



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

300 Martin Luther King Blvd.

August 19, 2025

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

Mr. Fryer provided the invocation.

1. Jarel Fryer from Greater Peace Baptist Church.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

1. Minutes from the 08-05-25 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. MAYOR COMMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS

1. City's Financial Summary Reports for July 2025

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. July 2025 Monthly Building Report.
Mayor Fuller asked Mr. Motley to give the monthly building report and Mr. Motley did so.
3. Recognize the 20 Under Forty Class for 2025-2026.
Mayor Fuller asked Mackenzie Poole, Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce, to come up front and introduce the newest 20 Under Forty class. Ms. Poole spoke about the history and mission of the 20 Under Forty program and then introduced each new class member. Mayor Fuller gave them each a small gift bag as they made their way up front.
4. Recognize Russell Jones as a Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA).
Mayor Fuller then asked President Smith, City Administrator Joey Motley and City Clerk Russell Jones to come up front. Mayor Fuller then recognized Mr. Jones for his certification and congratulated him.
5. Recognize Character Council Citizen of Excellent Character.
Mayor Fuller asked members of the Character Council and Wes McCollum to come up front and join him with President Smith. President Smith then recognized Mr. McCollum as the August 2025 Citizen of Excellent Character, spoke about why he chose him for the award, and how he exemplified the character trait of the month: Truthfulness. Mayor Fuller then read the certificate and presented it to Mr. McCollum.

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

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

1. Public Hearing - Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: Bridgewater PUD on Logan Drive, 211 Acres, from R-1 and C-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.
2. Public Hearing - Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: Mayfair PUD on South Uniroyal Road, 174.2 Acres, from R-1 and M-1 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.
3. Public Hearing - Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: The Mill PUD on 1st Avenue, 39.64 Acres, Rezoning 1.37 acres from C-2 to PUD and Amendment to Current 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.

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 - JMB Service and Supply, LLC dba Haulin Toasts, Special Events Retail License.

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. Request Downtown Street Closure - Red Clay Bike Night Event on 09-18-25.

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

3. Request for Annual Life Chain Event on 10-05-25.

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

11. AWARDING OF BIDS

President Smith asked Ms. Ross to present the bids.

1. LED Streetlights - OPS.

RESOLUTION NO. 201-25

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. Custodial Services - P&R.

RESOLUTION NO. 202-25

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

12. RESOLUTIONS

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the resolutions.

1. Expense Reports from Various Departments.

RESOLUTION NO. 203-25

MOTION TO APPROVE: 4 TO 0

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: None

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

2. Designate City Personal Property Surplus and Authorize Disposal.

RESOLUTION NO. 204-25

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

3. Purchase - Approve Service Agreement with Motorola Solutions, Inc. - OPD.

RESOLUTION NO. 205-25

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

4. Approve Change Order #1 with BSI, Inc. for Sportsplex Pkwy Extension Design Project - ENG.

RESOLUTION NO. 206-25

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

5. Approve Mutual Aid Agreement with the Lee County Sheriff's Office and Southern Union State Community College - OPD.

RESOLUTION NO. 207-25

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

6. Approve Naming the Player Experience Pavilion at the Sportsplex Pickleball Courts in Honor of Sam Bailey - ADMIN.

RESOLUTION NO. 208-25

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 Recount Procedures for the 2025 General Municipal Election - ADMIN.

RESOLUTION NO. 209-25

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. Approve ROW Acquisition Agreement for Bridgewater Boulevard near Logan Drive - ENG.

RESOLUTION NO. 210-25

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. Approve ROW Acquisition Agreement for Hi Pack Drive Extension for Brookwood Subdivision - ENG.

RESOLUTION NO. 211-25

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. Approve ROW Acquisition Agreement for Hi Pack Drive Extension for Brookhaven Subdivision - ENG.

RESOLUTION NO. 212-25

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

11. Approve Settlement Agreement(s) Relating to Purdue Pharma and the Sackler Family (Opioid Crisis) - ADMIN.

RESOLUTION NO. 213-25

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

12. Approve Participation in Alabama Secondary Opioid Manufacturer Settlement Agreements - ADMIN.

RESOLUTION NO. 214-25

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

13. **ORDINANCES**

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the ordinances.

1. Approve Lease Agreement with Envision Opelika at 1032 S Railroad Ave - 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 021-25

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: Bridgewater PUD on Logan Drive, 211 Acres, from R-1 and C-3 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 Zoning Ordinance & Map: Mayfair PUD on South Uniroyal Road, 174.2 Acres, from R-1 and M-1 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.

4. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: The Mill PUD on 1st Avenue, 39.64 Acres, Rezoning 1.37 Acres from C-2 to PUD and Amendment to Current PUD - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

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

5. Approve Annexation Petition by Rebecca Walton Young and Oline Walton Price, 32.6 Acres, 2270 Old Columbus Road - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

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

6. Approve Rights-Of-Way Use Agreement with Uniti Fiber Gulfco, LLC. - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

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

14. APPOINTMENTS

President Smith presented the appointments.

1. Appoint Levale Speigner to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. Existing Term expires 03-08-2026.

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. Appoint Apryl Mullins to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term expires 08-19-2029.

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. Appoint Todd Shackett to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term expires 08-19-2029.

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

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

Mac Morris of 2709 Rocky Brook Lane spoke first. Mr. Morris spoke about Hodge Cemetery and the work being done to preserve it. Mr. Morris closed by stating that there is cooperation between the county cemetery commission, the City of Opelika, and the developer, but did note that more work needed to be

done to preserve it completely.

Tiffany Hilyer of 1305 Morris Avenue spoke next. Ms. Hilyer also spoke about the need to do more to preserve the Hodge Cemetery. Ms. Hilyer closed by stating that she had asked the developer to give more of a buffer around the cemetery, because the proposed property lines abut the cemetery, asking for only an additional 10 feet instead of the recommended 100 feet.

Nicholas Brock of 504 Hall Avenue spoke next. Mr. Brock stated that he was currently pursuing his Eagle Scout designation and pitched a project proposal to the city for a "Gaga Ball" pit at Covington Recreation Center. Mr. Brock closed by stating he was required to do all the planning, fundraising, and work to achieve his goal, but would need permission to have it located on city property and asked to have a meeting with the appropriate city official(s).

16. ADJOURN

The City Council meeting minutes of August 19, 2025, are hereby adopted and approved this the 2nd day of September, 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 - Truthfulness, the quality of being honest and transparent in one's actions and words.
President Smith asked Mr. Motley and Sam Bailey to come up front. President Smith then recognized Sam Bailey for having the pickleball player experience pavilion named after him. President Smith stated that it was an appropriate honor for Mr. Bailey, it was recommended to the city by a citizen in the community, and congratulated him.
President Smith then read the character trait of the month, asked if there was any other business to come before the council, and 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 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

The council meeting ended at 06:47 pm.