CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
300 Martin Luther King Blvd.
December 16, 2025
TIME: 6:00 PM

1. A CALL TO ORDER

President Allen called the council meeting to order at 06:00 pm and asked Mr. Motley to call the roll.

2. ROLL CALL

All City Council members were present. Mayor Smith was absent.

1. George Allen, Janataka Hughley-Holmes, Leigh Whatley, Chuck Beams, Todd Rauch

After roll call, President Allen asked for a motion to appoint Mr. Motley as the clerk pro-tem for the meeting. Mr. Rauch made a motion to appoint Mr. Motley. Ms. Holmes seconded the motion. The following vote was recorded:

MOTION TO APPOINT CLERK PRO-TEM: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	**Passed**
MOVER:	Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Ward 2 Janataka Hughley-Holmes
AYES:	Councilman Ward 1 - President Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 Hughley-Holmes, Councilwoman Ward 3 Whatley, Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Beams, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

3. INVOCATION

Mr. Pogue provided the invocation.

1. Anthony Pogue from Bethesda Baptist Church.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jaliyah and Mackenzie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Jaliyah Wilson and Mackenzie Todd from Brown Girls Ink.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. Motion to Adopt the CM Agenda for 12-16-25.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	**Passed**

MOVER:	Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
SECONDER:	Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Chuck Beams
AYES:	Councilman Ward 1 - President Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 Hughley-Holmes, Councilwoman Ward 3 Whatley, Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Beams, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

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

1. Minutes from the 12-02-25 council meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	**Passed**
MOVER:	Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Ward 3 Leigh Whatley
AYES:	Councilman Ward 1 - President Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 Hughley-Holmes, Councilwoman Ward 3 Whatley, Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Beams, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. MAYOR COMMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS

1. City's Financial Summary Report for November 2025.

2. November 2025 Monthly Building Report.

   President Allen stated that if the council had any questions about the city's financial summary report or building report, ask Mr. Motley about it.

3. Recognition of Young Authors - Brown Girls Ink.

   President Allen asked Jaliyah Wilson, Mackenzie Todd, and their families and mentors to come up front. President Allen then recognized the 6th graders as published authors of 2 books, and stated that their mission was to inspire other young people to dream big, walk in faith, and use their gifts to make a difference.

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

10. AGENDA-RELATED PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limit comments to 3 minutes or less)

    None.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

    President Allen asked if any council member wanted to remove any individual item(s) from the consent agenda and deal with that item separately on the regular agenda.

Mr. Rauch requested that Consent Agenda item #7 be removed and placed on the regular agenda.

President Allen stated that Consent Agenda item #7 would now be placed as Resolution #1 on the regular agenda.

Ms. Holmes requested that Consent Agenda items #8 and #9 be removed and placed on the regular agenda.

President Allen stated that Consent Agenda item #8 would now be placed as Resolution #2, and Consent Agenda item #9 would now be placed as Resolution #3 on the regular agenda.

President Allen, after hearing no other request to remove any other consent agenda item(s), asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	**Passed**
MOVER:	Councilwoman Ward 2 Janataka Hughley-Holmes
SECONDER:	Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
AYES:	Councilman Ward 1 - President Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 Hughley-Holmes, Councilwoman Ward 3 Whatley, Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Beams, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

1. **Resolution:** Expense Reports from Various Departments.
   RESOLUTION NO. 369-25
   APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
2. **Resolution:** Designate City Personal Property Surplus and Authorize Disposal.
   RESOLUTION NO. 370-25
   APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
3. **Resolution:** Purchase Agreement for Photogrammetrist Services with Eagleview - IT.
   RESOLUTION NO. 371-25
   APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
4. **Resolution:** Purchase GIS Mapping Software - IT.
   RESOLUTION NO. 372-25
   APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
5. **Resolution:** Purchase Solarwinds Software - IT.
   RESOLUTION NO. 373-25
   APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
6. **Resolution:** Amend the Job Description for Senior Probation Officer - HR.
   RESOLUTION NO. 374-25
   APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
7. **Resolution:** Approve Service Agreement with Valley Rescue Mission, Inc. - OPD.

RESOLUTION NO. 375-25
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

8. **Resolution:** Annual Appropriation Contract FY2026 with Opelika Redevelopment Authority.
RESOLUTION NO. 376-25
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

12. GENERAL BUSINESS

13. AWARDING OF BIDS

14. RESOLUTIONS

President Allen asked Mr. Treese to present the resolutions.

1. Approve Certain Tax Abatements and Exemptions for HL Mando America Corp. - ED.

During discussion, Mr. Rauch asked if someone from the Economic Development department would explain the proposed tax abatement in detail. Senior Project Manager, Jonathan Woodard then explained the statutory tax abatement was due to a continued $5 million investment, including an expansion project and the creation of 15 new jobs, by the company.

RESOLUTION NO. 377-25
MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	**Passed**
MOVER:	Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
SECONDER:	Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Chuck Beams
AYES:	Councilman Ward 1 - President Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 Hughley-Holmes, Councilwoman Ward 3 Whatley, Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Beams, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

2. Approve ROW Agreement with Ms. Lisa Britton for the Hi-Pack Drive Extension Project - ENG.

During discussion, Ms. Holmes asked Mr. Parker to clarify why this would be coming back to council as he stated in the work session. Mr. Parker explained this was currently being presented as an agreement between the city and the property owner, but it would eventually come back to the council, after the road was constructed, as an ordinance to vacate the property promised to them in this agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. 378-25
MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	**Passed**
MOVER:	Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Ward 3 Leigh Whatley
AYES:	Councilman Ward 1 - President Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 Hughley-Holmes, Councilwoman Ward 3 Whatley, Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Beams, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch

NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

3. Approve ROW Agreement with FTC Investments for Bridgewater Blvd to Columbus Pkwy - ENG.

   During discussion, Ms. Holmes again asked Mr. Parker to explain why this too would have to come back to council. Mr. Parker explained this would come back to the council, at a later date, as a bid for construction.

   RESOLUTION NO. 379-25

   MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	**Passed**
MOVER:	Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Ward 2 Janataka Hughley-Holmes
AYES:	Councilman Ward 1 - President Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 Hughley-Holmes, Councilwoman Ward 3 Whatley, Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Beams, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

15. ORDINANCES

    President Allen asked Mr. Treese to present the ordinances.

1. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: 2051 AL Hwy 169, 48.06 acres, from R-1 to C-3 - 2nd Reading.

   ORDINANCE NO. 034-25

   SECOND READING AND APPROVED: UNANIMOUS

RESULT:	**Passed**
MOVER:	Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
SECONDER:	Councilwoman Ward 2 Janataka Hughley-Holmes
AYES:	Councilman Ward 1 - President Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 Hughley-Holmes, Councilwoman Ward 3 Whatley, Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Beams, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

2. Amend Section 12.4.2.2 of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual of the City of Opelika - 1st Reading.

   FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

   President Allen asked for a member of the council to introduce the ordinance. Ms. Holmes introduced the ordinance.

16. APPOINTMENTS

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

    None.

18. ADJOURN

    The City Council meeting minutes of December 16, 2025, are hereby adopted and approved this the 6th day of January, 2026.

/s/ W. George Allen

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President of City Council
City of Opelika, Alabama

ATTEST:
/s/ Russell A. Jones, MMC

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City Clerk

1. Character Trait of the Month - Generosity, the quality of being kind and generous; showing a readiness to give more of something than is strictly necessary or expected.

   President Allen read the character trait of the month and 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 Janataka Hughley-Holmes
AYES:	Councilman Ward 1 - President Allen, Councilwoman Ward 2 Hughley-Holmes, Councilwoman Ward 3 Whatley, Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Beams, Councilman Ward 5 Rauch
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

The council meeting ended at 06:20 pm.