

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

INVOCATION: The invocation was delivered by Mayor Phillips.

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
- Council President Dykes

A quorum was declared present.

Councilor Higdon was absent. Mayor Phillips and City Administrator Tubbs were also present.

PRESENTATIONS

A proclamation recognizing Human Trafficking Prevention Month was also presented, raising awareness of efforts to prevent human trafficking and support victims.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Approved with the addition of an executive session to discuss potential litigation.

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

VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading – Ordinance amending Municipal Code Section 58-35 pertaining to Parks & Recreation. The current city code bans alcohol sales and consumption in all city parks. This Council recently authorized the sale of some alcoholic beverages, including beer, wine, and hard seltzers, at River Run Park. This code amendment cleans up the language of this section to allow the River Run Park concessionaire contract to control the sale of alcohol at River Run Park. All previously approved concessionaire contract provisions related to the timing of sales, what types of events can have alcohol sales, and what types of alcohol may be sold are still in effect and are not altered by this code amendment. The code amendment also removes two outdated provisions which could be challenged in Court.

Offered by: Dykes

First Reading – Ordinance declaring a temporary moratorium on new car wash and automobile repair uses. In the last several months, the City has received an influx of development inquiries associated with car washes and automobile repair uses. Staff have concerns that the overdevelopment of these use types could be detrimental to the overall development of the City and our ability to attract diverse types of businesses. There are also concerns regarding the aesthetics and traffic patterns associated with these uses. The temporary moratorium would be enacted for a period of one year. During that time, the City would hire a professional consultant to conduct a study to determine the effects of over saturation of these types of uses on the overall development of the City and revise the zoning ordinance and maps, if needed. Businesses that have received an approved building permit, Land Development Permit, or business license would not be affected by the temporary moratorium.

Offered by: Smith

Resolution 26-27 Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Maintenance Agreement for Traffic Controls with ALDOT for US-43 and Rose Blvd/Mitt Lary Road. This resolution will authorize the Mayor to execute a Traffic Control Signal Maintenance Agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the upgrades needed for traffic signals at the intersection of US-43 and Rose Blvd./Mitt Lary Road. The agreement is required for the installation and upgrade of traffic control signals to relieve traffic congestion and make operational improvements as part of the US-43 & Mitt Lary Road Intersection Improvement Project. There is no funding involved with this agreement.

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

Resolution 26-18 Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute a Right-of-Way Use Agreement with West Alabama Food & Wine Festival for 2026. This resolution will authorize the City Administrator to execute a Right-of-Way Use Agreement with West Alabama Food & Wine Festival. The Right-of-Way Use Agreement will allow placement of tents, chairs, etc. along Main Avenue in downtown Northport for the 2026 Food & Wine Festival scheduled on April 19, 2026, and the alternate date of April 26, 2026.

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

Resolution 26-19 Amending Resolution No. 26-07 Regarding An Appointment To The Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority. The City Council adopted Resolution No. 26-07 on January 5, 2026, appointing Phillip Bush as one of Northport's representatives to the Tuscaloosa County Economic Development Authority. The Tuscaloosa County Economic Development Authority (TCEDA) is a doing business as (d/b/a) name and not a legal entity authorized to receive appointments. Appointments by the City of Northport should properly be made to the Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority. The City Council desires to amend Resolution No. 26-07 to correct the name of the authority to which the appointment is made, without altering the intent, term, or substance of the appointment. This resolution appoints Phillip Bush to the Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority, to serve a four-year term running concurrent with the terms of office of the current City Council and expiring in 2029.

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

Resolution 26-20 Amending Resolution No. 26-08 Regarding A Reappointment To The Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority. The City Council adopted Resolution No. 26-08 on January 5, 2026, reappointing Glenn Crow as one of Northport's representatives to the Tuscaloosa County Economic Development Authority. The Tuscaloosa County Economic Development Authority (TCEDA) is a doing business as (d/b/a) name and not a legal entity authorized to receive appointments. Appointments by the City of Northport should properly be made to the Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority. The City Council desires to amend Resolution No. 26-08 to correct the name of the authority to which the appointment is made, without altering the intent, term, or substance of the appointment. This resolution reappoints Glenn Crow to the Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority, to serve a four-year term running concurrent with the terms of office of the current City Council and expiring in 2029.

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

Resolution 26-21 Amending Resolution No. 26-09 Regarding a Reappointment To The Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority. The City Council adopted Resolution No. 26-09 on January 5, 2026, reappointing Jheovanny Gomez as one of Northport's representatives to the Tuscaloosa County Economic Development Authority. The Tuscaloosa County Economic Development Authority (TCEDA) is a doing business as (d/b/a) name and not a legal entity authorized to receive appointments. Appointments by the City of Northport should properly be made to the Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority. The City Council desires to amend Resolution No. 26-09 to correct the name of the authority to which the appointment is made, without altering the intent, term, or substance of the appointment. This resolution reappoints Jheovanny Gomez to the Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority, to serve a four-year term running concurrent with the terms of office of the current City Council and expiring in 2029.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Items included:

1. Minutes of January 5, 2026 – Tera Tubbs
2. Bill Listing – Tera Tubbs
3. Purchase Requisition: Annual Software Subscription Renewal for Maintenance and Support, Legal Files Software, Inc., February 22, 2026 to February 21, 2027, \$6,310.50.
4. Purchase Requisition: Electric Machine Control, Inc., in the amount of \$18,150.00, for a replacement VFD for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Aerator #2. This includes materials, installation services, and configuration of VFD.
5. Purchase Requisition: Municipal Workers Compensation Fund, Annual Employee W/C Premium, \$242,118.30. This is for both General Fund and Water & Sewer Fund Employees.
6. Purchase Requisition: Audit Invoice, Rivertree Systems Inc., \$19,312.50. 257.50 audit hours on a taxpayer for a business license audit. The audit resulted in an audit proceed check of \$63,365.97.
7. Purchase Requisition: LeCroy Richardson P.C., invoice #1 in the amount of \$12,760.00 for Audit Expenses related to Fiscal Year 2025 Audit. The audit will include multiple components that collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the City for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025. Funds are appropriately allocated from water and sewer and general funds accounts.
8. Purchase Requisition: Civilworx Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$10,700.00, is for asphalt repairs at two (2) locations where the Utilities Department have made repairs. The locations are 6108 Clearbrook Drive and 13729 Randa Parkway.
9. Purchase Requisition: Bion Security, \$52,164.00 for annual license renewal for internet and email security protection.

10. Purchase Requisition: Carahsoft Technology Corporation, \$23,564.22 for annual software renewal. This software provides SSO, desktop MFA, and password recovery for each user.
11. Purchase Requisition: Gulf States Distributors in the amount of \$19,997.00 for ammunition for the Police Department.
12. Purchase Requisition: City of Tuscaloosa for lease of server space and joint utilization of Spillman Public Safety System. This total includes invoices from the fourth quarter of 2025 and the first and second quarter of 2026.
13. Purchase Requisition: Parkson Corporation, in the amount of \$8,618.00, is for a C-Channel and (2) cross braces, (2) stiffener angles, (1) bottom brace, (2) bottom header leveling angles, and all hardware needed for installation at the Aeration Basin #2 located at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The aeration basin is a critical component in the treatment of the wastewater, as it supplies air for the biological process.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT: None.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT:

Resolution 26-22 fixing the cost of nuisance weed abatement and authorizing the filing of a lien for property located on 22nd Street. The nuisance was abated at the City's effort and expense, and the property owner has failed to reimburse the City after multiple notices of the nuisance and abatement. The cost of the abatement of nuisance weeds and legal advertising for the property located on 22nd Street, Northport, Alabama, as recorded in Deed Book 413, Page 397, is hereby fixed at \$1,663.56. Parcel ID No. 63-31-02-10-3-020-011.000.

There were no speakers to address the council.

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

Resolution 26-23 fixing the cost of nuisance weed abatement and authorizing the filing of a lien for property located at 8915 Highway 69 N. The nuisance was abated at the City's effort and expense, and the property owner has failed to reimburse the City after multiple notices of the nuisance and abatement. The cost of the abatement of nuisance weeds and legal advertising for the property located at 8915 Highway 69 N., Northport, Alabama, as recorded in Deed Book 2022, Page 8548, is hereby fixed at \$703.56. Parcel ID No. 63-20-08-27-3-001-002.000.

There were no speakers to address the council.

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

Resolution 26-24 fixing the cost of nuisance weed abatement and authorizing the filing of a lien for property located at 1513 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. The nuisance was abated at the City's effort and expense, and the property owner has failed to reimburse the City after multiple notices of the nuisance and abatement. The cost of the abatement of nuisance weeds and legal advertising for the property located at 1513 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Northport, Alabama, as recorded in Deed Book 951, Page 427, is hereby fixed at \$303.56. Parcel ID No. 63-31-05-15-2-016-006.000

There were no speakers to address the council.

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

Resolution 26-25 fixing the cost of nuisance weed abatement and authorizing the filing of a lien for property located at 2513 Deerfield Lane. The nuisance was abated at the City's effort and expense, and the property owner has failed to reimburse the City after multiple notices of the nuisance and abatement. The cost of the abatement of nuisance weeds and legal advertising for the property located at 2513 Deerfield Lane, Northport, Alabama, as recorded in Deed Book 2009, Page 10891, is hereby fixed at \$543.56. Parcel ID No. 63-31-03-07-3-001-012.000.

There were no speakers to address the council.

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

Resolution 26-26 Approving Sale of Consumable Hemp Products in Accordance with State Regulations for Abba Company, LLC d/b/a CBD Store of Northport. CBD Store of Northport has requested approval from the City Council for sale of consumable hemp products at its store located at 900 Main Avenue. While CBD Store of Northport has been selling these consumable hemp products at this location since 2018, new state regulations which went into effect on January 1, 2026, require any stores selling these products to be licensed by the Alabama ABC Board. The ABC Board requires that the municipality where the store is located agree to allow the sale of such products at that location before it will grant the application. This resolution would provide CBD Store of Northport with that approval so it can continue with its ABC application.

Speaker: Areli Bryan, owner of CBD Store of Northport, 900 Main Avenue. Expressed gratitude for the

support of the Northport community since opening in 2018. Thanked local leaders for their contributions and leadership. Emphasized how blessed and happy she is to be part of the community.

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

PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Ordinance 2290, Second Reading, Ordinance Rezoning of approximately 34.8 acres located at the end of Windword Point Drive from Special District (RS-SD) to Residential Single Family (RS-2). McGuire Associates is requesting rezoning of approximately 34.8 acres located at the end of Windword Point Drive from Special District (RS-SD) to Residential Single Family (RS-2). The Northport Planning and Zoning Commission met on December 9, 2025 and made a favorable recommendation that the request for rezoning be granted.

There were no speakers to address the council.

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

Ordinance 2291, Second Reading, Ordinance of Conditional Use approval for a business office in a Light Industrial (M-1) zone for the property located at 1101 30th Avenue. SMAP Agency is requesting to operate a business office in a M-1 zoning district. The request was considered by the Planning Commission on December 9, 2025.

There were no speakers to address the council.

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT: None.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S BUSINESS: None.

MAYOR & COUNCIL MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

President Dykes, District 4: Addressed public concerns about upcoming winter weather. Staff is monitoring the situation and will be on call. Residents are urged to stay indoors and avoid driving if icing or freezing rain occurs. Coordination ongoing with Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and key staff.

Mayor Phillips: Mayor’s Advisory Council to begin January 29 at 6:00 PM in the civic meeting room. Open invitation to all community members. Focus: Discussing events, activities, and gathering community feedback.

Councilor Smith, District 1: Town Hall scheduled for this Thursday at 5:30 PM (before expected weather event): District 1 focus, but open to all residents. Purpose: Discuss Northport and District 1 issues. Tuscaloosa EMA, through Compassion Coalition, is accepting donations (especially twin-size blankets) through Thursday: Drop-off at the Tuscaloosa EMA parking lot (8:30 AM–5:00 PM).

Councilor Conger, District 3: First Small Business Forum set for February 23 at 5:30 PM in the civic meeting room: Purpose: Gather input from local small businesses on how the council can support them. Licensing office assisting in outreach to ensure high participation. Forum designed to improve communication and responsiveness to business needs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Potential Litigation

Adjourn into Executive Session to discuss retail development and potential litigation. The session was expected to take 15 minutes, and the council will take no action after executive session is concluded.

Time: **6:03** p.m. **Motion:** Conger | **Second:** Washington **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENE

The Council reconvened in regular session at **6:29** p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Time: **6:29** p.m. **Motion:** Dykes | **Second:** Conger **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:



Tera Tubbs, City Administrator



Jamie Dykes, It’s President