



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

Pelham City Hall
Council Conference Room
October 16, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.

Proper notice of the regularly scheduled work session of the Pelham City Council was given in advance of such a public meeting and the notice remained posted throughout the scheduled meeting.

Members of the Pelham City Council met on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. The regular work session was held in the Council Conference Room at Pelham City Hall and was open to the public.

Call to Order

The work session was called to order by Council President Mercer at 5:03 p.m.

Record of Attendance

The following elected officials were present:

Council President Maurice Mercer
Councilmember David Coram
Councilmember Chad Leverett
Councilmember Rick Wash
Councilmember Mildred Lanier-Reed
Mayor Gary Waters

The city clerk/treasurer recorded the attendance of the elected officials and announced a quorum was present. City Manager Gretchen DiFante and City Attorney Josh Arnold were present.

Media Present: Shelby County Reporter

Others Present: City department heads, city employees, and members of the public.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember Coram to approve the October 2, 2023 Regular Work Session Minutes.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Leverett. There being no further discussion, the council president announced the motion passed by a voice vote of those members present, with Councilmember Lanier-Reed abstaining.

Executive Session

Council President Mercer stated for the record the purpose of the Executive Session is to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, controversies not yet being litigated, but imminently likely to be litigated if the governmental body pursues a proposed course of action under Section 36-25A-7(3)(a), Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

City Attorney Josh Arnold stated the purpose of tonight's Executive Session is appropriate under Section 36-25A-7(3)(a) Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

A motion was made by Councilmember Coram to enter an Executive Session of the city council for the stated purpose. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Leverett. Council President Mercer asked the city clerk/treasurer for a roll call vote. The vote to adopt said motion was recorded as follows:

Maurice Mercer, Council President	<u>Yes</u>
David Coram, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Chad Leverett, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Rick Wash, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Mildred Lanier-Reed, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>

Council President Mercer asked the members of the city council, Mayor Waters, City Manager Gretchen DiFante, Fire Chief Mike Reid, Director of Development Services & Public Works Director Andre' Bittas, City Attorney Josh Arnold, Attorney David Diab with Beasley-Allen, and City Clerk/Treasurer Tom Seale to attend the Executive Session. Council President Mercer stated he expected the city council to return from the Executive Session in approximately 25 minutes. The city council went into Executive Session at 5:06 p.m.

Councilmember Wash moved to adjourn the Executive Session. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Lanier-Reed. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present and the Executive Session was adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Council President Mercer called the work session back to order at 5:35 p.m.

Old Business

1. Review and Discussion - Center for Public Safety Management, LLC (CPSM) Station Feasibility and Fire & EMS Services Operational Analysis

Fire Chief Mike Reid asked the city council if they had any questions regarding the CPSM report. He discussed options to move the city to an Insurance Services Office (ISO) 1 fire rating. He said staffing for an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) transport division and education/training would assist in the ISO 1 rating. He stated the additionally needed equipment could possibly be in place by 2029 or 2030. Chief Reid said his number one priority at this time is emergency medical transport. In addition, placement of current and future fire stations was discussed.

Councilmember Wash requested ambulance response times be provided to the city council. City Manager Gretchen DiFante discussed priority dispatch and involving local hospitals regarding the city's concerns with "wait time" for EMS in their emergency rooms.

2. Review and Discussion – Quad Cities Emergency Transport Services Request for Proposal

Fire Chief Mike Reid discussed the Regional Paramedical Services, Inc. (RPS) proposal. He stated Option 1 was the only option which met the Request for Proposal requirements. Chief Reid said he recommends Option 2. He stated none of the Quad Cities representatives were comfortable with the RPS proposal. He further stated the Quad Cities will prepare their recommendation, with options, for city council consideration. Chief Reid said the new ambulances provided by the Shelby County Commission would be delivered in September 2024 and be fully operational in January 2025.

3. Review – Pelham City Cemetery Rules and Regulations

Director of Development Services & Public Works Andre` Bittas noted the current procedures and minor changes made in the first draft of the Pelham City Cemetery Rules and Regulations. He said the city will no longer open or close graves but will continue to provide maintenance at the City Cemetery.

City Attorney Arnold suggested the city council adopt the Pelham City Cemetery Rules and Regulations by resolution. Mr. Bittas stated all the burial plots in the cemetery are reserved.

New Business

City Manager DiFante noted her concerns regarding social media comments, safety, and security for city employees.

Review of October 16, 2023 City Council Agenda

Council President Mercer reviewed the October 16, 2023 city council agenda.

E. Consent Agenda

A consent agenda is presented by the presiding officer at the beginning of a council meeting. Items presented on the consent agenda are considered routine and/or non-controversial and are organized apart from the rest of the agenda and are adopted by general consent and vote by the city council without debate. Items may be removed from the consent agenda on the request of any member. Removed items may be taken up either immediately after the consent agenda is approved or placed later on the agenda at the discretion of the presiding officer and City Council.

1. Approval of the October 16, 2023 City Council Agenda
2. Approval of the October 2, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
3. **Resolution 2023-10-16-01** for consideration to declare certain items no longer needed for public or municipal purposes as surplus personal property of the City of Pelham (Public Works Department) and authorize the disposal of the same.

Director of Development Services & Public Works Andre` Bittas stated the request is to surplus equipment no longer needed by the Public Works Department.

4. **Resolution 2023-10-16-02** for consideration to accept the lone bid for the purchase of ten (10) 2023 Dodge Durango Pursuit vehicles from Falls Dodge, DBA Joe Cecconis Chrysler Complex, Niagara Falls, NY. This expense has been budgeted in FY2024.

Lt. Joey Pitts stated a lone bid was received from Joe Cecconis Chrysler Complex, Niagara Falls, NY. He stated the vehicles are ready for delivery and are budgeted in FY2024.

F. Public Hearing(s) – None

1. To consider **Ordinance No. 135-258** an amendment to the zone district boundaries of the City of Pelham changing the present zoning B-2 (General Business District) to M-1 (Light Industrial District) for property located at the end of Yeager Court, approximately 415 feet off Yeager Parkway consisting of 7.16 +/- acres.

Applicant: Shield Properties, LLC, 120 Bishop Circle, Pelham, Alabama 35124.

Owners: William P. Taylor, 1543 Timber Drive, Helena, Alabama 35080
Connor Farmer, 120 Bishop Circle, Pelham, Alabama 35124

Mr. Bittas stated the request is to rezone the property for warehouses with outdoor storage. He noted for the record the Pelham Planning Commission voted to unanimously recommend the approval of the rezoning application to the city council at their meeting held on September 14, 2023.

G. Mayor's Report/Comments

Mayor Waters thanked City Attorney Josh Arnold for doing an outstanding job in representing the Pelham Personnel Board today.

H. Proclamation(s) by the Mayor and Others – None

I. Report of the City Manager – None

J. Report of the City Attorney – None

K. Request(s) to Address the Council – None

L. Old Business / Resolutions / Ordinances / Orders and Other Business – None

M. New Business / Resolutions / Ordinances / Orders and Other Business

1. **Ordinance No. 135-258** an amendment to the zone district boundaries of the City of Pelham changing the present zoning B-2 (General Business District) to M-1 (Light Industrial District) for property located at the end of Yeager Court, approximately 415 feet off Yeager Parkway consisting of 7.16 +/- acres. First Reading

Applicant: Shield Properties, LLC, 120 Bishop Circle, Pelham, Alabama 35124.

Owners: William P. Taylor, 1543 Timber Drive, Helena, Alabama 35080
Connor Farmer, 120 Bishop Circle, Pelham, Alabama 35124

(End of the October 16, 2023 Agenda Review)

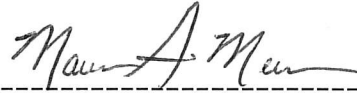
Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the work session was made by Councilmember Wash and seconded by Councilmember Coram. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present and the work session was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 16th day of October 2023.



Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

