



# CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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**Pelham City Hall  
City Council Chambers  
April 23, 2026 – 5:30 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:** April 23, 2026  
**Time:** 5:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Pelham City Hall – City Council Chambers  
**Present:** Councilmember Michelle Power  
Councilmember Christine Townes  
President of the Council Pro Tempore Markus Hal Snowden  
Councilmember Michael Harris  
Mayor Rick Wash

**Not Present:** President of the Council Chad Leverett

## CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Pro Tempore Snowden called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Councilmember Townes 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.

## AGENDA ADDITION(S)

Councilmember Townes made a motion to add Resolution 2026-04-23-06 to the April 23, 2026 city council meeting agenda. Councilmember Harris seconded the motion.

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

## 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 and 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 taken up either immediately after the consent agenda is approved or placed later on the agenda at the discretion of the presiding officer and City Council.

1. Approval of the April 23, 2026 City Council Agenda
2. Approval of the April 9, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
3. **Resolution 2026-04-23-01** for consideration to approve a final change order for the Greenway Trail Phase IV Surfacing Project. This project was completed under budget.
4. **Resolution 2026-04-23-02** for consideration to authorize an agreement with Gresham Smith to provide on-call traffic engineering and signal operation services including signal maintenance, repairs, upgrades, optimization, and timing improvements. This project was budgeted for FY2026.

5. **Resolution 2026-04-23-03** for consideration to repeal and replace Resolution 2021-02-15-05, which established the City of Pelham Water Bill Adjustment Policy
6. **Resolution 2026-04-23-04** for consideration to grant exclusive wall space at the Pelham Civic Complex to the Pelham B.E.A.T.
7. **Resolution 2026-04-23-05** for consideration to authorize an FY2026 budget amendment to fund certain capital projects
8. **Ordinance No. 529** to declare an empty panel space on City-owned signage located at the corner of U.S. Highway 31 and Amphitheater Road as surplus real property (**First Reading was on April 9, 2026**)

Council President Pro Tempore Snowden stated the complete text of the agenda, minutes, ordinances, and resolutions are available at Pelham City Hall and online at [www.pelhamalabama.gov](http://www.pelhamalabama.gov).

Councilmember Power made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented by Council President Pro Tempore Snowden. Councilmember Harris seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, Council President Pro Tempore Snowden asked the City Clerk/Treasurer for a roll call vote. The vote to adopt the Consent Agenda was recorded as follows:

Chad Leverett, Council President	<u>Not Present</u>
Michelle Power, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Christine Townes, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Markus Hal Snowden, Council President Pro Tempore	<u>Yes</u>
Michael Harris, 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 Pro Tempore declared the same passed and adopted.

MAYOR'S REPORT/COMMENTS

Mayor Wash stated the Pelham Strong Walk & 5K and Home Run Derby were great events over the weekend. He said they were able to honor former Mayor Gary Waters as the recipient of the inaugural Hometown Hero Award. He said it was a great day especially after the Pelham Police Department defeated the Pelham Fire Department for the first time in the Home Run Derby.

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

1. Proclaiming April 2026 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month in Pelham, Alabama

Mayor Wash presented the Proclamation to representatives from Owens House.

REPORT BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Gretchen DiFante celebrated and recognized the retirement of Lt. Steve Johnson. She stated she sincerely appreciated his leadership during the times of transition in the Police Department. Police Chief Ed Delmore and Deputy Chief Kevin Davis presented Lt. Johnson with his badge and a plaque and thanked him for his 25 years of dedicated service to the City of Pelham.

1. Department Report – Pelham Police

Police Chief Ed Elmore provided an update on departmental initiatives, including the Criminal Enforcement Award program. He noted the award program is designed to recognize officers for proactive enforcement efforts while reinforcing the department's commitment to maintaining a safe community and deterring criminal activity. Under the program, officers receive points for self-initiated felony arrests, with those accumulating ten or more points eligible for the Criminal Enforcement Award. Chief Delmore noted that Officer Traylor recently received the award.

Chief Delmore also discussed the department's upcoming Youth Academy, an initiative aimed at fostering positive relationships between law enforcement and the community. He referenced the longstanding success of similar programs, including those pioneered by Bob Brandkamp, and noted the program is being coordinated locally with support from partnering organizations. The academy is scheduled for June 8-12, with registration opening in early May. The program will provide participants with insight into law enforcement operations, including interactions with guest speakers and members of the judicial system, with the goal of promoting understanding, building trust, and encouraging future interest in law enforcement careers.

Additionally, Chief Delmore addressed ongoing recruitment efforts, noting the continued challenge of attracting qualified candidates. He explained that the Department has enhanced its recruitment strategy through updated videos and targeted social media outreach aimed at broader geographic areas. These efforts are intended to highlight the department's mission and attract individuals who are well-suited for a career in law enforcement.

REPORT BY THE CITY ATTORNEY – None

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

1. To consider the condemnation of substantially damaged buildings located along Chandalar Court in Pelham, Alabama.
2. To consider the revocation of a business license for property located at 1902 Highway 31 South currently operating as Siegel Select Birmingham II.

Councilmember Harris made a motion to recess the April 23, 2026 city council meeting for the purpose of holding two (2) public hearings, for which proper notice has been given. Councilmember Townes seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, the motion passed by unanimous voice vote of those members of the city council present and the President of the Council Pro Tempore declared the same passed and the city council meeting recessed at 5:59 p.m.

Council President Pro Tempore Snowden called the first public hearing to order for the purpose of hearing testimony regarding the condemnation of substantially damaged buildings located along Chandalar Court in Pelham, Alabama.

City of Pelham Building Official Levis Peter provided an explanation and history of the property.

Council President Pro Tempore Snowden asked for those speaking in favor of the condemnation to come forward.

Speaking in favor:

- Eddie McClain – 1900 Chandalar Court, Pelham, AL 35124

Council President Pro Tempore Snowden asked for those speaking against the condemnation to come forward.

- None

There being no further discussion, Council President Pro Tempore Snowden announced the first public hearing had concluded.

Council President Pro Tempore Snowden called the second public hearing to order for the purpose of hearing testimony regarding the revocation of a business license for property located at 1902 Highway 31 South, currently operating as Siegel Select Birmingham II in Pelham, Alabama.

City of Pelham Attorney Josh Arnold, Assistant City Manager Justin Smith, and Finance Director Jamie Wagner provided an overview of the facts of the case against Siegel Select Birmingham II.

Council President Pro Tempore Snowden asked for those speaking in favor of the revocation to come forward.

- None

Council President Pro Tempore Snowden asked for those speaking against the revocation to come forward.

Speaking against:

- Jeff Pino, Attorney for Siegel Select Birmingham II – 363 Canyon Park Dr, Pelham, AL 35124
- Elizabeth Ann Meadows White – Resident of Siegel Select Birmingham II
- Darla – Resident of Siegel Select Birmingham II
- Katie Candolfie – Employee and resident of Siegel Select Birmingham II
- Jason Wingard – Resident of Siegel Select Birmingham II
- Charles McPherson, Jr. – Resident of Siegel Select Birmingham II

There being no further discussion, Council President Pro Tempore Snowden announced the second public hearing had concluded and called the April 23, 2026 city council meeting back to order at 6:59 p.m.

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. **Resolution 2026-04-23-06** for consideration of an ABC License Application 140 – Special Events Retail – for applicant Margarita Grill LLC operating under the trade name Margarita Grill Cinco de Mayo 2026 located at 234 Cahaba Valley Road, Pelham, AL 35124 was introduced by Council President Pro Tempore Snowden.

A representative of the applicant was present and noted this is an annual event held by Margarita Grill.

Councilmember Townes made a motion to approve and adopt Resolution 2026-04-23-06. Councilmember Harris seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, the motion to adopt Resolution 2026-04-23-06 passed by a unanimous voice vote of those members present and the President of the Council Pro Tempore 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.*

*Please note, the public comment period is intended for comments only. It is not a public hearing, nor is it a time for dialogue, debate, or questions to the City Council. Any questions or requests for additional information will be noted and may be addressed by the appropriate City staff or officials at a later time.*

- Tom Robinson - 572 Cahaba Manor Drive, Pelham, AL 35124 – Spoke in high regard of the Pelham Police Department following a recent incident in their neighborhood.
- Jacob Tidmore – Regarding his campaign for Shelby County Property Tax Commissioner

#### CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Power expressed her appreciation to those who spoke tonight and noted the city council values public input. She acknowledged comments shared during the meeting and commended recent community efforts and events, including those associated with Owens House, the Police Youth Academy, the Pelham Police Department, and the Pelham Strong Walk & 5K held over the weekend.

Councilmember Townes thanked everyone for attending tonight and noted the city council has several important matters to thoughtfully consider. She said she was excited for Margarita Grill and their upcoming

Cinco de Mayo celebration. She also highlighted the success of the Pelham Strong Walk & 5K, the Home Run Derby, and the Paul Revere One-Mile Midnight Run.

Council President Pro Tempore Snowden thanked those in attendance tonight for their presence and participation, noting the importance of respectful engagement regardless of differing viewpoints. He emphasized the city council is committed to actively listening to all perspectives and fostering a constructive and considerate dialogue.

Councilmember Harris thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He thanked Margarita Grill for continuing their annual Cinco de Mayo event. He said having come from a firefighter family, he hoped Chief Reid and the Fire Department would have a better performance next year during the Home Run Derby after losing for the first time to the Pelham Police Department.

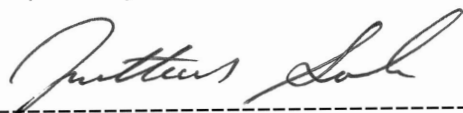
#### PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. A special called work session of the Pelham City Council will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Pelham City Hall for the purpose of holding interviews for the Pelham Board of Education, Place No. 3.
2. A public hearing will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Pelham City Hall to consider whether the City of Pelham will assume ownership and maintenance of privately owned sewer lift stations located in the Holland Lakes Subdivision, with costs to be paid by special assessment of property owners in said Subdivision.
3. The spring shred and electronic recycling event hosted by Secure Shredding & Recycling and the City of Pelham is scheduled for Saturday, May 16, 2026 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 electronic recycling are available on the City's website, [pelhamalabama.gov](http://pelhamalabama.gov).

#### ADJOURNMENT

With no other business before the city council, Councilmember Townes 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 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 23rd day of April 2026.



Jonathan Seale, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Markus Hal Snowden  
President of the Council Pro Tempore

