



**ALEXANDER
CITY**
ALABAMA

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

281 James D. Nabors Drive
Council Chambers of Municipal Complex
Monday, February 5, 2024 --- 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, February 5, 2024, 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; Rebecca Channell, Purchasing Clerk; Drew Meacham, Public Works Director; Chris Hardy, Gas Superintendent; Larkin Radney, City Attorney; Police Captain Tuck; Lynn Miller, Wastewater Superintendent; John McWhorter, Sewer Director; Stephanie J. Southerland, City Clerk. Others present included: Mark Lamborne, Robert Boleware, Teresa Moten, Sherry Price, Melissa Robbins and others.

Amanda Thomas asked for the proposed ordinance be amended to only address the Board of Adjustments for any appeals. Councilor Tapley asked how many tenants call for inspections, regarding the \$100.00 inspection fee being eliminated. Amanda stated that the fee has never been enforced, therefore, they are requesting it be removed.

Council President Colvin asked that this resolution be tabled indefinitely. Councilor Chris Brown asked that it be tabled with a future date. Council President Colvin and Stephanie stated that the easiest fix would be to rewrite a new resolution rather than the extensive amendments needed for the existing resolution.

Drew explained that agenda item #1 is necessary due to the Alabama Department of Transportation changing their paperwork.

Regarding agenda items #2 and #3, Councilor Tapley expressed his appreciation for the work that went into acquiring this funding and to the Tallapoosa County Commission for their part in working with the city.

Captain Tuck stated that agenda item #4 rejects the bid and allows them to purchase from the State contract, with a cost savings of approximately \$64,000.00 for eight (8) police cars.

John McWhorter stated that agenda item #5 replaces their existing pressure washer, which has deteriorated to a point that it is no longer usable.

CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING: Council President Colvin called the Council Meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. on Monday, February 5, 2024, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Councilor Keel was recorded as being absent.

Councilor Tapley led the invocation. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Work Session and Regular City Council meeting January 16, 2024. Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Councilor Chris Brown seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the minutes were adopted (4-0) with Councilors Keel and Hardy abstaining due to their absence at those meetings.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Regular City Council meeting Monday, February 5, 2024. Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the agenda, and Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. The agenda was approved (6-0).

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

Council President Colvin: The Finance Department has processed 1,322 business licenses for 2024, 23 delinquent business licenses for 2023 and 3 delinquent licenses for 2022, resulting in approximately \$1,000,000.00 in business license fees. She expressed her appreciation to the Finance Department for their work.

Councilor Eric Brown: The Fire Department has burned all of the homes on the dilapidated structures list for the fall/winter season. The burning of these structures provided important training for our firefighters and helped the city destroy 54 cubic feet of old documents. The Police Department is holding the Citizen Public Safety Academy beginning March 5, through May 7, every Tuesday from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Complex. Applications are due by February 28.

Councilor Keel reported that the Light Department has been working on changing out damaged poles, trimming right of ways, and working to keep lines clear. The Gas Department is still doing valve maintenance, recently updated the Distribution Integrity Management Program, and are preparing for the annual Public Service Commission inspection in February.

Councilor Chris Brown congratulated youth basketball champions 8U Girls, Lady Gamecocks; 12U Girls, Lady Tigers; 6U Boys, Ducks; 8U Boys, Blue Devils; 10U Boys, Tarheels; 12U Boys, Buffs. The city is hosting District 5 basketball tournament on February 24. Parks and Recreation and the Lake Martin Trailblazers will be hosting a joint Easter egg hunt for kids on March 23 at 9:00 a.m. There will be three age divisions from infants to twelve years old. Inflatables, prizes, and live music will be held at the lower fields at the Sportplex. Baseball, softball, and t-ball registration is going on now at acprrecdesk.com. The last day to register is February 9, and there will be no late sign-ups. Cooper Rec track and field registration is also going on, ending on March 1. Parks and Recreation is helping with the promotion and registration for the All-Ball Stars Contenders League, designed for medically fragile and neurodiverse youth, ages 7 – 17.

Council President Pro Tempore Hardy reported that the Recreation Drive roundabout will be closed beginning 7 a.m. Thursday until close of business on Friday to all traffic except those going to Harbor Learning Academy and the City soccer complex. Recreation drive will be closed just beyond the Taco Bell entrance. The northern portion of Sales Office Drive will be closed at Central Blvd and the portion of Sales Office Drive from the City Municipal Complex will be closed to all traffic. Please plan to avoid this area if at all possible. Thank you for your patience.

Councilor Tapley asked that if you don't currently have a Library card, he encourages you to get one to allow access to movies, audio books, wi-fi, computer, and copier use. They will be holding free Medicare classes on February 24 at 10:00 a.m. You can also purchase a bag of books for \$3.00 during February. Wednesday mornings are story time for small children at 10:00 a.m.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES: None

PUBLIC HEARING: None

REPORT ON STATUS OF CITY FINANCES: None

PROCLAMATION: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. ORDINANCE: To Amend Chapter 18, Buildings and Building Regulations of the Alexander City Code of Ordinances. (Sponsored By: Mayor Baird) **TABLED JANUARY 16, 2024**
ORDINANCE BOOK 2024-02

This ordinance was introduced at the January 16, 2024 city council meeting. Councilor Chris Brown made a motion to amend the ordinance to remove lines 9 – 12, 18 – 27, and 32 – 44. Councilor Tapley seconded the motion to amend. There being no discussion, the motion to amend was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

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

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

2. RESOLUTION: To Grant \$100,000.00 to the Imagination Station from the Sale of Sportplex Property to the Alexander City Board of Education. (Sponsored By: Councilor Chris Brown) **TABLED JANUARY 16, 2024**

Councilor Chris Brown made a motion to drop the resolution as written and bring it back February 20. Council President Pro Tempore seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the resolution was dropped with the following roll call vote:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

1. RESOLUTION: To Rescind Resolution 23-128, Adopted on November 6, 2023 and 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) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-08**

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. Councilor Tapley expressed his appreciation to the state for providing this service, saving the city money. There being no further discussion, the resolution was adopted with the following roll call vote:

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

2. RESOLUTION: To Authorize the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with the Tallapoosa County Commission to Accept \$500,000.00 Reimbursement American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Assistance with Funding a Sewer Project for Shiner's Cove Subdivision. (Sponsored By: Mayor Baird) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-09**

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. Councilor Tapley thanked the Tallapoosa County Commission for their assistance with this project. There being no further discussion, the resolution was adopted with the following roll call vote:

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

3. RESOLUTION: To Authorize the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with the Tallapoosa County Commission to Accept \$800,000.00 Reimbursement American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Assistance with Funding a Sewer Project for the Willows and Willow Point Subdivision. (Sponsored By: Mayor Baird) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-10**

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. Councilor Tapley thanked the County Commission for the \$1.3 million funding for these two projects. There being no further discussion, the resolution was adopted with the following roll call vote:

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

4. RESOLUTION: To Reject Bid No. 24-04 for Police Interceptor Vehicles. (Sponsored By: Mayor Baird) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-11**

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. Councilor Tapley thanked those involved for saving \$64,000.00 which is basically the cost of one vehicle. There being no further discussion, the resolution was adopted with the following roll call vote:

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

5. RESOLUTION: To Award Bid No. 24-05 to US Jetting, LLC for One (1) Skid Mounted Pressure Washer at a Cost not to Exceed \$81,420.00. (Sponsored By: Mayor Baird) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-12**

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

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

6. RESOLUTION: To Award Bid No. 24-06 to Calhoun Meter Company for Ductile Iron Pipe at a Cost not to Exceed \$29,262.24. (Sponsored By: Mayor Baird) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-13**

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker):

Ms. Sherry Price, B Street, Alexander City, Alabama asked for the city’s help in addressing speeding on B Street and is open to any options. Council President Colvin stated that the city can post speed limit signs. Ms. Price’s home was recently damaged from a vehicle that hit her home, reported to have been driving 70 miles per hour. Ms. Price further asked for assistance in residents shooting fireworks until midnight. There are residual fireworks on people’s property and the roadway. Councilor Tapley asked Drew if the new traffic counters register speed like the Speed Awareness Monitors do. Councilor Eric Brown asked Captain Tuck if the radar indicator is an option, and Captain Tuck stated that it required a straight stretch and B Street is a hill.

Ms. Melissa Robbins, B Street, stated that the ditch in front of her home is filled with used tires, people are crossing the ditch and driving onto her yard, people have removed the “No Parking” signs. She expressed that the area is not being well kept and asked for assistance.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR: The city will be holding two Comprehensive Plan meetings on February 12 at Cornerstone Methodist Church and on March 7 here in the Council Chambers. For those who wish to provide input, he encouraged those to attend.

COMMENTS FROM THE FINANCE DIRECTOR: Romy welcomed Councilor Keel back. She reported that the 2021 audit is complete and the 2022 audit is 90% complete.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY CLERK: Our next Work Session and City Council meetings will be on Monday, February 19, 2024.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL:

Councilor Keel thanked everyone for coming out and thanked everyone for their prayers.

Councilor Tapley thanked everyone for coming out and further thanked Ms. Price and Ms. Robbins for bringing the issues in their neighborhood to their attention. He welcomed Councilor Keel back and reminded everyone of Valentine’s Day coming up. He thanked the light department and brush pickup for the trim cutting and pickup in his district. Clearing the dead pine trees has lowered the power outages in the area.

Council President Pro Tempore Hardy thanked everyone for their attendance and welcomed Councilor Keel back. The Strategic Advisory Committee has met regarding the Comprehensive

Plan and encouraged everyone to be engaged in the process with upcoming meetings. Everyone is encouraged to participate in order to achieve the results needed for the next two or three decades.

Councilor Eric Brown thanked everyone for their attendance and welcomed Councilor Keel back. He further thanked the mayor and his staff for their work.

Councilor Chris Brown thanked everyone for their attendance and welcomed Councilor Keel back. He stated that they would look at resolutions for the issues on B Street as well as other areas of the city. He asked for patience for all those involved in finding a solution.

Council President Colvin welcomed Councilor Keel back and asked for continued prayers for this council and this administration. There are a lot of things going on in the community and encouraged everyone to get out and be involved.

Council President Colvin asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation and stated that the body would not reconvene following the Executive Session.

Councilor Tapley made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation. Councilor Chris Brown seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion passed with the following roll call vote:

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

They entered into Executive Session at 6:09 p.m.
ADJOURN: The City Council adjourned at 6:18 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 February 9, 2024, for review.

OTHER:

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Agenda

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: