



HELENA CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

February 24, 2025, 5:00PM

PRE-COUNCIL: Work Session

A discussion and review of City Council agenda items, projects, department, committee, and board liaison reports, and task assigned for City operations and business.

All Members Present except Alice Lobell.

1. Review 02/24/2025 Agenda Items

- AP/Bill Payments
- 02/10/2025 Meeting Minutes Review

2. Update from Council Boards and Committee Business

Helena Historic Preservation Committee is coordinating with the Alabama Tourism Board to organize hikes throughout the month of April; the one in Helena will be starting at Lee Springs Park on Saturday, April 26 at 10AM. There will also be self-guided tours every Saturday in April. HHPC is also ordering additional shirts for new board members. Update on the Greenway Trail Project, we have gotten past the bat issue, and the final design to be completed and sent in to ALDOT soon for approval.

Farmers Market is recruiting for volunteers this summer, please send them a message on their Facebook page to sign up with them.

TAG Board spring applications to start this week, they are asking for a few more details than the last round, and also requesting for documentation for what was purchased with the grant money for the board's records.

HOT Board is looking forward to the season starting soon. First event will be on April 5 with JJ Grey.

Library Board presented their quarterly report, detailing recent grant money received and update plans and ideas to the library layout/signage/programs. Summer Reading Program is currently in the planning stages, and the theme this year will be art. The Library's Book Sale this past weekend also brought in \$1045.

Planning & Zoning met on Thursday, three of the items that were approved there will come to council for consideration tonight.

3. Mayor's Update

We've had a couple of Police cars in accidents; one wrecked that can be repaired, and one totaled and reordered all covered by insurance. Parks and Public Works continue to prepare for the spring season, with Parks Department making more repairs from the recent storms to be ready for spring sports to start.

4. Discussion on Council Term Limits

Brian Hayes states that ALM responded with an AG opinion that we can set term limits, but it must be done by legislative action. Hal Woodman asked to table this discussion for now.

5. Discussion on Releasing Executive Summary from Manpower Assessment

The Council received a copy of the Executive Summary drafted by the City attorneys, and wanted to bring back the discussion of releasing it. A change was made to the Executive Summary adding in the statement that some of the recommendations were already being worked on/in progress. Andy Healy states that he will abstain from this discussion since we received the results of the Manpower Assessment at his first council meeting. Hal Woodman states that if people are asking for it to be released, let's go ahead and release it; Chris Willis agreed to that statement. Laura Joseph states we can release the most updated version of the executive summary, dated 02/07/2025, and post on the City's website.

6. Discussion on Moving Library to New City Hall

Andy Healy states that he doesn't want to pull money away from what has been approved and allotted for the new Sports Complex project to relocate the Library at this time. Chris Willis states that there are a lot of logistical challenges, including patrons coming after hours. Hal Woodman agrees with all stated so far and thinks that we should focus on something else for now. Laura Joseph agreed to close out this discussion tonight.

7. Confirmation of 03/10/2025 Meeting date.

There being no further business the work session was dismissed at 5:21 pm.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Madison Harris".

Madison Harris
City Clerk

SIGNED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Laura Joseph".

Laura Joseph
Council President Pro Tempore



HELENA CITY COUNCIL

February 24, 2025

**MINUTES HELENA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
February 24, 2025**

The Council of the City of Helena met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday night, February 24, 2025, in the Helena Municipal Building at 6:00 P.M., regular place and time for holding said meetings.

Council President Pro Tempore Laura Joseph called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Phil Campbell with Christ Community Church led the prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Teen Council members Chloe Sacks and Reese Unnoppett.

Roll Call

Present: Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

Members: Alice Lobell, Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

Absent: Alice Lobell

Visitors: Mayor Puckett, City Attorney Brian Hayes, Fire Chief Chris Miller, Police Sergeant Cacey O'Farril, Bill Miller, Dan Dearing, Jason Poe, and others (list attached)

Council President Pro Tempore Laura Joseph declared a quorum present, and meeting was open for business.

5. Minutes Approved/Corrected from Prior Meeting(s)

Chris Willis made a motion to approve the Pre-Council minutes and regular meeting minutes on February 10, 2025, with a second by **Andy Healy**.

AYE: Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Andy Healy, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

6. Revenue Report: Bill Payment

Harold Woodman made a motion to approve the bills with a second by **Chris Willis**.

AYE: Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

NAY: Andy Healy

Motion carried.

7. Municipal Operations Report from Mayor J. Brian Puckett:

Our Parks and Public Works departments are preparing for the spring season. If you have a child registered for sports or enjoy coaching, we are still needing about 11 more coaches. We are needing volunteers and/or parents to sign up for coaching so we don't have to turn away any kids from spring sports.

8. Approve/Deny – Property Use Agreement for Helena Amphitheater by Helena's Buck Creek Festival for 2025 Events

Chris Willis made a motion to approve Property Use Agreement for Helena Amphitheater by Helena's Buck Creek Festival for 2025 Events; with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

9. Approve/Deny – Ordinance 1007-2025 – Establishing the Monthly Salary of the Mayor and Councilmembers

Harold Woodman made a motion to approve Ordinance 1007-2025 – Establishing the Monthly Salary of the Mayor and Councilmembers; with a second by **Andy Healy**.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Andy Healy, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

NAY: Chris Willis

Motion carried.

10. Approve/Deny - Final Plat-Residences of Village Parkway (36 lots)-Engineering Design Group, with a favorable recommendation from Planning & Zoning on Thursday, February 20, 2025

Chris Willis made a motion to approve Final Plat-Residences of Village Parkway (36 lots)-Engineering Design Group, with a favorable recommendation from Planning & Zoning on Thursday, February 20, 2025; with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

11. Approve/Deny – 3311 Morgan Road, Rezone from B-1 to B-2 – Merry Millenium Inc, Represented by Capstone Engineering Group LLC, with a favorable recommendation from Planning & Zoning on Thursday, February 20, 2025

Chris Willis made a motion to approve 3311 Morgan Road, Rezone from B-1 to B-2 – Merry Millenium Inc, Represented by Capstone Engineering Group LLC, with a favorable recommendation from Planning & Zoning on Thursday, February 20, 2025; with a second by **Andy Healy**.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Laura Joseph

NAY: Harold Woodman

Motion Recalled with Item Number 14, See Below.

12. Approve/Deny – Final Plat of a 3-lot Subdivision and Road Dedication to be Known and Recorded as McCullough Snappy Service Oil Company's and Store Growth and Development LLC's Re-Survey, with a favorable recommendation from Planning & Zoning on Thursday, February 20, 2025

Chris Willis made a motion to approve Final Plat of a 3-lot Subdivision and Road Dedication to be Known and Recorded as McCullough Snappy Service Oil Company's and Store Growth and Development LLC's Re-Survey, with a favorable recommendation from Planning & Zoning on Thursday, February 20, 2025; with a second by **Harold Woodman**.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

13. Council Comments

Harold Woodman: Happy Birthday to Alice! Reminder of the hike to the Billy Gould Coke Ovens with Troop 2 on April 5 at 12:30PM. Helena will also coordinating with the Alabama Tourism Board to organize hikes throughout the month of April; the one in Helena will be starting at Lee Springs Park on Saturday, April 26 at 10AM. There will also be self-guided tours every Saturday in April. There are still a few trees left for Arbor Day, if anyone would like one, please reach out to me.

Andy Healy: Thank you to the residents for participating and being active in our community.

Chris Willis: Congratulations to the new Miss Helena HHS, Alyson Ragland. Alyson is a member of Teen Council, and is also very active in theater and arts with the high school.

Laura Joseph: Congrats to the fourth grade Husky Hoops for winning the championship of the North Shelby Basketball Association. Just received a note from our legal team that we need to revisit one of our agenda items.

Alice Lobell: Absent.

14. Recall Approval on Item Number 11, and Open for Public Comment

Harold Woodman made a motion to recall approval on 3311 Morgan Road, Rezone from B-1 to B-2 – Merry Millenium Inc, Represented by Capstone Engineering Group LLC, with a favorable recommendation from Planning & Zoning on Thursday, February 20, 2025; with a second by **Andy Healy**.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Residents that spoke in opposition:

PHILLIP ALBRO – 6604 RICE CIRCLE

JAMES HOUSTON – 6600 RICE CIRCLE

NADIA POON – 6522 CREEK CIRCLE

LATOYA POON – 6522 CREEK CIRCLE

JASON DICKEY – 6502 CREEK CIRCLE

MICHELLE YOUNG – 6518 CREEK CIRCLE

REGGIE ESTELLE – 2524 RICE CREEK LANE

BYRON ALDRIDGE – 6566 CREEK CIRCLE

SHIRLEY WILSON – 2508 RICE CREEK LANE

After hearing the residents' concerns, **Chris Willis** made a motion to table this item tonight until more questions can be clarified at the next council meeting; with a second by **Andy Healy**.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Andy Healy, Chris Willis, Laura Joseph, Harold Woodman

NAY: None

Motion carried.

15. Adjourn

There being no further business meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.

ATTEST:



Madison Harris
City Clerk

SIGNED:



Laura Joseph
Council President Pro Tempore