CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
300 Martin Luther King Blvd.
July 7, 2026
TIME: 6:00 PM

1. A CALL TO ORDER

   President Allen called the council meeting to order at 06:01 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

   Mayor Smith provided the invocation.

   1. Mayor Eddie Smith.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

   Boy Scout Troop 858 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

   1. Boy Scout Troup 858.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

   1. Motion to Adopt the CM Agenda for 07-07-26.

   MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA: 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

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

1. Minutes from the 06-16-26 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. Ms. Holmes made a motion to approve. Mr. Beams 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

   None.

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

   President Allen asked Mr. Jones to present the public hearing.

   1. Public Hearing - Weed Abatement Assessment - 606 Dogwood Avenue.

      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 weed abatement. No one came forward to speak. President Allen closed the public hearing.

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. Beams requested that Consent Agenda #11 be removed and placed on the regular agenda.

    President Allen stated that Consent Agenda #11 would now be placed as Resolution #2 on the regular agenda.

    President Allen, after hearing no other requests to remove any other consent agenda items, 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 Temporary Street Closure - Foundry UMC Bible School on 07-22 thru 07-24-26.
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

2. **Bid:** Bridgewater Boulevard Construction - ENG ($1,530,025).
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 134-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

3. **Bid:** Grade, Drain, Base & Pave Hi-Pack Drive - ENG ($2,820,262).
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 135-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

4. **Bid:** Mill Village Roundabout and Roadway Improvement Project - ENG ($3,339,029).
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 136-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

5. **Resolution:** Expense Reports from Various Departments.
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 137-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

6. **Resolution:** Purchase - Panasonic Hardware Management Service Agreement - IT ($42,970).
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 138-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

7. **Resolution:** Purchase - Two-Way Radios and Related Equipment - OFD ($71,260).
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 139-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

8. **Resolution:** Approve Amended Employment Contract with Patrick McCulloch - OPD.
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 140-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

9. **Resolution:** Approve Certain Tax Abatements and Exemptions for BS Logistics America, LLC - ED.
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 141-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

10. **Resolution:** Approve Certain Tax Abatements and Exemptions for Yongsan Automotive USA, Inc - ED.
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 142-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

11. **Resolution:** Approve Grant Application to FEMA for BRIC Grant related to North Park Sewer Improvements Project - PW.
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 143-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

12. **Resolution:** Approve Proposal from Hydro Engineering to Update Storm Water Management Plan - ENG ($26,500).
<u>RESOLUTION NO. 144-26</u>
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

13. **Resolution:** Approve ROW Acquisition Agreement for Sharp St and Sportsplex Pkwy Extension Projects - ENG.

RESOLUTION NO. 145-26
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

14. **Resolution:** Special Appropriation to The Curtis House ($1,500).
RESOLUTION NO. 146-26
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

15. **Appointment:** Appoint Monty Newport to the Board of Zoning Adjustments (BZA). Existing Term expires 02-11-2027.
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

12. GENERAL BUSINESS

13. AWARDING OF BIDS

14. RESOLUTIONS

President Allen asked Mr. Jones to present the resolutions.

1. Weed Abatement Assessment - 606 Dogwood Avenue.
RESOLUTION NO. 147-26
MOTION TO APPROVE: 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

2. Approve Emergency Response, Rescue, and Ambulance Service Agreements - OFD.
RESOLUTION NO. 148-26
MOTION TO APPROVE: 4 TO 0

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 5 Rauch
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	Councilman Ward 4 - President Pro-Tem Chuck Beams

15. ORDINANCES

President Allen asked Mr. Jones to present the ordinances.

1. Amend Zoning Ordinance & Map: 3400 Block Birmingham Hwy, 18.34 Acres, from R-4 to C-2, GC-P - 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 022-26
SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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

2. Approve Annexation Petition by Ernest Gunn, Jr., Armuriel Gunn Dumas, College Dade Gunn Holloway, and Mary Ann Gunn at 6571 U.S. Highway 431 N - 1st Reading.

FIRST READING: INTRODUCED
President Allen asked for a member of the council to introduce the ordinance. Mr. Rauch introduced the ordinance.

President Allen then asked for a motion to suspend the rules to have a second reading. Ms. Holmes made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Beams 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 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

President Allen then asked if there was a motion to approve the ordinance at second reading. Ms. Holmes made a motion to approve. Mr. Rauch seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the following vote was recorded:
ORDINANCE NO. 023-26
SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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

16. APPOINTMENTS

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

Tiffany Hilyer of 1305 Morris Avenue spoke first. Ms. Hilyer again asked the city to pass an ordinance for the protection of private cemeteries in Opelika, and also requested that the city attorney provide further reasoning for why the city had not, and apparently will not do so, per his recommendation that current state law would supersede any proposed local law.

Mattie Clark of 706 Orchard Avenue spoke last. Ms. Clark spoke about boarded-up houses in her neighborhood and the dangers they create. Ms. Clark closed by asking if someone could explain to her why the city can keep the grass cut but can't get rid of the houses that are already boarded-up, causing a nuisance.

18. ADJOURN

The City Council meeting minutes of July 7, 2026, are hereby adopted and approved this the 21st day of July, 2026.

/s/ W. George Allen

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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 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 06:16 pm.