



## Regular Council Meeting Minutes

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281 James D. Nabors Drive

Council Chambers of Municipal Complex

Monday, March 20, 2023 --- Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER THE PRE-COUNCIL MEETING:** Council President Colvin called the Pre-Council Meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Roll was called and all Councilors were recorded as being present.

Individuals present included: Mayor Baird, Romy Stamps, Finance Director; Kasey Kaschak, Parks and Recreation Director; Piper Barnett, Records Clerk; Miles Hamlett, Purchasing Agent; Amanda Thomas, Community Development Director; Stephanie J. Southerland, City Clerk. Others present included: Arlene Wyckoff, Teresa Moten, Michelle West, Pastor Steve King, David Boleware, Jacob Meacham, Sandra Fuller, and others.

Council President Colvin asked for information regarding each agenda item.

Amanda Thomas, Community Development Director, explained that Resolution No. 4 is to extend a previous agreement that was entered into November 2, 2021 that will aid in the development of a hotel.

Miles Hamlett, Purchasing Agent, discussed the bid recommendations for Bid no. 23-09 for the purchase of treatment chemicals.

Pastor Steve King, First Baptist Church, expressed his concerns with Resolution No. 6 and believes it to be disrespectful, serving alcohol in such close proximity to the church.

Michelle West, Main Street Director, discussed this year's Gumbo Get Down to be held on April 15, 2023. She invited council members to participate in judging the cook-off.

**CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:** Council President Colvin called the Council Meeting to order at 5:55 P.M. on Monday, March 20, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Roll was called and all Councilors were recorded as being present.

Individuals present included: Mayor Baird, Romy Stamps, Stephanie Southerland, Amanda Thomas, Kasey Kaschak, Drew Meacham, Teresa Moten, Pastor Steve King, David Boleware, Captain McKinney, Kathy Railey, Doug Jones, Jacob Meacham, Sandra Fuller and others.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular City Council meeting March 6, 2023. Councilor Tapley made a motion to adopt the minutes and Council President Pro Tempore Scott Hardy seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the minutes were adopted (6-0).

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Regular City Council meeting March 20, 2023. Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the draft agenda. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion and the agenda was adopted (6-0).

**REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Council President Colvin:** The Revenue Department completed the review of the second set of invoices provided by Russell Lands for the Wicker Point project. A second Sales Tax Rebate check in the amount of \$50,291.12 was submitted to Russell Lands at the end of February. The city has remitted \$107,691.39 back to Russell Lands for the Wicker Point development at this time.

**Councilor Eric Brown:** No report

**Councilor Keel:** The Gas Department is installing a gas main on Campground Road. We are also doing our annual gas system survey. If you see someone on your property, they should be in a high visibility vest and in a marked City truck. The Light Dept. has been assisting the IT Department with the Sportplex fiber project and have replaced a few broken poles.

**Councilor Chris Brown:** We are in the process of hiring a new Nutrition Center Manager. Thanks to Jennifer Carlisle for her service to our senior citizen population over the last few years.

Our senior programs are starting to ramp up at the Sportplex. Stop by and pick up a calendar to see what daily programs we have going on. We are also in the process of planning our spring/summer day trip schedule.

Baseball/Softball Opening Day ceremonies will take place on April 1, 2023 starting at 8:00 a.m. on Field 1.

Lakewinds Golf Course will be hosting a number of tournaments this spring. Lakewinds was also chosen as the host course for the Alabama Recreation and Parks District 5 Golf Tournament to be held on May 17, 2023. More information on this tournament will follow.

We have summer jobs open for both the pool and Lakewinds Golf Course. Check out the Parks and Recreation Facebook site to apply.

Revenues have increased \$20,546.10 over last year. Total for this year thus far is \$202,024.96. Daily average this year is \$1,288.38.

Fuel filters were replaced at the airport on March 13, 2023. We passed the fuel quality inspection from Titan Fuel. We have purchased 8500 gallons of Av Gas and 15,023 gallons of Jet A in 2023.

PAPPIs are out at the airport from the lightning storm on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Miles is putting out an RFP to get them replaced.

The gate at the airport is also unusable from the lightning storm. Bill's Electric has been and still is working on getting it repaired.

**Council President Pro Tempore Hardy** The Street Department completed a culvert replacement on Ridgeway Drive and the road is now back open for through traffic.

The brush trucks are catching up their routes this week after completing all debris removal from the tornado on January 12th. The brush truck drivers and Street Department ramped up their efforts to finish the debris removal under a deadline of March 18<sup>th</sup> given to the city which allows us to receive 100% reimbursement from FEMA for the labor and equipment used. We appreciate their hard work on getting this done in that time frame.

Wicker Point Road had the first layer of asphalt go down last week. We are excited to see the progress of this development.

**Councilor Tapley** Did you know that you can check out a telescope and/or a microscope from Mamie's Place Children's Library? It can be used for up to three (3) weeks.

**REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES:** Councilor Chris Brown reported that the Planning Commission met on March 14, 2023 and was presented a final plat for a rezoning on Highway 22 West in order to build Senior apartment living. He requested a Public Hearing to be held on April 17, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**REPORT ON STATUS OF CITY FINANCES:** Romy Stamps, Finance Director, presented a previous month financial report for the city. Romy stated that the General Fund is now supporting itself. The report is attached to the minutes herein.

**PROCLAMATION:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **RESOLUTION** To Authorize and Approve the Rental Amount for all Hangars at Thomas C. Russell Air Field and to Authorize the Mayor to Adjust the Rates Periodically based on Fair Market Value. **RESOLUTION BOOK 23-41**

By point of order, this resolution requires a motion to take from the table, requiring a majority vote. There being no discussion, the resolution was properly brought before the council (6-0). Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the resolution was approved with the following roll call vote:

<b>YEAS:</b>	<b>TAPLEY, COLVIN, HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, KEEL</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSTAINED:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>

**2. RESOLUTION to Appoint Members to the Airport Advisory Committee. RESOLUTION BOOK 23-42**

By point of order, this resolution requires a motion to take from the table, requiring a majority vote. There being no discussion, the resolution was properly brought before the council (6-0). Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. Council President Colvin reminded those present that this Committee does not make independent decisions, but make recommendation that require council approval. There being no further discussion the resolution was approved with the following roll call vote:

<b>YEAS:</b>	<b>TAPLEY, COLVIN, HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, KEEL</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSTAINED:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>

**3. ORDINANCE to Rescind Ordinance 99-09, Amend Section 22 of Alexander City Code of Ordinances and to Provide a Procedure for Events. ORDINANCE BOOK 23-12**

By point of order, the council rules must be suspended if immediate action is to be considered. Councilor Tapley made a motion to suspend the rules and Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the rules were suspended (6-0). Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the ordinance as written. Councilor President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the ordinance was adopted with the following roll call vote:

<b>YEAS:</b>	<b>TAPLEY, COLVIN, HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, KEEL</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSTAINED:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>

**4. RESOLUTION to Authorize the Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Option to Purchase and Develop Property Executed on November 2, 2021. RESOLUTION BOOK 23-43**

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. Councilor Tapley stated that while he supports this, he believes that this is an unfair advantage to the local hotels. There being no further discussion the resolution was approved with the following roll call vote:

<b>YEAS:</b>	<b>TAPLEY, COLVIN, HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, KEEL</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSTAINED:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>



5. **RESOLUTION** to Award Bid No. 23-09 to Harcros Chemicals and the Dycho Company, Inc. for Sodium Hypochlorite and to Brenntag Mid-South for Phosphate. **RESOLUTION BOOK 23-44**

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the resolution was approved with the following roll call vote:

<b>YEAS:</b>	<b>TAPLEY, COLVIN, HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, KEEL</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSTAINED:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>

6. **RESOLUTION** to Authorize the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with Lake Martin Brewing, LLC to Allow Outdoor Seating. **RESOLUTION BOOK 23-45**

Council President Pro Tempore Hardy made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Councilor Chris Brown seconded the motion. Councilor Tapley stated that he has a problem with this being disrespectful to the church. Councilor Keel stated that this is a city park and should be used by all residents of the city. There being no further discussion the resolution was adopted with the following roll call vote:

<b>YEAS:</b>	<b>COLVIN, HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>TAPLEY, KEEL</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ABSTAINED:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>

7. **REQUEST** to Approve the Annual Procession for Good Friday for the St. John Apostle Catholic Church

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the request as presented. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the request was approved with the following roll call vote:

<b>YEAS:</b>	<b>TAPLEY, COLVIN, HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, KEEL</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSTAINED:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>

8. **REQUEST** to Approve the Main Street Gumbo Get Down to be Held on April 15, 2023 in the Arts & Entertainment District

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the request as presented. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the request was approved with the following roll call vote:

<b>YEAS:</b>	<b>TAPLEY, COLVIN, HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, KEEL</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>

**ABSTAINED: NONE**  
**ABSENT: NONE**

**0**  
**0**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker):**

Ms. Arlene Wyckoff expressed her concern regarding the infrastructure work being done, while her community in North Central suffers from sewer problems and old water pipes. She asked when money would be coming to the North Central community. She further expressed her dissatisfaction with work being done in the area of Highway 63. Mayor Baird explained that the work is being funded with a \$600,000.00 CDBG grant to replace water lines. He further explained that the city has to satisfy the current grant, and have plans to apply for another grant to address Houston Street, Semmes Street, Parks Avenue, down to North Central to do the same work and extend the new water mains. The city will be requesting bids for the project.

**COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR:** There is a need for grass cutters at the Sportplex, Cemetery, and the Green Gateway and encouraged those interested to submit an application. He further acknowledged Drew Meacham and his staff for meeting the March 18th deadline in their clean up following the tornado.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FINANCE DIRECTOR:** Jason Harpe, with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, will be at the next council meeting to give a report on the final FY20 audit.

**COMMENTS FROM THE CITY CLERK:** Stephanie Southerland expressed her appreciation to Scotty and Brittany in the Business License department for their work since the January 24th cyber issue. They lost 611 business license transactions and all of the tax transactions from December, 2022. Since they have been able to access the system again on March 1st, they have reprocessed all digital records, processed all of the mail that has been held, processed 2,138 licenses and 721 tax transactions, totaling \$1,976,765.55, logging 42 hours of overtime. They have gotten everything back on track and their hard work is appreciated.

The mayor further thanked Joe Milam, IT Director, and Kyle Parish for their hard work, getting the city's technology restored.

**COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL:**

Councilor Eric Brown thanked everyone for coming and wished everyone a good remainder of the week.

Councilor Chris Brown thanked everyone for attending and encouraged them to enjoy our city parks and golf course.

Councilor Keel expressed his appreciation for those in attendance and those watching live on Facebook. He stated that the council doesn't always agree, but do not have "fallings out".

Councilor Tapley thanked citizens for coming out and expressing their passion. He thanked the mayor, the council, Finance Director and City Clerk for the work they do. Happy Spring!



Council President Pro Tempore Hardy commended Captain McKinney in his professionalism and dedication. He further addressed Ms. Wyckoff in agreement that the community as a whole is included regarding infrastructure projects. He further stated that the Community Development Office is working towards a Comprehensive and Strategic Plan that will aid in these efforts.

Council President Colvin thanked everyone for coming. She reported that last week she was on a Zoom call with Secretary Canfield discussing economic development. She stated that she, along with Romy Stamps, Mayor Baird, and Scott Hardy graduated from the Economic Development Academy held by the Alabama League of Municipalities last year. She expressed the need in working with the Chamber of Commerce, Tallapoosa County Commission, and the EDA and implementing a Comprehensive Plan. The downtown streets mentioned by the mayor are due to be re-bid. She further thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. There will be disagreements, but they will continue to work together.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the council, Councilor Tapley made a motion to adjourn and Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned (6-0) at 6:27 P.M.

**APPROVED:**

  
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Audrey "Buffy" Colvin  
Council President

  
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Stephanie J. Southerland  
City Clerk

**METHOD OF DELIVERY:** The draft minutes were emailed to the Council for review on March 29, 2023.

**OTHER:** The agenda was posted to the City's website and the bulletin boards that are located at the Municipal Complex.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Agenda

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**