



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

SPECIAL WORK SESSION **Pelham City Hall – Council Chambers** **August 12, 2026 – 4:00 p.m.**

Proper notice of the special called work session of the Pelham City Council was given in advance of such a public meeting and the notice remained posted throughout the scheduled meeting.

Members of the Pelham City Council met on Wednesday, August 12, 2026. The special work session was held in the Council Chambers at Pelham City Hall and was open to the public.

Call to Order

The special called work session was called to order by Council President Leverett at 4:01 p.m.

Record of Attendance

The following elected officials were present:

President of the Council Chad Leverett
Councilmember Michelle Power
Councilmember Christine Townes
Councilmember Markus Hal Snowden
Councilmember Michael Harris
Mayor Rick Wash

The city clerk/treasurer recorded the attendance of the elected officials and announced a quorum was present. City Manager Gretchen DiFante was present.

Media Present: None

Others Present: City department heads, city employees, and members of the public.

New Business

1. FY2027 Department Budget Review

City Manager Gretchen DiFante, Assistant City Manager Justin Smith, and Finance Director Jamie Wagner reviewed the following departmental budgets with the mayor and city councilmembers:

- Information Technology – Presented by Director Chuck Crocker and Systems Administrator Ijaron Sumbry
- Court – Presented by Court Clerk/Chief Magistrate Jennifer Bridwell

Executive Session

Council President Leverett stated for the record the purpose of the Executive Session is to discuss security plans, procedures, assessments, measures, or systems, or the security or safety of persons, structures, facilities, or other infrastructures, including, without limitation, information concerning critical infrastructure, as defined by federal law, and critical energy infrastructure information, as defined by federal law, the public disclosures of which could reasonably be expected to be detrimental to public safety or welfare under Section 36-25A-7(a)(4), Code of Alabama (1975), as amended.

City Attorney Josh Arnold, by letter, stated the purpose of tonight's Executive Session is appropriate under Section 36-25A-7(a)(4), Code of Alabama (1975), as amended.

A motion was made by Councilmember Snowden to enter into an Executive Session of the city council for the stated purpose. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Harris.

Council President Leverett asked the City Clerk/Treasurer for a roll call vote. The vote to adopt said motion was recorded as follows:

Chad Leverett, Council President	<u>Yes</u>
Michelle Power, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Christine Townes, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Markus Hal Snowden, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Michael Harris, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>

Council President Leverett noted the Executive Session would take place in the Council Conference Room and asked the members of the City Council, Mayor Wash, City Manager Gretchen DiFante, Assistant City Manager Justin Smith, Finance Director Jamie Wagner, Police Chief Ed Delmore, Police Department Personnel, City Officials, and Clerk/Treasurer Jonathan Seale attend the Executive Session. Council President Leverett stated he expected the city council to return from the Executive Session in approximately 30 minutes. The city council went into an Executive Session at 5:22 p.m.

Councilmember Harris moved to adjourn the Executive Session. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Snowden. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the Executive Session was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Council President Leverett called the August 12, 2026 city council special work session back to order at 6:29 p.m.

- Police Department – Presented by Chief Ed Delmore, Captain Stephen Brock, and Administrative Assistant Holly Coffman
- Trash Fund (Revisited) – Presented by City Manager Gretchen DiFante and Assistant City Manager Justin Smith

It was the consensus of those members of the city council present to move forward with removing the City's subsidy from the Trash Fund and to increase the monthly rate effective January 1, 2027.

It was noted for the record the FY2027 Department Budget Review concluded at 8:10 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the special work session was made by Councilmember Harris and seconded by Councilmember Snowden. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present and the work session was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 12th day of August 2026.



Jonathan Seale, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Chad Leverett, President of the Council



August 12, 2026

City of Pelham, Alabama
Attn: Jonathan Seale, City Clerk/Treasurer
P.O. Box 1419
Pelham, AL 35124

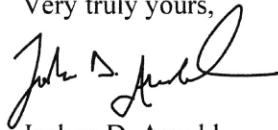
Re: Opinion on Applicability of Executive Session

Dear Jonathan:

This is to advise you and the members of the City of Pelham City Council ("City") that I have reviewed the matters on which the City Council is considering convening an executive session to discuss security plans, procedures, assessments, measures, or systems, or the security or safety of persons, structures, facilities, or other infrastructures, including, without limitation, information concerning critical infrastructure, as defined by federal law, and critical energy infrastructure information, as defined by federal law, the public disclosures of which could reasonably be expected to be detrimental to public safety or welfare. Provided, however, that when the discussion involves critical infrastructure or critical energy infrastructure information, the owners and operators of such infrastructure shall be given notice and an opportunity to attend the session. I have determined that, in my legal opinion, this matter is appropriate for executive session under Section 36-25A-7(a)(4), Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

Pursuant to Section 36-25A-7(a)(4), a copy of this letter should be attached to the minutes of the City Council meeting wherein the City Council considers the motion to convene an executive session to discuss this matter.

Very truly yours,



Joshua D. Arnold
Attorney for the City of Pelham
Alabama Bar No. ASB-0018-A28A



Pelham

A path apart.

SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

WAIVER OF NOTICE

We, the undersigned members of the City Council of the City of Pelham, Alabama, hereby waive notice of a Special Called Work Session of the Pelham City Council for the purpose of discussing and reviewing the FY2027 department budgets; and/or other council business and do consent that said Special Called City Council Work Session for said purpose be held in the Council Chambers of Pelham City Hall in the City of Pelham, Alabama at 4:00 p.m. on the 12th day of August 2026.

Chad Leverett, President of the Council

Councilmember Michelle Power

Councilmember Christine Townes

Councilmember Markus Hal Snowden

Councilmember Michael Harris