



MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

American Village | 3727 Hwy 119, Montevallo, AL 35115

Alabaster, AL

March 14, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 8:04 AM with Council President Greg Farrell presiding.

ROLL CALL

Mike Myers, Rick Ellis, Stacy Rakestraw, Greg Farrell, Jamie Cole, Jamia James, Kerri Pate

PRESENT

Council Member - Ward 1 Mike Myers
Council Member - Ward 2 Rick Ellis
Council Member - Ward 4 Greg Farrell
Council Member - Ward 5 Jamie Cole
Council Member - Ward 6 Jamia James
Council Member - Ward 7 Kerri Pate

ABSENT

Council Member - Ward 3 Stacy Rakestraw

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Elected Officials Vision Retreat

Mayor Brakefield and the City Council will discuss existing needs of the City and review short and long term goals. Each Council Member will have an opportunity to discuss the needs of their specific Ward and identify crucial issues to be addressed during the 2025 - 2029 term.

2. Breakfast - Financial Forecast - John Haggard

Finance Director John Haggard provided an update for the Council including a financial forecast for a Standard Case, Positive Case and Best Case scenarios.

3. Updates on Existing Projects - Brian Binzer

- City Administrator Brian Binzer provided an update to City Projects and Initiatives.
- Citywide Capital Investment
- Economic Development
- Parks & Greenspace
- Public Safety
- Public Works & Transportation
- Anticipated & Potential Projects

4. Vision for the City - Mayor Brakefield

Mayor Brakefield discussed continuing operations and projects underway and into the future.

5. Break

6. Ward Goals - City Council

Council Member Mike Myers – Ward 1

- Financial Accountability
- Alabaster Boulevard extension
- Smart Annexation - address safety concerns in advance of annexation
- Saddle Lakes Road
- District 31 Accountability
- QT - Intersection Improvements (include the traffic light in the SR 119 traffic light synchronization)
- Apartments - Currently Wellington is 83% full
- Pay Scales

Council Member Rick Ellis – Ward 2

- Northern Gateway improvements
- Thrift Store area needs improvement for properties
- Buck Creek Improvement - Connector road from City Hall to 6th Street
- Library Property - Identify new use for property
- Look at old Mitchell Feed property - two busted windows in building

Council President Greg Farrell – Ward 4

- Sidewalk from Norwick Forrest to Warrior Drive (sidewalk study)
- Purchase of property for Fire Station #4 (explore federal funding)
- Purchase property for Fire Station #3
- Look at redoing wayfinding signage throughout the city (decorative)
- Ordinance that restricts new water applications only for residents - encourage annexations

Council Member Jamie Cole – Ward 5

- Continue to work on programming for the Amphitheater Events - address additional costs like the bathroom rental and other ancillary cost
- Promotions - Ticketing - Fencing - Box Office
- Concerned about traffic issues on CR 17 due to development
- Look at use for old library property (incubator or conference space?)
- Needed housing for young professionals
- Seek out local owner/operators for restaurants and shops - Continued support for current local operators

Council Member Jamia James – Ward 6

- Excited to see more diverse groups promoted at the Amphitheater
- Fulton Springs Road - need additional lighting to improve safety
- Assistance for potential members of the Senior Center (ClasTran available)
- Weed Ordinance process and property maintenance (shrubbery)
- Expanded Special Needs events for the City
- Miracle League of Alabaster (turf Gardner Field?)

Council Member Kerri Pate – Ward 7

- Senior Living in the Siluria Mill Area

- Speed limit - Park Forrest - Light needed
- Back entrance at the High School needs to be addressed
- Upgrades to Warrior Fields and Buck Creek Fields
- Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations - Update
- Mountain Property development
- Address trailer parks on Kent Dairy Rd
- Historical location - museum - hub

7. 11:00 Open Discussion

- Senior Housing
- Legal discussion

8. 11:30 Lunch / Final Discussion

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Council Member - Ward 5 Cole, Seconded by Council Member - Ward 6 James. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:18 PM.

J. Mark Frey, City Clerk

Greg Farrell, Council President