



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

300 Martin Luther King Blvd.

June 17, 2025

TIME: 6:00 PM

1. A 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

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

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

3. INVOCATION

Mr. Meyers provided the invocation.

1. Jeff Meyers from First Baptist Church of Opelika.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Boy Scout Troop 11 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Boy Scout Troop 11.

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

1. Minutes from the 06-03-25 council meeting.

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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. MAYOR COMMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS

1. City's Financial Summary Reports for May 2025.
President Smith stated that if the council had any questions about the city's financial summary report to ask Cindy Boyd, Mr. Motley or Mayor Fuller about it.
2. May 2025 Monthly Building Report.
President Smith asked Mr. Mosley to give the monthly building report and Mr. Mosley did so.
3. Recognize Character Council Citizen of Excellent Character.
President Smith then asked Ward 2 Councilwoman Erica Norris, members of the Character Council, and Ms. Tani Jones, Ms. Wisteria Williams, and the family of Mr. Henry Jones, to come up front to be recognized as the June 2025 Citizens of Excellent Character. Ms. Norris spoke about why she chose Ms. Jones and Ms. Williams, the daughters of Mr. Henry Jones, for the awards and how they exemplified the character trait of the month: Courage. President Smith then read the certificate and presented it to them.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Limit comments to 3 minutes or less)
President Smith asked Mr. Jones to present the public hearing.

1. Public Hearing - Weed Abatement Assessment - 606 Dogwood Avenue.
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 Temporary Street Closure - Ferguson Chapel CME Church Event on July 14,15, and 16, 2025 - (Tabled).
President Smith asked if there was a motion to remove the item from the table. Ms. Norris made a motion to remove the item from the table. Mr. Rauch seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the following vote was recorded:

MOTION TO REMOVE ITEM FROM THE TABLE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

AYES: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, 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 street closure.

Ms. Norris made a motion to approve. Mr. Rauch seconded the motion. During discussion, Mr. Rauch asked President Smith to explain the request in detail. President Smith then explained what was agreed to between the church staff and city public safety officials, including the barricades being manned in case of an emergency vehicle needing to use the closed streets. Mr. Rauch asked if President Smith spoke with Councilman Allen and if he agreed with the request. President Smith answered that he did and Mr. Allen was pleased with the request. Ms. Norris stated that she would like to apologize to the church for the delay due to Ms. Patsy Jones asking for urgency in needing to lock in their plans. Ms. Norris closed by stating that she appreciated the meetings the Mayor and city staff had with the church staff, she did not understand why it was treated differently from any other request, but was glad to see it be resolved.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Request Temporary Street Closure - National Night Out Event on 08-05-25.

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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

11. AWARDING OF BIDS

President Smith asked Ms. Ross to present the bids.

1. Design and Installation of Signs - CR.

RESOLUTION NO. 152-25

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 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. 153-25

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Purchase - Nine (9) Two-Way Radios - OFD.

RESOLUTION NO. 154-25

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Purchase - Christmas Decorations - CR.

President Smith asked if there was a motion to approve the purchase. Mr. Rauch made a motion to approve. There was no second and the motion failed.

4. Purchase - One (1) 2024 Cu. Yd. CollecStar Ministar Automated Side Loader - OES.

RESOLUTION NO. 155-25

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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

5. Purchase - Service Agreement with MCCi, LLC for Digital Records Management and Scanning - IT.

RESOLUTION NO. 156-25

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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

6. Purchase - Storage Solution for OPD and Aubix Datacenter - IT.

RESOLUTION NO. 157-25

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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

7. Annual MWPP Reports for East and West Sewer Treatment Plants - PW.

RESOLUTION NO. 158-25

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: **Passed**
MOVER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris
SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
AYES: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman
 Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

8. Approve Change Order #1 to a Sutphen Aerial Ladder Truck - OFD.

RESOLUTION NO. 159-25

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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

9. Approve Lee County Solid Waste Management Plan and Participation by the City - OES.

RESOLUTION NO. 160-25

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: **Passed**
MOVER: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Erica Norris
SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
AYES: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, Councilman
 Ward 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

10. Approve Reclassifying the Pay Grade for the Assistant Director of Opelika Power Services - HR.

RESOLUTION NO. 161-25

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

11. Approve the Vacation of ROW at 1000 Block Fox Run Pkwy, Unimproved ROW in Fox Run Industrial Park SD - PLAN.

RESOLUTION NO. 162-25

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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

12. Authorize Imposing a Temporary Moratorium on the Issuance of Business Licenses Relating to Consumable Hemp Products - ADMIN.
During discussion, Mr. Rauch asked Mr. Gunter if this was just to prevent the issuance of new business licenses and not to revoke any existing licenses related to these businesses. Mr. Gunter answered that was correct.

RESOLUTION NO. 163-25

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

13. Request for Approval of a Special Use Permit by Verizon Wireless at 3460 US Hwy 280 E.

RESOLUTION NO. 164-25

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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

14. Weed Abatement Assessment - 606 Dogwood Avenue.

RESOLUTION NO. 165-25

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

15. Special Appropriation to Greater Peace Community Development Corporation.

RESOLUTION NO. 166-25

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

AYES: Councilwoman Ward 2 - President Pro-Tem Norris, 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 Zoning Ordinance & Map: 401 and 409 Simmons Street, 33,810 sf, from M-1 to C-2 - 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 016-25

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Approve Annexation Petition by Perryman Hill LLC, 7.6 Acres, 3800 Block Birmingham Hwy (Hwy 280 W) - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

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

3. Readopting the Exemption of City Sales and Use Tax on the Sale of Hearing Instruments - 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 for a motion to suspend the rules to have a second reading. Ms. Norris made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Rauch seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the following vote was recorded:

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

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

SECONDER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

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

ORDINANCE NO. 017-25

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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 4 - President Smith, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

14. APPOINTMENTS

15. SECOND ROSTER OF PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limit comments to 3 minutes or less)
None.

16. ADJOURN

The City Council meeting minutes of June 17, 2025, are hereby adopted and approved this the 8th day of July, 2025.

/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 - Courage; mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty.
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 5 Todd Rauch

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

The council meeting ended at 06:33 pm.

