



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Pelham City Hall
City Council Chambers
May 5, 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: May 5, 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 7:00 p.m. Council President Mercer 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 May 5, 2025 City Council Agenda
2. Approval of the April 21, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
3. **Resolution 2025-05-05-01** for consideration to enter into a License Agreement with John and Diane Boolos to maintain and utilize a portion of their real property for recreational purposes
4. **Resolution 2025-05-05-02** for consideration to enter into a License Agreement with Mary Clardy to maintain and utilize a portion of their real property for recreational purposes
5. **Resolution 2025-05-05-03** for consideration to enter into a License Agreement with Raymond and Kathy League to maintain and utilize a portion of their real property for recreational purposes
6. **Resolution 2025-05-05-04** for consideration to enter into a License Agreement with Kenneth and Teresa Bell to maintain and utilize a portion of their real property for recreational purposes
7. **Resolution 2025-05-05-05** for consideration to enter into a License Agreement with Jeff and Jennifer Dees to maintain and utilize a portion of their real property for recreational purposes

- 8. **Resolution 2025-05-05-06** for consideration to enter into a License Agreement with Geoffrey and Kay Morgan to maintain and utilize a portion of their real property for recreational purposes
- 9. **Resolution 2025-05-05-07** for consideration to accept a private donation to be used exclusively for the purchase and installation of a bench at Carroll Park
- 10. **Resolution 2025-05-05-08** for consideration to declare a certain item (vehicle) as surplus personal property and to authorize disposal of the same
- 11. **Resolution 2025-05-05-09** for consideration to affirm and adopt the process for filling various municipal board vacancies
- 12. **Resolution 2025-05-05-10** for consideration to enter into an agreement with OpenGov for budgeting and planning software

Council President Mercer stated the complete text of the agenda, minutes, ordinances, 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.

There being no further discussion, 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>

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.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENT(S) FROM THE CITY OF PELHAM

- 1. Larry Short – Apparatus Operator, Pelham Fire Department

Fire Chief Mike Reid recognized Larry Short for his 19 years of service with the Pelham Fire Department.

PUBLIC HEARING(S) – None

MAYOR’S REPORT/COMMENTS

Mayor Waters shared a story when he was serving as fire chief and interviewed Larry Short.

PROCLAMATION(S) AND RESOLUTION(S) BY THE MAYOR AND OTHERS

- 1. Mayor Waters proclaimed May 2025 as Building Safety Month in the City of Pelham, Alabama.

City of Pelham Building Official Levis Peters joined Mayor Waters and accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Building Department employees.

REPORT BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Gretchen DiFante made the following comments:

- Thanked Building Official Levis Peters and his team for all they do and for emphasizing the importance of building and code safety.
- Recognized Isaac and Irene Cruz in attendance at tonight’s meeting and said it was great to see them.

- Reviewed recent social media postings made by the City promoting several ongoing projects.
- Noted she attended the 20th anniversary celebration of Mi Pueblo Supermarket in the City of Pelham over the weekend.

1. Recognition of Eagle Scout Cliff Windham, Pelham Troop 404

City Manager Gretchen DiFante and Director of Parks & Recreation Brian Cooper recognized Mr. Windham and his Eagle Scout project where he and his fellow scouts installed three exercise stations and two benches in Carroll Park.

Mr. Cooper recognized Pelham resident John Hand, who was in attendance at tonight's meeting. Mr. Hand donated funds to install another bench in Carroll Park after being inspired by Mr. Windham's project.

REPORT BY THE CITY ATTORNEY – None

REQUEST(S) TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL – None

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

NEW BUSINESS / RESOLUTIONS / ORDINANCES / ORDERS and OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance No. 524** to regulate parking within the city limits of Pelham, Alabama **(First Reading)**

Ordinance No. 524 was introduced and read in summary by Council President Mercer as a First Reading:

He stated a complete text of Ordinance No. 524 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.

- Eddie McClain – 1900 Chandalar Court, Pelham, AL 35124 – representing the Chandalar South Townhouse Association regarding Bishop Creek.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Coram congratulated Cliff Windham on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. He noted former Deputy Fire Chief Chris Carpenter recently taught a CPR training class for his hotel staff in Pell City, AL. He said it was great to see a former employee still making a positive impact on the community.

Councilmember Leverett commented on the Pelham Fire Department's quick response to a medical emergency during the Walk for Christ event. He said it is great to live in a city with employees who care about the people they serve. He said Pelham in the Park was a great event this year and noted how good it is to see it grow each year. He congratulated Mi Pueblo Supermarket on their 20 years of business in Pelham.

Councilmember Wash made no further comments.

Councilmember Harris made no further comments.

Council President Mercer stated Pelham in the Park was a great event. He congratulated Pelham Strong and the success of the Walk for Christ event. He congratulated Cliff Windham on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Pelham Palooza will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Pelham City Park.

2. The 2025 Pelham High School graduation will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena. Tickets are required to attend.
3. Pelham City Offices will be closed Monday, May 26, 2025 in observance of Memorial Day.

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 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 5th day of May 2025.



Jonathan Seale, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

