



**ALEXANDER
CITY**
ALABAMA

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

281 James D. Nabors Drive
Council Chambers of Municipal Complex
Monday, November 6, 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, November 6, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Roll was called and all councilors were recorded as being present.

Regarding agenda item #2, Council President Pro Tempore Hardy stated that the Land Disturbance Permit will help the city protect its in ground assets by giving us an opportunity to review proposed grading activities both development and nondevelopment related and ensure our assets have been identified and considered. It will serve as a definitive approval from the city to begin grade work. It will also be a tool for development allowing certain work to begin prior to a full approval from the development committee. This will not give the city the responsibility of policing and enforcing soil erosion in construction but will let us verify that the developer has appropriate approval from the governing state agency.

Councilor Eric Brown questioned the ordinance being applicable to any property owner of more than one acre. He further suggested amending the current ordinance.

Councilor Keel questioned why the city is getting involved with something that ADEM is responsible for.

Drew Meacham, City Engineer, explained that the city would notify ADEM, there is no cost to the property owner for the permit, but hopefully will prevent damage to underground utilities. He asked that they each research this proposed requirement, as it is very common throughout the state.

Councilor Chris Brown also expressed concerns and that the city is infringing on private property owners and potential litigation.

Councilor Tapley feels like the city already imposes so many regulations on property owners, that we don't need to add further regulations.

Council President Colvin explained that agenda item #3 needs to be tabled or removed.

Romy Stamps, Finance Director, gave an overview of the proposed 2024 capital budget.

Mayor Baird explained that agenda item #5 is a request to rezone a piece of property that an individual wishes to develop.

Council President Colvin stated that agenda items #6 and #7 are to adjust the elected official's salary, beginning with the 2025 quadrennium. The last salary adjustment was in 2004. Romy explained that the amount was determined based upon the most recent pay plan adopted for all city employees. Councilor Keel questioned why this was being proposed at this time and why could it not wait until closer to the next election.

Councilor President Pro Tempore Hardy addressed the fact that the mayor, serving as the Utility Superintendent, earns a separate salary for those additional duties. He further suggested that those duties be separated out in the future and the pay being comparable to the job.

Councilor Tapley reminded everyone that the Department Heads have the power to increase utility rates as needed so a separate superintendent isn't necessary.

Councilor Eric Brown stated that there is not always continuity and a full-time superintendent would ensure working towards long term projects.

Amanda Thomas, Planning & Community Development Director, explained that agenda item #9 would provide a sidewalk from the soccer complex to Chick-fil-a.

Kathy Railey stated that agenda item #10 is to simplify the calculations for city employee insurance premium rates.

Council President Colvin stated that agenda item #11 was discussed in executive session at the last meeting. Councilor Tapley reminded everyone that Romy had advised against this abatement, as it is currently unaffordable. He suggested that the city give \$25,000.00 instead of the full amount they are requesting. Denise Walls stated that they are requesting a 10-year abatement.

Individuals present included: Mayor Baird, Romy Stamps, Finance Director; Piper Barnett, Records Clerk; Police Captain T. Tuck; Drew Meacham, Public Works Director; Kasey Kaschak, Parks & Recreation Director; Chris Hardy, Gas Superintendent; Amanda Thomas, Planning & Development Director; Police Captain McKinney; Stephanie J. Southerland, City Clerk. Others present included: members of Sassy Sisters, Robert Boleware, Arlene Wyckoff and others. The media was represented by the Outlook.

CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING: Council President Colvin called the Council Meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. All councilors were recorded as being present.

Council President Colvin led the invocation. The Sassy Sisters led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Work Session and Regular City Council meeting October 16, 2023. Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the minutes as written 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 November 6, 2023. Councilor Tapley made a motion to remove agenda item #3 and to approve the agenda as amended and Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. The agenda was approved as amended, removing agenda item #3 (6-0).

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

Council President Colvin: The Revenue Department has been preparing to mail out renewal notices and after receiving quotes for the postcards and postage, it looks like we will be saving around \$500.00 when we send out renewal notices this year compared to previous years.

The Wharf received its first abatement payment at the end of October as per the Development Agreement between the City and The Wharf.

Scoters received an abatement payment at the end of October as per the Development Agreement between the City and Scooters.

Wicker Point should be receiving an abatement payment in the next few weeks based off of invoices that were submitted by Russell Lands. An update of the total rebate amount paid out to Russell Lands in 2023 will be provided to Council in the coming weeks.

She thanked the Revenue and Finance Department for their hard work.

Councilor Keel: The Light Department has been working at Gateway resetting poles for future power. We also started putting up the Christmas decorations. We have a crew installing gas at the Cottages at Russell Medical. We are still doing valve maintenance and have a couple of new services to run at Williams Road.

The Water Department won the "Three Year Optimized Plant Award 2020- 2022" from ADEM.

Councilor Chris Brown: The new gym floor at Cooper Rec is currently being installed. The old floor was taken up on Monday October 30th. We expect the project to take 3-4 weeks for completion.

The Alexander City 5th/6th grade volleyball team finished in 1st place at the ARPA District 5 tournament on October 28th. Congratulations to all of our volleyball teams!

Basketball registration is going on now online at acpr.recdesk.com. Registration ends on November 17th with a registration cost of \$60.00

Downtown Christmas will be held on Saturday, December 9th this year. Santa on a firetruck will be held December 18th and 19th. More information regarding route will follow.

The Golf course is financially ahead of last year, with over 31,000 rounds of golf being played this year. He commended Matthew Keel and his work at the golf course.

Council President Pro Tempore Hardy: The Environmental and Street departments are assisting with the removal of dilapidated structures during the month of November.

Councilor Tapley: Mamie’s Place Children’s Library enjoyed all the “Trunk or Treaters” at the city’s annual “Trunk or Treat”.

Mamie’s Place hosted its own Costume Party on October 25 with another special guest, Kasi Lamberth, at their “Hey, I Know You!” Story Time.

November 8 the children’s Story Time craft will be letters of thanks to our local Veterans at the Bill Nichols Veterans Home.

November 22, 2023, will mark the 60th anniversary of the tragic assassination of President John F. Kennedy. In honor and in memory, Alexander City native, Michael Lewis, will set up a public display on the Main Floor of Adelia M. Russell Library. It will include original front-page news articles from major state and national newspapers chronicling the event that shook the world. Michael lived and worked in the Washington D.C. area for 25 years. Everyone is invited to view this historic presentation during library hours from November 13–18.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES: None

PUBLIC HEARING: None

REPORT ON STATUS OF CITY FINANCES: None

PROCLAMATION: Alexander City Recycling Week

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. RESOLUTION: To Authorize the Mayor to Sign a Lease Contract for a Xerox Copy Machine for the Municipal Complex. (Sponsored By: Councilor Tapley) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2023-121**

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

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

2. ORDINANCE: To Regulate Land Disturbance Within the City of Alexander City, Alabama (Sponsored By: Council President Pro Tempore Hardy) **TABLED**

Councilor Chris Brown made a motion that the ordinance be tabled in order to reword some of the verbiage. Councilor Keel seconded the motion. Councilor Brown asked that this be discussed at the next Work Session. There being no further discussion, the motion to table passed with the following roll call vote:

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

3. RESOLUTION: To Authorize the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation to Authorize the Selection of an Engineering Consultant for the Relocation of Utilities at the Bridge Replacement on State Route 63 over Sugar Creek. (Sponsored By: Council President Pro Tempore Hardy)

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

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

4. RESOLUTION: To Adopt the Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Budget. (Sponsored By: Council President Colvin) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2023-122**

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

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

5. RESOLUTION: To Set a Public Hearing to Rezone Property Located at 3065 Highway 63 South from RR (Reserve Residential) to B2 (General Business). (Sponsored By: Mayor Baird) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2023-123**

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

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

6. ORDINANCE: To Establish the Annual Salary of the Mayor for the 2025 Quadrennium. (Sponsored By: Council President Colvin) **TABLED**

7. ORDINANCE: To Establish the Annual Salary of the Councilmembers for the 2025 Quadrennium. (Sponsored By: Council President Colvin) **TABLED**

Councilor Keel made a motion to table this ordinance until February 6, 2025. Mr. Keel's motion failed due to lack of a second. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy made a motion to table ordinance numbers 6 and 7, indefinitely. Councilor Keel seconded the motion to table indefinitely. There being no discussion, both ordinances were tabled with the following roll call vote:

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

8. RESOLUTION: To Award Bid No. 24-01 to Southern Recycling for Demolition of the Former City Hall and Police Department Buildings in an Amount not to Exceed \$175,000.00. (Sponsored By: Mayor Baird) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2023-124**

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

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

9. RESOLUTION: To Award Bid No. 23-19 to Avery Landscaping & Associates, LLC, for Sidewalk Improvements, Project No. TAPUC-TA22(909) at a Cost not to Exceed \$120,623.00. (Sponsored By: Councilor Tapley) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2023-125**

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

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

10. RESOLUTION: To Amend the City of Alexander City, Alabama Personnel Manual, §11.4.2.2. Health Plan and §11.9, Summary of City Provided Benefits. (Sponsored By: Council President Pro Tempore Hardy) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2023-126**

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

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

11. RESOLUTION: To Authorize the Lake Martin Industrial Development Board to Enter into a Tax Abatement Agreement with Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama, LLC (Sponsored By: Council President Colvin) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2023-127**

Councilor President Pro Tempore Hardy made a motion to adopt the resolution with a three (3) year agreement. Councilor Eric Brown seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the resolution was adopted with the following roll call vote:

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker): None

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR: Saturday November 11 is Veterans Day. We thank them for the freedoms we've been granted due to their service. If you see a veteran, thank a veteran. There will be an Open House at the Municipal Complex on November 30 and all are invited. He further asked for prayers for Jim Peace, the hospital director, who is in ICU and in need of prayers.

COMMENTS FROM THE FINANCE DIRECTOR: The auditors are going to be onsite next to complete the 2021 audit and she thanked veterans for their service.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY CLERK: The next Work Session and City Council meetings will be held Monday, November 20, 2023 at 4:30 and 5:30 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL:

Councilor Tapley thanked everyone for their attendance and thanked all veterans for their service. He asked when the next electronics recycling event will be. He further asked that next year that funds be budgeted for an improvement in downtown Christmas lighting.

Council President Pro Tempore Hardy expressed his appreciation for everyone's attendance. He thanked all veterans for their service.

Councilor Eric Brown thanked everyone for coming out. He also thanked veterans and their families for their commitment to service.

Councilor Chris Brown thanked everyone for their attendance and further thanked all veterans. Thursday night is the first night of playoffs and Benjamin Russell will be hosting the Poets. Councilor Keel thanked everyone for coming out and expressed his appreciation to all veterans. and wished them a nice week.

Council President Colvin thanked all veterans, the mayor and their families. She thanked all city employees for the job they do and the council members for their service.

ADJOURN: Councilor Tapley made a motion to adjourn. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion, all were in favor (6-0). The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED:

FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

Audrey "Buffy" Colvin
Council President

FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

Stephanie J. Southerland
City Clerk

METHOD OF DELIVERY:

The draft minutes were e-mailed to the mayor, city council members and the city attorney on November 9, 2023 for review.

OTHER:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Agenda

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:



Regular Council Meeting Agenda

281 James D. Nabors Drive
Council Chambers of Municipal Complex
Monday, November 6, 2023 --- Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Call to Order: Council President Colvin

Opening Prayer: Council President Colvin

Pledge of Allegiance: Sassy Sisters

Roll Call:

Approval of Minutes: October 16, 2023, Work Session
October 16, 2023, Regular Meeting

Approval of Agenda: November 6, 2023

Reports from Council on Standing Committees:

Finance Committee: Council President Colvin

Public Safety Committee: Councilor Eric Brown

Utilities Committee: Councilor Keel

Parks and Recreation: Councilor Chris Brown

Public Works Committee: Council President Pro Tempore Hardy

Buildings and Properties: Councilor Tapley

Reports from Special Committees:

Public Hearing: None

Report on Status of City Finances: None

Proclamation: Alexander City Recycling Week

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

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11. RESOLUTION: To Authorize the Lake Martin Industrial Development Board to Enter into a Tax Abatement Agreement with Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama, LLC (Sponsored By: Council President Colvin)

Public Comments (3 minutes per speaker):

Comments from the Mayor:

Comments from the Finance Director:

Comments from the City Clerk:

Comments from the Council:

Executive Session:

Adjournment:

**The next Work Session & City Council meetings are scheduled for
Monday, November 20, 2023 at 4:30 and 5:30 p.m.**