

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Council President Dykes at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: The invocation was delivered by Pastor Garcia.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council President Dykes.

ROLL CALL: The following members were present:

- Councilor Pro Tem Washington
- Councilor Smith
- Councilor Conger
- Councilor Higdon
- Council President Dykes

A quorum was declared present.

Mayor Phillips and City Administrator Tubbs were also present.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Potential Litigation

Adjourn into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation. The session is expected to take 20 minutes, and the council will take action after executive session is concluded.

Time: 5:32 p.m. **Motion:** Higdon | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENED: The Council reconvened in regular session at 5:47 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Approved as printed.

Motion: Higdon | **Second:** Conger **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading – Resolution Consenting to the Vacation of Public Right-of-Way for a Portion of Park Court. JNE Realty, LLC is the owner of property located on Park Court. The owner has filed with the City a Declaration of Vacation of Right-of-Way for a portion of Park Court, as attached hereto as Exhibit "A". The Code of Alabama requires that the Council, after advertising in a paper of local circulation, conduct a public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider written objections prior to taking action on the proposed vacation. The notice of public hearing was published in the Northport Gazette for four (4) consecutive weeks as required and the petitioner, as well as the various utility companies, and adjacent property owners have been notified of the hearing date.

Offered by: Councilor Conger

Resolution 25-227 Authorizing Water Service Outside the City Limits for Property Located at 14058 Sunnydale Circle. Mr. Edward Paul has property located at 14058 Sunnydale Circle, that cannot presently be annexed into the city because the property is not contiguous. The address is outside of the city limits and inside of the planning jurisdiction. He is requesting city water service. The Municipal Code allows this with the majority consent of the city council. The staff recommends this access be allowed. Per city code, all costs of this connection would be paid by the applicant and not by the City. In addition, we are adding the requirement that if, in the future, the property can be annexed, the property will be annexed into the city. If the property is not annexed, the City retains the right to terminate water services at that point.

Motion: Higdon | **Second:** Smith **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-228 Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with ACE American Insurance Company Through Cobbs Allen for Career Firefighter Cancer Coverage Insurance. Policy term January 1, 2026 to January 1, 2027. Amount \$15,015.00.

Motion: Higdon | **Second:** Smith **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-229 Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute TOD #3 with Chambless King Architects for the Master Service Agreement for River Run Park. The scope of this TOD is for the architectural and engineering services for a maintenance building for the River Run Park facility. The proposed building is 2,500 square feet and would be located within River Run Park. The amount for the

service is \$36,500.00. During discussion, Councilor Smith asked whether the project had been competitively bid and stated that, in his opinion, the amount was excessive for a building of this simplicity.

Motion: Washington | **Second:** Conger **Vote:** Motion carried; Councilor Smith voted *No*.

Resolution 25-230 Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute a Contract with John B. Galloway for FY26 Bridge Inspection Services. The City of Northport is required by the Alabama Department of Transportation to hold yearly element inspections of bridges located within the City's jurisdiction. This year we will be inspecting a total of 13 bridges. This resolution authorizes the City Administrator to execute a contract with John B. Galloway for the FY 26 Bridge Inspections Services in the amount of \$22,750.00.

Motion: Higdon | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-231 Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute a Concession Contract with Northport Restaurant Group, LLC. Northport Restaurant Group was the winning bidder following a Request for Proposals to provide concession services for River Run Park. The City has negotiated a contract to allow Northport Restaurant Group to provide these services for an initial term of 3 years with two 3 year renewal options. The City will receive 20% of sales generally, with the exception of sales which occur on weeknight play for Warrior Baseball and Northport Fastpitch. In exchange, Northport Restaurant Group will provide lower cost menus for our local, weeknight play.

Motion: Higdon | **Second:** Washington

Vote: Motion carried; Councilor Smith voted *No*; Councilor Conger *abstained*.

Resolution 25-232 Authorizing the Northport Police Department to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Operation Light Shine. This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into by and between Operation Light Shine "OLS", a 501(c)(3) and the Northport Police Department. OLS collaborates with law enforcement in a joint effort to fight human trafficking and child exploitation through its Inter-Agency Child Exploitation and Persons Trafficking Task Force ("Intercept"). This MOU creates a formal, non-binding partnership between the Northport Police Department and OLS to further the mutual mission of combating child sexual exploitation and trafficking in persons.

Motion: Conger | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-233 Approving the Allocation of 2026 Agency Funding. This resolution is to allocate currently budgeted agency funding totaling \$1,263,870.00 to specific agencies and amend the 2026 Operating Budget to increase and allocate an additional \$113,805.00 to agency funding. The additional funding needed to increase agency funding will be generated through increased City sales tax projections.

Motion: Higdon | **Second:** Conger **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-234 Reappointing Jon Garner to the Zoning Board of Adjustments. The term of Jon Garner on the Zoning Board of Adjustments expires on December 31, 2025. Mr. Garner is willing to continue serving the City in this capacity and is recommended for re-appointment. His term will expire on December 31, 2028.

Motion: Conger | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-235 Reappointing Kevin Shobe to the Zoning Board of Adjustments. The term of Kevin Shobe on the Zoning Board of Adjustments expires on December 31, 2025. Mr. Shobe is willing to continue serving the City in this capacity and is recommended for re-appointment. His term will expire on December 31, 2028.

Motion: Washington | **Second:** Conger **Vote:** Motion carried; Councilor Smith voted *No*.

Resolution 25-236 Authorizing the City Administrator to Renew a Temporary Use Agreement for the Northport Community Center with the Dance, Dance, Dance Group. In May 2024, the City of Northport entered a temporary use agreement for the Northport Community Center with the Dance, Dance, Dance group. The agreement granted them permission to use the facility each Thursday during the hours of 4pm. to 10 p.m. local time, and Friday evening between the hours of 4 pm. and 11 p.m. local time (excluding Holidays observed by the City of Northport). The term of the agreement has expired, and the City of Northport wishes to renew said agreement.

Motion: Higdon | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-237 Authorizing the City Administrator to Bind Insurance Coverage for the City of Northport. The City of Northport utilizes USI Insurance Services, LLC to acquire insurance for blanket property coverage, crime, general liability, business auto, law enforcement and public officials' liability. The department respectfully requests authorization for the City Administrator to bind insurance

coverage for the City of Northport for the period of December 15, 2025 to December 15, 2026 at a premium rate not to exceed \$997,536.00.

Motion: Higdon | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approved as printed. **Motion:** Higdon | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Items included:

1. Minutes of December 1, 2025 – Tera Tubbs
2. Bill Listing – Tera Tubbs
3. Purchase Requisition: Outsourced Legal Services rendered from October through November 2025 in connection with economic development projects. Trussell, Funderburg, Rea, Bell & Furgerson, P.C. in the amount of \$25,651.90.
4. Purchase Requisition: Placer.ai, Location-Based Services & Analytics, \$24,150.00.
5. Purchase Requisition: Bar Screen Level Monitor and SCADA alarm for the headworks at Wastewater Treatment Plant. Electric Machine Control in the amount of \$6,965.00.
6. Purchase Requisition: Annual Service for Alarm Units, these units provide alarm notifications to Utilities personnel for pump stations and remote facilities. Mission Communications, LLC in the amount of \$10,156.80.
7. Purchase Requisition: Tuscaloosa County Commission, Inmate Housing for July, August, September of 2025 in the amount of \$42,157.20.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT: None.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT: None.

PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Second Reading – Ordinance 2289 annexing approximately 0.91 Acre Located North of Union Chapel Road, South of Charlie Shirley Road, and East of 7665 Baptist Campground Road (RS-1 Zoning). Carlos Moore requests annexation of approximately 0.91 acre located north of Union Chapel Road, south of Charlie Shirley Road, and east of 7665 Baptist Campground Road. The parcel will be zoned RS-1 (Residential Single-Family). The property does meet annexation requirements and is eligible for annexation into the city limits. The Northport Planning and Zoning Commission met in a regular meeting on October 29, 2025. The Commission made a favorable recommendation that the request for annexation be granted. There were no speakers to address the council.

Motion: Higdon | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Tienda Los Miguelenos, LLC – ABC License Approved. An application was made to the City of Northport for an ABC license for Tienda Los Miguelenos LLC. Pursuant to the investigation on Micaela Juan-Pascual of Berry, AL, of: Tienda Los Miguelenos LLC 1818 Lurleen B Wallace Blvd Northport, AL 35476. A criminal history investigation was carried out, and no record of the individual was found. There were no speakers to address the council.

Motion: Smith | **Second:** Conger **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Crimson Spirits, LLC – ABC License Approved. An application was made to the City of Northport for an ABC license. Pursuant to the investigation on Marcus Okeith Jones of Tuscaloosa, AL of: Crimson Spirits LLC 2511 Lurleen B Wallace Blvd. Northport, AL 35476. A criminal history investigation was carried out, and no record of the individual was found.

Motion: Washington | **Second:** Smith **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S BUSINESS: None.

MAYOR & COUNCIL MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Move the regularly scheduled Council meeting from **Monday, January 19, 2025**, to **Tuesday, January 20, 2025**, at 5:30 p.m., due to the observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Motion: Dykes | **Second:** Higdon **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Kingdom Kitchen Food Drive: December 22, 4:00-6:00 PM; kids served separately from 2:00-4:00 PM. 7115 McFarland Boulevard, Northport, AL 35476.

Holiday Open House: December 16, 5:00 PM at City Hall, decorated as "Winter Wonderland."

Support for Local Businesses: Shop local reminders and encouragements for holiday shopping.

Seasonal Well-wishes: Multiple council members extended Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year greetings, emphasizing community, safety, and the spirit of the season.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Retail Development and Potential Litigation

Adjourn into Executive Session to discuss retail development and potential litigation. The session is expected to take 45 minutes, and the council will take no action after executive session is concluded.

Time: 6:11 p.m. **Motion:** Higdon | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENE

The Council reconvened in regular session at **7:31** p.m.

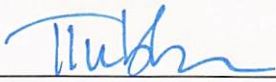
ADJOURNMENT

Time: 7:31 p.m. **Motion:** Higdon | **Second:** Conger **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.



Jamie Dykes, It's President

ATTEST:



Tera Tubbs, City Administrator