



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

300 Martin Luther King Blvd.

September 17, 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

Mayor Fuller, Ms. Norris, Mr. Aja and President Smith were present. Mr. Allen and Mr. Rauch were absent.

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

3. INVOCATION

Mr. Anderson provided the invocation.

1. Lincoln Anderson from Christ Our Redeemer Seminary.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Linley and Charlie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Linley Carter and Charlie Thomaston from Jeter Primary School.

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

1. Minutes from the Special Called Meeting on 08-30-24.

President Smith stated that a copy of the called meeting minutes had been previously received by the council and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Aja made a motion to approve. Ms. Norris 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.

2. Minutes from the Regular Meeting on 09-03-24.

President Smith stated that a copy of the regular meeting minutes had been previously received by the council and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Aja made a motion to approve. Ms. Norris 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 Reports for August 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. August 2024 Monthly Building Report.
Mayor Fuller asked Mr. Motley to give the monthly building report and Mr. Motley did so.
3. Recognize Cornelius Pink with an Attaboy Award.
Mayor Fuller invited Sam Bailey, Matt Battles, and Cornelius Pink, and his wife, up front. Mr. Battles spoke about how Mr. Pink does a great job in the Parks & Recreation department making sure all the parks are clean for visitors. Mayor Fuller then presented Mr. Pink with the award and thanked him for making a difference with his hard work.
4. Recognize Judy Eldred as a 2024 Green Runner-up Award Recipient.
Mayor Fuller then invited Dr. Farrell Seymore, Katie Murray, and Chef Judy Eldred up front. Mayor Fuller recognized Chef Eldred for her accomplishment. Ms. Murray and Dr. Seymore also spoke about her contributions to the students at Opelika High School. Mayor Fuller then presented Chef Eldred with a small token of appreciation.

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

President Smith asked Mr. Jones to present the public hearings.

1. Public Hearing - Weed Abatement Assessment - 4 Avenue A.
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.

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 Alcohol License - Sante Opelika LLC DBA Sante, Retail Wine and Beer on Premise and Retail Wine and Beer off Premise.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Request for Annual Life Chain Event on 10-06-24.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Request Downtown Street Closure - First Baptist Church Opelika Fall Festival on 10-27-24.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

11. AWARDING OF BIDS

President Smith asked Ms. Finley to present the bids.

1. Pest Control Services - PW.

RESOLUTION NO. 228-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Grandberry Drive Extension - ENG.

RESOLUTION NO. 229-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Removal of Dead, Dying, or Dangerous Trees and Stumps with Tree Pruning - PW.

RESOLUTION NO. 230-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: **Passed**

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

12. **RESOLUTIONS**

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the resolutions.

1. Expense Reports from Various Departments.

RESOLUTION NO. 231-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: **Passed**

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Purchase - One (1) 2024 Ford F150 Responder SuperCrew 4x4 Pickup Truck -
State of AL Contract #T191L - OPD.

RESOLUTION NO. 232-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: **Passed**

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Purchase - Two (2) 2024 Ford F150 SuperCrew 4x4 Pickup Trucks - State of AL
Contract #T191 - OES.

RESOLUTION NO. 233-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: **Passed**

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

4. Accept Dedication of the Extension of the ROW of Grandberry Drive - ENG.

RESOLUTION NO. 234-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja
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
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

5. Approve Amending the Organizational Chart of Various Departments - HR.

RESOLUTION NO. 235-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja
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
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

6. Approve Annual Excess Loss Insurance Contract with Granular Insurance Company - HR.

RESOLUTION NO. 236-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

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

7. Approve Annual General Liability Insurance Agreement with Marsh & McLennan Agency - HR.

RESOLUTION NO. 237-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

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

8. Approve Contract for Employee Vision Care with MetLife VSP Vision Care - HR.

RESOLUTION NO. 238-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris
SECONDER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

AYES: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

9. Approve Local Consent Agreement with the State Cybersecurity Grant Program - IT.

RESOLUTION NO. 239-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

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

10. Approve Engagement Letter with Himmelwright, Huguley, & Boles, LLC for Annual Auditing Services - ACCT.

RESOLUTION NO. 240-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja
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
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

11. Approve Engagement Letter with Samford & Denson, LLP - ADMIN.

RESOLUTION NO. 241-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja
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
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

12. Approve a Waiver of all Building and Construction Permit Fees for Habitat of Humanity at 205 Brannon Ave - ADMIN.

RESOLUTION NO. 242-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

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

13. Authorize Grant Application with the Alabama State Industrial Development Authority SEEDS Grant Program - ED.

RESOLUTION NO. 243-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

14. Authorize Refunds for Cemetery Monument Sitting Fees - PW.

RESOLUTION NO. 244-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

15. Request Refund of Occupational Taxes Paid in Error - Cookout Opelika - REV.

RESOLUTION NO. 245-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

16. Weed Abatement Assessment - 4 Avenue A.

RESOLUTION NO. 246-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

17. Transfer Current Year City Council Discretionary Fund Balances.

RESOLUTION NO. 247-24

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

13. ORDINANCES

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the ordinances.

1. Amend Chapters 5 and 9 of the City Code of Ordinances: Adoption of Standard Technical Codes Relating to Residential, Commercial and Industrial Construction - 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 023-24

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: UNANIMOUS

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

2. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: Sportsplex Parkway (north side), 68.4 Acres, from R-1 to PUD - 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 024-24

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja
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
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

3. Approve First Amendment to the Ground Lease with SBA Towers IV, LLC - 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 025-24

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja
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
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

14. APPOINTMENTS

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

Mattie Clark of 706 Orchard Avenue spoke first. Ms. Clark spoke about the house on West Street that was in disrepair and the bricks that had been knocked down off Auburn Street and Orchard Avenue. Ms. Clark stated she was told by the city they would work on these issues but still had not seen any results from the city. Ms. Clark closed by again asking for help with these issues.

16. ADJOURN

The City Council meeting minutes of September 17, 2024 are hereby adopted and approved this the 1st day of October, 2024.

/s/ Eddie Smith

President of City Council
City of Opelika, Alabama

ATTEST:

/s/ Russell A. Jones, MMC

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 and asked if there was 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 3 Tim Aja
AYES:	Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman Ward 3 Aja, Councilman Ward 4 - President Smith
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

The council meeting ended at 06:29 pm.