



AGENDA

City Council Meeting

6:00 PM – Monday, April 13, 2026

William Simmons Administration Building 240 Carrollton Street, Temple, GA 30179

Call to Order.....Mayor Michael Johnson
Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.....Mayor Michael Johnson
Invited Guests.....Mayor Michael Johnson

- 10U Basketball Team - GRPA District 4 State Champions
- Presentation “Stress, Coping, and Support: How Organizational and Community Factors Affect Police Mental Health” by Aileen Yanney

Public Comments

Approval of the Published Agenda.....Mayor Michael Johnson
Approval of Minutes.....Mayor Michael Johnson
 February 2, 2026 City Council Meeting.....Mayor Michael Johnson
 March 2, 2026 City Council Meeting.....Mayor Michael Johnson
 March 30, 2026 Special Called meeting.....Mayor Michael Johnson

Announcements.....Lisa Jacobson, Mayor Michael Johnson

Consent Agenda

1. Authorize the purchase of office furniture from Kidney Office Supply for the Public Works Building in the amount of \$12,804.40 with funding from the FY25 Capital Budget *PW Building*.
2. Authorize the City’s engineering firm, Carter & Sloope, to prepare a water model for the City of Temple, not to exceed \$40,000.00, with funding from the Water Fund.

New Business

1. Resolution on behalf of the City of Temple recognizing Aileen Yanney for her presentation “Stress, Coping, and Support: How Organizational and Community Factors Affect Police Mental Health”.....Mayor Michael Johnson
2. Proclamation on behalf of the West Georgia Child Advocacy Center (WGCAC) recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.....Mayor Michael Johnson
3. Proclamation on behalf of Carroll Electric Membership Cooperative (CEMC) recognizing April as National Safe Digging Month.....Mayor Michael Johnson
4. First Reading on the proposed ordinance amending the City of Temple’s Charter..Lisa Jacobson
5. Adopt a new mileage for police take-home vehicle privileges at 40 miles from city limits to residence.
6. Adopt the Recording Work-Related Conversations Policy into the Personnel Policy Manual.
7. Select the contractor PKS Paving and Concrete Construction to pave the Recreation/Senior Center main parking lot for \$210,601.05, funded from the FY26 Capital Budget in the amount of \$170,000 and the remaining \$40,000 from SPLOST2021.

Closing Comments by Mayor and Council

Executive Session, if needed

Adjournment

**City Council Meeting
April 13, 2026**

(We will have a banner for them to hold. The boys will wear their medals and uniforms. And I would love for them to be recognized at this year's Founders Day parade.)

Temple Parks and Recreation presents the
2026 GRPA 4th District Class C 10u Boys District Champions and State Champions

The All-Star team was coached by Le'Dale Griffin-Howard, with assistants Kris Baskin and Maxine Gooden. This is Coach Le'Dale's second State title, and first as head coach. Go Tigers!

This coaching staff led the All-Star team to victory, losing only one pre-season game. Every player contributed, each received playing time, and key moments included unexpected three-pointers and resilience under pressure. Parents supported all athletes, not just their own. We are pleased to bring home this title, earned with integrity and hard work.

We are Temple Rec: "Strong Roots, Bright Future."

Today, we celebrate the All-Star team for fighting through state brackets and winning the gold. I present to you your 10u champs:

Guards:

Kane Baskin
Le'Dale Griffin-Howard Jr - 13
Wyatt Harper - 30
Ty Ross - 32
Parker Stachowicz - 33
Thomas Williamson - 35
Nicolas Wood - 40

Forwards:

David Cochran - 41
Kaleb Garvain - 12
Bryce Hollensworth - 20

Head Coach: Le'Dale Griffin-Howard

Assistant Coach: Kris Baskin

Assistant Coach: Maxine Gooden

City Council Meeting
February 2, 2026
6:00PM, William Simmons Administration Building
Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Mayor Michael Johnson.
Council Members present: Hiley Miller, Howard Walden, Richard Bracknell
Absent: Casey Russom, Alexis Boles

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mayor Michael Johnson

Public Comments:

Zack Martin 740 Old Centerpoint Rd- Lived here about two years, his connection goes much deeper than that with his family living there for generations, back to the 1800s. Her family helped build this land. He is not anti technology or here to attack anyone. He believes there are certain places where things don't belong. This land is generational, once it is gone, it's gone. His concerns is the precedence for the future of Centerpoint. Please don't be the council that trades generations of land, heritage and community for a project that doesn't belong here.

Hugh Bass 180 Smokerise Drive- I am here to speak in opposition to the opposed data center. Our family has a large tract of land there and we have five families who still live on the farm and a brother who lives adjacent to this proposed project. We are highly opposed to this project. This would change the character of Centerpoint forever.

Daniel Sewell, 623 Centerpoint Rd- My wife and I are fourth generation living on this land. My family goes back to the mid 1900s living in this community. I agree with Mr. Martin. Nothing against anyone in this room. There are places where data centers belong and I don't believe this is it.

Reid Morris 251 Old Centerpoint Rd- I can trace my family history, we have farmed in this area for four generations. My family lives in this neighborhood. I am opposed to this data center. I am not anti growth or anti technology, but there are better uses of this land for this community. One thing to consider is how would this affect real estate values in the area. We know the long term effects of residential communities, but we don't know the effects of a data center: how it will effect our power, water, run off, noise pollution, light pollution, etc. My 4th generation family farm, the property line is 400 yards from where this will be developed. Hope you will consider this not going through.

Blake Presnall 582 Leavans Rd- This is where our farm shop is. My family lives directly across from where the proposed data center will be. We have been fortunate enough that some of the members of the community allowed us to manage and rent some of their land. We are life time Carroll County residents. I don't want to be redundant, I agree with what the others have stated.

Vic Presnall 650 Levans Rd- I have been involved in establishing data centers, primarily the one on Thornton Road, it's the project that never ends. I started on that project in 2005, it is one building after another. The effects of the construction is indescribable, it will be a tough five to ten years while this will be built.

Natalie Nichols 680 Carroll Rd- I think it is clear that everyone in here does not want this to be on this road or in this area. It is very quiet and a nice place to live. We are concerned about the water, the noise and light pollution will be in our back door. We are concerned about our lifestyle there, we chose to live on the dead end street for our family, the quiet and the lifestyle.

Angie Matthews 1568 Centerpoint Rd- We are a small community, it is rural, farming land. It is generations of families. Everyone is out with their kids playing in the yard every single day. All of our family in that area is hugely opposed to this.

Anna Bass Curtis 2859 Mandeville Rd- My husband and I own farmland there. Several of our family members live in the area as well. Generations of her family lives there, along with other generations of family. It is rural and farm land, it affects animals as well. With the lighting we will lose the night sky. This community is a very historic place.

Keith Carr 1142 Old Muse Road- One of my sons lives over here. A data center is worse than industrial park. I have been going to all of the data centers in the area. If you could only see what it takes to build them, you would be dead set against them. I don't see how Temple has the infrastructure. When Donny's house burned, there was not the water pressure for the fire hydrant, how will you have pressure for this? There is one exit off of Temple, you will need another exit to get the equipment here. It will take several years to complete this project. The transformers give off a noise, there has to be big HVAC systems will keep them cool. There will be constant humming. It will affect property in the area. I work for the power company and I am dead set against it.

Kenneth Farmer 1765, 1816 Centerpoint & more addresses. This project it should never have been brought this far. We have to abide by certain rules and regulations and what the state law is to do annexation, etc. There will be litigation about this, I can assure you. The Centerpoint people want to be left alone. We are not ready for a data

center, don't know if anyone else will be. If we divide the property, I understand the owners acquired the property in 1957 and I-20 came in after that, they are not giving easements for interstates to come through. If you have land on the north and south side of I-20, there is quite a bit of difference in it joining and being contiguous. I think they need to find another place to build this data center. I hope you will let them know that there will be a little bit more to it than just these people tonight. People can only do so much right now. The signs are coming.

Karen Bass Harven 2851 Mandeville Road- I live in my grandparents home. I grew up out there, we are raising six children out there. That land and that experience is their heritage. If that is turned into a data center, what does that say about us. The way you grow your town matters and says a lot about your legacy. This is not thought out if this goes through, a lot of us will want to leave. My kids won't want to come back. I am watching houses go up, there are several new builds on larger residential tracts. Growth is still happening, but the way that we go about it is extremely important.

Michael Harris 411 Oak Grove Rd- Our land backs up to Centerpoint. Our family has lived here since the 1940s. I have worked in the data center industry for several years. It is how I make my living but I don't want one in my back yard. I think it is terrible for the environment. I worry about our livestock. I am strongly against it.

Amanda Whitlock 2775 Mandeville Rd. – I am here on behalf of myself and elderly neighbors. There is agricultural growth out there that is feeding my family. I commute, we come out here for the sanctity of the land and the atmosphere. I work in a place where growth wasn't properly planned and don't want that to happen here.. I am strongly opposed to this.

Ryan Barnett 248 Stagecoach Pass- I deal with data centers all across the country, and large hospitals. Will take significant power daily and about five million gallons of water daily, which I don't think we have the infrastructure for. You can expect lower water pressure. Who will pay for the infrastructure? We don't need this in our little community. They can potentially use chemicals for water cooling. If there is any kind of leak it could run into our water supply. This happened in Rome with the GE power plant. This is not something that we want.

Approval of the Published Agenda: Mayor Johnson stated that there was a request to remove item #10 from the consent agenda and to add item #1 under new business to vote on an engineering firm for the City.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the consent agenda with amendments, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 3-0.

Approval of Minutes:

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to approve the January 12, 2026 City Council Meeting minutes, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 3-0.

Announcements:

City Administrator Lisa Jacobson reminded everyone that City Hall would be closed February 3rd and 4th for software training and updates.

Consent Agenda

There was a motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Council Member Bracknell, with the items in #5 coming from the operating fund in the amount of \$14,200 each, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 3-0.

1. Authorize the replacement of Diffusers for SBR #2 Tank and #1, as needed, with funding from the FY26 Capital Budget.
2. Authorize staff to proceed with the upgrade to the City Hall Server, funded from the FY26 Capital Budget.
3. Approve the resubmission of the Request For Proposals for the Temple Recreation/Senior Center Parking Lot Improvement project.
4. Adopt an Ordinance to Annex Parcel #0117 0039B located on US Hwy 78 into the City of Temple from Haralson County.
5. Authorize the purchase of blower motor #2 for the SBR Tanks along with a backup motor(#3).
6. Approve the purchase of a tractor with batwing mower attachment from Mason Tractor & Equipment Company for \$64,922.91, funded from the FY26 Capital Budget.
7. Authorize Public Works Director Josh Smith to proceed with the Centerpoint paving project through Carroll County's road maintenance department, not to exceed \$145,000, with funding from the FY26 Capital Budget.
8. Adopt a resolution for the City of Temple's participation in the Haralson County TSPLOST Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA).
9. Authorize Mayor Johnson to sign the *engagement letter* for Will Robinson, LLC. to perform audit services for fiscal year 2025.
10. Acknowledge receipt of acceptance of the fiscal year 2023 Audit from Will Robinson, LLC.
11. Adopt a resolution for Temple's renewal commitment as a City of Civility.

New Business N/A

1. Authorize the City to change engineering firms from Turnipseed Engineers to Carter and Sloope Engineers.

Mayor Johnson explained that Turnipseed Engineers has treated us very well, Greg Ashwoth has treated us even better. Greg Ashwoth has been the City Engineer for several years and done a great job, He recently changed to a different firm, Carter and Sloope.

There was a motion by Council Member Miller to use Carter and Sloope for engineering services, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 3-0.

Closing Comments by Mayor and Council N/A

Executive Session, if needed

Mayor Johnson explained there is a need for an executive session for legal purposes. There will be no action after.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to go into executive session, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 3-0.

There was a motion to come out of Executive Session by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 3-0.

Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:52PM.

City Council Meeting
March 2, 2026
6:00PM, William Simmons Administration Building
MINUTES

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael Johnson at 6:00PM.

Council Members Present: Richard Bracknell, Alexis Boles, Hiley Miller, Casey Russom, Howard Waldenraft

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mayor Michael Johnson

Public Comments: will add

Invited Guests: Mayor Michael Johnson presented Police Chief Creig Lee with a plaque recognizing and honoring his 24 years of service to the City of Temple.

Approval of the Published Agenda: There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the published agenda, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

Nomination and City Council vote to appoint a Ward 2 Temple resident to the Planning Commission: There was a motion by Council Member Walden to nominate Ronald Woody to the Planning Commission, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

Oath of Office – Mayor Michael Johnson administered the Oath of Office to Newly Appointed Ward 2 Planning Commission Member Ronald Woody.

Approval of Minutes: There was a motion by Council Member Walden to table the February 2, 2026 City Council Meeting minutes until the April meeting because they just received them today, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

Announcements City Administrator Lisa Jacobson stated that Spring Clean Up Day is March 28th for the Community. Information will be posted this week. We do not have a Planning Commission Meeting this month. On the approved City calendar, the April Council meeting will be on the 13th due to Spring Break.

State of the City Address: Mayor Michael Johnson gave the State of the City Address

Consent Agenda:

There was a request by Council Member Walden to take item #2 off of the consent agenda so that it could be discussed as a separate item after the consent agenda is approved.

Consent Agenda: There was a motion to approve the agenda by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Boles. Vote 4-0.

Item #2. Authorize the City Administrator and Financial Consultant Scott Akins to determine the best rates and terms for maturing CDs, not to exceed a three-year term, along with the investment of \$2,000,000 from the water fund budget into CDs to accrue interest.

Council Member Walden stated at the last meeting they discussed possibly taking money out of the water fund to put into CDs but we didn't talk about increments, he wanted to make sure they would be broken up. City Administrator Lisa Jacobson explained that to be insured by the FDIC the amounts would have to be broken up into amounts that are less than \$275,000.

There was a motion by Council Member Walden to put the \$2,000,000 into CDs and for the Financial Consultant and City Administrator to determine the best rates, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

Consent Agenda Items (#2 was removed for a separate vote)

1. Acknowledge receipt of acceptance of the fiscal year 2023 Audit from Will Robinson, LLC.
2. Authorize the City Administrator and Financial Consultant Scott Akins to determine the best rates and terms for maturing CDs, not to exceed a three-year term, along with the investment of \$2,000,000 from the water fund budget into CDs to accrue interest.
3. Adopt a budget amendment to the fiscal year 2026 Operating Budget to add the purchase of a wrestling mat by the recreation department, with the operating budget being a balanced budget (revenues-expenditures) of \$6,544,939.00.
4. Approve the purchase of a wrestling mat in the amount of \$10,414.16 with funding from the recreation department's operating budget.
5. Approve the purchase of kitchen appliances (rational, gas oven range, heating cabinet) for the Senior Center from *A City Discount Restaurant Equipment* in the amount of \$21,131.15, with installation by *TWC Services* in the amount of \$2,698.74 for a total of \$23,829.89 with funding from the FY26 Capital Budget.
6. Authorization to hire for the position of Public Safety Administrative Services Technician, Pay Grade 13, for the Police Department, maintaining two (2) police officer positions vacant.
7. Approve Officer Hebert, K9, take-home vehicle privilege to his new residence, which exceeds the current allowable mileage, granting him 89 miles round-trip.
8. Authorize the Mayor to sign the grant agreement for receipt of a \$453,703.75 grant (80-20 match) from the FY2023 State of Local Cybersecurity Grant Program.
9. Select DSW Contractors to make repairs to the recreation department concessions buildings 1, 2, 3, and the football score stand in the amount of \$47,365, with \$36,261.35 to be funded by insurance reimbursements and the remaining \$11,103.65 from SPLOST21.

New Business

1. Public Hearing followed by council action on the request for permanent removal of the sunset clause by Alex Vautin with Southeast Civil Group, which is currently set to expire on July 5, 2026, for 100 E. Luke Road, Parcel #T04 0060712, Landlot 117, District 6, as presented to the Planning Commission on February 17, 2026, with the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the removal of the sunset clause but to continue to require the Special Use Permit as long as this parcel remains with the current owners and upon sale of the property it needs to come back to the city council for approval (A4-0).

Mayor Michael Johnson opened the Public Hearing. Alex Vautin with Southeast Civil Group was present at the meeting. He stated that they brought this request to the Council a year ago and the council requested they make improvements to the site which they have done. They improved the fence, fixed the old entrance, put in grass and sodded the front area where the dirt patches were showing along the highway. They addressed everything and met with the City Inspector to make sure there were no additional concerns. The Planning Commission voted for approval of the clause and he requests that the Council does the same.

After a brief discussion, there was a motion by Council Member Russom to approve it as proposed tonight, understanding that the agreement stays with the property owner with the same variances locked in as long as he owns the property, should the property be sold, it will be held to the same standards as light industrial, and the setbacks that are required of that zoning, second by Council Member Boles. Vote 5-0.

2. Financial report on the FY2026 budget-to-actuals, the FY24 audit, and the debt service ratio
Financial Consultant Scott Akins explained that they had the January financials. Council Member Miller stated there were a couple of instances where it is showing 100% again and those would need to be corrected. She also questioned a postage actual and if it was in the correct place. Mr. Akins explained that there are several things they are working through and they agreed to discuss this at another time.

Council Member Walden had some questions about checking on the water purchases for last year and it was \$137,000 over budget. There was also a case where the water bill was paid twice, but we are still over budget. Mr. Akins explained that they were emailed the billings for the entire year and it was \$18,000 over. The error was corrected on the financial statement; the duplicate payment was added as a credit and it will wash out. There was discussion regarding the debt ratio.

The 2023 audit has been submitted, the 2024 audit is on the way.

Closing Comments by Mayor and Council

Executive Session, if needed

Mayor Johnson stated there was a need for an executive session for legal matters. There was a motion by Council Member Brackenll to go into Executive Session, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to come out of Executive Session, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

Adjournment

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to adjourn, second by Council Member Walden, vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:48PM

Special Called Meeting
March 30, 2026
6:00PM, William Simmons Administration Building
MINUTES

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Mayor Michael Johnson.
Council Members Present: Richard Bracknell, Alexsis Boles, Hiley Miller, Casey Russom, Howard Walden

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mayor Michael Johnson

Public Comments:

Janet Daniel-Lives in Tallapoosa. She explained that she has been covering the City of Villa Rica for about six years and started covering Temple this past July. She stated that it seems like Temple is beginning to have the same type of issues with water that Villa Rica has. They have had a moratorium on residential for a couple of years and had to extend it to industrial and commercial. They did a study and found out that if all of the developments that have been approved were to be developed, hypothetically tomorrow, they would be at 100% at their sewer and water capacity. They have not been able to find options for getting water. Carroll County renewed their contract and went up 78 cents per gallon on the water cost. Villa Rica recently began a new application process for any new commercial or residential development. The only thing that can be built in Villa Rica right now is a single family home on land you already own. You can not make an application to build anything in Villa Rica until you first have approval through the Utilities Director. It seems that Temple is heading down the same path as Villa Rica.

Approval of the Agenda, as presented:

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the agenda as presented, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 5-0.

Announcements: N/A

New Business

1. Adopt an ordinance extending the building moratorium on residential development and high-water use CG/IL developments for six (6) months, effective April 6, 2026 – October 7, 2026.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to adopt the ordinance extending the building moratorium on residential and CG/IL developments for six months, second by Council Member Russom. Vote 5-0.

2. Adopt AI Policies as presented by staff for the VC3 AI Assistant pilot program.

There was a motion by Council Member Boles to adopt the AI policies as presented by staff for the VC3 AI Assistant Pilot Program, second by Council Member Bracknell. Vote 5-0.

3. Authorize the mayor to sign the contract with Paycor, authorizing staff to switch payroll and benefits processing from Bernie Portal to Paycor.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to sign the contract with Paycor, authorizing the staff to switch payroll and benefits processing from Bernie Portal to Paycor, second by Council Member Miller. Vote 5-0.

Closing Comments by Mayor and Council

Howard Walden- Asked why the time was changed for the April 13th meeting; it is showing from 3:00-5:00pm. It was confirmed that the correct time is 6:00pm.

Executive Session, if needed- N/A

Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:13PM.



Carter & Sloope
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

April 7, 2026

Mrs. Lisa Jacobson, City Administrator
City of Temple
240 Carrollton Street
Temple, GA 30179

RE: City of Temple
Proposal for Hydraulic Water Model
C&S File No.: T0988.001

Dear Mrs. Jacobson:

As requested, we are providing this Proposal/Scope of Services letter for developing a hydraulic water model (Project) for the City of Temple (Client or Owner). Our understanding of the goal of this project is to evaluate hydraulic scenarios through a water model to give the City of Temple a more clearly defined scope of recommended water system improvements to meet the City's current and future needs for water supply, fire flow, water pressure and distribution storage.

To accomplish this goal Carter & Sloope, Inc. (C&S or Engineer) will:

1. Measure pressure and fireflow at a sufficient number of hydrants throughout the water system to create, calibrate and validate the water model;
2. Develop a hydraulic water model using AquaTwin water modeling software, developed by Aquanuity. The initial pipe network in the model will be based on existing water system maps. C&S will incorporate the physical elements of the water system (such as facility locations, interconnection points, hydrants, valves, etc.). Ground elevations at nodes will be assigned using available contour data;
3. Review the City's available water billing records and purchase records, examining monthly trends, averages and peaks over the previous three years to determine system demands and use patterns. We will need an export from the City of Temple water billing software to perform this step.
4. Add known planned developments into the water model
5. Run fire-flow scenarios in the water model based on 750 gpm and 1,000 gpm.
6. Analyze different elevated tank heights and locations to determine the most cost-effective location for a proposed elevated tank.
7. Analyze the effects on fire flow of purchasing more water from Carroll County Water Authority and/or Haralson County Water Authority.
8. Analyze the effects of reducing flow from the Rainey Road connection to Carroll County Water Authority

After Steps 1-8 are completed, as a deliverable, we will plan to provide a technical memorandum that lists recommended improvements (line upgrades, elevated tank height and location, connections to other water systems, booster pumps, etc.) to meet:

1. 750 gpm of fire flow at all existing fire hydrants in the water system
2. 1,000 gpm of fire flow at all existing fire hydrants in the water system

STATE OF GEORGIA

CITY OF TEMPLE

RESOLUTION

**RECOGNIZING AILEEN YANNEY FOR HER OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
IN HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

WHEREAS, Aileen Yanney, a resident of the City of Temple, GA, is a senior at Carrollton High School and is graduating this year, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Aileen Yanney completed an exemplary Health and Development project in the subject of Psychology and Human Sciences, titled *"Stress, Coping, and Support: How Organizational and Community Factors Affect Police Mental Health"*; and

WHEREAS, this project sought to answer the timely and important question, *"What are the impacts of community and workplace culture on police officers' mental health?"*; and

WHEREAS in pursuit of this research, Aileen Yanney interviewed Police Chief Creig Lee and Investigator Charles Thompson from the City of Temple, gaining valuable insight into the challenges and support systems affecting law enforcement personnel; and

WHEREAS, Aileen Yanney presented her completed project to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Temple on April 13, 2026, demonstrating commendable initiative, professionalism, and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council wish to recognize the effort, dedication, and thoughtful contributions displayed in the preparation and presentation of this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Temple, GA, hereby commend Aileen Yanney for her outstanding academic achievement and civic participation, and express appreciation for her meaningful exploration of mental health and organizational culture within public safety professions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be entered into the official records of the City of Temple, GA, and a copy shall be presented to Aileen Yanney in recognition of her exemplary work and community engagement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Resolution has been duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the City of Temple, Georgia, on the ____ day of April 2026.

**Stress, Coping, and Support: How Organizational and Community Factors Affect Police
Mental Health**

What are the impacts of community and workplace culture on police officers' mental health?

World studies: Health and Development

Subject Areas: Psychology & Human Sciences

Personal Code: mks234

Word Count: 3936

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Introduction

Context

Police officers face the tough task of policing our world, and what comes with the job is not easy. Behind the badge lies a significant concern: the psychological toll of officers' work, which is shaped significantly by the culture within their workplace and the community served. The impact of chronic stress, trauma, and negative workplace cultures on officers' well-being cannot be overstated. Understanding these influences is crucial not only for public safety but most importantly for police officers' health.

The health dilemma in law enforcement is a systemic problem that influences an officer's personal and professional abilities. Common health challenges among police officers include: post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and even suicide. Officers are regularly exposed to violent crime scenes, accidents, and high-stress situations, often leading to those listed above.

According to the National Library of Medicine, "Compared to the general population at an 8% rate of PTSD, and firefighters too, PTSD is higher in police officers at a rate of 9-15%." (National Institute of Health, 2023). This exposure to traumatic events creates emotional and psychological scars that can severely affect their ability to function both professionally and personally.

Relevance

The topic of police officers' health is highly relevant today because mental health awareness has become a major public concern across many professions, especially among first responders. Due to the unpredictable nature of their work, officers often find themselves responding to life-or-death situations, and these can leave them feeling helpless or overwhelmed. While trying their best to help the public, the necessary "help" available to them is not always effective.

This constant exposure to human suffering, long hours, and public scrutiny compounds these psychological pressures all at once. As discussions about police reform and community trust continue, understanding the challenges police officers face and the factors affecting their well-being is very important. This examines police health not only timely but essential for improving both officer safety and public safety. This led me to question: **How do workplace and community culture influence police officers' mental health and coping strategies in a small-city U.S. police department?**

Scope

This study focuses on police officers' mental health, their work conditions and health outcomes, and the coping strategies or support systems available to them. The time frame extends from the early 2000s to the present and includes major events that shaped public perceptions of law enforcement. Recent social movements and forces, such as the Black Lives Matter movement and modern calls for police reform, are considered to be exact, but only in relation to how these have increased public scrutiny, job pressure, and changes within police

culture. The research draws on academic studies, interviews, and psychological literature. It does not involve medical diagnoses, an analysis of policing tactics, or a full examination of every aspect of officer health.

Methodology Overview

This study uses a qualitative research approach to explore the mental health experiences of police officers. The primary data will be collected through interviews conducted with Temple Police officers, who can provide firsthand insight into stress, work conditions, and coping strategies within their department. Additional perspectives may be gathered from individuals who work with law enforcement wellness programs, like the Mayor of Temple.

The interview responses will be reviewed and analyzed by identifying recurring themes, patterns, and meaningful statements related to mental health challenges, support systems, and the effects of public scrutiny. These findings will then be compared with academic research, psychological literature, and existing studies on police well-being. This approach allows the study to combine personal experiences with established research, developing a deeper understanding of the factors affecting officer mental health.

Literature Review

Existing research on Police Mental Health

Consistently shown by research, police officers face high levels of occupational stress and psychological strain. Generally, according to studies, police officers are vulnerable to burnout, anxiety, depression, chronic stress, and post-traumatic stress symptoms. This is a result

of what their work consists of, and a factor that is heavily skipped over: the environment they work in.

The relationship between organisational stressors and mental wellbeing within police officers: a systematic review, explained multiple studies and found that organizational factors, such as lack of support, administrative pressure, long working hours, and high job demands, significantly affect officers' mental health. These are factors that are associated heavily with psychological distress, emotional exhaustion, burnout, and reduced feelings of personal achievement/accomplishments.

In officers' personal accounts, this pattern of organizational and cultural pressure is observed. In his TEDx Talk, former police officer John Monaghan (2016) recalled being told by his sergeant, "Get used to this... just do your job and move on," immediately after his first arrest in a domestic violence case. Although the intention may have been to keep him focused, the message reinforced the generic, societal expectation that officers shouldn't react positively or negatively to emotionally difficult situations they encounter. He was excited and felt accomplished with the work that he did on the case, but his sergeant wanted him to remain humble.

Monaghan later noted that "some things are not that easy to get over," highlighting the emotional toll law enforcement work can take. This kind of guidance reflects a broader cultural norm in policing, where stoicism is treated as a professional virtue, while emotional expression is often discouraged. As a result, many officers learn to internalize stress or joy, rather than process it, which can contribute to long-term mental health challenges. While toughness is undeniably

part of police work, research suggests that a valued culture of stoicism can be harmful to officers' psychological well-being over time.

The *Carolina Blue Project* (Sefton et al., 2024) study from MDPI provides an important look into how modern work conditions and social pressures affect police officers' mental health. The research examined law-enforcement officers in the United States and found that high operational stress, role conflict, and increasing public scrutiny were significant contributors to psychological distress. Officers reported elevated levels of anxiety, emotional exhaustion, and difficulty managing work-related demands, particularly when facing unpredictable, high-pressure situations.

The study also noted that changes in public expectations and criticism of policing practices have added to the emotional burden many officers experience. These findings are relevant today because reform movements and heightened attention to police conduct have amplified the sense of being constantly observed or judged. The study emphasizes that these stressors do not exist in isolation; they interact with existing organizational pressures and personal coping strategies, influencing how individuals perceive and respond to their work environments.

The 2023 article *Law Enforcement and Mental Health: The Limpid Kryptonite-A Clear and Present Danger* (2023) adds an important perspective by examining how current social conditions increase mental-health risks for police officers. The study approves that officers already experience elevated levels of depression, PTSD, and stress, but it also argues that these challenges have become harder/larger in recent years.

According to the article, one major factor is the increased public exposure of police activity, with negative encounters being widely circulated and discussed. Media exposure to

police-related incidents disproportionately shapes perceptions within marginalized communities, influencing levels of trust, fear, and engagement with law enforcement. This rise in visibility puts officers under greater pressure and can create a constant sense of being judged or criticized.

In the broader context of the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement and ongoing reform debates, this kind of scrutiny has intensified. Specific officer interactions are recorded and shared across many online platforms, where public dissent often first begins to form. While staying informed about incidents occurring beyond one's local community is important, the widespread circulation of such content can also lead to generalized judgments.

Even when the situation broadcast is not local, and individuals may not have directly interacted with officers in their own community, they may still develop strong personal opinions and impressions. This can result in negative perceptions being extended to officers who have no direct connection to the incident, based solely on their association with the same profession. This perspective shows how external social forces can interact with daily policing demands to influence officers' psychological well-being.

Together, these sources indicate that police mental health is affected by a combination of organizational stressors, work conditions, and individual coping responses. Supportive departmental practices, mental health resources, and effective coping strategies are crucial for promoting resilience and reducing the negative impacts of occupational stress.

Coping strategies/mechanisms

Further examination of coping strategies reveals research on coping in high-stress professions, such as law enforcement, commonly distinguishes between problem-focused coping and emotion-focused coping. Consistent with Lazarus and Folkman's transactional model of

stress and coping, police officers use both problem-focused strategies (organizational support, training) and emotion-focused strategies (peer communication and meaning-making) to manage occupational stress.

Studies suggest that police officers frequently rely on social and peer-based coping strategies. Purba and Demou (2019) found that support from colleagues plays a significant role in protecting officers' mental well-being, particularly when organizational stressors are high. Similarly, the Carolina Blue Project (Sefton et al., 2024) emphasizes that strong interpersonal relationships within departments are linked to lower levels of psychological distress. These findings support the idea that coping in law enforcement is not only an individual process but also a collective one.

Monaghan's TEDx talk further reinforces this by highlighting how officers often cope by focusing on positive interactions and meaningful aspects of the job, such as helping others or engaging with the community.

Support Systems

Existing literature shows that many police departments provide formal mental health support systems, including counseling services, Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs), and therapy referrals. However, research suggests that these resources are not always fully utilized. The H.E.L.P. report (2018) points out that while mental health initiatives exist, stigma and concerns about confidentiality often prevent officers from seeking help.

Miller (2023) similarly argues that the culture of law enforcement can discourage vulnerability, making it difficult for officers to access formal support without fear of judgment or professional consequences.

In response to these barriers, peer support programs have gained increased attention in recent research. Purba and Demou (2019) note that peer-based interventions allow officers to share experiences with others who understand the unique pressures of policing.

The CDC (2021) also emphasizes the importance of combining formal mental health services with organizational and peer support to address long-term psychological stress. Sefton et al. further suggest that departments that encourage supportive leadership and open communication tend to see better mental health outcomes among officers.

Gap in the Literature

Although there is extensive research on police stress and mental health, several gaps remain. Much of the existing literature focuses on formal mental health programs or generalized coping strategies, while less attention is given to informal, experience-based coping mechanisms that officers develop over time. Additionally, many studies are large-scale or national in scope, which may overlook smaller departments and local contexts.

By focusing on lived experiences and personal coping strategies, such as peer communication, leadership support, and community engagement, this research adds depth to existing findings. It highlights how informal support systems and individualized coping approaches may play an equally important role, along with formal mental health services, particularly in smaller departments like the City of Temple Police Department.

Methodology

Qualitative Approach

I chose a qualitative approach for this study because I wanted to understand the personal experiences and perspectives of people involved in the City of Temple Police Department. This method lets me explore beliefs, opinions, and experiences in a way numbers alone can't. I was especially interested in how officers and leadership view mental health challenges, what support is available, and how they cope with stress.

Interview Design

I used semi-structured interviews because they allow for a conversation while still covering important topics. I asked open-ended questions to give participants space to share their thoughts in their own words. The focus was on department work, mental health challenges, coping strategies, and available support in the department.

Sample Questions:

- “What support system(s) are available to you as an officer? Do they make you feel cared for?”
- “Do you believe that there is a stigma surrounding mental health within law enforcement, and what are its effects on you seeking help?”
- “What coping mechanisms do you use to manage the stress or trauma that is associated with your job?”

Participants

I interviewed four people:

- **Chief of Police:** To get the department's overall perspective on policies and support.
- **Police Sergeant:** To hear about the day-to-day challenges officers face.
- **Mayor of Temple:** To provide a city-level and legal perspective.
- **City Administrator:** To give insight into administrative and policy considerations.

I chose these participants because they all have authority and knowledge about mental health support in the police department and city government.

Data Collection

Interviews were done in person altogether. I recorded the interview to make sure I captured everything accurately.

Data Analysis

I analyzed the interviews using thematic analysis, meaning I looked for patterns and common themes in what was said. I also used narrative analysis to understand the context and stories behind their answers. Transcripts were thematically analyzed: I went through and highlighted patterns/trends I saw, and adapted my focus of the essay to the data. There is potential for researcher bias, so to make sure my analysis was fair, I checked the themes against

the full transcripts and considered all perspectives, including leadership, officers, and city officials.

Findings

Presentation of Data

The interviews revealed several key insights into the mental health and stress experiences of police officers. Responses were analyzed thematically and grouped into the following key categories: stressors of the job, emotional well-being changes, coping mechanisms, and support systems.

Theme 1: Stressors of the Job

Police officers reported a wide range of stressors, many of which stem from unpredictability, exposure to trauma, and the pressure to perform under high-stakes situations.

- Unpredictability of calls: Officers described the constant stress of not knowing what each 911 call would entail. The Chief explained:

“You get a call, and it might come out as just something, just, hey, we got a neighbor dispute. But when you get there, somebody’s been shot or stabbed several times... every time an officer gets a call, the stress level hits because he's trying to place his mind on how he's going to react.”

Officers must constantly prepare for worst-case scenarios, which creates sustained mental tension even before an incident occurs. This suggests that occupational stress in law enforcement is not limited to traumatic events, but is embedded in the anticipation of danger, aligning with research on chronic organizational stress.

- Exposure to trauma: Officers frequently encounter death, violence, and child abuse, which can have a lasting emotional impact. He told:

“You go home... you get a call. Look, a kid just hung himself. So my son was wondering why I gave him ice cream cookies instead of his punishment. You know, it just changed me mentally, because I found a kid.”

This suggests that traumatic experiences do not remain confined to the workplace but carry over into officers' personal lives and parenting behaviors. This suggests that repeated exposure to trauma can alter emotional regulation and personal relationships.

- Emotional impact of systemic issues: Officers feel stress from witnessing social injustices that they are unable to resolve, such as poverty or neglect. He also mentioned:

“You walk away thinking, man, I wish I could do something for them... you know, your heart hurts for them because they're not getting exactly what they need.”

This illustrates the moral and emotional burden officers experience when enforcing laws in situations where deeper social issues, such as poverty or neglect, still remain. This suggests that emotional strain in policing is not only linked to danger, but also to feelings of helplessness and moral conflict.

Theme 2: Changes in Emotional Well-Being

Long-term exposure to stressful and traumatic situations appears to have altered officers' perceptions of the world and their interactions with others.

- Increased caution and realism: Officers reported that they became more cautious and aware of dangers over time. The Chief noted:

“When you get in and start realizing how much is bad in the world... you are far more cautious about what you do say and make commentary on than you would have before.”

This suggests that prolonged exposure to crime and violence leads to a more guarded and cautious worldview. This suggests that police work alters personal emotional outlooks and interpersonal interactions over time.

- Finding fulfillment in positive interactions: Despite the negative experiences, officers highlighted moments that improved their emotional well-being, such as helping children or elders in the community. Both The Sergeant and Chief agreed:

“When you're helping people, like when we do Shop with a Cop... it's a good point to be in law enforcement. You can be able to help people make a change.”

This illustrates how positive community engagement can act as an emotional counterbalance to traumatic experiences. This suggests that meaningful interactions

help officers maintain a sense of purpose and emotional resilience to the stressors they face.

Theme 3: Coping Mechanisms

- Focusing on personal “pet peeves” as positive actions; engaging in tasks that officers care about helps mitigate stress. Both the Chief and the Sergeant agreed on this statement:

“Your pet peeves help you out sometimes... doing something to impact somebody’s life, elderly or young, that is a really good feeling.”

This suggests that officers often rely on individualized, emotion-focused coping strategies rooted in personal values. This suggests that informal and self-directed coping mechanisms play a significant role in managing stress.

- Communication and mentorship: Officers emphasized the importance of talking to colleagues, educating the public, and mentoring others as coping strategies. The Sergeant said:

“I usually try to be more effective with my communication. That helps me feel that whatever I’m trying to... enlighten them on, makes me feel that I’ve done the best I could.”

This illustrates how communication serves both a professional and emotional function, allowing officers to process stress by finding meaning in their actions. This suggests that coping in law enforcement often involves personal engagement.

- Leaders supporting recovery: Supervisors play a role in helping officers cope by anticipating stress and allowing breaks. The Chief mentioned:

“We force them to take their vacation or lose it every year. That’s how we help them.”

This suggests that leadership-driven interventions can help prevent burnout by enforcing rest and recovery. This suggests that organizational responsibility is crucial in officer mental health.

Theme 4: Support Systems and Resources

Officers highlighted mixed experiences with formal support systems, indicating both usefulness and limitations.

- Employee Assistance Programs (EAP): While these programs exist, confidentiality and limited options reduce their perceived effectiveness. The Chief said:

“It’s really effective, but it’s not to me, in a sense... give them a choice to go to another area so some officers won’t feel uncomfortable with the idea of someone they know seeing them.”

This suggests that confidentiality concerns and stigma may limit the effectiveness of formal support systems, reinforcing reliance on informal coping. This suggests that stigma and familiarity within departments can act as barriers to help-seeking.

- Importance of leadership: Officers reported that proactive leadership, such as checking in after traumatic calls and providing informal support, was critical. He added:

“Sometimes department heads tell the city officials what’s going on... anything to do to help, anything to do to help. So that all helps with stress.”

This suggests that informal advocacy and leadership awareness play a key role in reducing stress. This suggests that trust in leadership enhances officers’ willingness to cope and seek support.

- Stigma around mental health: Although officers are human, there is an expectation to maintain composure, which may discourage some from seeking help. The Sergeant stated:

“People look at us to be the regular regulators of situations and to be of a higher standard, and forget that we’re still human.”

This illustrates how societal expectations contribute to emotional suppression within policing. This suggests that stigma is reinforced both internally and externally.

Summary of Findings

The interviews show that police officers experience high levels of chronic stress and exposure to trauma, which affect their emotional well-being. Coping mechanisms vary and include personal engagement, communication, and proactive leadership support. Formal mental health resources exist, but are not used to their full capacity due to confidentiality concerns or

stigma. Positive experiences, such as community engagement, help officers balance the negative impacts of their work.

Analysis and Interpretation of Findings

The findings from the interviews suggest a strong consensus among those interviewed that policing places significant psychological demands on officers, largely due to workplace culture, exposure to trauma, and increasing public scrutiny. While all interviewed recognized the presence of mental health challenges, their perspectives differed based on their roles within the organization.

Role-Based Perspectives

Both the police chief and the police sergeant highlighted the importance of communication, mentorship, and positive community interactions as key coping strategies for officers. This suggests a shared recognition that meaningful engagement, both with colleagues and the public, plays an essential role in maintaining emotional well-being.

The primary difference between their perspectives lies in the Chief's focus on organizational resources and formal support systems. The chief discussed programs, leadership involvement, and preventative strategies such as enforced vacation, peer monitoring, and post-incident check-ins in greater detail.

This emphasis reflects a perspective that frames mental health not only as an individual concern but as an organizational responsibility, highlighting the role of structured policies and departmental support in mitigating chronic stress. In contrast, the Sergeant's focus remained more on daily coping strategies and personal approaches, demonstrating how frontline officers navigate mental health challenges through lived experience and informal practices.

The mayor and city administrator offered slight additional context, highlighting administrative and policy considerations, which reinforce that officers' mental health is influenced not only by daily interactions but also by organizational and municipal structures.

Effectiveness and Gaps in Support Systems

Findings suggest that while formal support systems (such as Employee Assistance Programs) exist, their utilization is limited by concerns about confidentiality and stigma. Officers' reliance on informal peer support and leadership check-ins highlights a critical gap between available resources and actual usage. This lines up with existing literature, including the H.E.L.P. report (2018) and Purba & Demou (2019), which note that stigma and departmental culture often prevent officers from accessing formal mental health services.

Theoretical Reflection

The findings support existing theories of coping in high-stress professions. Officers engage in both problem-focused coping (leveraging programs and leadership support) and

emotion-focused coping (peer communication, mentorship, finding personal meaning in work). The interviews highlight how these strategies are connected, with organizational interventions enhancing the effectiveness of individual coping efforts.

TOK Connections

From a Theory of Knowledge perspective, the interviews reveal that emotions, personal experiences, and language shape the knowledge gained about police mental health. Officers' language reflects occupational norms of stoicism, demonstrating how institutional culture shapes knowledge about mental health.

Summary of Findings

Overall, the analysis indicates that police mental health is shaped by a combination of organizational factors, individual coping mechanisms, and community interactions. Leadership and formal programs are necessary but insufficient alone; officers also rely on peer support and meaningful engagement to maintain well-being. The findings highlight gaps in existing support systems, suggesting that policies addressing stigma, confidentiality, and informal coping channels are essential for improving officer mental health.

Conclusion

This study shows that police officers face high levels of stress and trauma that affect both their work and personal lives. Officers use a mix of coping strategies, including talking with colleagues, mentoring, positive community interactions, and relying on organizational programs. These strategies help them manage the emotional challenges of policing.

The interviews also show a difference in perspective between roles. Frontline officers focus on personal and relational coping, while leadership emphasizes the importance of programs, policies, and support systems. Both are important for supporting officer mental health.

The findings confirm that policing is a stressful job and that support from both peers and the organization is essential. They also highlight challenges, such as stigma and concerns about confidentiality, which can make it harder for officers to use more formal resources.

Improving police mental health requires integrated individual and organizational support, particularly as policing roles continue to evolve.

Future research could expand this study by including frontline patrol officers.

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2026 Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Children are both Temple's most valuable and vulnerable resource and are vital to our future success, prosperity, and quality of life; and
- WHEREAS: Child Abuse and maltreatment can be prevented by supporting and strengthening Temple's families, whatever their makeup; and
- WHEREAS: All children in Temple deserve to have the safe, stable, nurturing homes and communities which they need to foster healthy growth and development; and
- WHEREAS: Effective child abuse and maltreatment response and prevention are both a community responsibility and succeed because of partnerships among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and
- WHEREAS: By providing a safe, stable, and nurturing environment for our children, free of violence, abuse, neglect, or maltreatment we can insure Temple's children will grow to their full potential; and
- WHEREAS: Carroll County CASA is dedicated to supporting abused and neglected children throughout their court proceedings. With the help of their advocacy, our children are provided a safe, stable, and nurturing environment, free of violence, abuse, neglect, or maltreatment. Insuring all of Bowdon's children grow to their full potential; and
- WHEREAS: Carroll County Division of Family and Children Services provides numerous programs and resources to help families in need; investigates reports regarding child abuse and neglect; finding foster and adoptive homes for those children who have experienced abuse and neglect; ensures the safety and well-being of children in harmful situations; and
- WHEREAS: West Georgia Child Advocacy Center champions the needs of sexually, physically, and emotionally abused children in Villa Rica through prevention, intervention, therapy, collaboration, and healing; and, through partnership with local agencies, is uniquely positioned to facilitate a multidisciplinary team response; and
- THEREFORE: We, the Mayor and City Council of Temple, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as Child Abuse Prevention Month, and call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, elected leaders, and businesses to increase their

participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

Signature

Date

WHEREAS,

Thousands of times each year, the underground infrastructure in Georgia is damaged by those who do not have underground lines located prior to digging, resulting in service interruption, environmental damage and threat to public safety, and;

WHEREAS,

In 2005, the Federal Communications Commission designated 811 to provide contractors and homeowners a simple number to contact utility operators to request the location of underground lines at the intended dig site, and;

WHEREAS,

The West Georgia Utility Coordinating Committee, a stakeholder-driven organization dedicated to the prevention of damage to underground utilities in Georgia, promotes the National 811 Notification System and Georgia 811 in an effort to reduce these damages, and;

WHEREAS,

Damage prevention is a shared responsibility; by using safe digging practices, the contractors and homeowners of the City of Bowdon can save time, money and help keep our infrastructure safe and connected, and;

THEREFORE,

I do hereby proclaim, on behalf of the City of Temple the month of April 2026 as;

City of Temple Safe Digging Month

And encourage contractors and homeowners throughout the City of Temple to always contact 811 before digging. Safe digging is no accident!!

Mayor Michael Johnson

Date

ORDINANCE NO. _____, 2026.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF TEMPLE BY REVISING VARIOUS SECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR DELETIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AND CONFORMITY WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Temple is authorized to amend its Charter pursuant to the Home Rule provisions of the Constitution and laws of the State of Georgia, including O.C.G.A. § 36-35-3; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority granted to municipalities to amend their charters by local ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the amendments set forth herein are reasonable, necessary, and in the best interests of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the notice of intent to introduce this Charter amendment has been advertised in accordance with the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 36-35-3(b), including publication in the official organ of the county as required by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Temple, and it is hereby ordained as follows:

SECTION 1. SECTION 2-11 (RULES OF PROCEDURE; COMMITTEES)

The Charter of the City of Temple is hereby amended as to Section 2-11 thereof by striking subsection (b) thereof in its entirety and replacing the same with a new subsection (b), as follows:

“(b) The Council shall have such committees as are provided for from time to time by ordinance.”

SECTION 2. SECTION 3-2(g) (BOARD TERMS)

The Charter of the City of Temple is hereby amended as to subsection 3-2(g) thereof by striking the same in its entirety.

SECTION 3. SECTION 4-2(d) (JUDGES' CONTRACTS)

The Charter of the City of Temple is hereby amended as to subsection 4-2(d) thereof by striking the same in its entirety and replacing it with a new subsection 4-2(d), as follows:

“Municipal judges shall be appointed and compensated in accordance with applicable state law, as now in effect or as hereafter amended, and any contract for the municipal judge’s service shall comply with state law.”

SECTION 4. SECTION 4-3 (MUNICIPAL COURT SESSIONS)

The Charter of the City of Temple is hereby amended as to Section 4-3 thereof by striking the same in its entirety and replacing it with a new Section 4-3, as follows:

“The Municipal Court shall convene at such times as may be set by the Municipal Judge.”

SECTION 5. SECTION 4-4(c) (MUNICIPAL COURT SENTENCING)

The Charter of the City of Temple is hereby amended as to subsection 4-4(c) thereof by striking the same in its entirety and replacing it with a new subsection 4-4(c), as follows:

“(c) The municipal court may fix punishment for offenses within its jurisdiction not exceeding a fine of \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for 180 days or both such fine and imprisonment or may fix punishment by fine, imprisonment, or alternative sentencing, as now or hereafter provided by law; provided that, where the laws of the State of Georgia authorize punishment in excess of such fine or imprisonment time, the municipal court is authorized to issue sentences to the full extent allowable under state law, as now in effect or hereafter amended.”

SECTION 6. SECTION 6-22 (CONTRACTS)

The Charter of the City of Temple shall be amended as to Section 6-22 thereof by striking the same in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 6-22, as follows:

“No contract with the City shall be binding upon the City unless the same is in writing and is made or authorized by the Mayor and City Council in accordance with this Charter, the City’s code of ordinances, or general law.”

SECTION 7. SECTION 7-1 (BONDS)

The Charter of the City of Temple shall be amended as to Section 7-1 thereof by adding the following sentence to the end of such section:

“The City shall pay the cost of any bonds required of City officers or employees, if such bonds are required by law.”

SECTION 8.

All laws and parts of law in conflict herewith are specifically repealed.

SECTION 9:

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this enactment are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section hereof shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this enactment, since the same would have been enacted by the City Council without the incorporation herein of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence paragraph or section.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Temple at a regularly scheduled meeting on this the _____ day of _____, 2026, Councilpersons _____ voting "Aye" and _____ voting "No".

BY: _____
MAYOR MICHAEL JOHNSON

ATTEST: _____
KRISTIN ETHEREDGE, SECRETARY
TEMPLE CITY COUNCIL

(seal)