



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

300 Martin Luther King Blvd.

February 3, 2026

TIME: 6:00 PM

1. A CALL TO ORDER

President Allen called the council meeting to order at 06:02 pm and asked Mr. Jones to call the roll.

2. ROLL CALL

The Mayor and all City Council members were present.

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

3. INVOCATION

Mr. Nolan provided the invocation.

1. Terrance Nolan from The Bridge Church.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Anne Daniel and Wade led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Anne Daniel Fulford and Wade Thomas from Morris Avenue Intermediate School.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. Motion to Adopt the CM Agenda for 02-03-26.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Chuck Beams

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

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

1. Minutes from the 01-20-26 council meeting.
President Allen stated that a copy of the minutes had been previously received by the council and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Beams made a motion to approve. Ms. Whatley seconded the motion. President Allen then asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes. President Allen stated, having no corrections, the minutes stand approved.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. MAYOR COMMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS

1. Reappoint Tom Penton to the Opelika Planning Commission. New Term expires 02-15-2032.
Mayor Smith announced he was reappointing Tom Penton to the Opelika Planning Commission.
2. Recognize the Opelika School Teachers of the Year.
Mayor Smith invited Opelika City Schools Superintendent Dr. Kevin Davis up front. Mayor Smith then recognized each city school's teacher of the year, joined by their respective principal.

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

1. Public Hearing - Impose Temporary Moratorium on New Residential and Multiple Occupancy Projects.
Mr. Jones presented the public hearing. President Allen opened the public hearing and asked if anyone present would like to speak for or against said proposed moratorium.

Rachel White of 1401 Piedmont Avenue, Opelika, spoke in favor.

Drew White of 1401 Piedmont Avenue, Opelika, spoke in favor.

Jeff Reichel of 544 Towne Lake Parkway, Opelika, spoke in favor.

Amanda Guilmette of 1086 Burrow Circle, Opelika, spoke in favor.

Race Cannon of 1435 Turn Lake Drive, Auburn, spoke against.

Harry Atchison of 701 Lake Condry Road, Opelika, spoke in favor.

Gerry Kelley of 1200 Willow View Drive, Opelika, spoke against.

Allan Garner of 1304 Crawford Road, Opelika, spoke against.

President Allen closed the public hearing.

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

Allan Garner of 1304 Crawford Road spoke first. Mr. Garner explained that he was against the rezoning for a subdivision in the 1300 block of Crawford Road due to traffic safety concerns.

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.

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

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Chuck Beams

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

1. **General Business:** Request Downtown Street Closure - Relay for Life Event on 05-01-26.

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

2. **Resolution:** Designate City Personal Property Surplus and Authorize Disposal.

RESOLUTION NO. 028-26

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

3. **Resolution:** Purchase Ammunition - OPD (\$33,670).

RESOLUTION NO. 029-26

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

4. **Resolution:** Purchase Cisco Service Agreements for Licensing and Hardware from CDW-G - IT (\$47,220.57).

RESOLUTION NO. 030-26

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

5. **Resolution:** Purchase 3-Year Rubrik Cloud Vault and Cyber Recovery Services from CDW-G - IT (\$597,323.01).

RESOLUTION NO. 031-26

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

6. **Resolution:** Approve Professional Services Agreement with Routeware, Inc. - OES (\$56,400).

RESOLUTION NO. 032-26

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

7. **Resolution:** Approve Transfer of Two (2) Ford Crown Victorias to the Town of Camp Hill - OPD.

RESOLUTION NO. 033-26

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

8. **Resolution:** Approve Agreement with CSXT for the Sportsplex Pkwy Extension Bridge Project - ENG.
RESOLUTION NO. 034-26
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
9. **Resolution:** Approve Agreement with CSXT for the Veterans Pkwy Extension Bridge Project - ENG.
RESOLUTION NO. 035-26
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
10. **Resolution:** Approve Establishment of an Opelika Youth Council.
RESOLUTION NO. 036-26
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
11. **Resolution:** Annual Appropriation Contract FY2026 with Lee County Youth Development Center (\$40,000).
RESOLUTION NO. 037-26
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
12. **Resolution:** Special Appropriation to the American Cancer Society (\$5,000).
RESOLUTION NO. 038-26
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
13. **Resolution:** Special Appropriation to Leadership Lee County (\$2,500).
RESOLUTION NO. 039-26
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
14. **Appointment:** Reappoint Raven Harvis to the Board of Zoning Adjustments (BZA). New Term expires 02-11-2029.
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
15. **Appointment:** Reappoint Bill Parker, Jr. to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term expires 03-08-2030.
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
16. **Appointment:** Reappoint Levale Speigner to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term expires 03-08-2030.
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
17. **Appointment:** Reappoint Jayne Gunter to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term expires 03-08-2030.
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
18. **Appointment:** Reappoint Ronnie Ware to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term expires 03-08-2030.
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

12. GENERAL BUSINESS

13. AWARDING OF BIDS

14. RESOLUTIONS

President Allen asked Mr. Treese to present the resolutions.

1. Approve Naming the 6th Street Bridge after Lt. John T. Pruitt, Sr.

RESOLUTION NO. 040-26

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

After the roll call vote, Mayor Smith and the City Council joined the family and friends of Lt. John T. Pruitt, Sr. and presented the sign.

15. **ORDINANCES**

President Allen asked Mr. Treese to present the ordinances.

1. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: 2001 Cunningham Drive, 5.1 Acres, from R-4 to PUD - 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 005-26

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilwoman Ward 3 Leigh Whatley

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. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: 1300 Block Crawford Road, 73.3 Acres, from R-1 to PUD - 2nd Reading.

During discussion, Mr. Rauch stated that he also had concerns about traffic safety, specifically dealing with the safety of school kids being picked up/dropped off by school buses, and recommended the developer incorporating a designated bus stop for them at the entrance to the neighborhood. Mr. Rauch asked Mr. David Green, a representative of the developer, if they intended to address this issue as part of the development. Mr. Green answered that they have the same concerns and are in favor of incorporating a designated bus stop at the entrance to the subdivision as requested.

ORDINANCE NO. 006-26

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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

3. Approve Purchase of Real Property from Stone Martin Builders, LLC - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

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

4. Impose Temporary Moratorium on New Residential and Multiple Occupancy Projects - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED

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

16. APPOINTMENTS

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

Allan Garner of 1304 Crawford Road spoke first. Mr. Garner expressed his anger and frustration with the city council after their approval of the rezoning of the 1300 block of Crawford Road to a Planned Unit Development. Mr. Garner closed by asking the city council if they were so desperate for development, they would disregard the safety of the public.

Patricia "Patsy" Jones of 1407 Harper Street spoke next. Ms. Jones thanked the council for what they do, and asked if the approval of the consent agenda meant that the funds for the annual Relay for Life event were approved.

18. ADJOURN

The City Council meeting minutes of February 3, 2026, are hereby adopted and approved this the 17th day of February, 2026.

/s/ W. George Allen

President of City Council
City of Opelika, Alabama

ATTEST:

/s/ Russell A. Jones, MMC

City Clerk

1. Character Trait of the Month - Honor, to regard with great respect.
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: Councilwoman Ward 2 Janataka Hughley-Holmes

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

The council meeting ended at 07:02 pm.