



## Regular Council Meeting Minutes

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281 James D. Nabors Drive

Council Chambers of Municipal Complex

Monday, April 3, 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 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 3, 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; Piper Barnett, Records Clerk; Dana Fuller, Mayor's office; Police Captain D. Alford; Police Captain T. Tuck; Police Chief Turner; Police Captain R. McKinney; Detective Christopher Graham; Deputy Police Chief J. Easterwood; Lt. S. Cross; Corporal D. Machen; Detective R. Oliver; Fire Chief R. McAlister; Amanda Thomas, Community Development Director; Drew Meacham, Public Works Director; Kathy Railey, Human Resources Director; Stephanie J. Southerland, City Clerk. Others present included: Tony Garrett, Ray Wagner, Arlene Wyckoff, Teresa Moten, David Boleware, and others.

Council President Colvin asked for information regarding each agenda item.

Mayor Baird addressed Resolution 1, stating that this was the same agreement with Phase I of Miner's Cove, with Alabama Power Company providing the poles, the developers responsibility for installation, and the city will pay the monthly fees for those street lights.

Drew Meacham addressed the need for adjusting the truck route.

Dana Fuller stated that the resolution requesting to sell the old Alexander City parking meters will allow citizens to own a piece of the city's history. She stated that the conditions of the meters vary.

Council President Colvin explained that Sakura Bistro is requesting a new Restaurant Retail Liquor license and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Sportz Bar & Lounge had previously been approved for a Restaurant Retail Liquor license, but have since changed their request to a Lounge Retail Liquor – Class I License.

**CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:** Council President Colvin called the Council Meeting to order at 5:35 P.M. on Monday, April 3, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Roll was called and all Councilors were recorded as being present.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Councilor Tapley

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilor Chris Brown

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Work Session and Regular City Council meeting March 20, 2023. Councilor Tapley made a motion to adopt the minutes and Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the minutes were adopted (6-0).

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Regular City Council meeting April 3, 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 State has not produced their reports yet so we can't update the sales and use tax numbers. The city processed \$751,485.38 in business license payments. She further stated that there has only been one applicant for the upcoming vacancy on the Board of Education. There will be no interviews, but will re-appoint the current member at the next City Council meeting.

**Councilor Eric Brown:** Alexander City Fire Department encourages everyone to replace batteries in their smoke detectors. The easiest way to remember to do this is when time changes- change out the batteries. Police: Last week there were 80 total incidents which led to 22 arrests and 41 citations were issued.

**Councilor Keel:** The Gas Department is still conducting the annual natural gas system survey. They are also installing gas main on Campground Road.

Sewer Dept – Contractor will begin insulating Maintenance Building Friday, March 31. The Sewer Department should be close to completing the move to Sugar Creek Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Two pump stations are under construction at Wicker Point. The Alabama Graphite line is adding piping in front of Burger King and the manhole is being installed in front of Advance Auto to tie the line in to the sewer system. Two (2) more sections were replaced on the Halianna easement, assisted the Gas Department with traffic control on Camp Ground Road, assisted Street Department clearing clogged storm drains after the weekend rains.

Sugar/Coley Creek – Replaced two (2) air relief valves on influent pumps, replaced pressure gauge on aerator #14, and finished replacing ceiling tiles in the Sugar Creek lab.

Adams filter plant – Site safety check done for new phosphate vendor, removing sludge from drying beds, CCR Report done and turned into wholesale customers, State Monthly operation reports done for March. New lime pumps installed by Burnette lime company. Plant optimized after heavy rains Sunday, installing new exit signs with lights at exit points of the plant.

Water Dept – The Water Department has installed three new services, replaced two fire hydrants, performed several 811 locates. They have also completed approximately 400 lead and copper inspections and seventeen (17) water leaks were repaired.

**Councilor Chris Brown:** The Golf Pro Shop proceeds have increased \$21,103.25 over last year, with a total of \$214,022.36 for this year. The greens are coming in nicely and three (3) trees have been removed from hole #10. The recent amount of rain has washed out a significant amount of the fairway, requiring 300 feet of french drain. The Airport Advisory Committee is preparing for its first meeting. The new lease agreements go into effect June 1, with all tenants being notified last week. Fuel sales are staying consistent. Quotes are being obtained to replace the gym floor. Welcome to Brandi Hardy, the Nutrition Manager. Baseball/softball games have started and games are held every



Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Thank you to Bryan Riddle and his staff for their hard work in getting the fields ready and for consistently having the best-looking fields in East Alabama. Imagination Station media rollout is coming soon. The final design and total cost will be presented to the public so progress can be monitored.

**Council President Pro Tempore Hardy** The City's insurance required that we place a fence around our public works yard to protect our assets which then caused our recycling center to also be fenced in. The gates to this area are open during business hours but closed in the late afternoons and on the weekends.

We tried to find other options to be able to serve our community and their recycling efforts. Public Works decided that applying for a grant through ADEM for a recycling trailer that could be placed outside of the fence was our best option at this time.

The grant for \$26,040.00 has now been approved by ADEM and we have started on the design and purchasing process. This trailer will also be taken to large events around our city to encourage recycling throughout our community.

**Councilor Tapley** Adelia M. Russell Public Library will be closed on April 7<sup>th</sup> for Good Friday but we will be open on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> and will be offering the ACT Preparation Class. They have copies of the 2022 tax forms if anyone is in need of those. Sign Language Classes will be held again in May; details will be sent in early April. They will also have an Emergency Preparedness Class on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. Presented by John Rice, the "readiness class" will cover the basics of food storage and preparation, generating heat and light, proper shelter, self-protection, communications, and a variety of topics pertaining to surviving short term and longer-term disruptions.

#### **REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**CENTRAL ALABAMA CRIME STOPPERS AWARD:** Executive Director Tony Garrett and Director Ray Wagner presented the 2022 Central Alabama Crime Stoppers Officer of the Year award to Detective Christopher Graham of the Alexander City Police Department. This is the second award they have presented to a member of the ACPD.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**REPORT ON STATUS OF CITY FINANCES:** Jason Harpe of Carr, Riggs & Ingram presented the city's 2020 audit. Romy Stamps, Finance Director, stated that a lot of the preliminary work has been done for fiscal year 2021, and hope to have it completed in the coming months, as well as 2022 before the end of this calendar year.

**PROCLAMATION:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **RESOLUTION** to Authorize the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with Alabama Power to Install Street Lights in Phase II of Miner’s Cove Subdivision. **RESOLUTION BOOK 23-46**

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. **ORDINANCE** to Amend Section 86-125, Truck Routes, Routes Established of the Alexander City Code of Ordinances. **ORDINANCE BOOK 23-13**

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. Councilor Tapley and Council President Colvin expressed their appreciation for the work done in this area. 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>

3. **RESOLUTION** to Declare Personal Property as Surplus and no Longer Needed for Public Use. **RESOLUTION BOOK 23-47**

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>

4. **REQUEST** to Grant a Restaurant Retail Liquor License to Sakura Bistro.

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>

**ABSENT: NONE 0**

**5. REQUEST to Grant a Lounge Retail Liquor – Class I License to 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Sportz Bar and Lounge.**

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, HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, KEEL</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ABSTAINED:</b>	<b>COLVIN</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>0</b>

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker):** Ms. Barbara Cleveland addressed the traffic issues with Robinson Road and a need for a sign on Highway 280. President Colvin explained that the ordinance adopted tonight will allow proper signage and law enforcement personnel to issue ticket violations.

**COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR:** Mayor Baird was pleased to see the number of citizens present and reminded those that he has an open-door policy to discuss day to day operations.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FINANCE DIRECTOR: None**

**COMMENTS FROM THE CITY CLERK:** Stephanie Southerland reminded those present that this Friday, April 7 is Good Friday and a recognized city holiday and further wished everyone a Happy Easter. The next Work Session and City Council meeting are scheduled for Monday, April 17, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

**COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL:**

Councilor Chris Brown thanked everyone for coming and congratulated Detective Graham. He further hoped that everyone has a nice Easter and understands the reason for the holiday.

Councilor Keel congratulated Detective Graham and thanked everyone for coming and watching.

Councilor Tapley thanked Detective Graham and was pleased to see him properly recognized for his dedication. He reminded everyone to be mindful of the Easter holiday and why it’s a reason to celebrate. He further asked for prayers for the families that lost loved ones in the Life Vac helicopter crash over the weekend. He relayed a message from a citizen that is not pleased with the new location of the Senior Center, stating that it is not easily accessible. Mayor Baird stated that this is a temporary location and working towards a different location.

**Council President Pro Tempore Hardy congratulated Detective Graham and the entire Police Department, and all public safety. He further expressed his sympathy to the families of the victims of the helicopter crash.**



Councilor Eric Brown congratulated Detective Graham and all of the members of the Police Department, and all of public safety. He wished everyone a good Resurrection weekend.

Council President Colvin congratulated Detective Graham, being an Alexander City native and working so hard in his community. She asked for prayers for the families of the helicopter crash victims, and the family of Dr. B.B. Sellers and credited him for guiding her in respiratory therapy.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mayor Baird requested executive session in order to discuss a potential economic development opportunity and anticipated the meeting to last approximately thirty (30) minutes.

Council President Colvin announced that following the Executive Session the Council meeting would be adjourned as they will not be discussing a matter that will require a vote.

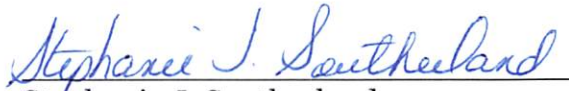
Councilor Tapley made a motion to go into Executive Session. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. All voted in favor (6-0) and they entered Executive Session at 6:12 p.m.

**ADJOURN:** The Executive Session concluded at 6:35 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 April 11, 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:**