



10 Jack Gray Way, Helena AL 35080
City Hall Council Chambers

Helena City Council

September 28, 2026

Council Work Session

5:00pm

1. Review of all 09/28/2026 Agenda Items
2. AP/Bill Payments
3. 9/14/2026 Meeting Minutes Review
4. Update from Council Boards and Committee Business.
5. Discussion of FYE 27 Budget
6. Discussion E-Bike Resolution
7. Discussion of Social Media Policy for elected officials and employees.
8. Teen Council Budget Presentation
9. Sign up for public comment with the city clerk. 3 minutes per resident

City Council Meeting Agenda

6:00pm

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Invocation
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Council Roll Call
5. Presentation of Minutes from 9/14/2026
6. Revenue Report and (AP) Bill Payment
7. Municipal Operations Report: Mayor Billy Rosener Departments: Police, Fire, Library, Parks, Public Works, Inspections, Sanitation, and Utilities
8. Resolution 09282026A- Recognition of Dr. Lewis Brooks distinguished career, contribution to our community and retirement
9. Proclamation declaring October Breast Cancer Awareness Month
10. Proclamation declaring October Down Syndrome Advocacy Month
11. Proclamation declaring October Domestic Violence Awareness Month
12. Resolution 09282026B-Resolution Indicating the Holidays to be observed by City Employees for the 27 Fiscal Year
13. Resolution 09282026C-Resolution dissolving The City of Helena Medical Clinic Board and repealing Resolution #11052007
14. Resolution 09282026D-Resolution Approving the continuation of the budget process for Fiscal Year 2027
15. First Reading Ordinance 1044-2026-Establishing a Reserve Fund Policy for the City of Helena
16. Period for Public Comment – 3 Minutes per Resident, to Sign in with City Clerk between Work Session and Council Meeting
17. Council Comments
18. Adjournment

Proper notice of the posted Agenda for the Pre-Council Work Session and Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Helena City Council was given in advance of such a public meeting and the notice remained posted through the scheduled meeting. By general consent of the Council, agenda items may be added, removed, or considered out of order. Next City Council Meeting Date: Next Regular Scheduled Meeting will be September 28, 2026 @ 5pm Work Session followed by Regular Meeting at 6:00pm.

UPDATED: 09/28/2026



RESOLUTION

XXXXXXX

WHEREAS, the City of Helena finds that the increasing use of electric bicycles (“e-bikes”) on public streets, sidewalks, trails, and other public ways presents important public safety considerations for pedestrians, motorists, and riders, including concerns related to speed, interaction with non-motorized traffic, and operation in congested areas; and

WHEREAS, the City of Helena further finds that reasonable regulations governing the operation of e-bikes are necessary to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the public, to reduce the risk of collisions and injuries, and to ensure the safe and orderly use of public rights-of-way and public property; and

WHEREAS, the City of Helena is a Alabama Class 8 municipality vested with the power and authority to enact ordinances and regulations to protect the public peace, health, safety, and welfare, and to regulate the use of streets, sidewalks, and other public places, pursuant to the City’s police powers and all other applicable constitutional, statutory, and charter authority; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish clear, enforceable standards for e-bike operation within the City to enhance public safety and provide guidance to riders and enforcement personnel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Helena, Alabama as follows:

Section 1. Definitions:

Operate: to ride, and/or otherwise control a bicycle, micromobility, or electric motorcycle device other than walking along with such device.

Sidewalk: (1) the portion of the public right-of-way between the curb line of any street, road, highway, bicycle lane, or other thoroughfare designed for vehicular travel and the adjacent property line, (2) any other paved path or walkway, which is intended for pedestrian travel, whether publicly or privately owned and/or maintained

Multi-use Path: a pathway within the corporate limits of the city that has been designated by the city council as appropriate for multi-use, such as the Hillsboro Trail and Buck Creek Trail

Bicycle: a vehicle composed of two wheels held in a frame propelled by pedals moved by human force alone and steered with handlebars.

Electric Bicycle: a bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals, a saddle or seat for the rider, and an electric motor of less than 750 watts, classified under Ala.Code § 32-5A-267, that meets the requirements of one of the following three classes:

- a. **Class 1** electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
- b. **Class 2** electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
- c. **Class 3** electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.

Electric Motorcycle: any motorcycle powered by an electric motor of 750 watts or more that is capable of a speed greater than 28 miles per hour. These are commonly referred to as "E-Moto."

Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Device: an electric-driven self-balanced vehicle. Some commonly known examples are Segway, Hoverboard, and electric skateboards.

Motorized Scooter: a two-wheeled electric or gas scooter with handlebars and a seat or rectangular platform on which the rider stands

Micromobility Device: an electric bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, scooter, or any other similar electrically powered mobility device.

Vehicle Identification Number (VIN): a unique code or serial number that is assigned to vehicles and recognized by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. VINs are used by local, state, and federal governments and the automotive industry to identify individual vehicles.

Section 2. Vehicles assigned a VIN

Any person operating a vehicle that is assigned a VIN shall at all times conform to all applicable laws pertaining to the operation of said vehicle. This includes but is not limited to: driver's license possession, license plate or tag possession, and possession of liability insurance.

This provision does not include the operation of golf carts that have been inspected and permitted by the City of Helena under ordinance 908-2022.

Section 3. Unlawful operation of electric motorcycles.

(a) **Locations:** It shall be unlawful to operate electric motorcycles on any sidewalk, multi-use path, trail, pedestrian lane or bicycle lane, park, or any other public or private property which is held open to the public for pedestrian travel.

(1) The operation of electric motorcycles shall be restricted to public roadways and to private property which is not held open to the public for pedestrian travel.

(b) **Operations:** It shall be unlawful and a violation of this ordinance for any person to operate or for any adult to allow a juvenile under their care to operate an electric motorcycle in an unsafe manner on any street, road, highway, sidewalk, bike path, bike lane, trail, park, or upon any private property which is held open to the public for pedestrian travel. Operating an electric motorcycle in an unsafe manner includes any one or more of the following:

(1) Violating any provision of the City of Helena Municipal Code, Alabama Rules of the Road, or other law or regulation applicable to the use or operation of any electric motorcycle.

(2) On any street, road, highway, or bicycle lane against the direction of traffic.

(3) Operating upon any public drainage facility, culvert, ditch, or channel.

(4) Operating other than in the manner in which the electric motorcycle device was designed, including carrying more than one passenger or carrying passengers in a manner other than as

designed.

- (5) Operating at a speed greater than the posted speed limit on any street, road, or highway.
 - (6) Operating while hitched to or physically attached to any moving vehicle or motorized device or bicycle.
 - (7) Operating while allowing another person who is not a passenger to either cling to or to be physically attached to the electric motorcycle.
 - (8) Failing to yield the right-of-way to any and all pedestrians.
 - (9) Operating while failing to obey any posted signs regulating operation, including speed limit signs or signs prohibiting or limiting operation in specific areas.
 - (10) A person under the age of 16 operating without a properly fitted and fastened helmet, including a passenger under the age of 16.
- (c) Operators of electric motorcycles shall conform to the City of Helena Municipal Code, Alabama Rules of the Road, and other law or regulation applicable to the use or operation of motor vehicles. This includes but is not limited to: driver's license possession, age restrictions for operation, adherence to speed limits, the use of safety equipment, possession of registration and liability insurance, and careless operation.

Section 4. Unlawful operation of micromobility devices and bicycles.

(a) Locations & Speed Limits:

- (1) The City Council of Helena designates the speed limits for bicycles and micromobility devices on multi-use paths at fifteen (15) miles per hour.
- (2) The City Council of Helena designates the speed limits for bicycles and micromobility devices on all portions of the non-paved trail at twelve (12) miles per hour.

The Mayor is authorized to cause signs and/or markings to be placed giving notice of such speed limits or prohibitions as necessary to implement the regulations established by Subsection(s) (a1) and (a2) above.

(b) Operation:

It shall be unlawful and a violation of this ordinance for any person to operate or for any adult to allow a juvenile under their care to operate a bicycle or micromobility device in an unsafe manner on any street, road, highway, sidewalk, bike path, bike lane, trail, park, or upon any

private property which is held open to the public for pedestrian travel. Operating a bicycle or micromobility device in an unsafe manner includes any one or more of the following:

- (1) Violating any provision of the City of Helena Municipal Code, Alabama Rules of the Road, or other law or regulation applicable to the use or operation of any mobility device.
- (2) Operating on any street, road, highway, or bicycle lane against the direction of traffic.
- (3) Operating upon any public drainage facility, culvert, ditch, or channel.
- (4) Operating other than in the manner in which the bicycle or micromobility device was designed, including carrying more than one passenger or carrying passengers on the bicycle or micromobility device in a manner other than as designed.
- (5) Operating at a speed greater than the posted speed limit on any street, road, or highway, or any posted speed limit on any bicycle path, bicycle lane, trail, or designated multi-use path.
- (6) Operating while hitched to or physically attached to any moving vehicle or motorized device or bicycle.
- (7) Operating while allowing another person who is not a passenger to either cling to or to be physically attached to the bicycle or micromobility device.
- (8) Failing to yield the right-of-way to any and all pedestrians or failing to yield the right-of-way to vehicles that are entering or exiting side streets, public and private entrances and exits, and driveways.
- (9) Passing a pedestrian or other operator without first either activating a bell, horn, whistle, or similar device or audibly warning such pedestrian or cyclist of the intention to pass by calling out "passing on your left (or right)" sufficiently in advance of passing.
- (10) Operating while failing to obey any posted signs regulating operation, including speed limit signs or signs prohibiting or limiting operation in specific areas.
- (11) A person under the age of 16 operating without a properly fitted and fastened helmet, including a passenger under the age of 16.
- (12) While operating on sidewalks and multi-use paths, failing to

slow to 10 mph or less when passing head-on or passing from behind any pedestrian, vehicle, golf cart, or micromobility device.

(13) Failing to slow to 10 mph or less when operating within 50 feet of any pedestrians.

Section 5. Alteration of Devices

It shall be unlawful and a violation of this article to tamper with or modify a micromobility device or electric motorcycle so as to change the speed capability of the device, or otherwise alter, modify, or adjust the motor settings to increase the speed capability of the device, unless the required label indicating the classification is appropriately replaced. Altered devices shall be classified in the category representing the resulting motor and speed capability of the device for purposes of enforcement of this article.

Section 6. Administration and Penalties

The city's police chief or designee shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this article.

The police chief shall have authority to adopt policies and procedures to administer this article consistent with the purpose and intent of this article.

Any person convicted of a violation of this article shall be not fined more than \$500.00 and or imprisoned not more than 30 days.

That all ordinances or parts in conflict with this ordinance, to the extent of such conflict, are repealed; and

That this Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and publication as required by law.



RESOLUTION NO. 20260928A

WHEREAS, it is the proud privilege of the City of Helena to recognize individuals who have gone far beyond the call of duty in serving and securing the best interests of students, teachers, administrators, and support professionals. With this aim in mind, the Helena City Council pauses today to honor an amazing leader —Dr, Lewis Brooks, Superintendent, Shelby County Schools who will be retiring in December of this year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brooks holds a Doctorate of Instructional Leadership from Samford University; an Education Specialist, Master's, and Baccalaureate degrees from the University of Montevallo. and

WHEREAS, over the course of his 37-year career, Dr. Brooks has worked with families, boards of education, municipal leaders, legislators, and many others to provide sound building blocks for teaching and learning, fiscal responsibility, and academic outcomes that we can all be proud of; and

WHEREAS, during his 8-year tenure as superintendent, Dr. Brooks faced the March 2021 EF3 tornado (Oak Mountain Elementary and Middle schools), the COVID-19 pandemic, the loss of some Shelby County Schools (Alabaster City and Pelham School Districts), significant changes in educational policies, and capital outlay needs that exceeded \$43 million; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brooks has received numerous awards for his service in public education including the Samford University Learning for Life Award, the Alabama Association of Prevention and Support Services Leadership Award, and the University of Montevallo Distinguished Alumni Award. He was inducted into the University of Montevallo Student Athlete Hall of Fame and named a Superintendent to Watch by the National School Public Relations Association. In addition, he was honored as a Public Servant of the Year by the Greater Shelby County Chamber of Commerce as well as being named as the District Superintendent of the Year for District Five of the State Superintendent's Association (SSA).

WHEREAS, Dr. Brooks passionately believes that God does not always call the equipped, but he does equip those he has called. Believing that this journey was a calling, he is quick to give all the glory to God for his providential protection; and

WHEREAS, it is befitting to say as recorded in John 3:21 (NRSV) "But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Helena City Council, with Mayor Billy Rosener concurring, pauses in its deliberations to join family and friends in celebrating **Dr. Lewis Brooks's** well-deserved retirement from Shelby County Schools. From the City that Dr. Brooks says, "has the most community spirit", the City of Helena extends a Big THANK YOU and well wishes to Dr. Brooks and his family as they embark upon the next chapter of their lives.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this Twenty Eighth day of September Two Thousand Twenty-Six.

CITY OF HELENA, ALABAMA

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Helena,
Alabama, on the ____ day of _____, 2026.

(CITY SEAL)

Billy Rosener, Mayor

Cathy Hammann, Councilmember, Place 1

Brooke Dodson, Councilmember, Place 2

Andy Healy, Councilmember, Place 3

Jeff McDaniels, Councilmember, Place 4

Dennis Wilson, Councilmember, Place 5

ATTEST:

Kym Rollan, City Clerk

Show more lines



Proclamation
Breast Cancer Awareness Month October 2026

WHEREAS, breast cancer remains one of the most frequently diagnosed cancers among women in Alabama, deeply impacting the lives of patients, survivors, and families across all 67 counties; and

WHEREAS it is estimated that approximately 730 Alabamians will lose their lives to breast cancer in 2026, highlighting the urgent and ongoing need for expanded access to regular healthcare screenings and advanced treatments; and

WHEREAS, localized breast cancer has a significantly higher treatment success rate when detected early through essential tools like clinical breast exams and routine mammograms; and

WHEREAS, the state of Alabama recognizes the critical importance of health equity and organizations like the Breast Cancer Research Foundation of Alabama (BCRFA) and the Alabama Department of Public Health, which work tirelessly to fund localized medical research, eliminate barriers to care, and coordinate low-cost screening initiatives; and

WHEREAS, during the month of October, communities throughout Alabama unite by wearing pink, hosting fundraisers, and amplifying educational messages to honor survivors, remember those we have lost, and offer hope to those currently battling this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Billy Rosener, Mayor of the City of Helena, along with the Helena City Council, do hereby proclaim **October 2026** as **Breast Cancer Awareness Month** in Helena, Alabama, and urge all citizens to learn their risks, schedule routine screenings, and support the ongoing fight for a cure.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cased the Seal of the City of Helena to be affixed this _____ day of _____ 2026,

Billy Rosener, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kym Rollan, City Clerk



PROCLAMATION

Proclaiming October 2026 as Down Syndrome Advocacy Month

WHEREAS, Down syndrome is the most frequently occurring chromosomal disorder and is the leading cause of intellectual and developmental delay in the United States; and

WHEREAS, approximately one in every 700 children are born with Down syndrome, representing an estimated 6,000 births per year in the United States, with approximately 85 of those births occurring annually in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, possessing a wide range of abilities, people with Down syndrome are active participants in educational, occupational, social, and recreational circles of our communities; and

WHEREAS, despite significant increases in lifespan and intellectual opportunities over the past decade, there is still much work to be done regarding the rights to equality, inclusion, education, medical care, research, employment, and support for people with Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, The City of Helena encourages all citizens to work together to celebrate the lives of individuals with Down syndrome and to appreciate and regard every individual with dignity as a valued member of the community; and

WHEREAS, through public awareness, the City of Helena supports the initiatives of organizations working to ensure people with Down syndrome have adequate services, are valued by society, and can lead fulfilling and productive lives in our community.

THEREFORE, I, Billy Rosener, as Mayor of the City of Helena, along with the Helena City Council do hereby proclaim the month of October 2026 as Down Syndrome Advocacy Month in support of individuals with Down syndrome, as well as their families, advocates, researchers, and medical professionals.

We encourage all Helena citizens to work together to promote respect and inclusion of individuals with Down syndrome and to celebrate their accomplishments and contributions.

Billy Rosener, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kym Rollan, City Clerk



Proclamation

Domestic Violence Awareness Month October 2026

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pervasive public health and safety issue that affects individuals in every community, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, one in four women and one in seven men have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime, according to national statistics; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence can have lasting emotional, psychological, and physical effects on survivors and their families, and it often goes unreported due to fear, stigma, and systemic barriers; and

WHEREAS, children who witness domestic violence are at greater risk of experiencing emotional trauma, developmental challenges, and continuing the cycle of violence in their own lives; and

WHEREAS, communities must come together to support survivors, hold offenders accountable, and work collaboratively to prevent domestic violence through education, outreach, and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, during the month of October, individuals and organizations across the nation will join together to raise awareness, promote prevention, and support efforts to end domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the courage and resilience of survivors, advocates, service providers, and all those working to end abuse must be recognized and honored;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Billy Rosener, Mayor City of Helena along with the Helena City Council, do hereby proclaim October 2026 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Helena, and I urge all citizens to take a stand against domestic violence by supporting survivors, speaking out against abuse, and fostering a community where all individuals can live free from fear and violence.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of
[City/County/State/Organization] to be affixed this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Billy Rosener, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kym Rollan, City Clerk



RESOLUTION

09282026B

RESOLUTION OF THE HELENA CITY COUNCIL INDICATING THE HOLIDAYS TO BE OBSERVED BY CITY EMPLOYEES FOR THE 2027 FISCAL YEAR.

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the City of Helena Civil Service Act and corresponding Employee manual, the holidays to be observed for fiscal year 2027 are the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Observance</u>	<u>Day of Week</u>
October 12, 2026	Columbus Day	Monday
November 11, 2026	Veterans Day	Wednesday
November 26, 2026	Thanksgiving	Thursday
November 27, 2026	Thanksgiving	Friday
December 24, 2026	Christmas	Thursday
December 25, 2026	Christmas	Friday
December 31, 2026	New Year's	Thursday
January 1, 2027	New Year's	Friday
January 18, 2027	MLK Jr. Day	Monday
February 15, 2027	Presidents Day	Monday
May 31, 2027	Memorial Day	Monday
June 18, 2027	Juneteenth	Friday
July 5, 2027	Independence Day	Monday
September 6, 2027	Labor Day	Monday

CITY OF HELENA, ALABAMA

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Helena, Alabama, on the ____ day of _____, 2026.

(CITY SEAL)

Billy Rosener, Mayor

Cathy Hammann, Councilmember, Place 1

Brooke Dodson, Councilmember, Place 2

Andy Healy, Councilmember, Place 3

Jeff McDaniels, Councilmember, Place 4

Dennis Wilson, Councilmember, Place 5

ATTEST:

Kym Rollan, City Clerk

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RESOLUTION NO. 09282026C

A RESOLUTION OF THE HELENA CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HELENA, ALABAMA, DISSOLVING THE CITY OF HELENA MEDICAL CLINIC BOARD AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. # 11052007.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of ALA. Code § 11-58-2, the City of Helena Medical Clinic Board was established by the governing body of the City of Helena on **November 5th (2007)**, through the adoption of Resolution No. **11052007**; and

WHEREAS, the City of Helena Medical Clinic Board was created to serve in an administrative and/or advisory capacity to the municipal government to finance, acquire, construct, own, lease, equip, furnish, maintain, operate, enlarge, improve, and dispose of one or more medical/clinical facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Helena City Council has reviewed the operations, expired terms of its board members, and current community needs regarding the City of Helena Medical Clinic Board and has determined that its continued existence is no longer necessary or expedient for the municipality; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent, desire, and best interest of the governing body of the City of Helena to formally dissolve said board pursuant to ALA Code § 11-58-13, rescind its operating authority, and transition any remaining duties directly to the municipality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED by the Helena City Council, while in regular session on this 28th day of September, **2026**, as follows:

1. **Dissolution:** The City of Helena Medical Clinic Board is hereby officially dissolved, and its operational authority is terminated upon the adoption of this resolution.
2. **Repeal of Prior Actions:** Resolution No. **11052007**, which originally established the City of Helena Medical Clinic Board, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

CITY OF HELENA, ALABAMA

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Helena,
Alabama, on the ____ day of _____, 2026.

(CITY SEAL)

Billy Rosener, Mayor

Cathy Hammann, Councilmember, Place 1

Brooke Dodson, Councilmember, Place 2

Andy Healy, Councilmember, Place 3

Jeff McDaniels, Councilmember, Place 4

Dennis Wilson, Councilmember, Place 5

ATTEST:

Kym Rollan, City Clerk

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RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 09282026D

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTINUATION OF THE BUDGET
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027**

BE HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HELENA, ALABAMA, in a regular called meeting duly assembled, a quorum being present that the Budget for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2026, as amended, is hereby continued until the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Helena City Council in November of 2026, or until such time as the Budget for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2027 is adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of The City of Helena, Alabama hereby Adopted and Approved on this 28th Day of September, 2026.

CITY OF HELENA, ALABAMA

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Helena,
Alabama, on the ____ day of _____, 2026.

(CITY SEAL)

Billy Rosener, Mayor

Cathy Hammann, Councilmember, Place 1

Brooke Dodson, Councilmember, Place 2

Andy Healy, Councilmember, Place 3

Jeff McDaniels, Councilmember, Place 4

Dennis Wilson, Councilmember, Place 5

ATTEST:

Kym Rollan, City Clerk

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ORDINANCE NO. 1044-2026

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A ROLLING RESERVE FUND POLICY FOR THE CITY OF HELENA, ALABAMA

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title 11, Chapter 43 of the Code of Alabama 1975, the Helena City Council is vested with the exclusive authority to manage municipal finances, appropriate public funds, and oversee the execution of the City's annual operating budget; and

WHEREAS, the Helena City Council seeks to maintain stringent internal fiscal controls, safeguard taxpayer funds, and establish explicit guidelines regarding the assignment of general fund revenue that remains in the budget as of September 1st being transferred to the reserve fund; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this ordinance is to prepare the City of Helena for economic downturns/hardship, natural disasters and/or public safety emergencies, and reduce the likelihood of unilateral decisions that may be adverse to the overall financial health of the City of Helena.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HELENA, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Purpose & Authority

Pursuant to the laws of the State of Alabama and the powers vested in the governing body, this ordinance establishes a formal policy to assign 1/3 (one third) **of the unencumbered general fund revenue** that remains in the budget (**as of September 1st**) shall be transferred to the **Rolling Reserve Fund**. The reserve fund can assist the City of Helena by setting aside revenue annually in preparation for economic downturns or unanticipated emergencies that are essential to the overall health and safety of our citizens.

Section 2. Definitions and Targeted Reserve Fund Level

- **Unencumbered General Fund Balance:** Funds that are neither restricted, encumbered nor expended remaining legally available for any municipal purpose.
- **Targeted Reserve Fund Level:** The City of Helena shall strive to build its reserve fund balance equivalent to a minimum of twenty percentage (**20%**) of the annual general fund budget.

Section 3. Reserve Fund Authorization and Use



- **Authorized Expenditure of Funds:** Any expenditure of funds that is considered as authorized, shall appear on the published agenda and be approved by the governing body in a regularly scheduled city council meeting.
- **Prohibition on Long Term Use for Operating Expenses:** Under no circumstances shall revenue from the reserve fund be transferred to the general fund or used to permanently fund annual, recurring expenses of the City of Helena.

Section 4. Reserve Fund Protection Plan

If economic hardship or a downturn in the economy negatively impacts the general fund revenue balance and the balance falls below 20%, the City of Helena must implement a reserve fund protection plan.

- **Timeline:** The Helena City Council and Finance Department shall develop and pass a formal stabilization strategy to replenish the reserve fund within **three (3) consecutive fiscal years**.
- **Fiscal Discipline:** Replenishment of the reserve fund shall be prioritized during subsequent budget preparation/review using all revenue sources (i.e., fees, fines, grants, taxes, etc.,) in the current or previous fiscal year's budget.

Section 5. Oversight & Periodic Reporting

- **Annual Audit Alignment:** The compliance parameters of this reserve fund ordinance will be assessed and measured every fiscal year by the City of Helena's independent external auditor.
- **Financial Disclosures:** The Finance Department/City Clerk shall deliver an official report detailing the ratio of the unassigned fund balance to total operational outlays during the formal introduction of the annual city operating budget.

Section 6. Severability and Adoption

If any segment, phrase, or clause of this ordinance is ruled invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, that judgment shall not impair the validity of the remaining provisions.



CITY OF HELENA, ALABAMA

The foregoing ordinance was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Helena, Alabama, on the ____ day of _____, 2026.

(CITY SEAL)

Billy Rosener, Mayor

Cathy Hammann, Councilmember, Place 1

Brooke Dodson, Councilmember, Place 2

Andy Healy, Councilmember, Place 3

Jeff McDaniels, Councilmember, Place 4

Dennis Wilson, Councilmember, Place 5

ATTEST:

Kym Rollan, City Clerk

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