

Tony Craig, Mayor
 Elizabeth Craig, Councilmember, Place 1
 Scott Baker, Councilmember, Place 2
 Claude Lang, Councilmember, Place 3
 Terry Mann, Councilmember, Place 4
 James Mann, Councilmember, Place 5



Christie Eason, City Clerk
 Jason Dobbins, Police Chief
 Shannon Drake, Fire Chief
 Polly Blalock, Municipal Judge
 Matt Balch, City Attorney
 Tom Jarvinen, City Attorney
 Jake Roth, City Engineer

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:	CITY STAFF PRESENT:	GUESTS PRESENT:
Elizabeth Craig	Polly Blalock, Municipal Judge	Matthew Balch, City Attorney
Tony Craig, Mayor	Teresa Carpenter, Revenue Clerk	Debora Buskirk
Claude Lang	Jason Dobbins, Police Chief	Hope Davis, Media
James Mann	Shannon Drake, Fire Chief	Margaret Earl Mann
Terry Mann	Christie Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer	Susan Hand
ABSENT:		Cheryl Hardy
Scott Baker		Tom Jarvinen, City Attorney
		Nathan Nicholson
		LaNelle Patrick

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Tony Craig @ 6:00 P.M.

1. INVOCATION – Dr. Sonny Hatcher, City Chaplain

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by: Councilmember Terry Mann

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

- a. Minutes of the Work Meeting held September 23, 2024, Work Meeting and Regular Meeting of the City Council held on September 24, 2024

Sponsor: Christie Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer

4. APPROVAL OF THE BANK BALANCES

- a. Bank Balances as of October 7, 2024.

Sponsor: Christie Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer

Motion to Approve Minutes and Bank Balances: Claude Lang; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Absent	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Yea
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Minutes & Bank Balances Motion Carried

5. MAYOR: SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS - NONE

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS –

a. Proclamation of “Alabama Homemakers and Community Leaders Week”

Homemakers were present and received their Proclamation and a photo with Mayor Craig

7. ORDINANCES FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR ADOPTION - NONE

8. RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION –

a. RESOLUTION No. 24-029: Adopting the 2024-25 Transportation Plan for Owens Cross Roads

Sponsor: Jake Roth, City Engineer **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk

Christie explained, confirmed the \$ amount on resolution is based on the budgeted amount for the paving contract.

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 24-029: Claude Lang; 2nd Terry Mann

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Absent	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Yea
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Resolution No. 24-029 Motion Carried

b. RESOLUTION No. 24-030: Adopting the 2024-25 Budget for the City of Owens Cross Roads

Sponsor: Christie Eason, City Clerk

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 24-030: James Mann; 2nd Terry Mann

To facilitate budget approval, the line items for Grounds Maintenance Payroll and diesel fuel for grounds maintenance were temporarily removed from the budget.

Note: the FY 2024-2025 budget includes 5% COLA for City Employees

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Absent	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Yea
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Resolution No. 24-030 Motion Carried

c. RESOLUTION No. 24-031: Adopting a Policy Requiring a Purchase Order for Anything Over \$500, Excluding Travel & Training

Sponsor: Christie Eason, City Clerk

Christie explained this policy includes approved budgeted items as well.

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 24-031: Elizabeth Craig; 2nd Claude Lang

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Absent	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Yea
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Resolution No. 24-031 Motion Carried

d. RESOLUTION No. 24-032: Approving a Contract for Legal Counsel for the City of Owens Cross Roads FY 2024-2025 with Jarvinen and Balch, LLC

Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 24-029: Claude Lang; 2nd no one

Terry Mann -	Elizabeth Craig -	Scott Baker Absent	Mayor Tony Craig -	Claude Lang -	James Mann -
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Resolution No. 24-032 Motion Failed

- e. **RESOLUTION No. 24-033: Approving a Contract for a Substitute Municipal Court Judge for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- f. **RESOLUTION No. 24-034: Approving a Contract for a Prosecutor for Municipal Court for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- g. **RESOLUTION No. 24-035: Approving a Contract for a Prosecutor for Circuit Court for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- h. **RESOLUTION No. 24-036: Approving a Contract for a Substitute Prosecutor for Municipal Court for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- i. **RESOLUTION No. 24-037: Approving a Contract for a Substitute Prosecutor for Circuit Court for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- j. **RESOLUTION No. 24-038: Approving a Contract for a Substitute Prosecutor for Municipal Court for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- k. **RESOLUTION No. 24-039: Approving a Contract for a Substitute Prosecutor for Circuit Court for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- l. **RESOLUTION No. 24-040: Approving a Contract for a Public Defender for Municipal Court for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- m. **RESOLUTION No. 24-041: Approving a Contract for a Substitute Public Defender for Municipal Court for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- n. **RESOLUTION No. 24-042: Approving a Contract for a Substitute Public Defender for Municipal Court for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk
- o. **RESOLUTION No. 24-043: Approving a Contract for a Substitute Municipal Court Judge for the City of Owens Cross Roads**
Sponsor: Mayor Tony Craig **Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk

Councilman Terry Mann asked Judge Blalock if the list of persons was her chosen people, yes these were her referrals to the Mayor. Confirmed that rates are per hour when served.

Christie suggested to the Councilmembers that, given the number of resolutions, they consider voting on Resolutions No. 24-033 through 24-043 as a single unit. All Councilmembers agreed to this approach.

Motion to Approve Resolution Nos.: 24-033, 24-034, 24-035, 24-036, 24-037, 24-038, 24-039, 24-040, 24-041, 24-042, 24-043: Terry Mann; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Absent	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Yea
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Resolution Nos.: 24-033, 24-034, 24-035, 24-036, 24-037, 24-038, 24-039, 24-040, 24-041, 24-042, 24-043 Motion Carried

p. RESOLUTION No. 24-044: Approving the Purchase of 6 Tablets for Use During Council Meetings

Sponsor: Christie Eason, City Clerk

Christie explained the resolution, and Councilman James Mann provided additional details. Christie confirmed that the funds being used were from the American Rescue Plan Act. Any excess funds would be allocated to the TECHNICAL UTILITIES: Computers – Equipment category.

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 24-044: Elizabeth Craig; 2nd Claude Lang

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Absent	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Yea
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Resolution No. 24-044 Motion Carried

q. RESOLUTION No. 24-045: Approval to Enter into Agreement with the State of Alabama and ALDOT for the Sidewalk Improvement Grant

Sponsor: Christie Eason, City Clerk

Councilman Terry Mann wanted to ensure that we are only committed to the sidewalk from the east side of Bakers Hardware and not all the way to Old Highway 431. Christie indicated that the map/plat does indicate this, but will double check with ALDOT and Jake Roth, City Engineer to ensure this is accurately communicated.

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 24-045: Terry Mann; 2nd Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Absent	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Yea
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Resolution No. 24-045 Motion Carried

9. OPEN FLOOR TO PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Nathan Nicholson 181 Dudley Lane – still trying to get educated re: Pathways – no issue with City Council or City Attorneys – doesn’t want the city or their personnel to take personally that he is investigating on his own and see where this goes. He hopes that the renewal of their business license is considered very carefully.
- b. Yvonne Meier of Bristol Creek understood that the rezoning of Hamer Road property would be on the agenda tonight; Christie explained that it would not be on the agenda until the purchase was finalized and the new owners came back to the planning department.

10. DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

a. Building and Planning Department

- Lora Martin** - absent
- Tim Gaines** - absent

b. Business Licenses

Teresa Carpenter – working on a new business license application that will include much more pertinent information. Will attend training next week with AMROA at Tuscaloosa to get more information specifically on revocation of business license.

c. Fire Department

Shannon Drake – absent
Bruce Swanson - absent

d. Local Government

Christie Eason – nothing

e. Municipal Court

Polly Blalock – appreciation to council for approving resolutions and contracts for Municipal Court
Brandy Wilson – absent

f. Police Department

Jason Dobbins – nothing
Scott Worsham - absent

g. Sewer Department

Teresa Carpenter – working with sewer collections; bills aren't getting to customers via USPS in a timely manner; encouraging customers to sign up for e-billing.

11. CITY ENGINEER COMMENTS

Jake Roth - absent

12. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Matt Balch – nothing
Tom Jarvinen - nothing

13. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Terry Mann - nothing

Elizabeth Craig – encouraged local residents to contact Christie Eason, City Clerk or her if they want to help with the annual Halloween Drive-Thru

Scott Baker - absent

Claude Lang - nothing

James Mann – Fire Department continuing with training; did sewer department need any help with social media to get word out about sewer bills? Teresa stated that she was handling it.

Motion to Adjourn: Claude Lang; 2nd by Elizabeth Craig

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Absent	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Yea	James Mann Yea
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Motion Carried – Meeting Adjourned at 6:27 pm

Respectfully Submitted by: *Christie Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer & Teresa Carpenter, Revenue Clerk*