

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Pelham City Hall
City Council Chambers
June 16, 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: June 16, 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. Councilmember Coram led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jada Winston.

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 June 16, 2025 City Council Agenda
2. Approval of the June 2, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
3. **Resolution 2025-06-16-01** for consideration to accept the lowest responsive and responsible proposal from Five Star Painting for a public works project for interior painting services at the Pelham Police & Court Building. This project was budgeted for FY2025.
4. **Resolution 2025-06-16-02** for consideration to authorize and accept Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for additional engineering services for the Pelham Greenway Trail, Phases 3 and 4. This project was budgeted for FY2025.
5. **Resolution 2025-06-16-03** for consideration to approve an underground utility easement agreement with Alabama Power Company associated with the Edgars' Bakery Construction Project located at 2428 Pelham Parkway, Pelham, Alabama 35124

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.

PUBLIC HEARING(S) – None

MAYOR’S REPORT/COMMENTS

Mayor Waters noted the Flag Day celebration at the Pelham City Cemetery where approximately 300 United States flags, and other flags were honorably retired. He said it was a great event and stayed true to the flag retirement process. He thanked the Pelham Street Department for preparing the cemetery and said he has never seen it look so good. He also thanked Communications Manager Ainsley Allison for attending and documenting the event. Mayor Waters said he hoped the flag retirement ceremony could be held on an annual basis in the future.

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

1. Council President Maurice Mercer, on behalf of Mayor Waters, proclaimed June 2025 as Scleroderma Awareness Month in the City of Pelham.
2. Mayor Waters read a proclamation commemorating the 250th anniversaries of the United States Army, Navy, and Marine Corps. Mayor Waters invited the veterans in attendance to stand with him as he read the proclamation.

REPORT BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Gretchen DiFante made the following comments:

- The Oak Mountain Amphitheatre has played a big role in Pelham's past. Now, it's time to look ahead, and we want your input as we explore what's next for this iconic location. ReAmp: Reimagine OMA is a three-day community design event called a charrette that brings residents, stakeholders, and planning experts together to imagine new possibilities for the former Oak Mountain Amphitheatre site. Throughout the week, our team will gather ideas, hear from the public, and work behind the scenes to develop a vision that reflects the heart of our community. It all builds to a final presentation where the design team will reveal early concepts inspired by your feedback. This is a rare opportunity to reshape one of Pelham's most visible and well-known properties. We want the site's next chapter to serve the community in fresh, meaningful ways, and your perspective will help guide that vision. She encouraged all to attend the public workshop on July 22nd at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena.
- City Manager DiFante introduced Jada Winston, Miss Iron City 2025. She said she graduated from Pelham High School in 2023 and is competing at the Miss Alabama Pageant in the coming days. Ms. Winston addressed the city council and members of the public in attendance tonight. Ms. DiFante stated she watched Ms. Winston grow up over the past seven years and said she has a lot of grace and kindness.
- Noted attending the funeral of former Birmingham Bulls President Joe Stroud. She read a few excerpts of the kind words spoken today at Mr. Stroud's funeral.

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 – None

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.

- Bill Blank, representing The American Legion Matthew Blount Post 555, introduced its new commander of the Post, Harry “Skip” Mize. Mr. Mize said he is proud to be a member and said they are always looking for ways to support the community. He thanked the City for all the valuable and cherished support.
- Martina Winston – 1001 Stoneykirk Road, Pelham, AL 35124 – expressed her appreciation for the Pelham community and the support they have given her family.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Coram thanked Jada Winston for her attendance tonight and wished her the best at the upcoming Miss Alabama Pageant. He stated he would miss the first council meeting in July as he will be journeying with Hope’s Cry to Uganda to support local leaders to help rescue at-risk children in the area.

Councilmember Leverett encouraged everyone to vote for Jada Winston for the Miss Alabama People’s Choice. He encouraged Ms. Winston to go out there and shine her light. He stated the annual Fire on the Water fireworks display will be held on July 3, 2025 at Oak Mountain State Park. He said this is one of the best shows around and encouraged everyone to come and enjoy the evening.

Councilmember Wash congratulated Jada Winston and wished her luck at the Miss Alabama Pageant. He thanked Martina Winston, for her kind words. He took a moment to recognize Willard Payne, former Pelham city council member for 32 years, who was in attendance tonight. He said Mr. Payne helped shape the City of Pelham into what we know today.

Councilmember Harris wished Jada Winston good luck with the Miss Alabama Pageant. He reminded the residents of Pelham to take advantage of what the City has to offer this summer. He said there are many great things right here in town so be sure to stay active and involved.

Council President Mercer congratulated Jada Winston on the upcoming Miss Alabama Pageant. He said he had the opportunity to attend the flag retirement ceremony this weekend at the Pelham City Cemetery. He said the Movies in the Park had to be relocated to the Pelham Recreation Center due to the weather but still had over 200 in attendance. He noted his excitement for Putter Up to have their opening day today at Campus 124. He mentioned Juneteenth will be celebrated this Thursday and is thankful we as a country can celebrate freedom for two weeks each year.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Qualifying for the 2025 Pelham Municipal Election concludes promptly at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 24, 2025. Please contact City Clerk/Treasurer Jonathan Seale with questions by calling 205.620.6404.
2. Pelham City Offices will be closed on Thursday, June 19, 2025 in observance of Juneteenth.
3. The City of Pelham will host its annual *Fire on the Water* celebration in partnership with Oak Mountain State Park on Thursday, July 3, 2025. The event begins at 5:00 p.m. with activities, music, food trucks, and more. The fireworks show begins at 9:00 p.m. Gates will close promptly at 7:00 p.m. to allow ample time for everyone to make their way to the beach before the show. Please plan accordingly.
4. Pelham City Offices will be closed on Friday, July 4, 2025 in observance of Independence Day.

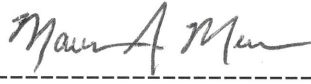
ADJOURNMENT

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 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 16th day of June 2025.



Jonathan Seale, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

