



**ALEXANDER
CITY**
ALABAMA

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

281 James D. Nabors Drive
Council Chambers of Municipal Complex
Tuesday, January 2, 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 Tuesday, January 2, 2024, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Roll was called and Councilor Keel was recorded as being absent.

Individuals present included: Mayor Baird, Romy Stamps, Finance Director; Piper Barnett, Records Clerk; Kathy Railey, Human Resources Director; Drew Meacham, Public Works Director; Chris Hardy, Gas Superintendent; Larkin Radney, City Attorney; Police Captain McKinney; Stephanie J. Southerland, City Clerk. Others present included: Darryl Forster, Crown Castle; Robert Boleware, Teresa Moten, and others.

Chris Hardy discussed agenda item #1 and the advantages to the citizens in the availability of natural gas appliances and financing options through the Natural Gas Corporation. If adopted, at the next city council meeting, there will be a resolution to change an administrative position as part of the city's obligation to the contract. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy asked what the city's options are in the event this doesn't have a beneficial outcome. Chris assured the council that the agreement can be canceled.

Drew Meacham addressed agenda item #2 and stated that this a federal project with a 90%/10% split, obligating the city to over \$12,000.00 in matching funds.

Darryl Forster, Crown Castle, addressed the council members and clarified that the agreement allows pole usage along Highway 280.

Council President Colvin asked that line numbers 2 and 12 be amended to fill in the blanks with possibly Councilor Hardy.

CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING: Council President Colvin called the Council Meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Councilor Keel was recorded as being absent.

Councilor Tapley led the invocation. Councilor Eric Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Work Session and Regular City Council meeting December 18, 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 (5-0).

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Regular City Council meeting Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the agenda and Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. The agenda was approved (5-0).

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

Council President Colvin: Finance Department is working diligently to keep the city on track financially and expressed her appreciation in the work that they do.

Councilor Eric Brown: The Fire Department is planning to burn the final dilapidated structure this Friday with Our Town Volunteer Fire Department for training purposes.

On behalf of **Councilor Keel**, Council President Colvin reported that the Light Department has been working on road maintenance as well as changing out damaged poles. This week we are working on taking down Christmas decorations downtown.

The Gas Department is still doing valve maintenance and has several new services lined up to run in the New Year.

Councilor Chris Brown: Youth basketball kicked off this evening and will play at multiple locations and asked for support of our youth by attending some games. The golf course continues to thrive. Renovations have started at the Cabin at the Sportplex. New golf carts have been delivered to the golf course and are in use.

Council President Pro Tempore Hardy: Engineering, Street and Sportplex personnel are preparing to begin breaking ground soon on the parking lot project near the upper baseball fields in the Sportplex. Equipment and supplies are enroute to the location and they hope to have the project complete before the city league ball starts.

Councilor Tapley: The Library had a successful 2023.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES: Drew Meacham gave an update on the Rebuild Alabama/Transportation Plan update, as attached.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

REPORT ON STATUS OF CITY FINANCES: None

PROCLAMATION: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. RESOLUTION: To Authorize the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia for Natural Gas Appliance Management and Sales. (Sponsored By: Councilor Keel) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-01**

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Councilor Chris Brown seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the resolution was adopted with the following roll call vote:

YEAS:	HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, TAPLEY, COLVIN	5
NAYS:	NONE	0
ABSTAINED:	NONE	0
ABSENT:	NONE	0

2. RESOLUTION: To Authorize the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement By and Between the State of Alabama and the City of Alexander City, Alabama, Project No. LRSI-6224, CPMS Reference No. 100077752 at a Cost not to Exceed \$12,861.60. (Sponsored By: Council President Pro Tempore Hardy) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-02**

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Council President Pro Tempore Hardy seconded the motion. Councilor Tapley thanked Drew and his staff for their efforts in obtaining grant funding for a much-needed project. There being no further discussion, the resolution was adopted with the following roll call vote:

YEAS:	HARDY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN, TAPLEY, COLVIN	5
NAYS:	NONE	0
ABSTAINED:	NONE	0
ABSENT:	NONE	0

3. RESOLUTION: To Authorize the Mayor to Enter into a Municipal Pole Use Agreement by and Between the City of Alexander City Utilities and Crown Castle Fiber, LLC. (Sponsored By: Councilor Keel) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-03**

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

Council President Colvin made a motion to amend lines 2 and 12 on resolution #4 to insert Councilor Hardy. Councilor Tapley seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the resolution was amended with the following roll call vote:

YEAS:	COLVIN, TAPLEY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN	4
NAYS:	NONE	0

ABSTAINED:	HARDY	1
ABSENT:	NONE	0

4. RESOLUTION: To Appoint Councilor Hardy to the Comprehensive Steering Committee.
(Sponsored By: Mayor Baird) **RESOLUTION BOOK 2024-04**

Councilor Tapley made a motion to approve the resolution as written. Councilor Chris Brown seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the amended resolution was adopted with the following roll call vote:

YEAS:	COLVIN, TAPLEY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN	4
NAYS:	NONE	0
ABSTAINED:	HARDY	1
ABSENT:	NONE	0

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker): Ms. Teresa Moten addressed the resolution coming forth that would close a railroad crossing and asked for any incentives to be used for the benefit of the citizens and not the Imagination Station.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR: Condolences to the family of Sherry Ellison. He further asked everyone to follow health protocols due to the large number of respiratory illnesses going around.

COMMENTS FROM THE FINANCE DIRECTOR: Happy New Year.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY CLERK: Our next Work Session and City Council meetings will be on Tuesday, January 16, 2024.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL:

Council President Pro Tempore Hardy offered his thoughts and prayers to the Ellison family as well as continued prayers for Councilor Keel. He wished everyone a prosperous 2024.

Councilor Eric Brown expressed his condolences and sent good wishes to Councilor Keel and his healing. Happy New Year.

Councilor Chris Brown thanked everyone for their attendance and offered condolences to the Ellison family and well wishes to Councilor Keel.

Councilor Tapley wished everyone a Happy New Year and wished God's blessings on everyone.

Council President Colvin wished everyone a Happy New Year and expressed her condolences to the Ellison family. Mr. Keel is improving and doing well.

Council President 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:	COLVIN, HARDY, TAPLEY, E. BROWN, C. BROWN	5
NAYS:	NONE	0
ABSTAINED:	NONE	0
ABSENT:	NONE	0

They entered into Executive Session at 5:52.

The City Council adjourned at 6:09 p.m. in memory of Sherry Ellison Simpson.

ADJOURN:

APPROVED:

FOR PUBLIC RELEASE FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

Audrey "Buffy" Colvin
Council President

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 January 9, 2024, for review.

OTHER:

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Agenda

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Curtis "Woody" Baird
Mayor
Stephanie J. Southerland
City Clerk
Romy Stamps
Finance Director



CITY COUNCIL
Audrey "Buffy" Colvin
Council President
Scott Hardy
President Pro Tempore
Bobby L. Tapley
John Eric Brown
Chris Brown
Jimmy Keel

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AGENDA REQUEST

Date Emailed
Date Received

DATE REQUESTED:

COUNCIL MEETING DATE:

REQUESTED BY:

COUNCIL SPONSOR:

DESCRIPTION:

Update for Rebuild Alabama Act:
The bid for the Coven Abbett bridge project will go out March of 2024. The council can award the bid in April of 2024. No expenditures from the Rebuild Alabama Fund were made in 2023. The City of Alexander City received a grant from the Rebuild Alabama Act Grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 to use towards the cost of this project. The cost to the City is expected to be between \$150,000.00 and \$200,000.00. This expense will be covered with the funds from Rebuild Alabama account and no additional funds will need to come out of the City's general fund.

DEPARTMENT REQUESTING:

MONETARY AMOUNT:

BUDGET LINE ITEM:

You must ask a Council member to sponsor your agenda request. Please include any pertinent information, attachment(s)/backup paperwork with this request. Please send request and any attachments to stephanie.southerland@alexandercityal.gov

This request is due NO LATER THAN 4:30 p.m., 14 days prior to the scheduled meeting.