



Pelham

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CITY OF PELHAM WATER DEPARTMENT

Pelham City Hall – Council Conference Room

February 17, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Proper notice of the meeting of the City of Pelham Water Department was given at least 72 hours in advance of such public meeting and the notice remained posted throughout the scheduled meeting.

Members of the Pelham Water Department met on Monday, February 17, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Conference Room at Pelham City Hall. The meeting was open to the public.

Call to Order

The Pelham Water Department meeting was called to order by Councilmember Mercer at 4:00 p.m.

Record of Attendance

The following members of the Water Department were present:

Present: Councilmember Maurice Mercer
 Councilmember David Coram
 Councilmember Chad Leverett
 Councilmember Rick Wash
 Councilmember Michael Harris, Jr.
 Mayor/Superintendent Gary Waters

Media Present: ABC 33/40, Shelby County Reporter

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.

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Coram moved to approve the January 22, 2025 Water Department Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wash. There being no further discussion, Councilmember Mercer announced the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of those members present.

Old Business – None

New Business

1. Request to Address the Water Department – Jamilla Broom

Director of Development Services & Public Works André Bittas explained the request of Jamilla Broom, 384 Holland Lakes Drive, Pelham, Alabama 35124, regarding a water billing and sewer rate adjustment. He stated Mrs. Broom had a leak on her side of the meter during the sewer rate averaging period. He stated Mrs. Broom applied for a billing adjustment on October 16, 2024, 170 days from the date of the water leak. He stated the customer was denied an adjustment because her application was received outside the 60-day window.

Mrs. Broom addressed the Pelham Water Department during tonight's meeting.

A motion was made by Councilmember Leverett to correct and reduce the monthly sewer bill from \$115.61 to \$64.25 and credit the difference to the customer's account. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Wash. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by those members of the Water Department present.

It was noted for the record the sewer rate would only be adjusted, the full amount of the water bill would still be owed by the customer.

2. Request to Address the Water Department – Maggie Bidy

Director of Development Services & Public Works André Bittas explained the request of Maggie Bidy, 5553 Parkside Drive, Pelham, Alabama 35124, regarding a water bill adjustment. He stated Ms. Bidy's water usage in June 2024 was higher than average which he said was likely due to filling her swimming pool. He said the usage continued to increase through September 2024. Mrs. Bidy was notified of the leak and she had it fixed the same day. Mrs. Bidy applied for a water billing adjustment on December 11, 2024 and was denied because her application was received outside the 60-day window.

Ms. Bidy addressed the Pelham Water Department during tonight's meeting.

A motion was made by Councilmember Wash to adjust the August 2024 water bill from \$169.56 to \$95.58 and the September water bill from \$460.79 to \$240.90 and credit the difference to the customer's account. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Leverett. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by those members of the Water Department present.

3. Request to Address the Water Department – Jamie Blalock

Director of Development Services & Public Works André Bittas explained the request of Jamie Blalock, 900 Frontier Drive, Pelham, Alabama 35124, regarding a sewer bill adjustment. He stated the customer experienced a sewage backup and hired a plumber to remove the blockage only to discover the issue was on the City's side of the sewer lateral. The customer paid Precision Services (Invoice No. 7144) \$1,027.65.

A motion was made by Councilmember Coram to refund the full amount of \$1,027.65 by crediting Ms. Blalock's utility account. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Wash. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by those members of the Water Department present.

Updated decision as of Thursday, February 20, 2025:

Per City Manager Gretchen DiFante and Director of Development Services & Public Works, Ms. Blalock would be receiving a check for \$1,027.65 instead of receiving credit on her utility account.

4. Request to Address the Water Department – John Turner

Director of Development Services & Public Works André Bittas explained the request of John Turner, 116 Chase Creek Circle, Pelham, Alabama 35124, regarding a water bill adjustment. He stated AT&T's contractor was in the area using a directional boring machine to lay fiberoptic cable underground. He stated the contractor hit the City's marked waterline which eventually caused Mr. Turner's pressure regulator and backflow preventer to fail. Mr. Turner paid The Neighborhood Plumber Inc. (Invoice No. 68241) \$592.00 for the repair. Mr. Bittas stated after further investigation, it was determined the City had improperly marked the waterline.

A motion was made by Councilmember Wash to refund the full amount of \$592.00 by crediting Mr. Turner's utility account. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Coram. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by those members of the Water Department present.

Adjournment

With no other business before the Pelham Water Department, Councilmember Coram moved to adjourn the Water Department meeting and Councilmember Harris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present and the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 17th day of February 2025.



Jonathan Seale, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, Councilmember

