



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

300 Martin Luther King Blvd.

June 6, 2023

TIME: 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Smith called the council meeting to order at 06:02 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

Mr. Nolan provided the invocation.

1. Terrance Nolan from The Bridge Church.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Russell A. Jones, CMC - City Clerk.

5. READING OF MINUTES

1. Minutes from the 05-16-23 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. Rauch 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 Juneteenth Celebration Week.

Mayor Fuller invited Janataka Holmes, Henrietta Snipes, Lillian Snipes, Lynda Morris, Roy Morris, and Mary Driver up front. Mayor Fuller read the proclamation and then asked Janataka Holmes to tell everyone about the celebration that would take place. Ms. Holmes explained the celebration would be on Friday June 16, 2023 at courthouse square and there would be lots of different activities taking place. Ms. Henrietta Snipes then spoke about another event being held the next day, on Saturday, for their first annual Miss Juneteenth pageant. Mayor Fuller then thanked them for what they were doing and presented the proclamation to them.

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

Evelyn Mickle of 1003 Glenn Street spoke first. Ms. Mickle talked about the need for an inclusive park in the city and then asked for help with signage for the O-Grows farmers market, including help with getting the signs out into each ward. Ms. Mickle then asked the city to do something about the traffic and/or traffic signal timing at Columbus Parkway and Fox Run Parkway. Ms. Mickle closed by asking for a crosswalk to be installed across Columbus Parkway at Glenn Street for access to the library.

Ms. Norris then asked President Smith if she could speak. President Smith agreed. Ms. Norris stated that she wanted to let Ms. Mickle know that last year she sent multiple emails to President Smith about the signage she was asking for and has yet to receive a response. Ms. Norris closed by stating that she knows that there is another council member who Ms. Mickle believes may be responsible for trying to get that done, but for the record, she wanted Ms. Mickle to know that she had been trying to get that done for her. Ms. Norris then thanked President Smith for the time.

9. REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

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

1. Request Alcohol License - Los Tres Amigos LLC dba Los Amigos, Restaurant Retail Liquor and Retail Beer on Premise License.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

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

2. Request for Downtown Street Closure at Courthouse Square for Juneteenth Celebration on 06-16-23.

During discussion, Ms. Norris stated she is happy that this year the organizers of the event have decided to be inclusive, as last year herself and Councilman Allen were the only councilmembers that attended the event, and in the absence of the Mayor and President of the council, the President Pro-Tem would be asked to come forward and speak to those in attendance by request. Ms. Norris then explained that, for whatever reason, the organizers in charge of last year's event opted not to allow her to speak, and that was especially concerning to her being of African American descent and it being this specific holiday. Ms. Norris closed by stating that she is glad to know that the organizers of the event this year are going to be more inclusive, and she was looking forward to participating in the event.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

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

3. Public Hearing - Weed Abatement Assessment - 105 Vaughan Ave.
Mr. Jones presented the public hearing. President Smith opened the public hearing and asked if anyone present would like to speak for or against said weed abatement. No one came forward to speak. President Smith closed the public hearing.
4. Public Hearing - Weed Abatement Assessment - 915 York Ave.
Mr. Jones presented the public hearing. President Smith opened the public hearing and asked if anyone present would like to speak for or against said weed abatement. No one came forward to speak. President Smith closed the public hearing.
5. Public Hearing - Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: Gateway Drive & Interstate 85, 14.86 Acres, from C-2 to PUD.
Mr. Jones presented the public hearing. President Smith opened the public hearing and asked if anyone present would like to speak for or against said rezoning. No one came forward to speak. President Smith closed the public hearing.

12. **AWARDING OF BIDS**

President Smith asked Ms. Finley to present the bids.

1. Installation of Conduit Systems by Open Trench Excavation - OPS.

RESOLUTION NO. 139-23

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

2. Installation of Conduit Systems by Directional Boring - OPS.

RESOLUTION NO. 140-23

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

13. RESOLUTIONS

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the resolutions.

1. Expense Reports from Various Departments.

RESOLUTION NO. 141-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 3 TO 0

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

2. Designate City Personal Property Surplus and Authorize Disposal.

RESOLUTION NO. 142-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

3. Emergency Purchase - Gridsmart GS3 Camera System at Pepperell Pkwy. and 30th St. Intersection - OPS

RESOLUTION NO. 143-23

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

4. Purchase - SysAid Software - Omnia Contract #2018011-01 - IT.

RESOLUTION NO. 144-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
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

5. Purchase - Fuelmaster Hardware and Software - Sourcewell Contract #092920-SYS - IT.

RESOLUTION NO. 145-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

6. Purchase - Furniture for the New Fire Station - State of AL Contracts #MA220000002789, MA220000002803, MA220000002896, MA220000002845 - FD.

RESOLUTION NO. 146-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

7. Purchase - One (1) 2023 Ford F150 Responder Supercrew 4x4 Pickup - State of AL Contract #T191L - PD

RESOLUTION NO. 147-23

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

8. Approve Quote from CDW Government to Purchase Rubrik Software and Support - IT.

RESOLUTION NO. 148-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
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

9. Approve Quote from CivicPlus, Inc. for City Website Design - CR.

RESOLUTION NO. 149-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
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

10. Weed Abatement Assessment - 105 Vaughan Ave.

RESOLUTION NO. 150-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
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

11. Weed Abatement Assessment - 915 York Ave.

RESOLUTION NO. 151-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
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

12. Special Appropriation to AO Tourism for Hosting AJGA Golf Tournament at Grand National.

RESOLUTION NO. 152-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

13. Special Appropriation to GEMS Empowered for Juneteenth Celebration.
During discussion, Ms. Norris stated she wanted to add to her previous comment about the event last year, that the Councilman of Ward 5 was also at the event, that she was allowed to speak once someone else invited her to the front, and she wanted that to be clear in case someone wanted to go back and check. Mr. Allen then asked if this appropriation was for Lee County or the City of Opelika. President Smith answered it was for the City of Opelika.

RESOLUTION NO. 153-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

14. **ORDINANCES**

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the ordinances.

1. Amend Section 16-188 of the City Code of Ordinances: School Zone Speed Limits on Fox Run Pkwy and Waverly Pkwy - 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 018-23

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: Gateway Drive & Interstate 85, 14.86 Acres, from C-2 to PUD - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

President Smith asked for a member of the council to introduce the ordinance. Ms. Norris introduced the ordinance.

3. Amend Section 4-78 of the City Code of Ordinances: Relating to Large Animals Running At Large - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

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

15. **APPOINTMENTS**

President Smith presented the appointments.

1. Reappoint Bill Parker, Jr. to the Indian Pines Public Park Authority. New Term expires 06-07-2027.

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

16. **ADJOURN**

The City Council meeting minutes of June 6, 2023 are hereby adopted and approved this the 20th day of June, 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 - Cooperation, the actions of someone who is being helpful by doing what is wanted or asked for.
President Smith read the character trait of the month, asked if there was any other business to come before the council, 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 06:33 pm.