



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

Pelham City Hall
Council Conference Room
December 16, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.

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

Members of the Pelham City Council met on Monday, December 16, 2024 at 5:30 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 5:30 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 Michael Harris, Jr.
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 December 2, 2024 Regular Work Session Minutes.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Harris. There being no further discussion, the President of the Council announced the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of those members present.

Executive Session

Council President Mercer stated for the record the purpose of the executive session is to discuss the consideration the governmental body is willing to offer or accept when considering the purchase, sale, exchange, lease, or market value of real property under Section 36-25A (6), Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

City Attorney Josh Arnold stated the purpose of tonight's Executive Session is appropriate under Section 36-25A (6), Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

A motion was made by Councilmember Wash to enter an Executive Session of the city council for the stated purpose. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Coram. 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, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Chad Leverett, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Rick Wash, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Michael Harris, Jr. Council Member	<u>Yes</u>

Council President Mercer asked the members of the city council, Mayor Waters, City Manager Gretchen DiFante, City Attorney Josh Arnold, Assistant City Manager Justin Smith, Finance Director Jamie Wagner, Director of Development Services & Public Works Andre` Bittas, Director of Economic Development Michael Simon, Capt. Joey Pitts, Chief Mike Reid, 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 40 minutes. The city council went into an Executive Session at 5:32 p.m.

Councilmember Coram moved to adjourn the Executive Session. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Leverett. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the Executive Session was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Council President Mercer called the work session back to order at 6:32 p.m.

Old Business – None

New Business

1. Discussion – FY2026 Budget Schedule

City Manager Gretchen DiFante expressed her thoughts on moving the FY2026 budget work session schedules to earlier in 2025. She mentioned having strategic planning in March 2025 and then move forward with the FY2026 budget preparation. Several options were discussed. The city council spoke in favor of scheduling the budget hearings earlier than previous years.

2. Discussion – Reschedule the January 20, 2025 Work Session and Council Meeting

Council President Mercer noted January 20, 2025 is a federal holiday and city offices will be closed. It was the consensus of the city council to move the January 20, 2025 meetings to Wednesday, January 22, 2025.

Review of December 16, 2024 City Council Agenda

Council President Mercer reviewed the December 16, 2024 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 at the request of any member. Removed items may be taken up either immediately after the consent agenda is approved or placed on the agenda at the discretion of the presiding officer and City Council.

1. Approval of the December 16, 2024 City Council Agenda
2. Approval of the December 2, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
3. **Resolution 2024-12-16-01** for consideration to the release of the bond money and accept the public street and rights-of-way in the Grey Oaks Subdivision, Sectors 5 and 7.

City Engineer Mike Eddington stated the developer has met all the conditions and recommends approval of Resolution 2024-12-16-01.

There were no questions or comments from the city council.

4. **Resolution 2024-12-16-02** for consideration to accept the Community Action Partnership of Middle Alabama Grant in the amount of \$2,500.00 for a gardening program at the Pelham Senior Center.

Parks & Recreation Director Brian Cooper explained the city has been approved for a grant in the amount of \$2,500.00 from the Community Action Partnership of Middle Alabama. He said the grant would be used for a gardening program at the Pelham Senior Center.

There were no questions or comments from the city council.

F. New Employee Introductions

G. Public Hearing(s) – None

H. Mayor's Report/Comments

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

J. Report by the City Manager

K. Report by the City Attorney – None

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

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

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

1. **Resolution 2024-12-16-03** for consideration to approve a monthly residential garbage and recycling rate adjustment effective February 1, 2025.

City Manager DiFante stated the 2.50% rate adjustment is less than the 4.60% recommended by the Cahaba Solid Waste Disposal Authority. She further stated the increase equals \$0.64 per month and would become effective on February 1, 2025, if Resolution 2024-12-16-03 is adopted by the city council.

(End of the December 16, 2024 Agenda Review)

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the work session was made by Councilmember Coram and seconded by Councilmember Harris. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the work session was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 16th day of December 2024.



Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

