



**MINUTES NO. 2022-23-RG
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OF MADISON, ALABAMA
December 12, 2022**

To protect the public health during the COVID-19 pandemic, and according to State and Federal Guidelines, the Madison City Council observed social distancing procedures at the Council meeting. Anyone who was sick or was living with a quarantined family member was recommended against attending the meeting. The meeting was broadcast live on Wow! Channel 42 and online streaming at www.madisonal.gov/viewmeetings. Anyone who did not want to attend the meeting in person due to the COVID pandemic, but wanted to participate in Public Comments or Hearings were encouraged to contact the City Clerk or Mayor's Office via telephone or email to submit comments or questions, or text the word "Comment" to 938-200-8560

The Madison City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 28, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Madison Municipal Complex, Madison, Alabama. Noting that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Ranae Bartlett.

Pastor, Huey Hudson of Restoration Church provided the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Ranae Bartlett.

ELECTED GOVERNING OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Paul Finley	Present
Council District No. 1 Maura Wroblewski	Present
Council District No. 2 Connie Spears	Present
Council District No. 3 Teddy Powell	Present
Council District No. 4 Greg Shaw	Present
Council District No. 5 Ranae Bartlett	Present
Council District No. 6 Karen Denzine	Present
Council District No. 7 John Seifert	Present

City Officials in attendance were: City Clerk-Treasurer Lisa D. Thomas, City Clerk Administrative Assistant Mari Bretz, City Attorney Brian Kilgore, Information Technology Coordinator Toby Jenkins, Information Technology Coordinator Toby Jenkins, Police Lieutenant Jonathan Stout, Fire Chief David Bailey, Deputy Fire Chief Brandy Williams, City Engineer Michael Johnson, Director of Development Services Mary Beth Broeren, Recreation Director Kory Alfred, and Finance Director Roger Bellomy

Public Attendance registered: Margi Daly, Aaron Clingerman, Opie Balch, Thomas Arnold, Jean Ann Benefield, Cindy Sensenberger, Kerjhe Hite, Alice Lessmann, Steve Lessman, Leah Lessman, Terri Johnson, and Steve Perry

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MINUTES NO. 2022-22-RG DATED NOVEMBER 28, 2022

Council Member Powell moved to approve Minutes No. 2022-22-RG. Council Member Spears seconded. The roll call vote taken was recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Aye
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Aye

Motion carried.

MINUTES NO. 2022-06-WS DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2022

Council Member Powell moved to approve Minutes No. 2022-06-WS. Council Member Spears seconded. The roll call vote taken was recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Abstain
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Aye

Motion carried.

MINUTES NO. 2022-02-SP DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2022

Council Member Powell moved to approve Minutes No. 2022-02-SP. Council Member Seifert seconded. The roll call vote taken was recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Abstain
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Aye

Motion carried.

MINUTES NO. 2022-03-SP DATED DECEMBER 5, 2022

Council Member Powell moved to approve Minutes No. 2022-03-SP. Council Member Spears seconded. The roll call vote taken was recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Abstain
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Aye

Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

PRESENTATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT BADGE PINNING FOR 2021/2022 PROMOTIONS

Fire Chief Bailey appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to recognize several members of Madison Fire and Rescue on their successful promotions. To achieve promotion each person must serve in their current rank for 2 years and complete a task book to be eligible to sit in the assessment center for the next rank. At the assessment center, they will compete with their peers and demonstrate competency. The following 18 members of Madison Fire and Rescue were pinned their new badge by their family member, colleague, or friend which represents the rank that they earned.

Deputy Chief Dustin Spires	Driver Ken Howard
Captain Brandon Burgess	Driver Stephen Long
Captain Dan Pickens	Driver Gage Tolton
Captain Chris Ramsey	Driver Ryan Ledford
Captain Brandon Magill	Driver Travis Tanner
Driver Bryant Smith	Driver Steven Chop
Driver Michael Achord	Driver Cody White
Driver Mitchell Sowers	Driver Nathan Hankins
Driver Jonah Cowan	Driver Jacob Stewart

Fire Chief Bailey thanked all members for their dedication to service and their families that support them in all their effort. A round of applause was given.

Council President Bartlett thanked all the of the recipients for their promotions.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 ALABAMA SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD BY MICHELLE EPLING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MADISON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Michelle Epling, Executive Director of the Madison Chamber of Commerce recognized the following winners of the 2022 Alabama Small Business of the Year Awards.

Bronze Award winner for "Emerging Small Business of the Year Award" Pamela Bass, CEO of Virtuoso Realty Group. Ms. Bass was the Madison Chamber of Commerce Ambassador for 2021.

Silver Award winner for the "1-10 employees Alabama State Small Business of the Year Award" was Sharie Burnum, CEO of Investors Resource. Ms. Burnum was a prior Chairman for the Madison Chamber of Commerce.

Silver Award winner for the "51-100 employees Alabama State Small Business of the Year Award" was Alice Lessman, CEO of SignalLink, Inc. SignalLink, Inc is a veteran-owned business.

Council Member Wroblewski thanked Ms. Epling for all she does.

Council President Bartlett thanked Ms Epling and congratulated all winners at the State level.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Public Comments were limited to three minutes per speaker. Anyone who wanted to sign up prior to the Council meeting were able to contact the City Clerk at cityclerk@madisonal.gov or text the word "**Comment**" to 938-200-8560. Anyone who wanted to submit a presentation to the City Council were able to email it to the City Clerk by noon last Friday. Those who could not attend the meeting in person and wanted to email their written comments were advised to do so no later than noon this date via email to citycouncil@madisonal.gov.*

MR. ROBERT PETERS (DISTRICT 6)

Mr. Peters formerly from Colorado appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to express his opposition to medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of Madison. He provided his experience with dispensaries when he lived in Colorado and the affect it had where he lived.

MS. JACQUELYN PETERS (DISTRICT 6)

Ms. Peters formerly from Colorado appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to express her opposition to medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of Madison. Ms. Peters provided headlines from the Director of the Colorado Medical Association and other resources on medical and recreation marijuana use. She also was concerned about what it is going to do to the young adults and children.

MS. MARGI DALY (DISTRICT 6)

Ms. Daly appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to voice her concerns on the following items:

- Road safety (striping, lighting, and other improvements)
- Tornado shelter
- New community center concerns
- Need for a new animal shelter
- Council-Manager Form of Government
- I-565 flyovers and funding

- Public hearing notices
- Council meeting Zoom meeting concerns

MS. TAMMY HALL (DISTRICT 3-MAINSTREET CAFE)

Ms. Hall appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to voice her concerns regarding the removal of the Christmas Parade from going through downtown Madison. She said that herself along with other businesses were told that it was due to the train, but she and others feel that is not a good reason. They would like to generate revenue as they spend time and money decorating their businesses for patrons who visit during the parade.

MS. JENNIFER COE (DISTRICT 5)

Ms. Coe appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to voice her concerns on the following items:

- Council transparency
- Archived agenda packets
- Public hearing
- Flyover funding agreement
- Interest on bond payments

MS. TERRY JOHNSON (DISTRICT 6)

Ms. Johnson appeared before Council and Mayor Finley and provided clarification on the Council-Manager Form of Government.

MS. HEATHER MORGAN (DISTRICT 5)

Ms. Morgan appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to thank them for making the decision for the community center as it will provide a place for people in the community who are often overlooked. She has a son who is disabled and is looking forward to the community center for her son.

City Attorney Brian Kilgore addressed the Council, Mayor Finley, and the public regarding the statutes for Council-Manager Form of Government.

CONSENT AGENDA AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Council member Shaw moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Finance Committee report as follows:

General Operating account	\$1,537,147.82
Special General Operating Accounts	\$1,413.97
ADEM Storm Drainage	\$7,815.69
Gasoline Tax & Petroleum Inspection fees	\$46,073.46
Street Repair and Maintenance	\$215.97

CIP Bond Accounts \$7,880.01

Library Building Fund \$13,904.61

Regular and periodic bills to be paid

Approval of final payment to Rogers Group, Inc. in the amount of \$22,265.30 for retainage on CIP Project No. 18-036, Short Street Widening (Invoice No. 46399, Bid No. 2019-018-ITB)(To be paid from 2015-A Bond)

Approval of payment to Barge Design Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$6,832.50 for professional services completed from 10/29/22 to 11/25/22 on CIP Project No. 19-047, Wall Triana and I-565 Intersection Improvements, ATRP2-45-2020-327 (Invoice No. 206201, PO No. 2022-1151) (To be paid from 2015-A Bond Account)

Resolution No. 2022-337-R: Authorizing even swap of BRINC Lemur (Serial# 0031/City of Madison Serial# 07458) for Autel Robotics EVO II Drone and accessories from Adorama, Inc., for the Madison Police Department at no balance due to be paid by the City of Madison.

Council Member Powell seconded. The roll call vote to approve the Consent Agenda was taken and recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Aye
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Aye

Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

MAYOR PAUL FINLEY:

Mayor Finley reported on the following activities, events, and newsworthy items:

- Thanked all involved with the Artemis Mission that brought home the Orion spacecraft. Toyota Field hosted the "Splashdown Party" for the return of the spacecraft.
- Reminded the public of the Planning Commission that is happening Thursday, December 15th at 5:30pm. Discussion topics for the meeting will include: MapCo gas station, the Hexagon property, recreation projects, Town Madison, and future businesses coming into town.
- Christmas Parade-cancelled due to weather and public safety. Will revisit route for next year.
- Working with departments for project to provide a Capital Improvement Plan
- IT upgrades for Council Chambers brought to Council

COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 1 MAURA WROBLEWSKI

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2022-323: AMENDMENT TO CITY CODE SECTION 32-131 TO PROHIBIT PARKING ON A MEDIAN ON THE WESTSIDE OF WALDEN GLEN ROAD NEAR BROWNS FERRY ROAD (FIRST READING NOVEMBER 28, 2022)

Council Member Wroblewski moved to approve Ordinance No. 2022-323. Council Member Spears seconded. Council Member Wroblewski thanked City Attorney Brian Kilgore and the Walden Community for their quick action on this safety issue. The vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Aye
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Aye

Motion carried

Council Member Wroblewski reported on the following activities, events, and newsworthy items:

- For the 2nd year in a row the Madison Police Department and the Madison Fire Department will receive a stuffed stocking for their appreciation. Inside the stocking will be gift cards, snacks, candy bars, and letters of encouragement. Anyone wishing to participate in honoring a first responder may contact Council member Wroblewski to sign up.

COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 2 CONNIE SPEARS

Council Member Spears reported on the following activities, events, and newsworthy items:

- Encourage everyone to patronize our Madison businesses who have unique gifts versus the big box stores. Also patronize Madison restaurants and visit the downtown Madison area where there are beautiful Christmas trees lit up. Great location for families to come and take pictures.

COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 3 TEDDY POWELL

Council Member Powell reported on the following activities, events, and newsworthy items:

- Christmas Parade route
- Appreciated the business members showing up to express their concerns about the parade route and the impact it has on businesses in downtown Madison.

COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 4 GREG SHAW

- Finance Committee meeting has been moved to Monday, December 19th at 4pm.

COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 5 RANAE BARTLETT

Council Member Bartlett reported on the following activities, events, and newsworthy items:

- Reminded everyone that the next Council meeting has been scheduled for December 19th instead of December 26th. It will be held at 6:30pm.
- Work session has been scheduled for January 11th, notice and agenda will be posted soon

COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 6 KAREN DENZINE

Council Member Denzine reported on the following activities, events, and newsworthy items:

- Shared email from resident, Kathy Patrick and how she wants to encourage Council to reduce stress by providing well-functioning public services.
- Shared her decision on why she voted yes for the community center as it will bring a healthy safe environment for residents.
- Appreciated emails received from residents regarding medical marijuana and invited residents to continue sending those.
- Reminded everyone that there are walk in crisis centers available to help those who need it during the holidays.
- Capital improvements projects that need priority (roads, fire and police stations, training facilities, etc.)
- Christmas Capers being held Saturday, December 17th at 4pm held on Main Street in front of Hughes Drugstore. Thanked business for their generous contributions that will provide prizes to those who catch a chicken.
- Wished everyone a safe and happy holiday

COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 7 JOHN SEIFERT

Council Member Seifert reported on the following activities, events, and newsworthy items:

- Reminded everyone of the Planning Committee meeting being held on Thursday, December 15th.

BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

REAPPOINTMENT OF CHARLES NOLA TO PLACE 4 ON THE MADISON STATIONS HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION FOR TERM OCTOBER 28, 2022-OCTOBER 27, 2025

Council Member Powell nominated Charles Nola for reappointment to Place 4. There being no further nominations, Mr. Nola was appointed by acclamation.

REAPPOINTMENT OF GERALD CLARK TO PLACE 7 ON THE MADISON STATIONS HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION FOR TERM OCTOBER 28, 2022-OCTOBER 27, 2025

Council Member Powell nominated Gerald Clark for reappointment to Place 7. There being no further nominations, Mr. Clark was appointed by acclamation.

REAPPOINTMENT OF BRENDA BUSCHMANN TO PLACE 4 ON THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS FOR TERM JANUARY 1, 2023-DECEMBER 31, 2025

Council Member Powell nominated Brenda Buschmann for reappointment to Place 4. There being no further nominations, Ms. Buschmann was appointed by acclamation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Speakers and public hearing applicants who wanted to address agenda items listed under this section of the agenda were instructed to reserve their comments for the public hearing. Before or during the Council Meeting they were asked to sign up for the public hearing at which they wanted to address Council by texting the word "COMMENT" to the City's automated SMS system at 938-200-8560 or by filling out a card available in the vestibule or from the City Clerk. The project initiator, applicant, owner or agent of the business or property that is the subject of the hearing was allowed to speak for 15 minutes. Residents within the noticed area of the subject property, as well as all other members of the public, were allowed to speak for 5 minutes.

None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

LEGAL

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2022-320: AMENDMENT TO CITY CODE INCREASING GENERAL PENALTIES FOR MISDEMEANORS IN MUNICIPAL COURT (FIRST READING DECEMBER 12, 2022)

This was a first reading

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2022- 326: AMENDMENT OF THE CITY CODE TO ALLOW VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION BY CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR (FIRST READING DECEMBER 12, 2022)

This was a first reading

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2022-327: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE OPERATION OF MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARIES WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF MADISON, ALABAMA, PURSUANT TO ALABAMA CODE SECTION 20-2A51(C) (FIRST READING DECEMBER 12, 2022)

City Attorney Brian Kilgore advised Council he received answers to questions regarding location and deadlines from Madison County. Council Member Spears asked if check with Limestone County as well. City Attorney Brian Kilgore responded no. Council Member Wroblewski asked about deadlines for business license and if any dispensaries have acquired property in the City of Madison.

Council Wroblewski asked about the procedure for the ordinance. Council President Bartlett responded with the procedure on the ordinance.

Mayor Finley asked Director of Development Services Mary Beth Broeren to talk about locations. Director of Development Services Mary Beth Broeren advised that she is unaware of any dispensaries having acquired property, but they may not have told her that. She mentioned that they have been contacted by a cultivator and that there is no state law regarding Council adopting an ordinance for cultivation facility that processes it, as it is classified as manufacturing.

Council President Bartlett thanked everyone who has been emailing and showed up at the Council meeting to express their opinion.

This was a first reading

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-328-R: AUTHORIZATION FOR ARCHIVING AND PUBLISHING OF AUDIO/VISUAL FROM NOVEMBER 30, 2022 WORK SESSION MEETING

Council Member Denzine moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-328-R. Council Member Wroblewski seconded. The vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Aye
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Aye

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-333-R: AUTHORIZATION OF A CHANGE ORDER FROM MCINNIS CONSTRUCTION LLC/MILLER & MILLER INC. JOINT VENTURE NO. 2 FOR I-565 PHASE TWO CONSTRUCTION OF WESTBOUND RAMPS (\$260,000 TO BE PAID FROM BOND PROCEEDS)

Council Member Spears moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-333-R. Council Member Shaw seconded. Council Member Shaw thanked Miller & Miller for their appreciation on the timeframe. Council Member Denzine asked if this had to do with the cost of the product. City Attorney responded yes, due to the delay of the bid and the volatility in the cost of steel. Council Member Denzine confirmed that due to our delay this was the cost. Council Member Shaw confirm. Council Member Powell explained that the same thing happened with the Three Springs project. The vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Aye
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Aye

Motion carried.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2022-334: AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE WARRANTS/BONDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF I-565 WESTBOUND RAMPS AND PAY-OFF TOWN MADISON BONDS (FIRST READING DECEMBER 12, 2022)

This was a first reading

RECREATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-332-R: AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF SHADE STRUCTURES FOR THE KIDS KINGDOM PLAYGROUND RENOVATION PROJECT IN DUBLIN PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,901.51 (TO BE PAID FROM PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS ACCOUNT)

Council Member Wroblewski moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-332-R. Council Member Powell seconded. The vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Aye
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Aye

Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council President Bartlett and Mayor Finley announced that the next Council meeting will be held on Monday, December 19th at 6:30pm to accommodate Council Member Spears who has a Madison Utilities meeting that same evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss Council Member Wroblewski moved to adjourn. The roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows:

Council Member Maura Wroblewski	Aye
Council Member Connie Spears	Aye
Council Member Teddy Powell	Aye
Council Member Greg Shaw	Aye

Council Member Ranae Bartlett
Council Member Karen Denzine
Council Member John Seifert

Aye
Aye
Aye

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Minutes No. 2022-23-RG, dated December 12th, 2022, read, approved and adopted this 19th day of December 2022.

Council Member Maura Wroblewski
District One

Council Member Connie Spears
District Two

Council Member Teddy Powell
District Three

Council Member Greg Shaw
District Four

Council Member Ranae Bartlett
District Five

Council Member Karen Denzine
District Six

Council Member John Seifert
District Seven

Concur:

Paul Finley, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa D. Thomas
City Clerk-Treasurer

Mari Bretz
Recording Secretary