



# **CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**300 Martin Luther King Blvd.**

**March 19, 2024**

**TIME: 6:00 PM**

**1. A 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. Dunlap provided the invocation.

1. Dr. Nathaniel Dunlap, Jr. from the PRF Institute.

**4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

1. Minutes from the 03-05-24 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. 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. MAYOR COMMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS**

1. City's Financial Summary Report for February 2024.

Mayor Fuller asked if the council had any questions about the city's financial summary report to ask Cindy Boyd, Mr. Motley or himself about it.

2. February 2024 Monthly Building Report.  
Mayor Fuller asked Mr. Motley to give the monthly building report and Mr. Motley did so.
3. Recognize Character Council Citizen of Excellent Character.  
Mayor Fuller then asked Ward 3 Councilman Tim Aja, members of the Character Council, and Dr. George and Debbie Purves up front to be recognized as the March 2024 Citizens of Excellent Character. Mr. Aja spoke about why he chose George and Debbie Purves for the award and how they exemplified the character trait of the month: dependability.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Limit comments to 3 minutes or less)

9. AGENDA-RELATED PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limit comments to 3 minutes or less)  
None.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

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

1. Request Downtown Street Closure - Church of the Highlands Food Truck Event on 03-24-24.

**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. Request Temporary Street Closure - Foundry UMC Easter Egg Hunt on 03-24-24.

**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. AWARDING OF BIDS

President Smith asked Lanorris Jones to present the bids.

1. Printer Maintenance - IT.

**RESOLUTION NO. 064-24**

**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. RESOLUTIONS

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the resolutions.

1. Expense Reports from Various Departments.

**RESOLUTION NO. 065-24**

**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. Designate City Personal Property Surplus and Authorize Disposal.

**RESOLUTION NO. 066-24**

**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. Purchase - Approve Quote from CDW Government, LLC for Rubrik Software and Support - IT.

**RESOLUTION NO. 067-24**

**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 - Approve Quote for Cisco Meraki and Cisco Direct Cloud Software - IT.

**RESOLUTION NO. 068-24**

**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

5. Approve Grant Funding Agreement with ALDOT for Intersection Improvements at Gateway Drive and Frederick Road - ENG.

**RESOLUTION NO. 069-24**

**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

6. Approve Professional Services Agreement with Sain Associates, Inc. for Intersection Improvement Projects - ENG.

**RESOLUTION NO. 070-24**

**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. Approve Proposal from CDG, Inc. to Prepare Solid Waste Management Plan - OES.

During discussion, Mr. Aja asked a question about the cost of the plan being under the limit for council approval and why they needed to vote on it. Mr. Gunter answered that it was a contract with other agencies and needed council approval regardless of the amount.

**RESOLUTION NO. 071-24**

**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

8. Authorize Grant Application with Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation - OFD.

**RESOLUTION NO. 072-24**

**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

9. Special Appropriation to the Boys & Girls Clubs of East Alabama.

**RESOLUTION NO. 073-24**

**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

13. **ORDINANCES**

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the ordinances.

1. Amend Master Plan for Brookstone PUD: 24.05 Acres, 1001 Fox Run Parkway - 2nd Reading - (Tabled).

Mr. Gunter explained that the item was on the table, and without a motion to remove it from the table, it would remain there. President Smith asked if there was a motion to remove the item from the table. No motion was given.

2. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: 414 N. 10th Street, 1.24 Acres, from R-2 to I-1 - 2nd Reading - (Tabled).

Mr. Gunter explained that the item was on the table, and without a motion to remove it from the table, it would remain there. President Smith asked if there was a motion to remove the item from the table. No motion was given.

3. Approve the Leasing of the Property Located at 1103 Glenn Street to Envision Opelika Foundation, Inc. - 2nd Reading.

**ORDINANCE NO. 003-24**

**SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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. APPOINTMENTS

President Smith presented the appointments.

1. Reappoint Tim Moore to the Property Maintenance Board of Appeals. New Term expires 03-16-2027.

**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

2. Appoint Trip Garner to the Board of Parks & Recreation. New Term expires 03-15-2029.

**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

3. Reappoint Chuck Beams to the Board of Education. New Term expires 04-01-2029.

**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

15. SECOND ROSTER OF PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limit comments to 3 minutes or less)

Alan Garner of 1304 Crawford Road spoke first. Mr. Garner addressed the council about the amount of litter on his road, and all around town, and how the city needed to do a better job cleaning it up.

Dettranay Harris of 2742 Dunstan Lane spoke next. Ms. Harris addressed concerns about the city discontinuing the gymnastics program and how disappointing it was to the children and their parents.

Kristie Howell of 44 Westwood Street spoke next. Ms. Howell also addressed the discontinuation of the gymnastics program, stating they were given little notice and they do not want to attend programs outside the city.

Kaleia Williams of 213 Camellia Avenue spoke next. Ms. Williams also addressed the discontinuation of the gymnastics program, stating it was not fair to the children in the program who had put their time and effort into something that would just be taken away from them.

Anthony Harris of 2742 Dunstan Lane spoke last. Mr. Harris asked if the city could at least let them finish their upcoming gymnastics season before closing the program so that they could finish what they started.

16. ADJOURN

The City Council meeting minutes of March 19, 2024 are hereby adopted and approved this the 2nd day of April, 2024.

/s/ Eddie Smith

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President of City Council  
City of Opelika, Alabama

ATTEST:  
/s/ Russell A. Jones, CMC

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

- 1. Character Trait of the Month - Dependability, the quality of being trustworthy and reliable.  
President Smith read the character trait of the month and asked if there was a motion to adjourn.
- 2. Motion to Adjourn.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: UNANIMOUS**

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

The council meeting ended at 06:35 pm.