

Subject: Re: MCC Agenda Request
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 10:50:30 AM Central Daylight Time
From: Eric Hutchins
To: Matthew Tortorice
CC: City Clerk, Paul Irwin, Anthony Irwin, City Council
Attachments: image.png, image.png, image.png, image.png

Thanks.

On Thu, May 14, 2026, 10:27 AM Matthew Tortorice <mayor@margaretal.gov> wrote:

Good morning, Mr. Hutchins,

Thank you for your request. We have added you to the public comment portion of the agenda for the May 18, 2026 city council work session starting at 6pm.

Since you are actively pursuing a lawsuit against the city, it might be best for you to contact the city's attorneys in future communications. I have copied them on this response so that you will have their email addresses going forward.

Since MCC has raised concerns about transparency in city spending, I welcome the opportunity to get their help and to work from the records and focus on the areas where the numbers show the greatest concern.

Year	Total Revenue	Total Expenditures	Council Approved	Not Approved Expenditures
2024	\$ 4,922,979.00	\$ 4,181,000.00	\$ 870,920.00	\$ 3,310,080.00
2025	\$ 5,332,721.00	\$ 3,630,584.00	\$ 1,595,473.00	\$ 2,035,111.00
Total	\$ 10,255,700.00	\$ 7,811,584.00	\$ 2,466,393.00	\$ 5,345,191.00

Based on the records currently available, the City had total expenditures of \$7,811,584 across 2024 and 2025. Of that amount, only \$2,466,393 appears to have been approved by the City Council. That leaves approximately \$5,345,191 in expenditures that do not appear to have documented council approval, appropriation or authorization.


That is a serious issue and one I have already been reviewing. If MCC is concerned about transparency and accountability, I believe this should be at the top of the list.

In the meantime, please let me know if there is any specific documentation you need or are requesting. I will share what I can under the law to help you review the matter fully. Likewise, if MCC has any records, meeting minutes, approvals, contracts, invoices or communications that would help explain or document these expenditures, I would ask that you provide them so they can be reviewed as part of this process.

Here are the minutes where the Brookhaven Grant Funds were approved: <https://margaretal.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Council-Meeting-Minutes-2-6-2024.pdf>


Councilman Matthew Tortorice made the motion to apply for \$250,000.00 for curbs and gutters in Brookhaven Subdivision. Councilman Jonathan Ray seconded the Motion. The Motion passed with four yeses and one no.

Here is an article that talks about the project: <https://www.matttortorice.com/part-3-inherited-obligations-vs-new-spending/>

 **June 20, 2023**


Initiating Rebuild Alabama Act Grant Process

- **Councilman Matthew Tortorice** requested the City begin the **Rebuild Alabama Act** grant process to **complete and repave Brookhaven Drive**.
- City Engineer **Keith Hager** was requested to attend the next meeting for further discussion.

 **January 9, 2024**

Curb and Gutter Project Discussion


- **Brookhaven Curbs and Gutters** listed under former business.
- No action noted in the minutes on this date.

 **February 6, 2024**

Council Applies for Grant for Brookhaven Improvements

- **Councilman Matthew Tortorice** made a motion to apply for a **\$250,000 grant** for **curbs and gutters in Brookhaven Subdivision**.
- Motion was **seconded by Councilman Jonathan Ray** and passed **with four yeses and one no**.

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 **October 15, 2024**

Grant Awarded

- **Councilman Matthew Tortorice** announced the City had been awarded a **\$350,000 grant** for **Brookhaven Drive repairs up to Ryan Circle**.

Sincerely,

Matt Tortorice
Mayor, City of Margaret

From: Eric Hutchins <hutchlaw07@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2026 9:00 AM
To: Matthew Tortorice <mayor@margaretal.gov>; City Clerk <cityclerk@margaretal.gov>; Eric Hutchins <hutchlaw07@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: MCC Agnenda Request

Good morning Mayor Tortorice:

This is Eric Hutchins. I am the attorney for Margaret Concerned Citizens ("MCC"). I am writing to request that I be placed on the agenda for the city council meeting on May 18, 2026.

The topic I would like to address on behalf of MCC is the issue of transparency surrounding monies spent for the Buyout Contracts with the City of Springville and spending by the City of Margaret for the Brookhaven Project.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely and in the Name of Jesus Christ,

Eric Tavaris Hutchins, Esq.