



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

300 Martin Luther King Blvd.

January 3, 2023

TIME: 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Smith called the council meeting to order at 06:00 pm and asked Mr. Jones to call the roll.

2. ROLL CALL

The Mayor and all City Council members were present.

1. George Allen, Erica Norris, Tim Aja, Todd Rauch, Eddie Smith

3. INVOCATION

Dr. Herring provided the invocation.

1. Dr. Rod Herring from First Baptist Church Opelika.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Bram Sinquefield led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Sophia Johnson and Bram Sinquefield from Southview Primary School.

5. READING OF MINUTES

1. Minutes from the 12-20-22 council meeting.

President Smith stated that a copy of the minutes had been previously received by the council and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Allen made a motion to approve. Mr. Aja seconded the motion. President Smith then asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes. President Smith stated having no corrections, the minutes stand approved.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

1. Proclamation for Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

Mayor Fuller invited Chief of Police Shane Healey, Captain Johnathan Clifton, Investigators Trey Harris, Brandon Pettaway, Elijah Pugh, and the founder of Worthy Squared, Kathryn Guthrie up front. Mayor Fuller read the proclamation and presented it to Ms. Guthrie. Ms. Guthrie then stated that she is very proud of Opelika for stepping forward to not only recognize this but to take action.

8. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS (Limit comments to five minutes or less)

Evelyn Mickle of 1003 Glenn Street spoke first. Ms. Mickle stated that she would like to see a pedestrian crosswalk located where Glenn Street and S. 8th Street meet Columbus Parkway. Ms. Mickle also stated that she would like to see progress on the paving behind the old Brown School, and then asked if there was an update on the new playground at Floral Park. President Smith answered that she should go out there and look at it, and that he thinks she would like it. Ms. Mickle then stated that she understands the city needs cell towers but if the people say they don't want them next to that park, why would the city approve it? Ms. Mickle closed by stating that even when the city approves new developments, and the developers clear the land, there are a lot of animals that end up in other people's yards because they have no where else to go, and it concerns her, but she loves the council and the city and thanked them.

9. REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

President Smith asked Mr. Jones to present the general business.

1. Request for BigHouse Foundation 5K Event at Grand National on 01-21-23.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

SECONDER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris

AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

12. AWARDING OF BIDS

13. RESOLUTIONS

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the resolutions.

1. Purchase - John Deere 7200A Mower - Sourcewell Contract #031121-DAC - PW.

RESOLUTION NO. 001-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: **Passed**

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

SECONDER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris

AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Purchase - Bobcat Compact Excavator E60 R2 - Sourcewell Contract #040319-CEC - OPS.

RESOLUTION NO. 002-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: **Passed**

MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Purchase - Two (2) 2023 Ford F150 SuperCrew Pickup Trucks - State of AL Contract #T191 - OPS.

RESOLUTION NO. 003-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: **Passed**

MOVER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

14. **ORDINANCES**

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the ordinances.

1. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: 1531 and 1617 1st Avenue, 8.928 Acres, from M-1 to PUD - 2nd Reading - (Tabled).

Mr. Gunter explained that the developer had requested that the item remain on the table, and without a motion to remove it from the table, it would remain there. No motion was given.

2. Amend the City of Opelika Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

President Smith asked for a member of the council to introduce the ordinance. Mr. Rauch introduced the ordinance.

President Smith then asked if there was a motion to suspend the rules to have a second reading. Mr. Aja made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Allen seconded the motion. The following vote was recorded:

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

President Smith then asked if there was a motion to approve the ordinance at second reading. Mr. Allen made a motion to approve. Mr. Rauch seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the following vote was recorded:

ORDINANCE NO. 001-23

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

15. APPOINTMENTS

16. ADJOURN

The City Council meeting minutes of January 3, 2023 are hereby adopted and approved this the 17th day of January, 2023.

/s/ Eddie Smith

President of City Council
City of Opelika, Alabama

ATTEST:

/s/ Russell A. Jones, CMC

City Clerk

1. Character Trait of the Month - Integrity, the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles.
President Smith read the character trait of the month and then asked for a motion to adjourn.

2. Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

The council meeting ended at 06:18 pm.