



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Pelham City Hall
City Council Chambers
March 17, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

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

Date: March 17, 2025
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Pelham City Hall – City Council Chambers
Present: President of the Council Maurice Mercer
Councilmember David Coram
Councilmember Chad Leverett
Councilmember Rick Wash
Councilmember Michael Harris, Jr.
Mayor Gary Waters

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Mercer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Councilmember Coram led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Harris.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

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.

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, 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 one member. Removed items may be considered 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 March 17, 2025 City Council Agenda
2. Approval of the March 3, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
3. **Resolution 2025-03-17-01** for consideration to approve the FY2024 Carry-Forward Capital Project Funding
4. **Resolution 2025-03-17-02** for consideration to accept the City of Pelham's Fiscal Year 2024 audit as prepared and presented by Truitt Tingle Paramore & Argent, LLC, Certified Public Accountants, the city's independent auditors
5. **Resolution 2025-03-17-03** for consideration to enter into a renewal agreement with RiverTree Systems, Inc. for external sales and use tax audits
6. **Resolution 2025-03-17-04** for consideration to approve an Alabama Department of Revenue Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Pelham, Alabama and Specification Rubber Products, Inc.
7. **Resolution 2025-03-17-05** for consideration to amend the FY2025 General Fund-City Clerk/Treasurer budget for anticipated expenditures related to the 2025 municipal elections

- 8. Resolution 2025-03-17-06 for consideration to appoint the City Clerk/Treasurer as the Assistant Elections Manager for the City of Pelham's 2025 municipal elections
- 9. Resolution 2025-03-17-07 for consideration to appoint an assistant to the Assistant Elections Manager and an Assistant Absentee Elections Manager for the City of Pelham's 2025 municipal elections
- 10. Resolution 2025-03-17-08 for consideration to set the election officers compensation for the City of Pelham's 2025 municipal elections
- 11. Resolution 2025-03-17-09 for consideration to designate certain elected officials as voting delegates to the Alabama League of Municipalities' annual business meeting

It was noted for the record Resolution 2025-03-17-09 was removed from the March 17, 2025 agenda by council action.

- 12. Resolution 2025-03-17-10 for consideration to authorize the purchase of police investigative equipment from the Federal Forfeiture funds
- 13. Resolution 2025-03-17-11 for consideration to approve the lowest and most responsible proposal from Kevin Miller Development, Inc. for the waterline replacement at the Pelham Splash Pad. This project was budgeted for FY2025.
- 14. Resolution 2025-03-17-12 for consideration to approve the lowest and most responsible bid from Temple J Electric for the installation of traffic signal camera detection system upgrades at 11 intersections in the City of Pelham. This project was budgeted for FY2025.
- 15. Resolution 2025-03-17-13 for consideration to enter into an agreement with the United States Geological Survey to perform required field and analytical work as directed through the city's MS4 Program and Stormwater Ordinance. This expense was budgeted for FY2025.

Council President Mercer stated the complete text of the agenda, minutes, ordinance(s), and resolutions are available at Pelham City Hall and online at www.pelhamalabama.gov.

Councilmember Coram made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented by Council President Mercer. Councilmember Harris seconded the motion.

Council President Mercer asked the City Clerk/Treasurer for a roll call vote. The vote to adopt the Consent Agenda 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>
Michael Harris, Jr., Council Member	<u>Yes</u>

There being no further discussion, the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda passed unanimously by roll call vote of those members present and the President of the Council declared the same passed and adopted.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- 1. To consider altering, rearranging, and reducing the corporate limits of the City of Pelham by deannexing certain real property owned by the North Shelby Library, Parcel No. 10 6 23 0 001 018.002, containing approximately 4.490 acres, located at 5521 Cahaba Valley Road (Alabama Highway 119), Birmingham, Alabama 35244.

Councilmember Wash moved to recess the city council meeting to hold a public hearing for which proper notice had been given. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Harris and approved unanimously by a voice vote of those members present. The council meeting recessed at 7:08 p.m.

Council President Mercer announced the public hearing was in session for the purpose to consider altering, rearranging, and reducing the corporate limits of the City of Pelham by deannexing certain real property owned by the North Shelby Library, Parcel No. 10 6 23 0 001 018.002, containing approximately 4.490 acres, located at 5521 Cahaba Valley Road (Alabama Highway 119), Birmingham, Alabama 35244.

Applicant / Owner: North Shelby Library, 5521 Cahaba Valley Road (Alabama Highway 119), Birmingham, Alabama 35244

Director of Development Services & Public Works Andr  Bittas provided a brief overview of the deannexation request.

Council President Mercer stated the city council would now hear comments both for and against the deannexation request.

- Paul Garris, 5187 Stonehaven Drive, Birmingham, AL 35244, representing the North Shelby Library Board spoke in favor of the deannexation request and explained the benefit of having shorter response times for fire and police personnel.
- There were no members of the public in attendance speaking against the deannexation request.

There being no further discussion, Council President Mercer stated the public hearing to consider the deannexation request had concluded.

Council President Mercer called the March 17, 2025 city council meeting back to order at 7:11 p.m.

2. It was the consensus of the city council to set the date and time for a public hearing to consider revisions to the City of Pelham’s Zoning Ordinance at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 7, 2025 in the Council Chambers of Pelham City Hall.
3. It was the consensus of the city council to set the date and time for a public hearing to consider revisions to the City of Pelham’s Code of Ordinances for Business Licenses at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 7, 2025 in the Council Chambers of Pelham City Hall.

MAYOR’S REPORT/COMMENTS

Mayor Waters made the following comments:

1. Was invited to attend a classic car show in Pelham with over 100 cars. He said he had the opportunity to present the Mayor’s Choice Trophy, and he selected a 1969 Chevrolet Impala.
2. Commemorated the 162nd anniversary of the death of John Pelham, the City’s namesake, by reading an excerpt about his life and military service.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENTS FROM THE CITY OF PELHAM

1. David Smith, Pelham Public Library
2. Deputy Chief Chris Carpenter, Pelham Fire Department

PROCLAMATION(S) AND RESOLUTION(S) BY THE MAYOR AND OTHERS – None

REPORT BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Gretchen DiFante made the following comments:

1. Announced Bojangles is coming back to Pelham and has applied for a building permit.
2. Edgar’s Bakery has submitted site plans for their new location near the Pelham Public Library.
3. The Pelham Senior Center held a flower arrangement class and had 50 participants. She said the attendees took the finished arrangements and delivered them to hospice patients.

4. The Pelham Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was opened on Saturday, March 15, 2025 in preparation of severe weather. She said the City was well prepared to respond to any emergencies. She noted the significance of the City being included in a Level 4 warning three days before the inclement weather. She said this was later increased to a Level 5. She commended Fire Chief Mike Reid and the entire EOC staff who came in on Saturday to ensure the safety of Pelham citizens. She noted over 550 residents utilized storm shelters in the City.

REPORT BY THE CITY ATTORNEY – None

REQUEST(S) TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

1. Dr. Gaytan Glover, Introduction of Toastmasters International to the Pelham Community

Dr. Glover addressed the city council. He was joined by fellow members Randi Dicus, Tonya Wallace, McKinley Curtis III.

OLD BUSINESS / RESOLUTIONS / ORDINANCES / ORDERS and OTHER BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS / RESOLUTIONS / ORDINANCES / ORDERS and OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Resolution 2025-03-17-14** for consideration of ABC license 140 - Special Events Retail for applicant Legends Music, LLC located in the parking lot of 1000 Amphitheater Road, Pelham, Alabama 35124 operating under the trade name Oak Mountain Spring Fair 2025 was introduced by Council President Mercer.

Councilmember Coram made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-03-17-14 as presented by Council President Mercer. Councilmember Harris seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, the motion to adopt Resolution 2025-03-17-14 passed by a unanimous voice vote of those members present. The President of the Council declared the same passed and adopted.

2. **Resolution 2025-03-17-15** for consideration to approve a proposal from Barrett Architecture Studios to provide design services for the Pelham Public Library's circulation desk. This project was budgeted for FY2025.

Councilmember Harris made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-03-17-15 as presented by Council President Mercer. Councilmember Wash seconded the motion.

Further discussion followed between members of the city council, City Manager Gretchen DiFante, and Director of Development Services & Public Works André Bittas.

There being no further discussion, the motion to adopt Resolution 2025-03-17-15 passed by a majority voice vote of those members present, with Councilmember Coram dissenting. The President of the Council declared the same passed and adopted.

3. **Ordinance No. 520** to alter, rearrange and reduce the corporate limits of the City of Pelham by deannexing certain real property owned by the North Shelby Library District, Parcel No.10 6 23 0 001 018.002, containing approximately 4.490 acres, located at 5521 Cahaba Valley Road (Alabama Highway 119), Birmingham, Alabama 35244. First Reading.

Ordinance No. 520 was introduced and read in its entirety by Council President Mercer as a First Reading.

He stated a complete text of Ordinance No. 520 is available at Pelham City Hall and online at www.pelhamalabama.gov.

Council President Mercer announced this Ordinance will likely be considered by the city council at a future city council meeting.

4. **Ordinance No. 521** for consideration to authorize and establish use of certain electronic vote counting devices and a system accessible for individuals with disabilities for the City of Pelham Municipal Elections. First Reading.

Ordinance No. 521 was introduced and read in its entirety by Council President Mercer as a First Reading.

He stated a complete text of Ordinance No. 521 is available at Pelham City Hall and online at www.pelhamalabama.gov.

Council President Mercer announced this Ordinance will likely be considered by the city council at a future city council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Individuals wishing to address the City Council may, after being recognized, approach the podium, and state their name and physical address prior to making their comments in a respectful manner.

- Camille Coco, 6513 Quail Run Drive, Pelham, Alabama 35124 requested the City install a crosswalk near the intersection of Alabama Highway 119 and Indian Springs School.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Coram thanked Camille Coco for her comments and attending tonight's meeting. He said through all the discussion tonight the city council is united in doing what is best for the citizens of Pelham.

Councilmember Leverett made no additional comments.

Councilmember Wash stated he had the opportunity to visit the Pelham Emergency Operations Center on Saturday during the inclement weather threat. He commended Fire Chief Mike Reid and the entire team for all their efforts to keep Pelham citizens safe. He said he was impressed by the organization of the entire operation and how proud he was to be from Pelham. He also commented on the number of citizens who took advantage of the storm shelters in the City.

Councilmember Harris made no additional comments.

Council President Mercer made no additional comments.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Secure Shredding & Recycling and the City of Pelham will host a spring shred and e-recycling event on Saturday, March 29, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon. It will take place in front of City Hall, 3162 Pelham Parkway. Additional details about shredding and e-recycling are available on the city's website, pelhamalabama.gov.
2. Shelby County will host a Free Landfill Day at the Shelby County Landfill located at 401 Landfill Road on Highway 70 between Columbiana and Calera on Saturday, March 29, 2025 from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. All participants must be unloaded and exited from the landfill by 3:30 p.m.
3. The annual Taste of Pelham will be held on Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena. Tickets are available at the Pelham Public Library and online at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business before the city council, Councilmember Coram moved to adjourn the council meeting and Councilmember Harris seconded the motion. By voice vote the motion passed unanimously by those members present and the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 17th day of March 2025.



Jonathan Seale, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

