

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

**INVOCATION:** The invocation was delivered by Naia Smith.

**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 was absent, City Administrator Tubbs was present.

**PRESENTATIONS:** President Dykes presented a proclamation recognizing Gypsy River Apparel as the March Business of the Month along with a proclamation recognizing West Alabama Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Approved as printed.

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

**VISITORS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**First Reading – Ordinance adopting amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.** The City of Northport is proposing amendments to the zoning ordinance. The amendments follow a quarterly review of the zoning ordinance that was adopted on December 16, 2024. The updates serve to correct errors, clean up and clarify minor issues that have been discovered since adoption.

**Offered by:** Dykes

**First Reading – Ordinance annexing 1.27 acres located south of Old Union Chapel Road and west of Union Chapel Road.** Longleaf Engineering is requesting annexation of approximately 1.27 acres located south of Old Union Chapel Road and West of Union Chapel Road. The original zoning designation for this property will be RS-1 Single Family Residential. This property lies within the priority growth area identified by the comprehensive plan. The future land use map depicts this area as High Density Residential. The request is not in conflict with the comprehensive plan. The annexation request was given a positive recommendation from the Planning Commission.

**Offered by:** Higdon

**First Reading – Ordinance approving a Conditional Use for property located at 2403 10th Street.** Levi Campbell is requesting conditional use approval for an indoor recreation facility in a Limited Manufacturing (M-1) zone for the property located at 2403 10th Street. The proposed business would operate as a "rage room." No exterior construction is proposed with this request. The Planning Commission gave a positive recommendation with the stipulation that the hours of operation be limited to 5pm-10pm, Monday-Friday, 8am-10pm on Saturdays, 12pm-10pm on Sundays.

**Offered by:** Dykes

**First Reading – Ordinance Adopting FY2026 General Fund and Water & Sewer Capital Budgets.** This ordinance is to approve the FY2026 General Fund and Water & Sewer Capital Budgets. These budgets will be for a twelve (12) month period, from October 1, 2025 until September 30, 2026. General Fund total \$951,292.00; Water and Sewer total \$1,930,812.51.

**Suspension of the Rules**

**Motion:** Higdon

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Conger

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion to Pass Ordinance 2294**

**Motion:** Washington

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Conger

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 26-40 Ratifying Application for the Alabama Recycling Fund Grant Through the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.** For funding for various recycling-related items. The request for ratification is due to the application deadline of March 1, 2026. There will be no match associated with this grant.

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

**Resolution 26-41 Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute revised NESC and NEC Lighting Service Agreements with Alabama Power for Roadway, Parking Lot, and Promenade Lighting at River Run Park.** The City Council previously authorized NESC and NEC lighting service agreements with Alabama Power Company for roadway, parking lot, and promenade lighting for River Run Park (Resolution 24-176). The agreements were executed in November 2024. Due to differences between estimated and actual construction costs, Alabama Power has requested to revise the agreements. The NESC agreement would increase from \$6,307.28 to \$6,757.80 per month. The NEC agreement would decrease from \$2,436.84 to \$1,856.65 per month. The overall savings are \$129.67 per month compared to the original agreements. The monthly cost for each agreement shall include the electrical service, fixtures, and associated equipment.

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

**Resolution 26-42 Authorizing Application for the 2026 AARP Community Challenge Grant.** The grant awards up to \$15,000; any additional funds will be paid by the City. The project request is to replace the picnic tables, benches, and trash cans in Kentuck Park, if awarded.

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

**Resolution 26-43 Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute Amendment No. 5 to the Master Services Agreement with TTL, Inc. for the Sports and Recreation Complex at Northport Shore.** The City Council previously approved the execution of a master services agreement with TTL, Inc. for the sports and recreational complex at Northport Shore. The amended scope adds design and construction phase services for the maintenance building, as well as surveying and engineering services for platting the property. The revised scope and fee has been reviewed by the Engineering Department and is recommended for approval.

**Motion:** Higdon | **Second:** Washington      **Vote:** Motion carried.      Councilor Smith Voted; *No*.

**Resolution 26-44 authorizing the City Administrator to execute a Temporary Use Agreement with Warrior Baseball and Northport Fastpitch.** This Temporary Use Agreement would allow Warrior Baseball and Northport Fastpitch to use certain fields at River Run Park to practice and play games without cost. All fields would be available for use on Monday and Tuesday nights, and certain fields would be available for use on Wednesday nights.

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

**Resolution 26-45 Designating Official Voting Delegates for the 2026 Alabama League of Municipalities Annual Convention.** Resolution Designating Councilor Jaime Conger as the official voting delegate and Council Pro Tem Washington as the 1st alternate for the 2026 Alabama League of Municipalities Annual Convention.

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

**Resolution 26-46 Authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a contract with Vertiv Corporation for maintenance of the Public Safety radio communications system batteries.** Battery services at the Martin Spur and Lake Lurleen tower sites in the amount of \$6,238.00.

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

**Resolution 26-47 Authorizing Water Service Outside the City Limits for Property Located at Tilly Branch Road Lot 1.** Mr. Lester Wilson has property located at Tilly Branch Road Lot 1, that cannot presently be annexed into the city because the property is not contiguous. The address is outside of the city limits and outside 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:** Conger      **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 26-48 Awarding Bid File No. 26-01 to Rotolo Consultants, Inc. for Furnishing of Grounds Maintenance for Williamson Cemetery.** The Public Works Department advertised and received bids for the maintenance of the Williamson Cemetery grounds at a frequency of every 14 days, between the periods of March 1 through September 30, beginning with the award of the contract and ending December 31, 2028. A total of eight proposals were submitted, and their bid amounts are listed in the attached Exhibit A. We are respectfully requesting the approval to award Bid File No. 26-01 for the Furnishing of Grounds Maintenance for Williamson Cemetery to the lowest qualifying bidder, Rotolo

Consultants, Inc., for the price of \$18,502.58 per year and totaling \$55,507.74 over the three-year service period.

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

**Resolution 26-49 Awarding Bid File No. 26-02 to Hudson Lawn Care, LLC for Buckhead Drainage Way Clean-up.** The Public Works Department advertised and received bids for the mowing, cutting, and general clean-up of the drainage channel in the Buckhead area at a frequency of four (4) times annually, between the periods of March 1 through September 30, beginning with the award of the contract and ending December 31, 2028. A total of four proposals were submitted, and their bid amounts are listed in the attached Exhibit A. We are respectfully requesting the approval to award Bid File No. 26-02 for Buckhead Drainage Way Clean-up to the lowest qualifying bidder, Hudson Lawn Care, LLC, for the price of \$6,200.00 per year and totaling \$18,600.00 over the three-year service period.

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

**Resolution 26-50 Awarding Bid File No. 26-03 to Video Industrial Services for As Needed Drainage Pipe Rehab.** The Public Works Department advertised and received bids for rehabilitation, camera inspection, and cleaning services of storm sewer structures and pipes exceeding their normal lifespan or causing a sinkhole on an as-needed basis beginning with the award of the contract and ending December 31, 2026. A total of three proposals were submitted, and their bid amounts are listed in the attached Exhibit A. We are respectfully requesting the approval to award Bid File No. 26-03 for As Needed Drainage Pipe Rehab to the lowest qualifying bidder, Video Industrial Services, and the authorization to pay them for work performed, not to exceed an amount totaling \$150,000.00 during the contract period.

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

**Resolution 26-51 Awarding Bid File No. 26-04 to Ellison's Tree Service, LLC for Tree Removal Services.** The Public Works Department advertised and received bids for providing tree removal services as needed on the City of Northport properties or Right-of-Way, beginning with the award of the contract and ending February 28, 2029. A total of two proposals were submitted, and their bid amounts are listed in the attached Exhibit A. We are respectfully requesting the approval to award Bid File No. 26-04 for Tree Removal Services to the lowest qualifying bidder, Ellison's Tree Service, LLC, for the price of \$350.00 per hour over the three-year service period.

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

**Resolution 26-52 Rejecting All Bids Received for Bid No. 26-05 for the Furnishing of Custodial Services for Northport Community Center.** The Public Works Department advertised and received bids for providing custodial services at the Northport Community Center, beginning with the award of the contract and ending February 28, 2027. A total of four proposals were submitted on Monday, February 23, 2026, but upon review of the bid documents received, it has been determined that the original bid specifications did not include sufficient information and detail necessary to ensure accurate, complete, and comparable responses from bidders. We are respectfully requesting the approval to reject all bids received for Bid No. 26-05 for the Furnishing of Custodial Services for the Northport Community Center in order to revise and clarify the bid documents and re-advertise the project.

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

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Items included:

1. Minutes of February 16, 2026 – Tera Tubbs
2. Bill Listing – Tera Tubbs
3. Purchase Requisition: Outsourced Legal Services, Bradley, Arant, Boult, Cummings, LLP, \$10,316.25. Legal services rendered through January 2026 related public finance and related advice.
4. Purchase Requisition: ByteSpeed, in the amount of \$5,200.00, is for replacing four computers in Utilities. 1 for Wastewater Collections, 1 for Meter Operations, and two for Utilities Billing Office.
5. Purchase Requisition: Rivertree Systems Inc., \$10,875.00. 145 audit hours on a taxpayer for a business license audit resulting in a proceed check of \$26,165.95.
6. Purchase Requisition: Vertiv Corporation for annual battery maintenance on the Public Safety Radio Communications System in the amount of \$6,238.00.
7. Purchase Requisition: Tuscaloosa County Commission Metro Jail Bill in the amount of \$42,157.50 to house prisoners October 2025 - December 2025.
8. Purchase Requisition: CDW Government for VPN software renewal for the Public Safety and Utilities Department total cost is \$10,687.50.
9. Purchase Requisition: ByteSpeed to purchase six computers as part of the 2026 Computer Replacement Project for the Public Works Department, total amount \$7,800.00.

10. Purchase Requisition: ByteSpeed to purchase eleven computers as part of the 2026 Computer Replacement Project for the Police Department, total amount \$14,300.00.
  
11. Purchase Requisition: Transmission for Trash Truck #2370; The W.W. Williams Company, Birmingham, \$11,305.60. The transmission in Public Works' Knuckle Boom #2370 has several internal parts that have been damaged due to overheating and need to be replaced. It costs less money to replace the entire transmission instead of trying to rebuild it and replace only the damaged parts. This price is based on an estimate from the vendor that includes diagnostic fees, labor, and parts.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:** None.

## **LEGAL DEPARTMENT:**

**Resolution 26-53 authorizing the City Administrator to Execute ABC Approval Letter to Crimson Spirits, LLC d/b/a Crimson Spirits for Sale of Consumable Hemp Products.** Crimson Spirits, LLC d/b/a Crimson Spirits has requested approval from the City Council for the sale of consumable hemp products at its store located at 2511 Lurleen B. Wallace Blvd. 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 Crimson Spirits, LLC with that approval so it can continue with its ABC application.

There were no speakers to address the council.

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

## **PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT**

**Second Reading – Ordinance 2295 annexing 1.90 acres at 4023 68th Avenue.** Zachary O'Neal is requesting annexation of approximately 1.90 acres located at 4023 68th Avenue. The zoning designation associated with this annexation request is Residential Single-Family (RS-1). This property includes 4 unincorporated parcels with a single-family residence. The property is surrounded to the north, east, and west by single-family detached residential properties zoned Residential Single-Family (RS-1); and to the south by unincorporated single-family residential (no zoning). This property lies within the priority growth areas identified in the comprehensive plan. The future land use plan within the comprehensive plan identifies this property as "Low Density Residential". The requested zoning is not in conflict with the comprehensive plan. This request comes with a positive recommendation from the Planning Commission.

There were no speakers to address the council.

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

**Second Reading – Ordinance ordering demolition of an unsafe structure located at 3905 Hunter Creek Road.** The Chief Building Official has found that the structure located at 3905 Hunter Creek Road is unsafe and dangerous to public health. The Council agreed to table this item on January 5, 2026 to give the owner additional time to remedy the deficiencies. During this time, the owner has obtained a building permit, submitted a list of repairs to be completed, and has begun work to bring the structure up to building code. The owner has made progress, but the work has not been completed. All necessary procedures have been followed pursuant to Act No. 80-410.

**Speaker:** John Newman (homeowner) gave an update on renovations, stating significant progress (new roof, windows being replaced, inside structure stabilized). He plans to contact the Inspections Department soon to review the list of required items he must complete.

**TABLE to June 1, 2026    Motion:** Conger | **Second:** Washington      **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** None.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S BUSINESS:** None.

## **MAYOR & COUNCIL MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

**President Dykes - Outside Legal Review of University Beach Agreement.** The council hired Whit Colvin from the Birmingham law firm Bishop and Brooks at the beginning of the year. Whit Colvin has 30 years of experience with elected boards and municipalities. No prior involvement or knowledge regarding the original agreement. He was recommended by a source outside the city, ensuring

impartiality. His role includes a thorough review of the existing agreement and ongoing monitoring to ensure that the developers of University Beach comply with all terms, thus protecting the city's interests.

**Councilor Smith** - The recent Bunny Trail event was deemed a success. Announced "Bunny Trail After Dark" event scheduled for Friday at 5:30pm. encouraged to check the Junior League of Tuscaloosa and Northport Bunny Trail Facebook pages for more information. Reminder of Daylight Savings Time.

**Councilor Conger** - Thanked everyone who attended the Small Business Forum last Monday, noting an overwhelming and positive response. The Small Business Forum will now be a quarterly event. The next forum is scheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30pm. The council is reviewing issues raised during the forum and looks forward to ongoing collaboration with local businesses. The council celebrated the Exchange Club's Officer of the Year for the Northport Police Department, congratulating Officer Kyle Sanford for his service. Special recognition was given to city staff, specifically Savannah Nelson, for their diligent work in identifying and managing grant applications that benefit the city's budget and fiscal responsibility.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – Potential Litigation & Economic Development**

Adjourn into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation. The session is expected to take 30 minutes, and the council will take no action after executive session is concluded.

**Time: 6:12 p.m. Motion:** Higdon | **Second:** Conger      **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**RECONVENE**

The Council reconvened in regular session at **6:55 p.m.**

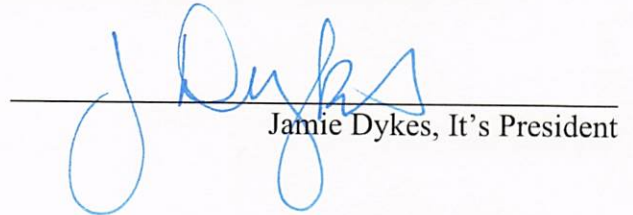
**ADJOURNMENT**

**Time: 6:55 p.m. Motion:** Dykes | **Second:** Higdon      **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**ATTEST:**



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Tera Tubbs, City Administrator

  
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Jamie Dykes, It's President