defined in the staff report. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

3. **Comprehensive Plan Update (Public Hearing)**

Planning and Zoning Director, Scott Morgan presented the following staff report:

As you know, we have recently contracted with Jerry Weitz to complete the five (5) year update to the City's Comprehensive. Plan. Jerry is here tonight as part of a required initial public hearing, to present an overview of the update process, obtain whatever input the public and Mayor & Council may have, review the required Plan elements, discuss public participation methods, present the tentative schedule for completion of the update and answer any questions you may have.

Jerry Weitz provided an overview and was available to answer questions. The purpose of this project is to update population data, and review processes and opportunities. The key initiatives will include studies on population, housing, natural resources, economic development, land use plans, community facilities, public safety, intergovernmental planning, transportation, and broadband. The plan must be adopted by October 1, 2027. A motion was made by Chad Crane and seconded by Christopher Light to open the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously 5-0. No comments were made in favor or against the item. A motion was made by Joey Cochran and seconded by Jason Evans to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously 5-0. No vote was required for this item.

C. Utilities

1. **Report of Quote – Particle Counter Replacement**

Utilities Director, Jon Heard, presented the following staff report:

The Department of Utilities is required to maintain Particle Counter Technology on all filters. This is a Georgia EPD requirement for our 6 MG Clearwell CIP upgrade. We pulled this item out of the main Clearwell Proposal to save money.

Two Proposals were received and they were as follows:

Company:	***Proposal:***
Chemtrek	*$89,290.00*
Aqua-Summit	*$113,570.00*

The Department of Utilities requests that the Council award the responsive Proposal from Aqua-Summit in the amount of $113,570.00.

A motion was made by Jason Evans and seconded by Susie Carr to approve the Particle Counter Replacement with the bid from Aqua-Summit in the amount of $113,570.00 as defined in the staff report. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

2. RFP Results – Stormwater Improvements at City Park with Retaining Wall

Utilities Director, Jon Heard, presented the following staff report:

The Department of Utilities requested proposals for a wall, drainage improvements and stormwater piping for the City park that originates from Denson Drive area.

The Department of Utilities received four Proposal and they were as follows:

	Price
Excellere Construction, LLC	*$399,728.14*
Hasburn Construction, LLC	*$430,623.71*
Reeves Young	*$483,060.00*
Vertical Earth	*$519,152.76*
P.E. Structures & Assoc, LLC	*$669,750.00*

The Department of Utilities requests that the Council award the Proposal to Excellere Construction, LLC in the amount of $399,728.14.

Mayor Brumbalow offered alternatives to the scope of the project and requested revised proposal reflecting the suggestions. No vote was required as Director Heard agreed to explore the recommendations.

3. Cost to Cure – Highway 369 Water and Sewer Relocation

Utilities Director, Jon Heard, presented the following staff report:

The Department of Utilities would like to request approval of the updated Cost to Cure Agreement with Forsyth County in the amount of $1,344,528.52. The Department of Utilities concurs with the amount of this settlement.

The Department of Utilities requests that the Council sign the Cost to Cure Agreement so that the city can be reimbursed by Forsyth County for the work which has been completed back in 2020.

Mayor Brumbalow asked if this would address the sunken sewer line to which Director Heard advised it would not. A motion was made by Christopher Light and seconded by Chad Crane to approve the request to sign the Cost to Cure Agreement with Forsyth County in the amount of $1,344,528.52 as defined in the staff report. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

IX. Announcements

There were no announcements presented.

X. Executive Session (If needed)

City Administrator, Phil Higgins, advised that Executive Session was not required.

XI. Adjourn

A motion was made by Chad Crane and seconded by Jason Evans to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Approved this 15th day of September, 2026.

Troy Brumbalow, Mayor

Councilmember, Chad Crane

Councilmember, Jason Evans

Councilmember, Joey Cochran

Councilmember, Christopher Light

Councilmember, Susie Carr

Attest:

City Clerk, Alison B. Smith