

## MEETING MINUTES

May 8, 2023

Regular Council Meeting

The City Council of the City of Midfield, Alabama met for a regular council meeting at City Hall on Monday, May 8, 2023, at 6:01 p.m. with Mayor Gary Richardson presiding.

1. Tyrone Lloyd provided the invocation.
2. Mayor Richardson led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call:**

The following were present at roll call:

Mayor Gary Richardson  
Mayor Pro Tem Terry Adams  
Councilor Velma Johnson  
Councilor Wendy Merriweather  
Councilor James Reasor  
Councilor Janice Anderson

A quorum was established, and the meeting was open for the consideration of city business.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Councilor Janice Anderson made motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor Merriweather. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye and there was no opposition. Motion passed; agenda was approved unanimously.
2. **Approval of Minutes from the last regularly scheduled meeting:** Mayor Pro Tem Adams made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the April 24, 2023 scheduled meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Velma Johnson. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye and there was no opposition. Motion passed.
3. **Approval of Bills:** Mayor Pro Tem Terry Adams made motion to approve May #1 bills in the amount of \$71, 177.27. The motion was seconded by Councilor Velma Johnson. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye and there was no opposition. Motion passed; May #1 bills were approved.
4. **Approval of Resolution No. 2023.08-31:** A Resolution of the City of Midfield, AL to declare the following weeds located on the following sixteen (16) properties to be a public nuisance and order for said nuisances to be abated. (Recommended by Tyrone Lloyd, Director, Street and Sanitation/Park and Recreation)

- 911 M.L.K. Jr Rd. Parcel#: 3000233008018.000
- 36 M.L.K. Jr Rd. Parcel#: 3000234005010.000
- 144 Parkwood Rd. Parcel#: 3000242013010.000
- 146 Woodward Rd. Parcel#: 3000242020008.000
- 142 Woodward Rd. Parcel #: 3000241012001.000
- 517 Lovey St. Parcel #: 3000241018001.000
- 1629 Collier Dr. Parcel #: 3000242027004.000
- 421 Grant St. Parcel #: 3000242021015.000
- 919 13<sup>th</sup> St. Parcel #: 3000223023026.000
- 919 14<sup>th</sup> St Parcel #: 3000223023010.000
- 603 13<sup>th</sup> St Parcel #: 3000223008003.000
- 911 7<sup>th</sup> Ave Parcel #: 3000223012005.000
- 902 8<sup>th</sup> Ave Parcel #: 3000223012015.000
- 900 12<sup>th</sup> Ave Parcel #: 3000223021009.000
- 1213 Woodfall Dr. Parcel #: 3000262006007.000
- 68 Wilkes Cir. Parcel #: 3000262010026.000

Mayor Pro Tem Terry Adams made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023.08-31. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wendy Merriweather. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye and there was no opposition. Motion passed; Resolution 2023.08-31 was approved.

5. **Approval of Resolution No. 2023.08-32:** A Resolution of the City of Midfield, AL to approve an advance travel request for Velma Johnson, City Councilor in the amount of \$2551.46 to attend the ICSC conference from May 20-23,2023 in Las Vegas, NV. Councilor Janice Anderson made the motion to approve Resolution 2023.08-32. The motion was seconded by Councilor James Reasor. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye with an abstention from Councilor Velma Johnson and there was no opposition. Motion passed; Resolution 2023.08-32 was approved.
6. **Approval of Resolution No. 2023.08-33:** A Resolution of the City of Midfield, AL to approve an advance travel request for Janice Anderson, City Councilor in the amount of \$2551.46 to attend the ICSC conference from May 20-23, 2023, in Las Vegas, NV. Councilor Velma Johnson made the motion to approve Resolution 2023.08-33. The motion was seconded by Councilor Mayor Pro Tem Terry Adams. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye with an abstention from Councilor Janice Anderson. The motion was passed; Resolution 2023.08-33 was approved.
7. **Approval of Resolution No. 2023.08-34:** A Resolution of the City of Midfield, AL to approve an advance travel request for James Reasor, City Councilor in the amount of \$2929.20 to attend the ICSC conference from May 20-24,2023 in Las Vegas, NV. Councilor Velma Johnson made the motion to approve Resolution 2023.08-34. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Terry Adams. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye with an abstention from Councilor James Reasor and there was no opposition. Motion passed; Resolution 2023.08-34 was approved.
8. **Approval of Resolution No. 2023.08-35:** A Resolution of the City of Midfield, AL to approve an advance travel request for Mayor Pro Tem Terry Adams, City Councilor in the amount of \$2443.87 to attend the ICSC conference from May 21-

24,2023 in Las Vegas, NV. Councilor Janice Anderson made the motion to approve Resolution 2023.08-35. The motion was seconded by Councilor James Reasor. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye with an abstention from Mayor Pro Tem Adams and there was no opposition. Motion passed; Resolution 2023.08-35 was approved.

**9. Approval of Resolution No. 2023.08-36:** A Resolution of the City of Midfield, AL to approve an advance travel request for Falencia Ratcliff, Accounting Assistant II in the amount of \$1,353.38 to attend the Understanding Laws and Regulations class for the Certified Revenue Examiners program from May 9-13, 2023, in Opelika, AL. Councilor Janice Anderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023.08-36. The motion was seconded by Councilor Velma Johnson. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye and there was no opposition. Motion passed; Resolution 2023.08-36 was approved.

**10. Approval of Resolution No. 2023.08-37:** A Resolution of the City of Midfield, AL to approve an advance travel request for Rodragus Woods, Accounting Assistant II in the amount of \$274.11 to attend the Certified Governmental Accounting Technician (CGAT) Budgeting class on May 24, 2023 in Tuscaloosa, AL. (Recommended by Courtney Hunter, City Clerk). Councilor Janice Anderson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023.08-37. The motion was seconded by Councilor Velma Johnson. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye and there was no opposition. Motion passed; Resolution 2023.08-37 was approved.

#### **11. Report from Mayor:**

- **Mayor Gary Richardson**-Provided a bingo update that we are still fighting in court.
- **Chief Kenneth Davis, Fire Department** –Reported about a paramedic shortage even on a national level as well as funding for paramedics but of 11 full time fire fighters, there are 7 paramedics and of 11 part time firefighters there are 3 paramedics... Also had a recruitment meeting with the Personnel Board.
- **Tyrone Lloyd, Public Works Department**-Reported that the Community Center is open full time ~~Mon-Fri~~<sup>Thru</sup> from 12:00-8:00pm and Saturdays 9:00-5:00pm. There are new tops at the Dugouts. There is also new construction at the Community Center including painting. The Highland Center looks very nice for our seniors and will be open by the end of the month. The Street and Sanitation Dept has collected 245 bags of trash and 75 tons of garbage.
- **Chief Jesse Bell, Police Department**- Reported about the incident with a police officer and the guy that is in custody was intoxicated and went to the emergency room. The police officer had major injuries but is doing well. 1033 was called to surrounding agencies to assist from Jefferson County, Hueytown, Bessemer and Birmingham. Mayor Richardson inquired about the effort to get more police officers. Chief Bell stated a police officer is going through testing and will be transferring through Jefferson sCounty. There

are 2 police officers in the academy and the City of Midfield has 5 new officers going through poly and others from Birmingham. Also mentioned that Chief Bell threw the first pitch at the Birmingham Barons game.

## **12. Report from Council:**

- **Mayor Pro Tem Adams-** Thanked the City Inspector for citing businesses in the City of Midfield and continue to call to make our City better. Also inquired about a replacement for Tyrone. The Personnel Board is hard finding qualified people.
- **Councilor Janice Anderson** –No report.
- **Councilor James Reasor** –Stated that the Highland Center looks great. Inquired with Chief Davis regarding the Personnel Board with high school students and the fire dept. and the recruitment program. Attended the tourism week conference that was a free event and made connections with the Baptist church to assist with our kids for future empowerment.
- **Councilor Wendy Merriweather** –Attended the Autism Walk on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the elementary school. Reported about a tentative date for a school wide clean up on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, waiting to confirm with the principal. Reported Fire Science Academy Competition with students (17) that the City of Midfield came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in finishing the course in record time. Opted not to go to Las Vegas but to take certified municipal official classes through the summer at \$45 online.
- **Councilor Velma Johnson-** Made an announcement about Memorial church on Woodward Rd having a Mental Health Wellness Day 10-1pm. Excited about Highland Center re-opening. Inquired about the incident on Frieda Dive with Chief Bell.

## **13. Public Comments:**

Nathan Williams: Thanked the Mayor and City Council for being reappointed for another term. Inquired about vacancies with the City Council and the process is confusing and frustrating. Pro Tem Adams mentioned Pre-Council meetings pre-Covid in the conference room. Mayor Richardson mentioned it is going to vary every year and that the Council appoints.

Larry Merriweather: Reported about the various graduations, dances and awards day from elementary to high school for the City of Midfield. Thanked Tyrone for cleaning the drainage and Chief Davis for the recruitment program as well as Chief Bell for Lt. Logan for no incidents. Spring Fling on May 22<sup>nd</sup>... Principal Perdue invited the Mayor and Council to the Commencement Ceremony to the Midfield High School 2023 on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the Bill Harris Arena.

Pub. works

Reginald Wilson: Thanked ~~the Mayor~~ and Council about getting the Community Center opened full time. Also inquired about the bills and the minutes that are supposed to be posted on the website. The city clerk is sending the minutes and bills to the webmaster to post to the website. Once approved, they will be uploaded to the website. Also inquired about a written report for Councilor Reasor's travel to the NLC Congressional Conference to Washington D.C. Councilor Reasor mentioned the investigation that needs to be done regarding Reginald Wilson's role in the park and recreation youth program.

James Croom- Reported about the neighborhood trash and cutting trees and limbs. The neighbor is putting the trash in his driveway.

Marva Douglas: Requested that the City Council meeting is later than 6:00pm due to residents getting off work at 5:00pm. Also requests to use a telephone line to let residents know of ordinances and resolutions that will affect them. Suggested landscaping for parking at City Hall. Mayor Richardson and Mayor Pro Tem Adams mentioned that the due diligence was done for public notice of the garbage fee increase including public notice by law as well as tv interviews to discuss the increase.

Vivian Waller: Inquired about grass being cut in the front yard but not the back yard as well as pinecones being everywhere. Mayor Richardson mentioned the private property owners taking care of the property. Also inquired about getting the minutes and resolutions along with the agenda.

#### **14. Adjourn:**

Councilor Janice Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Reasor. All members present voted aye, the meeting adjourned at 6:52pm.