

JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER



CONTACT:
(615) 393-4356

WEBSITE:
JenniferMilele.com

EMAIL:
jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov



Jennifer Milele

Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

I hope everyone made it through the winter storm and has their power back by now. Hopefully Punxsutawney Phil will not see his shadow and we have an early spring. I truly appreciate all the happy birthday wishes. Dates in February are; National Freedom Day the 1st, Valentine's Day the 14th, President's Day the 16th, and Ash Wednesday the 18th. Take care of your hearts because February is American Heart Month, along with Black History Month, and Senior Independence Month. Enjoy the Super Bowl and stay warm.

NEW BUSINESSES:

Rooms To Go is now open, located at 165 Adams Lane.

Mt. Juliet Sport & Social Co. is now open, located at 1720 NMJRD (formerly Honky Tonk Creamery).

The Back Nine Indoor Golf is now open in their new location at 1917 NMJRD.

Golden Fresh is now open, located at 1984 Providence Pkwy. (next to BJ's Hot Chicken).

Kumon is now open, located in Charlie's Place at 2238 NMJRD. Kumon is a learning center from preschool to high school.

Southern Grace Boutique will be moving soon to a new location at 11996 Lebanon Road.

UPCOMING

1) Public BOC work sessions: As of this writing, the MJ BOC will hold two public work sessions in February: Monday, February 9th on bids (RFPs) submitted for eight acres east of NMJRD, between E. Caldwell and E. Hill Streets (current location of MJ City Hall); Monday, February, 23rd on midyear 25/26 fiscal budget review. Both work sessions begin at 5:15 pm at City Hall, located at 2425 NMJRD.

2) 10th Annual Swap Meet (update/repeat): The Swap Meet has been rescheduled for Saturday, February 14th at MJ Community Center. The public is invited to attend the event that will have vendors with fishing, hunting, and boating gear. The entry fee is \$5 that will go towards supporting the purchase of quality fish food for the TWRA fish hatcheries. The event, by Percy Priest Hybrid and Striper Club, will be from 9 am - 2 pm. Free admission 12 and under. MJ Community Center is located in Charlie Daniels Park. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

3) Annual State of the City Address: MJ Mayor Maness will be giving the State of the City address during the MJ Chamber Luncheon on Wednesday, February 18th at 11:15 am. You may contact the Chamber at 615-758-3478 to check on the status of limited seating. The luncheon will be held at Rutland Place located at 435 NW Rutland Road.

4) February 19th Planning Commission: Note: There are other items submitted as well, and there could be more added before the final deadline. You can watch for the agenda to be posted closer to the meeting date by [clicking here](#).

- **NOTE:** (As of this writing, I am not sure if the items from the January PC agenda will rollover to February or not, since the January meeting was cancelled). To see the January submittals, [click here](#).
- **Villas at Elliott Reserve:** A Final Plan and Site Plan have been submitted, located at 12440 Lebanon Road. To see the FMDP/SP, [click here](#).
- **Cedar Creek Estates:** A Plat has been submitted for 11 single-family lots, located at 1030 Nonaville Road. To see the Plat, [click here](#).
- **3155 NMJRD:** A Land Use Amendment/Rezone have been submitted for 3155 NMJRD for Commercial Town Center. To see the plans, [click here](#).
- **Triple Crown Subdivision:** A Final plan/Plat have been submitted for single-family/condos, located on Triple Crown Pkwy. To see the FMDP/PP, [click here](#).
- **NHC facility:** A Drainage Report/Site Plan have been submitted for a National Health Care facility, located at 100/10645 Lebanon Road. To see the DR/SP, [click here](#).
- **Vintage Vines:** A Final plan and Site Plan have been submitted for Vintage Vines as a part of Village at Pleasant Grove, located at 855 Pleasant Grove Road. To see the FMDP/SP, [click here](#).

5) "Spay"ghetti Fundraiser: On Saturday, February 28th, there will be a fundraiser for the MJ Animal Shelter from 11 am - 2 pm at the MJ Community Center, located at 1075 Charlie Daniels Pkwy. Southern Rhythm Cattle Company will be catering the event. Come hungry and ready for an afternoon filled with good food, good people, and a great cause. Save the date because there will be more details coming soon. Watch for announcements.

6) Walk Across Wilson: Walk Across Wilson begins on Sunday, March 1st and will end on March 28th. All you have to do is register and log your daily activity minutes once it goes live on March 1st. School and community-based teams are also encouraged to participate for bonus rewards. Activities include walking/running or any kind of fitness exercise that gets you moving. WAW is an annual event to promote fitness in Wilson County. The goal is to walk/exercise 30 minutes a day, six days a week, for four weeks, which is the equivalent of walking 36 miles across Wilson County, while improving your health. Follow Walk Across Wilson on Facebook for postings, or [click here](#) for website.

7) MJ Senior Center Reverse Raffle: The MJ Senior Center will hold their annual fundraiser on Saturday, March 28th at 4 pm. The Grand Prize is \$5,000 with lots of other door prizes. Tickets are \$50 each and includes your meal from Bar-B-Cutie Smokehouse. You can purchase tickets at the Senior Center, located at 2034 NMJRD, or call 615-758-9114.

UPDATES

1) LIVE911: This week, MJPd will rolled out Live, Real-Time 911 through their Flock Safety – Safe City initiative that is fully implemented across the entire department. LIVE911 is an innovative tool that transforms emergency response in MJ. When someone calls 911, officers in the field receive an immediate alert, the GPS location, and instant live one-way audio of the conversation between the caller and the communications center, before the call is dispatched. This allows for a faster, more informed response for officers to get to the scene when every second counts.

2) MJ City Grapple Trucks: Since there has been so much tree damage from the winter storms, the city is sending out two trucks to help with vegetative debris pickup. There are eight Zones that rotate in numerical order, Beginning Monday, February 2nd, there will be a truck in Zone 2 as well as one in Zone 5. Once they complete a zone, they will move to the next one. If you are not sure what Zone you are in, you can [click here](#). Please **DO NOT** place your vegetation on property that is not your own, such as medians, etc. If it is city property, it is considered illegal dumping, and subject to citations. To see details about how to pile the vegetation and specific sizes to prepare for the trucks, [click here](#).

3) 1-year Moratorium: The MJ BOC voted (3-2 at 1st Reading) to approve a Moratorium on two high density zones: RM-8 (townhomes/condos) and RM-16 (apartments). I want to fully explain what that means, please [click here](#).

4) MJPd Award: The MJ Police Headquarters was awarded the Cedar Tree Historical & Community Award for 2025, during the Annual Lebanon Wilson County Chamber Membership Meeting and Awards Celebration on January 22nd. The award recognized MJPd for significant improvements to commercial buildings that benefit the local community (Headquarters). Congratulations to MJPd.

5) MJ Parks Activity Center: The Activity Center is officially open, located at 1025 Charlie Daniels Pkwy. The center is open Tuesday-Saturday 9 am - 6 pm. Several fitness classes and programs have been relocated to this location. Additionally, rooms for party rentals, seminars, and other venues are offered as well.

6) Did you Know?: There are four WEMA stations across Wilson County that are equipped with microchip scanners to help reunite lost pets with their families. If you find a wandering dog or cat, you can stop by one of these stations to have them scanned. Each station has simple, clear instructions posted so anyone can quickly check for a microchip. Using these stations helps keep lost pets out of already crowded shelters and speeds up the reunion process. To see the flyer, [click here](#).

7) MJ City sales tax revenues: Revenues from FY25 sales tax was up by 5.46% over the same time in FY24. Keep shopping local

and you help fund MJPD, FDMJ, road improvements/projects, and much more. Keep it local.

STATUS REPORT: PROJECTS/CONSTRUCTION/DEVELOPMENTS

(Note: updated information since last month is in color.)

(Various in my District)

Beckwith Station: Land clearing is underway. This is for a gas station, office, and eatery on the southwest corner of Beckwith Road and Summit Blvd. across from the ER. If you would like to view the layout, you can [click here](#).

(Trails and Sidewalks)

Cedar Creek Greenway Phase 2: [Phase 2](#) will connect Charlie Daniels Park to Lebanon Road and currently, in [final design](#). NEPA is complete, pending TDOT approval. Project is 20% complete with pre-construction activity. If you would like to see a map of Phases 1&2 with the new trailhead Park Glen, you can [click here](#).

Town Center Trail:

- [Phase 3:](#) Phase 3 received the notice from TDOT to proceed with the construction. It will extend from S. Greenhill Road to Mt. Juliet Elementary School, and include a trailhead parking lot. This phase of work will be paid for with Federal construction grant funds with 20% local match that was secured. Construction is expected to begin Spring 2026.
- [Phase 4:](#) The City received approval from the Nashville and Eastern Railroad Authority (NERA) and RJ Corman for an easement to install a greenway trail in the railroad ROW. This trail will be installed by the Lynwood Station developer from the Train Station east to Clemmons Road. Then, the trail will follow alongside Clemmons Road to the Lynwood Station site. To see a map, you can [click here](#).

Lebanon Road sidewalks Phase 3: [Phase 3](#) will be between Nonaville Road and Green Hill High School and is 99% complete with preconstruction activity. The Federal construction grant funds have been secured. Construction is expected to begin Spring 2026.

MJRD ADA upgrades Phase 2: This project will be upgrading ADA requirements on MJRD sidewalks between Weston Drive and OLDRD. It is currently 95% complete with preconstruction activity and in final design. NEPA has been approved by TDOT, and waiting for them to obligate funds for final design. Construction is expected to begin Spring 2026.

(Signals and Lighting)

Signal improvements Phases 2 & 3:

- Traffic signals along MJRD between Central Pike and Division is undergoing improvements in [Phase 2](#). Construction has begun, and is currently 30% complete. Completion is expected in 2026. Project includes installing fiber optic communication between each of

the 13 signals (Central Pike to Division) that will connect to City Hall. The project is expected to be completed by August 2026.

- [Phase 3](#) extends from Curd Road to Lebanon Road, covering six signals. This project is 90% complete with preconstruction activity. Final plans were approved by TDOT. Phase 3 is estimated to begin construction Spring/Summer 2026.

Traffic signal at NMJRD and Curd Road: The signal project is 100% complete with preconstruction activity, which includes some widening and acquiring ROW and utility coordination. [Construction should start this quarter.](#)

GBG/Beckwith Road Interchange Lighting: Contract between MJ City/TDOT to improve lighting at the interchange was finalized and TDOT has begun design. [Estimated construction is Spring 2026.](#) It is funded 50% by TDOT and 50% by the city, with a portion city's being funded by development near the interchange. Project is [100%](#) complete with preconstruction activity.

[\(City Capital Building Projects\)](#)

FDMJ Station #3: The new fire station on Old Lebanon Dirt Road is [close to completion.](#) [Targeted move in is January/February.](#) This location will replace the current Station #3 on E. Hill Street.

[\(City Capital Road projects and TDOT Projects\)](#)

Beckwith Road (South): The consultant is currently working on preliminary design for the full corridor. NEPA studies are complete, pending approval by TDOT. Preconstruction is 20% complete. This area of Beckwith Road is between I-40 and south to the four-way intersection at S. Rutland Road/Posey Hill Drive. In addition, the Quick Start Project is waiting for the relocation of MTE poles. Bids will go out after utility completion, followed by construction for the Quick Start improvements, which is estimated to begin Spring/Summer 2026. To see a closeup of the quick start plan, you can [click here.](#)

SMJRD widening: TDOT ROW is in the early stage of acquisition, and utility relocation coordination. Field work has begun for survey, with ongoing environmental phase, final design, and engineering. This TDOT project is 80% complete with preconstruction activity on the part of the city. The TDOT ROW acquisition and utility relocation phases will take around three years to complete. Per our agreement with TDOT, the City is required to fund all engineering for the project. So far, the City has spent \$1,452,832.52 on engineering. The estimated total cost for engineering is \$2,043,741.35 for this project. Because of the City's financial commitment, TDOT has included this project in their 10-year plan for construction to be funded in the year 2032. The City is working with TDOT to get the construction moved up earlier.

I-40/Central Pike Interchange: TDOT phase is in surveying, environmental, engineering, and finalizing design. Project is 60% complete with preconstruction activity. ROW acquisition is set to begin in 2026. Per our agreement with TDOT, the City was required to fund the preliminary engineering/NEPA phase of the

project. Also, the City agreed to contribute an additional \$25 million towards the project. The City funded \$2,409,922.84 for the preliminary engineering/NEPA phase. No other funding is needed to complete that phase. The City has funded \$5 million of the \$25 million thus far. Therefore, the City has an outstanding balance of \$20 million. Total project commitment is \$27,409,922.84. Because of the City's financial commitment, TDOT has included this project in their 10-year plan for construction to be funded in the year 2031. UPDATE: MJ will receive a Federal BUILD Grant in the amount of \$24,666,750 for the interchange project. This project will complete the engineering design, ROW acquisition, and construction. The City is working with TDOT to get the construction moved up to 2029.

Central Pike widening:

This TDOT widening project to five lanes extends from SMJRD to Old Hickory Blvd., and currently TDOT has finalized and approved the transportation report. TDOT has budgeted to begin NEPA and preliminary engineering phases. TDOT construction is estimated to align with the interchange project.

- Phase 1 is between I-40 and SMJRD and is 60% complete with preconstruction activity. Per our agreement with TDOT, the city is required to fund all engineering and ROW acquisition for the project. The City has spent \$243,808+ thus far on engineering. The estimated total cost for engineering is \$2 million for this project. The estimated total cost for ROW acquisition is \$4 million for this project. Therefore, the estimated total cost for the City is \$6 million. Because of the City's financial commitment, TDOT has included this project in their 10-year plan for construction to be funded in the year 2030. The City is working with TDOT to get the construction moved up earlier.
- The Phase 2 TDOT project will be from I-40 to OHB and is 5% complete with preconstruction activity.

Old Lebanon Dirt Road widening: Estimated construction will begin in Spring 2026. Utility relocation has begun and is expected to complete Spring 2026. Construction will follow and will take about two years to complete. The limits of the first phase of the project are from Moreland Drive to Chandler Road. Other components of the project will include providing a 10-foot trail on one side of the road for multimodal transportation options, improving poor drainage and flooding along the corridor, and extending sanitary sewer along a portion of the project. Therefore, this project is a road widening, multimodal, stormwater, and sanitary sewer project all in one.

Lebanon Road widening (Park Glen to GBG): Project is 50% complete with preconstruction activity. The City has applied for the Statewide Partnership Program and allocated \$3+ million toward the ROW Phase to get TDOT to fund the remaining cost for ROW. Total cost for ROW is estimated around \$15+ million. Per our agreement with TDOT, the City is required to fund all engineering for the project. So far, the City has spent \$855,473.17 on engineering. This project is currently on hold because TDOT has not chosen to fund the ROW acquisition phase or the Construction Phase yet. Once those phases are funded by TDOT, the City will be required to resume engineering

expenses. The estimated total cost for engineering is \$2 million for this project. TDOT is constructing a safety plan improvement in front of West Elementary to add a center turn lane. Project will complete by August 2026.

Pleasant Grove Road widening and realignment: The widening will be a 4-lane median divided roadway from Old Pleasant Grove Road to Central Pike with multi-use paths on each side. Project is 20% complete with preconstruction activity. NEPA is complete, pending TDOT approval. The ROW design is estimated to be completed ([no revised update yet](#)). To see a map, you can [find it here](#).

Golden Bear Gateway widening (Eastern Connector Phase 2): The widening on GBG between the Cedar Creek bridge and Palermo/Curd Road is 90% complete with preconstruction activity. ROW acquisition is complete, and waiting on utility relocation. Construction is estimated to begin during 2026.

E. Division Street widening: NEPA is complete, pending TDOT approval. In addition, a Quick Start Project is in design for the intersection of NMJRD and E. Division Street, which includes turn lane improvements. The project is 20% complete with preconstruction activity, and will include a 4-lane median divided roadway with multi-use paths on each side, from NMJRD to just east of GBG.

Sunset Drive widening: Design is complete, This project is 75% with preconstruction activity, and working with utilities on relocation.

(Storm Water Utility Projects)

Belinda City stormwater system: There are three culverts to be upsized/rehabilitation around Belinda City through the Storm Water Utility (SWU) master plan.

- Culvert under Belinda Pkwy., as part of the Mundy Park detention pond project, is [currently in easement acquisition](#). Bids are now expected to go out this spring. To see the design, [click here](#).
- 121 SE Springdale Drive, in design. [Anticipate early summer bidding](#).
- 136 Sunnymeade Drive, in design. [Anticipate early summer bidding](#).

Weston Drive/Clearview Drive drainage: The planning and design phase has begun to alleviate flooding from an undersized swale/culvert system. This project is part of the Storm Water Utility (SWU) engineering master plan.

***Project note:** To save you the time and effort, I provide a list of various updates for your convenience. The information listed is reflected on the city website and is updated each month, as referenced here [Capital Projects Selector](#) and [Development Tracker](#).

MJ BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

The two MJ BOC meetings in February will be on the 9th and 23rd at 6:30 pm, at MJ City Hall.

NOTE: The public is welcome to come and speak and/or submit comments/questions to Jennifer Hamblen until 4 pm prior to the meeting at jhamblen@mtjuliet-tn.gov. The meeting is also aired live on MJTV (Comcast channel 3 or TDS channel 6) and on the City's website, as well as YouTube. It is too early for the agenda, therefore look for notices prior to each BOC meeting.

If you have any questions, suggestions, ideas, comments, complaints, or just something to share, please let me know. If you would like to sign up for my monthly email newsletters, you will find the option to do so on my website. It is an honor serving you and being your citizen advocate.

Jennifer Milele
MJ City Commissioner District 4
(615) 393-4356

website: JenniferMilele.com

email: jmilele@mtjuliet-tn.gov