



City of Midfield
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Midfield, Alabama 35228
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Gary Richardson, Mayor

Terry Adams, Mayor Pro Tem
Janice Anderson, Councilmember
Wendy Merriweather, Councilmember
James Reasor, Councilmember
Velma Johnson, Councilmember
Moses Hill, City Inspector

Falencia Ratcliff, City Clerk
Jesse Bell, Police Chief
Kenneth Davis, Fire Chief
Michael Lloyd, Public Works
David Sullivan, City Attorney

CITY OF MIDFIELD COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 11, 2024

6:00 PM

AGENDA

1. INVOCATION
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE LAST SCHEDULED MEETING.
6. APPROVAL OF MARCH #1 BILLS LIST-\$90,783.09
- 6a. REVIEW OF AUTOMAX APPLICATION (TABLED FOR NEXT MEETING)
7. REPORT FROM MAYOR
8. REPORT FROM COUNCIL
9. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
10. ADJOURN

MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2024

Regular Council Meeting

The City Council of the City of Midfield, Alabama met for a regular council meeting at City Hall on February 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Gary Richardson presiding.

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

The following were present at roll call:

Mayor Gary Richardson
Councilor Velma Johnson
Councilor Wendy Merriweather
Councilor James Reasor

A quorum was established, and the meeting was open to consider city business.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Councilor Velma Johnson motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wendy 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:** Councilor Wendy Merriweather motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Velma Johnson. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye and there was no opposition. Motion passed; The minutes were approved.
3. **Approval of Bills:** Councilor Velma Johnson made a motion to approve February#2 bills for \$86,210.86. The motion was seconded by Councilor James Reasor. A voice vote was taken. All present voted aye and there was no opposition. Motion passed; February #2 bills were approved.
3. **Report from the Mayor**
Mayor Gary Richardson- Stated that he was the keynote speaker at the American Business Association Meeting, where he was giving a speech on public speaking. The Mayor and Councilor Johnson was awarded a Hero and Shero award. Also, the

Mayor participated in an Empowerment Summit at the Recreation Center along with other city officials. He also moderated the Brenda Brown Bosom Buddies Black History Program at Kelly Ingram Park. There is an application for a new tenant for the old Hardees Building. The name of the business is "Ocean Seafood and Chicken". The mayor met with a City Engineer and the department heads to update the pavement list. The engineer will be going over the cost.

- a. **Chief Jesse Bell**- There is a new upcoming contract updating the list for the Redlight Program. which will include additional sites and equipment based on studies that have been done to decrease traffic accidents. There are two locations by the elementary school, one on the 1000th block of Woodward Rd., one on the 700 block of the Bessemer Super Highway, then one coming back towards City Hall on the Bessemer Super Highway. The police will be partnering with Councilor Johnson on National Night Out in August. There are some upcoming "Coffee with Cops", events to get the community acquainted with the current police officers that are working. There are two police officers in the process of being hired.
- b. **Chief Davis**- The Fire department will begin their internship with the High School for the Fire Science program starting March 5th. They will be coming twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The criteria for the program are: Age requirement is at least sixteen years old, must be in good standing with the school, and have good attendance. Graduation will be on April 18th. The Sound the Alarm campaign will continue with the Red Cross where smoke detectors will be given out in the community.
- c. **Moses Hill**- There were sixteen stop work orders for January and eight for February. Letters have been posted, and sent by certified mail for the last four houses to be demolished which are: 5427 Wilkes Blvd, 1005 12th St., 416 Grant St., and 155 W Brookwood Rd. Permits for February: There were four mechanical permits, one plumbing permit, seven electrical, and thirteen building permits.
- d. **Daryl Robinson Public Works Lead**-Concession stand is complete and walls have been put back up. The Highlands Building ceiling is being worked on and then it will be ready to be open. Reviewing zero turns and weed eaters, took care of the valley gutter between 210 and 214 Vann St. They are also checking on a pothole on 5th St.
- b. **Report from Council.**
 - a. **Councilor Merriweather** -Midfield High School Boys Basketball has made it to the Final Four and will be playing at the Legacy Arena on February 27th. There is a black history program on February 29th at 1:45 pm where Councilor Merriweather will be performing as Fantasia Barrino.
 - b. **Councilor Johnson** - Thanked everyone for attending the Empowerment Conference. The Midfield Community gardener will start planting on March 6th from 9-1, and everyone is invited to attend. Students from Harvard University will be coming out to assist. The Easter Egg Hunt will be on March 20th from 12-2. Donations are being accepted.

- c. **Councilor Reasor**-Donations are being taken for the Fire Science Program at the Midfield High School. Food Box giveaway will resume on March 4th at 3:30 in front of the Fire Station.

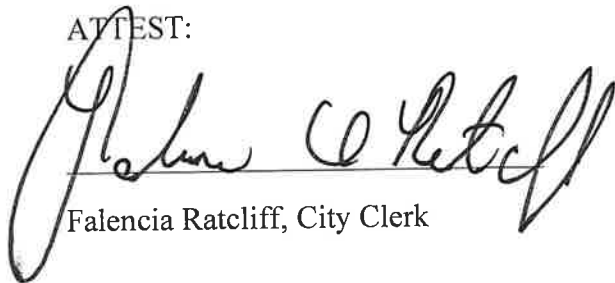
Meeting open to public

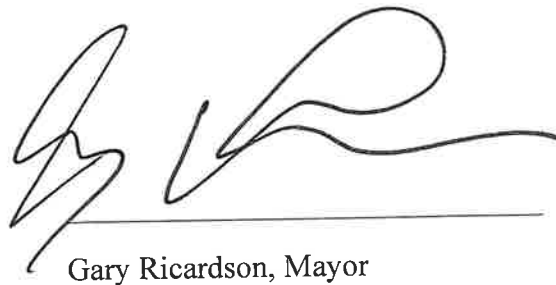
- d. **Felicia Boykin**- Thanked the city for replacing a stop sign. She reached out to someone from Lashunda Scales office about a road on 12th St. of concern and will be taking pictures to give to them.
- e. **Reginald Wilson**- Inquired about application for the baseball field. The field needs a lot of work and once it's complete Mr. Wilson will be notified, and the organization that he is a part of doesn't mind volunteering to help out with maintenance needed for the field.
- f. **Jarvis Ward**- Stated that he would be doing a Dance Showcase at the Rec and was making sure that it was ok to sell tickets, and was informed as long as he paid to rent the recreation center then he could use it however he needed to use it.
- g. **Marva Douglas**- Inquired about the parking lot being paved at City Hall. Also, about the hour change for the council meeting the answer was that it will not be changed because it's more convenient at 6 pm, whether there is a line to notify citizens about activities in the city, and the answer was that it depends on if their number is registered and also proper numbers and people using their cell phones as their home phone number.
- h. **Abul Alwahid**- Constable for District 57 assists people who have been served with a default on a loan. His platform is to reinvest in people to make up for the amount they have paid. He wants to teach financial literacy in the community. He is asking for everyone's support on March 5th.
- i. **David Russell**- Inquired about being a lobbyist for the City of Midfield. He informed everyone about the surrounding cities that he has assisted with opening up Bingo Halls. The Mayor informed him that the City of Midfield wasn't interested in a lobbyist at the time.
- j. **Joan Singleton**- Running for Tax Collector. She is an attorney, real estate broker, and graduate of Howard University. She educated on how to get tax bills reduced, and the senior citizen exemption.
- k. **Sandra Johnson (on behalf of the Campaign to elect Minnie Tunstall)**- She is running for Circuit Court Judge in the Bessemer division. She attended the Bessemer School System, has been a practicing attorney for over 30 years, and served in the District Attorney's office. Her goal is to build safe communities, timely criminal trials, to build a better relationship between the court and the communities. She is asking for support on March 5th.

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

APPROVED ON THIS 11th DAY OF March 2024.

ATTEST:


Falencia Ratcliff, City Clerk


Gary Ricardson, Mayor