

Town of Triana Regular Council Meeting
Monday, April 13, 2026
6:30PM

The meeting was called to order by the mayor.

Kathy Nilsen was sworn in by Attorney Caleb Ballew as the new council member for District 4.

Roll call:

Councilmember George Ragland – Present

Councilmember Casey Whitman-Present

Councilmember George Malone-Present

Councilmember Scott Altice – Present

Councilmember Kathy Nilsen -Present

Mayor Mary Caudle – Present

Members present constitutes a quorum.

Legal counsel Caleb Ballew was present.

The clerk Sharron Humphrey was absent.

Motion by Councilmember Casey Whitman to approve the minutes dated March 23, 2026.
Councilmember George Malone second the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Caudle's Report: The sinkhole in the Malvern Hill Subdivision is in the middle of the road. The engineer, Geo Tech will need to bore down into the street. The contract amount is \$11k. Geo tech brought in 2 contractors' cost ranging from \$300k - \$500k to mediate the cause. Discussed remediate steps.

Motion by Councilmember Scott Altice to approve moving forward with the contract.
Councilmember Casey Whitman 2nd the motion.

Roll call:

Councilmember Scott Altice-yes

Councilmember George Ragland-no

Mayor Mary Caudle-yes

Councilmember Casey Whitman-yes

Councilmember George Malone-yes

Councilmember Kathy Nilsen-yes

Motion carried.

Mayor Caudle reported that the solar system they have been talking about in the news will be located on the right side of 6th Street. She stated the plan is to do a lease for 34 months on 237 acres to do an environmental study.

Mayor Caudle stated the City of Huntsville and Madison County are leasing the land as a partnership for \$100 a month per acre, approximately \$23,700. She stated she heard during their meeting that the solar panels will be further back on the hill, and entry will be off 6th Street. She stated out of the 237 acres the plan is to only use 150 acres.

New jail contract – **Motion by Councilmember George Ragland to enter a contract with Madison County Sheriff Dept. for housing inmates. Councilmember Scott Altice second the motion. Motion carried.**

Code conference for Building Inspector to receive his CEUs, the cost \$2,186.00 from May 4th -8th
Motion by Councilmember George Ragland to approve training. Councilmember George Malone second the motion. Motion carried.

Municipal Clerk’s Magistrate training, continuing education cost \$150.00 .
Motion by Councilmember George Ragland to approve training. Councilmember George Malone second the motion. Motion carried.

Police Chief Conference, continuing leadership certification cost \$950.00.
Motion by Councilmember George Ragland to approve training. Councilmember Scott Altice second the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Fire & Police: Chairperson Ragland reported that the Police Dept traveled 2,580 miles, 27 traffic stops, 24-warning citations, 6-traffic citations, 44-calls for service, 0-arrests and 6-reports.
Fire Department, report by Chief Chad Beddingfield – see attached report.

Finance: Mayor Caudle presented the Bank Report ending March 31, 2026. Motion by Councilmember Casey Whitman to approve to approve the Bank report. Councilmember George Malone second the motion. Motion carried.

No Report: No Report

Parks and Recreation: Mayor Caudle reported that the Easter Egg Hunt was a great success again; she thanked everyone for coming out. She thanked Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. Patsy for helping with Community nursing, great support.

Streets & Cemetery: Chairperson Malone reported that we received a request from a resident at 108 Missouri asking the town to do a repair to the street. The second issue is that he has checked Landess Cir and found that the street is narrow barely allowing two cars to pass. He stated they need to come up with a possible fix for that street, one idea would be to make it a one-way street. Mayor Caudle suggests that his committee get together and do a study as to how it will be funded.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS:

Attorney Caleb Ballew reported that the letter has been sent to the Governor office regarding our new councilmember selected last week.

Councilmember Casey Whitman reported that Planning and Zoning Board met and approved of the 2nd phase to Evergreen Mill.

Councilmember Whitman reported that Mayor Caudle has appointed Ms. Tia Larsen-Calcano to fill the vacant seat on the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mayor Caudle reported that Mrs. Freeman has been appointed to Chair the Beautification Board.

Councilmember Ragland reported the Fire Dept had a large turnout for the pancake fundraiser.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Roy Seay asked about the budget, inquiring about Fire Dept. Mayor Caudle stated he can get a copy this evening, and that all Dept. are included in the budget.

Roy Seay asked how the budget was set up. Mayor Caudel stated the budget is set up by departments, salaries, training, phone, travel. A line item for what we pay. It's also based on the income that comes in. She stated each department must submit a purchase order and it must be approved before purchase.

Marvelene Freeman commended the Fire Dept for their work around the town.

Mrs. Freeman asked for verification, does the town own all the streets in the subdivisions, including Malvern Hill. Mayor Caudle stated yes, the town owns the streets.

Councilmember Whitman stated (for clarification).that when they sign the final plat, this allows the contractor to start building house. He stated that when we take ownership of that infrastructure there is a bond that is put up in case there's a workmanship defect. He stated they have up to 3 years to fix it if not the town can pull money from the bond to repair it.

Larry Harris asked who our representative for the Madison City School board. Mayor Caudle Stated Stacy Tanner, but she has not been to the last couple of meetings.

Is the Town working with county on a storm shelter. Councilmember Whitman stated that the new storm shelters that went in the north part of the county are unincorporated areas not in the city.

Mr. Harris expressed concern about Foster Dr he stated parts of the street near the fire hydrant is washing out. Mayor asked Fire Chief Beddingfield to look at it.

Mr. Harris asked if the town was going to switch over to digital water meters. Mayors stated it won't be any time soon. Mr. Harris asked if we could put that cost on to the developers. Mayor stated it won't all go to the developers it will also go to the customer. She stated a cost evaluation study would have to be done.

Moved and properly seconded to adjourn.

Date approve April 27, 2026
Sharron Humphrey
Sharron Humphrey, Town Clerk-Treasurer
Mayor Caudle
Mayor or Chair Pro Tempore

Triana Fire Department Monthly Report – April 2026

Operations Summary

For the month of April, the Triana Fire Department has responded to a total of **14 calls for service**, bringing the **year-to-date total to 114 calls**.

Breakdown of calls this month:

- **9 Medical Calls**
 - **4 Fire Alarm Activations**
 - **1 Citizen Assist**
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Staffing & Coverage

The Triana Fire Department currently operates with:

- **5 paid staff members**, providing a total of **168 hours of weekly coverage**, ensuring **continuous 24/7 staffing at the station**
- **14 active volunteers**

All 5 paid staff members are **Alabama state-certified Firefighters and EMTs**, each with a **minimum of 10 years of fire service experience**.

Staffing & Certification Update

Breakdown of volunteer certifications:

- **5 certified Volunteer Firefighters/EMTs**
- **1 EMT-certified (not yet fire certified)**
- **2 Firefighter-certified (not yet EMT certified)**
- **5 currently enrolled in EMT school**, with plans to obtain Firefighter certification afterward

Key Point:

Every active volunteer is either **currently certified or actively working toward certification**, which continues to strengthen the department's overall capability.

Firefighter I (Fire 160) Course Completion

The department recently completed a **Firefighter I (Fire 160) certification course**, which ran from **January 12 through April 4, 2026**.

- **19 total students** from across Madison County
- **5 students from Triana**

As a result, **Triana now has 5 newly certified volunteer firefighters**, significantly improving local response capability.

Firefighter II Course – Upcoming

The next level of training begins **April 27, 2026**, with a **40-hour Firefighter II certification course**.

- **12 students currently enrolled**
- **4 from Triana**

This course continues to build depth and operational readiness within the department.

Training Program & Instruction

The Triana Fire Department works in partnership with the Alabama Fire College to deliver **nationally recognized, Pro Board-certified training**.

- **Fire Chief Chad Beddingfield serves as Lead Instructor**, coordinating and teaching both classroom and hands-on training
 - Instruction supported by:
 - Jonathan Bush
 - Paid Triana Fire Department staff
 - Certified volunteer firefighters
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Training Highlights

This training cycle included:

- **Two live structure burns**
- **Live fire training in the Alabama Fire College burn trailer**
- **Search and rescue operations in the newly constructed training maze**
- **Victim removal scenarios**
- **Ladder operations and rescue training**
- **Use of the new training area behind the station**

These evolutions provide **real-world experience that directly improves emergency response performance.**

Closing Statement

The Triana Fire Department continues to make steady progress in **staffing, training, and operational readiness.**

We are providing **round-the-clock coverage with experienced, certified personnel**, while actively building our volunteer force through structured training and certification programs.

However, continued support for **staffing, equipment, and training** will be essential to ensure we can consistently deliver the level of service our community expects—especially during fire and major emergency incidents.