



**MINUTES NO. 2022-24-RG  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OF MADISON, ALABAMA  
December 19, 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](http://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, December 19, 2022, at 6:30 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 6:30 p.m. by Council President Ranae Bartlett.

Senior Pastor, John Dees of CrossPointe 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	Late
Council District No. 5 Ranae Bartlett	Present
Council District No. 6 Karen Denzine	Present
Council District No. 7 John Seifert	Absent

City Officials in attendance were: City Clerk-Treasurer Lisa D. Thomas, Deputy City Clerk-Treasurer Kerri Sulyma, Municipal Records Coordinator Lisa Ritz, City Attorney Brian Kilgore, Information Technology Senior Systems Analyst Chris White, Information Technology Coordinator Toby Jenkins, Police Chief Johnny Gandy, Fire Chief David Bailey, City Engineer Michael Johnson, and Finance Director Roger Bellomy

Public Attendance registered: Joseph A Pettus MD, Margi Daly, Mike Ball, Dee Voelkel, and Jennifer Coe.

## **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

City Attorney Brian Kilgore requested the following amendments to the agenda:

- Under Council District No. 3 Teddy Powell, **Resolution No. 2022-340-R**, the amount paid from Council Special Projects Budget should be \$3706.85 instead of \$706.85.
- Under Legal, **Resolution No. 2022-329-R**, a typo on the amount paid from proceeds of bond issue should be \$2,440,468.00 instead of \$2,444,468.

Council President Bartlett accepted the printed agenda with the corrections from above.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **MINUTES NO. 2022-23-RG DATED DECEMBER 12, 2022**

Council Member Spears moved to approve Minutes No. 2022-23-RG. Council Member Powell 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	Absent
Council Member Ranae Bartlett	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Absent

Motion carried.

## **PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

None

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:citycouncil@madisonal.gov).*

### **DR. JOSEPH A. PETTUS, MD (DISTRICT 1)**

Dr. Pettus a Urologist Oncologist appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to express his support for medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of Madison. He provided his opinion about the easy access to legal Delta 88 and Delta 9 THC products which have the same mind-altering chemical that is in marijuana in the City of Madison. Dr. Pettus also advised us that these products are sold at gas stations in plain view of minors. In his opinion, marijuana is not a wonder drug for his patients, but it does have a role. Dr. Pettus expressed that it is

unfortunate that it has been politicized for decades while legal THC is available in our community without a prescription.

**MR. ROBERT PIETRS (DISTRICT 6)**

Mr. Pietrs appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to present what the Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration drug fact sheet says about marijuana. Mr. Pietrs expressed his opposition to medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of Madison. Mr. Pietrs spoke about how the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners rule book claims 16 things that medical marijuana could treat, but the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) says that it does not work. Mr. Pietrs also presented that the FDA and DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration) have concluded that marijuana has no federally approved medical use for treatment in the United States as it remains as a Schedule 1 controlled substance under federal law.

**MS. JACQUELYN PIETRS (DISTRICT 6)**

Ms. Pietrs appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to express her opposition to medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of Madison. Ms. Peters shared per personal story of having cancer and not needing medical marijuana through her treatments. Ms. Pietrs asked Council and Mayor Finley to seek out other options to fund the city rather than using medical marijuana dispensaries for it.

**MR. MIKE BALL-ALABAMA STATE REPRESENTATIVE (DISTRICT 3)**

Mr. Ball appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to express his support for medical marijuana dispensaries. Mr. Ball shared a request he received in 2014 from a grandmother who had a grandchild who suffered from seizures and how he began checking into CBD oils. It eventually led into Carly's Law, where a million dollars a year of state funding is put into the University of Alabama in Birmingham to study the effects of cannabis. Mr. Ball stated that it turns out there are many medical purposes for cannabis.

**MS. MARGI DALY (DISTRICT 6)**

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

- Town Madison on-ramps with no public purpose
- Public hearing and legal notices about flyovers
- City taxes and roadways
- Madison Visionary Partners
- Council meeting Zoom meeting concerns
- Agenda packets for the public
- Council-Manager Form of Government
- Council meeting Zoom meeting concerns

**MS. JENNIFER COE (DISTRICT 5)**

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

- Town Madison District

- Flyover funding agreement
- Council-Manager Form of Government

**MR. PAT FREEL (DISTRICT 1)**

Mr. Freel appeared before Council and Mayor Finley to express his support for the medical marijuana dispensaries if there is a chance that it can help someone with rheumatoid arthritis to get off infusions.

**CONSENT AGENDA AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

General Operating account	\$594,650.12
Special General Operating Accounts	\$135.86
ADEM Storm Drainage	\$2,500.00
1/2 Cent Infrastructure	\$162,052.87
Gasoline Tax & Petroleum Inspection fees	\$2,064.25
TVA Tax	\$4,112.61
Library Building Fund	\$95.00

Regular and periodic bills to be paid

Approval of Authorization of payment to Hoar Construction in the amount of \$186,065.10 for Invoice 001 (Multi-Use Venue field repairs - Resolution No.'s 2021-379-R, 2022-239-R, 2022-164-R, and 2022-313-R) to be paid from Venue Maintenance Fund

Approval of payment to Carcel & G Construction, LLC in the amount of \$805,760.65 for Invoice No. 20 (CIP No. 18-022; Hughes Road construction, Bid No. 2019-010-ITB) to be paid from 2018-C Bond account

Approval of payment to Rogers Group, Inc. in the amount of \$160,270.17 for Invoice No. 46405 (CIP No. 18-023, Sullivan Street widening construction performed November 1, 2022 through November 30, 2022. Bid No. 2019-011-ITB) to be paid from 2018-C Bond account

Approval of payment to Wiregrass Construction Company in the amount of \$302,149.47 for Invoice No. 11 (CIP No. 20-028, Middle School Roadway extension construction performed October 1, 2022 through October 31, 2022. Bid No. 2021-008-ITB) to be paid from 2020-A Bond account

**Resolution No. 2022-342-R:** Providing for the disposition of personal property (Lexmark CS310DN Color/Laser Printer) of negligible value pursuant to section 16-108 of code of ordinances of the City of Madison.

Council Member Spears 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	Absent

Motion carried.

## **PRESENTATION OF REPORTS**

### **MAYOR PAUL FINLEY:**

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-339-R: AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT FROM SUTHERLAND SIGHT AND SOUND FOR COURT/COUNCIL CHAMBER EQUIPMENT UPGRADES (\$44,610.00 QUOTE)**

Council Member Wroblewski moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-339-R. Council Member Spears seconded. Mayor Finley explained that the funding will come from both Court and Council budget. Whatever funding is not there, Finance Director Roger Bellomy is able to add it during the mid-year budget review as it will take five to six months to get all the equipment in. The equipment going in will be a full HD camera, projectors for better clarity and format, and will allow connection wirelessly. Council Member Denzine asked if the camera would be able to capture the audience. Mayor Finley responded that the new set up does not include that in the quote, but that if Council deems it necessary, they can ask if it can be added on. 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	Absent

Motion carried.

Mayor Finley wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

### **COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 1 MAURA WROBLEWSKI**

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

- Attended Christmas Capers on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. There were 300-350 people who attended.
- On the behalf of the HR Committee, she expressed her thanks to HR Director Terri Towry for her service and her upcoming retirement.

**COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 2 CONNIE SPEARS**

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

- Attended ribbon cutting for John Smith Subs on County Line Road
- Advised department heads if there is anything that needs to be discussed with the Finance Committee to please let them know so they can get it on the agenda.
- Attended Christmas Capers, lots of volunteers, commended Council Member Denzine on the great job they did on it.
- Wished everyone a Happy Holidays.

**COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 3 TEDDY POWELL**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-340-R: AUTHORIZATION FOR PAYMENT FOR TOWN MADISON BANNERS AND STENCILS FOR WALKWAYS (\$3706.85 TO BE PAID FROM COUNCIL SPECIAL PROJECTS BUDGET)**

Council Member Powell moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-340-R. Council Member Spears 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	Absent

Motion carried.

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

- Attended Christmas Capers
- Reminded everyone to take a walk-through downtown Madison the Christmas cards are set up through the historic district along with the decorated Christmas trees.

**COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 4 GREG SHAW**

No new business to report

**COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 5 RANAЕ BARTLETT**

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

- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
- Encouraged everyone to shop local

#### **COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 6 KAREN DENZINE**

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

- Thanked everyone for coming out to Christmas Capers
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

#### **COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 7 JOHN SEIFERT**

Absent

#### **BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

None

#### **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**

##### **ENGINEERING**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-335-R: AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH OHM ADVISORS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,500, EXTENDING SURVEY ALONG SEGERS ROAD TO LENGTHEN TRAVEL LANE TAPERS TO RECOMMENDED LENGTHS FOR PROJECT NO. 22-039 (MAECILLE DRIVE AND SEGERS ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS) TO BE PAID FROM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

Council Member Powell moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-335-R. Council Member Spears 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	Absent

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-336-R: AUTHORIZATION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CDG, INC. FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL DESIGN AT THE INTERSECTION OF COUNTY LINE ROAD AND FUTURE ROYAL DRIVE EXTENSION (\$58,250.00 TO BE PAID FROM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET)**

Council Member Spears moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-336-R. Council Member Shaw seconded. Council Member Wroblewski asked if we had a timeframe when this would be happening. City Engineer and Mayor Finley advised there is no timeframe at this time. 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	Absent

Motion carried.

**LEGAL**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-305-R: AUTHORIZATION FOR PURCHASE OF HEXAGON PROPERTY (\$4,000,000 PURCHASE TO BE PAID FROM ARPA FUNDS)**

Council Member Spears moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-305-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	Absent

Motion carried.

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

Council Member Shaw moved to approve Ordinance No. 2022-320. 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	Absent

Motion carried.

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

Council Member Shaw moved to approve Ordinance No. 2022-326. 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	Absent

Motion carried.

**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)**

Council Member Wroblewski moved to approve Ordinance No. 2022-327. Council Member Powell seconded.

Council Member Wroblewski shared how she invited her personal family physician Dr. Joseph A. Pettus, MD to come and talk tonight because he is an oncologist physician and has years of education and experience in treating patients with cancer and the availability of the medicine would be beneficial to his patients for their cancer treatment. Council Member Wroblewski also invited State Representative Mike Ball because he had spearheaded the legislation that was approved by the State of Alabama to join 29 other states in approving medical marijuana to its residents. Council Member Wroblewski advised that that medical marijuana is heavily regulated and controlled and access to the building is heavily secured and that it would also bring in about \$250,000 in anticipated sales tax revenue annually. Council Member Wroblewski shared that her personal doctor, Dr. Kealan O'Neill prescribes Meridol for his patients going through chemotherapy and other medical conditions where it is warranted and that it is very expensive and difficult for patients to get because it does not fall within the

medical marijuana category. She wrapped up her discussion saying she believed the pros outweigh the cons.

Council Member Shaw shared how he has discussed with Police Chief Johnny Gandy who reached out to other cities and the response back regarding the medical marijuana dispensaries was not positive. Council Member Shaw expressed that he is glad that people can go to Huntsville, Decatur, Athens, and other towns to get the medication, but that he would rather not have the building in the City of Madison. Council Member Shaw feels that the risk is not worth the reward.

Council Member Denzine asked Police Chief Johnny Gandy to share with everyone what he shared with Council.

Police Chief Johnny Gandy asked police chiefs in other cities that are close in size and location to the City of Madison, such as Bentonville, Arkansas, and they didn't notice any increase in crime, but they did notice an increase in traffic and people loitering around the shopping centers. Police Chief Johnny Gandy shared that when he read reports from police chiefs in Florida, the traffic and the loitering that was happening in those shopping centers caused other businesses to close that were close to where the clinics were. Another chief out of Louisiana noticed in a nearby city the increase in traffic and loitering. Police Chief Johnny Gandy advised that it was more of a quality-of-life issue than an increase in crime.

Council Member Denzine asked Police Chief Johnny Gandy if he would be able to provide the patrol if needed with the staff. Police Chief Johnny Gandy explained it was hard for him to say as the current staff is pretty busy right now as it is. Police Chief Johnny Gandy said he spoke with the police chief of Athens, and he said that they didn't conduct any type of study as to what type of issues they would have. One issue they foresee is the fact that this type of business is a cash-only business due to federal laws because the federal government still considers it a schedule 1 drug and no electronic banking transactions are allowed. Athens is prepared to conduct armed escorts for people that go from the clinic to the bank. Police Chief Johnny Gandy shared that he does not have the staff to do something like what Athens is doing with escorting.

Council Member Spears asked Police Chief Johnny Gandy if there would be an impact to the City of Madison, regardless of how the vote comes out tonight due to the proximity of other cities. Police Chief Johnny Gandy responded that he is unsure where they are putting the dispensaries in other cities, so he is unable to answer the question.

Council President Bartlett shared that Huntsville decided as to where their dispensaries would be limited to and it will be in their medical district, so it will not be right next to the City of Madison on Highway 72. Council Member Wroblewski added that if it were to pass, we would be able to do something similar, close to the hospital. Council President Bartlett responded to Council Member Wroblewski that Director of Development Services Mary Beth Broeren shared with them that in the work session the main two corridors that people were interested in was Highway 72 and Madison Boulevard where we don't have the type of zoning.

Council Member Shaw asked if we were to bring the medical marijuana dispensaries in and realized that we made a mistake we could not pull their license as it is a state mandate. Council President Bartlett responded that she asked City Attorney Brian Kilgore to get clarification because their dispensary license is one thing, but behind it is our business license. City Attorney Brian Kilgore clarified that the actual license for the dispensary would remain

entirely within the preview of the state and their commission when it came to terminating it. City Attorney Brian Kilgore did check with the Cannabis Committee, and they confirmed that the City of Madison still has the authority to pull their business license even if they have their dispensary license. With no business license they can not operate in the City of Madison.

Council Member Powell shared his concern about it being a cash business and the lack of regulation when it comes to reporting how much is made as the city cannot go in and verify. Council Member Powell shared that it is the same as a pain clinic because you're not fixing it, you're just changing to another drug. Council Member Powell shared his disappointment that it is being pushed down by the state level as a mandate with no income. He also shared that \$250,000.00 in possible revenue is just not enough for him.

Council Member Wroblewski asked City Attorney Brian Kilgore if all 37 licenses in the state have been distributed would we be able to get a license down the road. City Attorney Brian Kilgore clarified that he might have misspoken at a previous work session regarding the licenses. There 37 locations for the dispensaries and only one in each county, when you add all those up, they equal 37 locations and even less licenses. Council Member Wroblewski asked is Huntsville has already approved it and they are in Madison County; why are we even discussing it. City Attorney Brian Kilgore responded that he cannot say how Huntsville's or other cities processes are but that the state is requiring you to put your application by December 31<sup>st</sup> with a business license and be able to designate the location of where you want your dispensary. City Attorney Brian Kilgore added that if we were not going to pass it or table it, then it is highly unlikely that we would get a dispensary in the City of Madison. City Attorney Brian Kilgore shared that the state has a April 13<sup>th</sup> deadline for correcting applications and the 30-day public comment period that would follow, and then issuance of the licenses would happen in July of 2023. City Attorney Brian Kilgore said that the state would issue more licenses but there is no timeframe for when they would do that. Council Member Wroblewski wondered if Council was wasting their time because they would only have 12 days to reach out to the Mayor's office and the Planning department. City Attorney Brian Kilgore says there might be a way for them to get a business license after the 31<sup>st</sup> with a mechanism in place, but practically speaking the people who apply on the 31<sup>st</sup> and know where they are going to be more likely to get it than those who don't.

Council Member Spears asked City Attorney Brian Kilgore if the state is regulating it from seed to dispensary, they would know how much marijuana is at each dispensary. City Attorney Brian Kilgore responded that it is being heavily regulated and there are certain rules and accounting provisions that they will need to follow. Council Member Spears asked if the state knows how much marijuana is at each dispensary and the cost of it, they should be able to tell how much is being sold. City Attorney Brian Kilgore responded to Council Member Spears that he could provide a more specific answer but that at this time he could not answer her.

Council Member Denzine asked City Attorney Brian Kilgore about a resolution banning the manufacturing of marijuana in Madison. City Attorney Brian Kilgore said he was waiting to hear back from the Council for the Commission but that he did not hear back from them. City Attorney Brian Kilgore believes that the city does not have a lot of regulation powers over the cultivation side of it. City Attorney Brian Kilgore advised Council that they could issue an ordinance to ban dispensaries in the City of Madison. Council President Bartlett added that she had heard that other cities were looking into adding restrictions such as distance restrictions for residencies.

Council Member Denzine thanked the public for sending in their input regarding the medical marijuana dispensaries. She also feels that with other cities approving it, we are not restricting access as they are able to get it elsewhere.

City Attorney Brian Kilgore gave a list of local municipalities close to Madison that have approved it.

Council President Bartlett gave her perspective that there is too much unknown to rush into a decision as there is enough access for City of Madison resident to get it if needed. Council President Bartlett shared that she weighs Police Chief Johnny Gandy’s opinion heavily and if he recommends to exercise caution until we see how surrounding areas go then she will do so. The vote was taken and recorded as follows:

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

Motion failed.

**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)**

Council President Bartlett asked for Rushton Rice, Financial Advisor and President of Rice Advisory, LLC and R. Preston Bolt, Jr., Bond Council with Hand Arrendall Harrison Sale LLC, to come to the podium to provide a brief of what has been happening in the last week regarding the warrants/bonds.

Mr. Bolt provided a brief explanation regarding the bonds that were sold on the 15<sup>th</sup> and their rates and how it is going to pay off the district bonds, the flyover project. Mr. Bolt thanked Council and Mayor Finley for giving their firm them the opportunity to work for the City of Madison.

Mr. Bolt thanked Council and Mayor Finley for the opportunity to work for the City of Madison. Mr. Bolt explained how the ordinance authorizes the issuance of the warrants, sets the maturity between now and 2048, sets the interest rate, provides for the early redemption under certain circumstances, authorizes appointment of the Frazer Lanier Company for the sale of the warrants at an approve price, and it ratifies the action taken upon signing a warrant purchase agreement which will be completed on December 28<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Shaw moved to approve Ordinance No. 2022-334. Council Member Spears seconded. Mayor Finley asked if we could bank the excess after the bond payment to be able to pay off the warrants early. Mr. Bolt responded that after 10 years we can pay it all off or partial. Mayor Finley also confirmed with Mr. Bolt that the money for the schools comes out automatically and separate. Mr. Bolt confirmed. Council Member Shaw thanked Mr. Rice and Mr. Bolt for their time, patience, and knowledge. Council Member Powell asked Mr. Rice if we are still being conservative based on what we have done in the past. Mr. Rice responded

that everything is being conservative as it can be. Council Member Powell thanked Mr. Rice., Mr. Bolt, Mayor Finley, and Council Members Bartlett and Shaw that were involved. Council Member Denzine asked Mr. Rice for a brief overview of what he has put together to share with the public. Mr. Rice and Mr. Bolt provided a brief overview.

Council President Bartlett confirmed with Mr. Bolt that the cooperative district status remains an entity but that there has been discussion and at some point, in the future when all paperwork is cleared, the cooperative district will go away as it does not need to exist anymore. Mr. Bolt confirmed that once the debt has all been paid off it would cease to exist, and any assets would need to be divided among the city and county. Council Member Bartlett also asked Mr. Bolt if he could speak on the agreement that he has been working with between the city and the county. Mr. Bolt provided a brief overview of the agreement. Council Member Bartlett advised that the county will be taking that up in their next meeting.

Council Member Powell shared a different way to look at the benefit of the new agreement by looking at the lower interest rates that we have renegotiated in the last few years. Mayor Finley thanked City Attorney Brian Kilgore and the prior City Attorney Megan Zingarelli for working on this agreement. Council President Bartlett expressed thanks Mr. Johnny Dill, underwriter with Frazer Lanier Company, Mr. Bolt, Mr. Rice, Finance Director Roger Bellomy, and City Attorney Brian Kilgore. Council Member Denzine shared that she received comments over the weekend concerning the necessity of the flyovers. 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	Absent

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-329-R: AUTHORIZATION OF CONTRACT WITH AECOM FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR INTERSTATE 565 EXCHANGE, PHASE II WESTBOUND RAMPS (\$2,440,468.00 TO BE PAID FROM PROCEEDS OF BOND ISSUE)**

Council Member Shaw moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-329-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	Absent

Motion carried.

City Attorney Brian Kilgore provided a brief overview of the opioid litigation that have been settled and that the City of Madison will be receiving some payments from it. City Attorney Brian Kilgore shared that if there is an upcoming work session it might be of benefit to discuss what to use the money for.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Council Member Wroblewski confirmed that work session is still scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Council President Bartlett confirmed yes and that a notice would be sent out.

**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	Aye
Council Member Karen Denzine	Aye
Council Member John Seifert	Absent

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Minutes No. 2022-24-RG, dated December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022, read, approved and adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023.

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Council Member Maura Wroblewski  
District One

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Council Member Connie Spears  
District Two

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Council Member Teddy Powell  
District Three

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Council Member Greg Shaw  
District Four

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Council Member Ranae Bartlett  
District Five

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Council Member Karen Denzine  
District Six

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Council Member John Seifert  
District Seven

Concur:

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Paul Finley, Mayor

Attest:

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Lisa D. Thomas  
City Clerk-Treasurer

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Mari Bretz  
Recording Secretary