

MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF MIDFIELD

CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Midfield, Alabama met in a regular public session via Zoom in the City of Midfield, Alabama on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Gary Richardson presiding.

1. Rev. David Austin led attendees in prayer.
2. Mayor Gary Richardson led the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Ashley Lewis, City Clerk, called roll. The following members were present: Councilor Janice Anderson, Councilor James Reasor, Councilor Velma Johnson, Mayor Pro-Tem Terry Adams, Councilor Wendy Merriweather, and Mayor Gary Richardson.

The Mayor stated that a quorum was present and that the meeting was open for the transaction of business.

4. **Approval of Agenda:** Councilor, Janice Anderson, made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor, Velma Johnson. All members present voted aye, passing the motion unanimously.
5. **Approval of Minutes from last regular scheduled meeting:** Councilor, Velma Johnson made a motion to approve minutes from the last regular scheduled meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor, Wendy Merriweather. All members present voted aye, passing the motion unanimously.
6. **Approval of Bills:** Councilor, Velma Johnson, made a motion to approve March # 2 bills in the amount of \$81,138.00. The motion was seconded by Councilor, Wendy Merriweather. All members present voted aye, passing the motion unanimously
7. **Approval of new business license:** Mayor Pro Tem, Terry Adams, made a motion to approve new business license for Posh Beauty Bar and Spa LLC located at 20 Phillips Dr. Midfield, AL 35228. The motion was seconded by Councilor Velma Johnson. All members present voted aye, passing the motion unanimously.
8. **Approval of new business license:** Councilor Wendy Merriweather made a motion to approve new business license for Bella's Baby Boutique LLC located at 6504 Cordrey Ct. Midfield, AL 35228. The motion was seconded by Councilor Janice Anderson. All members present voted aye, passing the motion unanimously.

9. **Approval of Resolution No. 2021 – 22:** Resolution of The City Council of Midfield, Alabama authorizing travel advance in the amount of \$1053.72 for City Clerk, Ashley Lewis, to attend the 2021 Alabama Association of Municipal Clerks & Administrators Summer Conference. Councilor Janice Anderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021 – 22. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wendy Merriweather. All members present voted aye, passing the motion unanimously.
10. **Approval of Resolution No. 2021 – 23:** Resolution of The City Council of Midfield, Alabama declaring weeds at the below properties to be a public nuisance. Councilor Velma Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021 – 08. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wendy Merriweather. All members present voted aye, passing the motion unanimously.

155 West Brookwood Rd.	30-24-2-13-14.000-RR
316 Bessemer Super Hwy.	30-24-2-18-16.000-RR
521 B.Y. Williams Sr. Dr.	30-24-1-10-80.000-RR
525 B.Y. Williams Sr. Dr.	30-24-1-10-81.000-RR
144 Parkwood St.	30-24-2-13-10.000-RR
148 Parkwood St.	30-24-2-13-11.000-RR
1629 Collier Dr.	30-24-2-27-4.000-RR
1213 Gale Dr.	30-13-4-23-4.000-RR
1200 12 th Ave.	30-22-3-23-18.000-RR
805 12 th Ave.	30-22-4-30-2.000-RR
205 12 th Ave.	30-22-4-32-2.000-RR
1007 Cherry St.	30-26-2-3-13.000-RR
1211 9 th St.	30-27-1-5-2.000-RR
1365 Woodward Rd.	30-24-1-3-4.000-RR
1345 Woodward Rd.	30-13-4-20-12.000-RR

11. **Approval of Resolution No. 2021 – 24:** Resolution of The City Council of Midfield, Alabama authorizing travel advance in the amount of \$1040.72 for City Councilmember, Wendy Merriweather, to attend the 2021 Alabama League of Municipalities Annual Convention. Councilor Janice Anderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021 – 24 with amendments to the wording of the Resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilor James Reasor. The motion was passed with council members Janice Anderson, James Reasor, Terry Adams, Velma Johnson and Mayor Gary Richardson voting in favor. Council member Wendy Merriweather abstained due to a conflict of interest.
- 12-16. **Appointment of Zoning Board of Adjustment Members** Dave Darnell, Marva Douglas, Novetta Tubbs, Williamena Richardson and Michele Toney. Councilor Velma Johnson made a motion to appoint above listed members. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wendy Merriweather. The motion was passed with council members Janice

Anderson, James Reasor, Terry Adams, Velma Johnson and Wendy Merriweather voting in favor. Mayor Gary Richardson abstained due to a conflict of interest

17. **Executive session:** The City Council of Midfield Alabama voted to go into executive session to discuss a possible settlement proposal. Councilor Janice Anderson made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilor Velma Johnson. All members present voted aye, passing the motion unanimously. The executive session began at 6:45pm and ended at 7:05pm. After returning, a roll call vote was taken on the proposed settlement with the following results:

Terry Adams – Yes
James Reasor – No
Janice Anderson – Yes
Wendy Merriweather – Abstain
Velma Johnson – Yes
Gary Richardson – Yes

The motion passed.

18. **Report from Mayor:** This is Jeff's last meeting with us before he heads to the City of Clanton. Jeff has been with us for 27 years. Ashley has ordered a list from the personnel board for Public Works Director. However, no list is available at this time. The mechanic Justin is also leaving to go the City of Irondale. Good luck to Jeff and we wish you well and we will miss you. You have been a plus to this administration and thank you for your many years of service to Midfield. Had an opportunity to meet with the First Lady of the United States Dr. Jill Biden. I was one of 30 people invited in the room to meet with her. I was the only mayor beside the host Mayor Woodfin. Tomorrow I will be at Midfield High School at 9am for the Career Tech Program.
- **Sgt. Parham (Police Department)** – Police Dept is doing business as usual. Recently on the 6th we had a kidnapping of 2 juveniles. However, the suspect has been arrested and charged. Currently there is no particular plan to address hearing gunshots other than doing what we are currently doing which is patrolling the area. If someone calls and report gunshots we do go out to the location. I will get with Chief Bell to see if we have a particular plan in place for open gunshots
 - **Chief Jones (Fire Department)** – Currently checking fire hydrants and doing business inspections and answering calls. The pressure on fire hydrants have not been turned up they are all the same.
 - **Van Smith (City Inspector)** – Hot Metal is about 80% complete with the sheet metal. It is a large building. Archwell has started drywall and I advised them to go ahead and get their business license. Crab Barracks has stop work for two weeks due the grand opening of Crab Barracks in another location. The place is looking great in the inside. We still have a lot of residential work going on.

- **Jeff Zissette (Public Works)** – I have enjoyed working for the City of Midfield, the Council and Mayor Richardson, Chief Jones, Chief Bell and Ashley. It was a hard decision to make. However, I have enjoyed Midfield and I will assist in any way possible.

19. Report from Council:

- **Mayor Pro Tem Terry Adams** – Nothing at this time
- **Councilor Janice Anderson** – I would like to thank everyone who came out and helped with the Easter Egg Hunt. Jeff I will miss you. We have worked together a long time. Thank you so much for everything you have done.
- **Councilor James Reasor** – Jeff thanks for everything you have done. Hopefully we can get on top of these shootings. We really need to do something about that.
- **Councilor Wendy Merriweather** – Jeff, you have been most helpful to me on a lot of things that did not deal with public works. I really appreciate you and I will truly miss you Jeff. Earth day campus clean-up will be April 22nd that morning around 10am. Wednesday will be signing day for the captain of the basketball team will be at 12 noon.
- **Councilor Velma Johnson** – Thank you Jeff. You are always so kind when I call. My neighborhood and the city look great. Thank you Jeff

20. Meeting open to public via Zoom due to COVID19 – Joe Matthews, retiree of the city of Midfield, came forward to speak concerning retirement has been reduced due to Midfield being behind on paying contributions to the RSA. I have talked to the city clerk about this and I wanted to express my concern to the council. Mayor Richardson stated that we are aware and we are working on getting our contributions up to date and we have made it a priority.

21. Adjourn: Councilor Velma Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wendy Merriweather. All members present voted aye, passing the motion unanimously.