



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

300 Martin Luther King Blvd.

March 1, 2022

TIME: 7:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Smith called the council meeting to order at 07:00 pm and asked Mr. Jones to call the roll.

2. ROLL CALL

The Mayor was absent but all City Council members were present.

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

3. INVOCATION

Mr. Tippett provided the invocation.

1. Tom Tippett from Christian Care Ministries.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Eve Gholston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Eve Gholston and Amesiah Thomas from Opelika Middle School.

5. READING OF MINUTES

1. Minutes from the 02-15-22 regular meeting.

President Smith stated that a copy of the regular meeting 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. Aja 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.

2. Minutes from the 02-21-22 called meeting.

President Smith stated that a copy of the called meeting minutes had been previously received by the council and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Allen made a motion to approve. Mr. Rauch 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. REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

8. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS (Limit comments to five minutes or less)
None.

9. REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

President Smith asked Mr. Jones to present the general business.

1. Request for 11th Annual Going Blue for Autism Event at Courthouse Square on 04-01-22.

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. Request from Opelika High School Softball for a 5K/1 Mile Run at the Sportsplex on 04-16-22.

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

3. Request for 10th Annual Kid's Triathlon at the Sportsplex on 08-06-22.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

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

12. AWARDING OF BIDS

President Smith asked Mrs. Finley to present the bids.

1. Environmental Services Complex - OES.

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

2. Removal of Dead, Dying, or Dangerous Trees and Stumps with Pruning - PLAN.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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. RESOLUTIONS

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the resolutions.

1. Designate City Personal Property Surplus & Authorize Disposal.

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

2. Purchase - One (1) 2022 Ford Explorer - State Contract #T191 - INSP.

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 - Office Furniture - State Contract #T390 - OES.

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

4. Approve Agreement with ALDOT for Anderson Road Railroad Crossing Upgrade - ENG.

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

5. Approve Encroachment Agreement with CSX for Veterans Parkway Extension Project - ENG.

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

6. Approve Professional Services Agreement for the design of the Mill Village Roundabout - ENG.

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

7. Approve Change Order #2 to Contract with Incapsulate, LLC - IT.
During discussion, Ms. Norris asked if this was the same program the city is using for the rental ordinance. Mr. Gunter answered yes it is. Ms. Norris then asked if this was the second change order. Mr. Gunter answered yes it is. Ms. Norris then asked what was the total amount spent. Mr. Gunter stated that if this change order before them was approved, the total amount spent would be \$210,860. Ms. Norris then asked what happened to create this change order. Mr. Gunter answered the change orders are for where, during the middle of the project, it was discovered that it would be beneficial to add additional features to the application to make it work better for the convenience of the customers, and also to add an employee app to make it easier for the employees to use as well. Ms. Norris thanked Mr. Gunter.

MOTION TO APPROVE: 4 TO 0

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 5 Todd Rauch
SECONDER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen
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

8. Designate Mayor Fuller as the City's Voting Delegate at the 2022 ALM Annual Convention.

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

9. Special Appropriation to the Indian Pines Recreation Authority - ADMIN.

MOTION TO APPROVE: 4 TO 0

RESULT: Passed
MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja
SECONDER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen
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

President Smith asked Mr. Gunter to present the ordinances.

1. Approve Annexation Petition by Patrick C. Davidson - 12.6 Acres, Sellers Drive - 2nd Reading.

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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

2. Approve Pre-Zone Annexation Property, 12.6 Acres, Sellers Drive, R/E Zoning District - 2nd Reading.

SECOND READING AND APPROVED: 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

15. APPOINTMENTS

President Smith presented the appointments.

1. Appoint Bill Parker, Jr. to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term ends 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. Reappoint Jayne Gunter to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term ends 03-08-2026.

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. Reappoint Ronnie Ware to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term ends 03-08-2026.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 1 Willie Allen

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. Reappoint Ronnie Wilson to the Opelika Industrial Development Authority. New Term ends 03-08-2026.

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

5. Appoint Jim Akin to the Board of Parks & Recreation. New Terms ends 03-15-2027.

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNANIMOUS

RESULT: Passed

MOVER: Councilman Ward 3 Tim Aja

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

6. Reappoint Tony Hoyett to the Board of Parks & Recreation. New Term ends 03-15-2027.

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

16. ADJOURN

The City Council meeting minutes of March 1, 2022 are hereby adopted and approved this the 15th day of March, 2022.

/s/ Eddie Smith

President of City Council
City of Opelika, Alabama

ATTEST:

/s/ Russell A. Jones, CMC

City Clerk

1. Character Trait of the Month - Compassion, sympathy and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.
President Smith read the character trait of the month and asked if there was any other business to come before the council. Mr. Rauch asked President Smith if he could speak. Mr. Rauch stated part of being on the council is to make sure the constituents in their wards are heard, and in Ward 5 they have been trying for a while to deal with a dangerous intersection at Sportsplex Parkway and West Point Parkway. Mr. Rauch then thanked Mayor Fuller, President Smith, Joey Motley, and Mike Hilyer for now making this intersection a four-way stop. Mr. Rauch then stated the reason why this is so important is because, not only are there a lot of residents in that area, but that this is the road that a lot of people use to get to the Sportsplex, including people traveling from out of town to attend Paddles at the Plex on March 3-6. Mr. Rauch continued by stating the last thing he would ever want was for someone coming from out of town to Opelika, to have a good time, and for something to happen to them by being hurt or killed at this intersection. Mr. Rauch closed by again thanking Mayor Fuller, President Smith, Mr. Motley, and Mr. Hilyer for their leadership in helping get this accomplished, and it means the world to him and he knows it means the world to Ward 5.

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: 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 07:25 pm.