



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Pelham City Hall
City Council Chambers
September 30, 2025 – 12:00 Noon**

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: September 30, 2025
Time: 12:00 Noon
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 12:01 p.m. Council President Mercer led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council President Mercer.

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 not present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Coram made a motion to approve the September 30, 2025 City Council Agenda as presented. Councilmember Harris seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of those members of the council present and the Council President declared the same passed.

PUBLIC HEARING(S) – None

MAYOR'S REPORT/COMMENTS – None

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

REPORT BY THE CITY MANAGER – None

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. Provisional Ballot Canvass – None
- 2. **Resolution 2025-09-30-01** for consideration to canvass the results of the 2025 Pelham Municipal Runoff Election was introduced by Council President Mercer.

Councilmember Wash made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-09-30-01 and canvass the results of the 2025 Pelham Municipal Runoff Election. Councilmember Coram seconded the motion.

Council President Mercer requested his statement be included in the minutes as follows:

“On Election Day, an elderly member of our community arrived at the polls within the legally established hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Unfortunately, they were unable to cast their ballot because the doors had already been locked. The reason given was that the voting machines had registered 7:00 p.m., even though the cellphone GPS timing showed it was still a few minutes earlier.

Voting machines should always be calibrated to the official time—not several minutes fast. In today’s world, nearly every cell phone syncs within seconds, and there is no reason a polling place should close early and risk disenfranchising a voter.

As we move forward, I encourage election officials and poll inspectors to ensure that the time on our machines matches the actual and generally accepted official time of day. Every citizen deserves full access to the voting hours guaranteed by law. No one should ever lose their right to vote because of something so preventable.”

There being no further discussion, Council President Mercer asked the City Clerk/Treasurer for a roll call vote to approve Resolution 2025-09-30-01.

The roll call vote 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 approve Resolution 2025-09-30-01 passed unanimously by roll call vote of those members present and the President of the Council declared the same passed and adopted.

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.

Lynn Waters – 131 Pelham Heights Road, Pelham, AL 35124 – Regarding her position as Chief Inspector of the voting precinct at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena for the 2025 Municipal Runoff Election. She stated the time in which the polls open and close are dictated by the voting machines, not cell phones.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Coram made no additional comments.

Councilmember Leverett congratulated Chris Townes and Markus Snowden on their victories. He also thanked Ron Griggs for running a good campaign. He said he looked forward to serving alongside the new council members.

Councilmember Wash congratulated all the candidates who ran for office this year. He said it is hard to run for public office. He added he hopes those who were not elected will stay involved and look for other ways to serve Pelham citizens.

Councilmember Harris thanked Lynn Waters for her leadership and for serving as a polling official for 33 years.

Council President Mercer congratulated Chris Townes and Markus Snowden on their victories. He thanked Ron Griggs for a well run race and looked forward to him continuing to serve on the Pelham Planning Commission.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business before the city council, Councilmember Coram moved to adjourn the council meeting and Councilmember Leverett seconded the motion. By voice vote the motion passed unanimously by those members present and the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 30th day of September 2025.



Jonathan Seale, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council



