



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

300 Martin Luther King Blvd.

October 3, 2023

TIME: 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Smith called the council meeting to order at 06:01 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. Wright provided the invocation.

1. Jordan Wright from Christ Redeemer Seminary.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alex and Kennedy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Alex Finck and Kennedy Sellars from Northside Intermediate School.

5. READING OF MINUTES

1. Minutes from the 09-19-23 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. Rauch made a motion to approve. Mr. Allen 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 James (Jim) D. Powell, Jr.

Mayor Fuller invited Mr. Powell and his family up front to be recognized. Mayor Fuller then read the proclamation and presented it to him.

2. Employee Service Awards.

Mayor Fuller then invited each department head and their respective employees, that were present, up front and recognized each with their employee service award based on the number of years served.

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

Evelyn Mickle of 1003 Glenn Street spoke first. Ms. Mickle stated that the parking area behind the old Brown School has still not been paved as promised. Ms. Mickle then voiced concerns over drainage from the new developments behind her home and other places around town affected by flooding. Ms. Mickle closed by asking for another space for the garden for the farmers market.

Kenneth Crowder of 2511 Edwards Road spoke next. Mr. Crowder stated that he had to call the police recently because someone was in the area of his home shooting a gun. Mr. Crowder then stated that someone was dumping old mattresses, tires, and old bags of trash on his road as well. Mr. Crowder also stated that grass and weeds were growing out of control and even into the street on Edwards Road and asked if something could be done about it. Mr. Crowder closed by stating that the City did put up two "No Dumping" signs, but people continue to do it, he has not been able to catch who it is, and he usually has to clean it up.

Robin Crowder of 2511 Edwards Road spoke next. Mrs. Crowder asked if the city could put up some cameras to monitor who is dumping garbage down from their home. Mrs. Crowder then stated that her husband recently had a heart attack and he shouldn't have to clean up the garbage being dumped. Mrs. Crowder also stated that she feels like their neighborhood has been neglected and she would like to see some results on Edwards Road. Mrs. Crowder closed by stating that she had been to see the Mayor, some years back, about it, but someone needed to step up and help them out, and they had been told a new road was coming through their property, but no one had said when, and she didn't want that road to come by her house and leave her neighbors in a mess.

Anquineik Mitchell of 307 Melton Avenue spoke next. Ms. Mitchell stated that when she calls the city to get the grass cut behind her home, the city tells her it's the railroad's responsibility, and when she calls the railroad they tell her it's the city's responsibility. Ms. Mitchell then stated that kudzu is growing in the road, that grass has grown taller than the stop sign, and she also feels like their neighborhood has been neglected. Ms. Mitchell also stated that most of the residents in the neighborhood are elderly and she is much younger than most over there, so she picks up trash on her side because people do dump a lot of trash. Ms. Mitchell stated her biggest concern was knowing who to contact when it's time for the grass to be cut, because she has to pull out into the road with oncoming traffic to see around overgrown grass and that is very dangerous for her and her children. Ms. Mitchell closed by stating that, also where she lives, the garbage trucks cannot turn around, they have to back down the street, and that is very dangerous and something should/could be done about that as well.

Linburgh B. Jackson of 814 N. College Street, Auburn, Alabama spoke last. Mr. Jackson stated that his client, Mrs. Jones, believes that a person that works for the city was prohibiting her from moving forward with the addition to her home, due to their dislike of him. Mr. Jackson then stated that he agreed with Mrs. Jones because of what was said by this person in front of him, but he had not yet made an official complaint. Mr. Jackson also stated that it may be time for him to file an official complaint about what that person said about him to Mrs. Jones. Mr. Jackson then stated that since the last meeting, the councilperson for Mrs. Jones had come out to speak with them and advised her to get a survey. Mr. Jackson stated that Mrs. Jones was trying her best to save funds to get the survey, but there was work installing a sidewalk, just finished by the city at her home, and the surveyor indicated the front pin at the property had been removed due to that construction. Mr. Jackson also stated that a survey from Mr. McCrory done in 2004 was also provided to the city, and he also spoke with the city engineer about the possibility of adding an egress off of Alabama Street because of the high traffic in front of the home on S Long Street. Mr. Jackson then stated that the drainage system that was replaced is not sufficient enough now to handle the amount of water coming down to the property, and they have both complained for over six months about correcting these problems, and the city did try to fix the slope, but now it looks awful. Mr. Jackson closed by asking the council and Mayor to actually go there and see if these problems, and the way it looks, would be what they would want for their business or home, and Mrs. Jones is now going to have to pay to replace survey pins that were removed by the city and it's just not fair to her.

9. REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

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

1. Request Downtown Street Closure for Pumpkin Painting Festival at Courthouse Square on 10-21-23.

During discussion, Mr. Allen stated it was his understanding that Opelika Main Street would speak with businesses that would be affected by street closures, but he was still getting complaints from businesses that were not being notified. Mr. Jones then explained the process and how both Opelika Main Street and the Chamber were being notified of the street closure requests before they went to council for approval. Mr. Rauch asked whose responsibility it was to contact the businesses. Mr. Jones answered that he hands it off to Main Street and the Chamber. Ms. Norris stated that she had spoken with Opelika Main Street and several downtown businesses and they stated that someone had always reached out to them, and she had not heard of any complaints since it was addressed previously. Mr. Aja asked if it was possible to add a section on the request form that indicates they have notified any businesses that could be affected. Mr. Jones answered yes. Mr. Allen then stated that he hoped that they were not trying to indicate that what he said was untrue, because he had emails stating that businesses were not being contacted. Ms. Norris asked if Mr. Allen could share

the emails with the council. Mr. Allen stated he would share them with the city's administration but did not feel it was necessary to share them with everyone. Ms. Norris then stated that she did not believe him then. President Smith then asked Mr. Jones to call the roll.

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

2. Public Hearing - Demolition - 3807 Heritage Place.

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 demolition.

Bill Jones, Jr. of 3807 Heritage Place spoke against the demolition.

President Smith stated that the council was not in a position to delay the demolition, as it had been going on for many years, and would present the resolution for approval later in the meeting.

President Smith then asked if there were any others to speak, and after hearing none, closed the public hearing.

3. Public Hearing - Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: 3400 block Anderson Road, 197 Acres, from R-3 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.

4. Public Hearing - Eliminate the Railroad Grade Crossing at Edwards Road.

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 elimination of the railroad crossing.

John Bandy of 209 Melton Avenue spoke against the elimination of the railroad crossing for many reasons, including to his knowledge there had never been an accident at that crossing and it should not be considered dangerous.

Kenneth Crowder of 2511 Edwards Road spoke against the elimination of the railroad crossing for many reasons, including how their families originally contributed to making the road for the benefit of the community and how much it helps when there are issues with accidents around there.

Anquineik Mitchell of 307 Melton Avenue spoke against the elimination of the railroad crossing for many reasons, including the railroad company using the track by her house as staging for loading railroad cars where they can just sit by their houses.

Robin Crowder of 2511 Edwards Road spoke against the elimination of the railroad crossing for many reasons, including having to use Hwy 169 as its only entrance and how dangerous that road can be.

Scott Parker, City Engineer, stated the railroad company intended to have someone present but apparently did not. Mr. Parker then stated that the city was contacted by the railroad company about closing the railroad crossing, the city was going through this process at their request, and he would provide their contact information to any of the citizens that wanted it. President Smith stated that this idea was not originated by the city. Mr. Parker confirmed it was not, and the intent of the railroad company was to block the road at the crossing, but the railroad track would not change function.

Lacarris Jackson of 2328 Edwards Road spoke against the elimination of the railroad crossing for many reasons, including this being part of a bigger plan to shut their neighborhood off from future developments.

President Smith closed the public hearing.

12. AWARDING OF BIDS

13. RESOLUTIONS

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the resolutions.

1. Expense Reports from Various Departments.

RESOLUTION NO. 255-23

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

2. Purchase - Approve Quote from CDW Government for Samsara IoT Data Services - IT.

RESOLUTION NO. 256-23

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

3. Approve and Allocate the Use of ARPA CSLFRF Funds - ADMIN.

During discussion, Ms. Norris wanted the record to reflect that her vote was not for not paying the employees' salaries and wages, as the resolution reads, but she believed the monies could be used for giving additional salary increases or bonuses to city employees. Ms. Norris stated this resolution only pays their regular salaries, and she believes the city could show their appreciation for their employees' hard work during the pandemic, as well as currently, and the city should have enough money to do that now.

RESOLUTION NO. 257-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 4 TO 1

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris

ABSTAIN: None

4. Approve Amending the Organizational Chart of the Accounting Department - HR.

RESOLUTION NO. 258-23

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

5. Approve Certain Tax Abatements and Exemptions for Clear Springs Properties, LLC/PFI, LTD.

RESOLUTION NO. 259-23

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

6. Approve Employment Contracts with Kyle Burdette and Jeffrey Fuller - OPD.

RESOLUTION NO. 260-23

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

7. Approve Supplemental Agreement with Sain and Associates for 10th Street and 2nd Ave Intersection Improvements Project - ENG.

RESOLUTION NO. 261-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 4 TO 1

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen
SECONDER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja
AYES: Councilman Ward 1 Allen, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris
ABSTAIN: None

8. Demolition - 3807 Heritage Place.

During discussion, Mr. Aja asked if the structure was actually physically repairable to the point of being livable. Jeff Kappelman, Chief Building Inspector, said that enough money could fix anything, but he had been working on this property since 2008, when there was \$12,000 put into this property, and nothing had been touched since. Mr. Kappelman stated that at this point it is not fair to the neighbors, and it is the second time he has brought it to the council for consideration.

RESOLUTION NO. 262-23

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

After the roll call vote, Bill Jones, Jr., the owner of the property, spoke out and objected to the approval of the resolution.

Mr. Jones was not recognized and continued to speak out of order, and as a result, President Smith asked for Mr. Jones to be escorted from the council chambers.

9. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Alabama Council on Human Relations (ACHR).

RESOLUTION NO. 263-23

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. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Art Haus.

RESOLUTION NO. 264-23

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

11. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Boys & Girls Clubs of East Alabama.

RESOLUTION NO. 265-23

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

12. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Christian Women's Job Corp of Lee County.

RESOLUTION NO. 266-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris
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. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Circles Opelika.

RESOLUTION NO. 267-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
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

14. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Domestic Violence Intervention Center.

RESOLUTION NO. 268-23

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

15. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with East Alabama Healthcare Authority - EMS.

RESOLUTION NO. 269-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

16. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Employers' Child Care Alliance.

RESOLUTION NO. 270-23

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

17. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Envision Opelika Foundation.

RESOLUTION NO. 271-23

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

18. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Esperanza House.

RESOLUTION NO. 272-23

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

19. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Fazelma Teaching Parents, LLC.

RESOLUTION NO. 273-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

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

20. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Girls' STEPS, Inc.

RESOLUTION NO. 274-23

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

21. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with J. W. Darden Foundation, Inc.

RESOLUTION NO. 275-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
SECONDER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris
AYES: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

22. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Lee County Humane Society.

RESOLUTION NO. 276-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

23. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Lee County Literacy Coalition.

RESOLUTION NO. 277-23

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

24. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Lee County Rabies Officer.

RESOLUTION NO. 278-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

25. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Lee County Youth Development Center, Inc.

RESOLUTION NO. 279-23

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

26. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Opelika First Class Pre-K Academy.
RESOLUTION NO. 280-23
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
27. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Opelika Industrial Development Authority (OIDA).
RESOLUTION NO. 281-23
MOTION TO APPROVE: 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
28. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with PRF Teaching Ministry.
RESOLUTION NO. 282-23
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
29. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with The Curtis House, LLC.
RESOLUTION NO. 283-23
MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS
RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris
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

30. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Twin Cedars Child Advocacy Center.

RESOLUTION NO. 284-23

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

31. Annual Appropriation Contract FY2024 with Worthy Squared.

RESOLUTION NO. 285-23

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

32. Special Appropriation to Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Mu Sigma Omega Chapter.

RESOLUTION NO. 286-23

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

33. Special Appropriation to the East Alabama Community Ballet for 2023 Nutcracker Performance.

RESOLUTION NO. 287-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

34. Special Appropriation to the Opelika Kiwanis Club for "The Shoot" Fundraiser for Local Children.

RESOLUTION NO. 288-23

MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

14. **ORDINANCES**

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the ordinances.

1. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: 3400 block Anderson Road, 197 Acres, from R-3 to PUD - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

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

2. Approve Leasing a Portion of 1103 Glenn St. to Lee-Russell Council of Governments for Senior Center - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

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

3. Eliminate the Railroad Grade Crossing at Edwards Road - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

President Smith asked for a member of the council to introduce the ordinance. Mr. Allen asked if it would be appropriate to table the ordinance since they had not heard from anyone from the railroad company. President Smith asked Mr. Gunter for guidance on whether or not they should introduce the ordinance before tabling it. Mr. Gunter answered that it would have to be introduced first and then any action like tabling could happen at the next meeting. President Smith again asked for a member of the council to introduce the ordinance. Mr. Aja replied that he would be fine with introducing it but asked what the council's options were if they did not approve the ordinance versus what the railroad company could do. Mr. Gunter stated that only the City Council or the Alabama Department of Transportation could close a railroad crossing. Mr. Rauch then asked if the council could get any emails from the railroad company to city administration when this was first brought up. Mayor Fuller stated that it was not the city that started this, and it did not matter to city administration one way or another if the council decided to close the railroad crossing or not. President Smith asked what would happen if the council voted against the ordinance. Mr. Gunter answered that the crossing would stay open as is. Mr. Gunter again stated that the railroad company cannot close the crossing, only the City Council or the department of transportation can close any railroad crossing.

Mr. Allen introduced the ordinance.

15. APPOINTMENTS

16. ADJOURN

The City Council meeting minutes of October 3, 2023 are hereby adopted and approved this the 17th day of October, 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; moral uprightness.
President Smith read the character trait of the month, asked if there was any other business, and then asked for a motion to adjourn.
2. Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

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

The council meeting ended at 07:44pm.