



**MINUTES NO. 2023-08-WS
PUBLIC WORK SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF MADISON, ALABAMA
August 14, 2023**

The Madison City Council met for a public work session on Wednesday, August 14, 2023, at 4:00 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 4:00 p.m. by Council President Ranae Bartlett.

The following Council Members were in attendance:

Council District No. 1 Maura Wroblewski	Present
Council District No. 2 Connie Spears	Present
Council District No. 3 Teddy Powell	Absent
Council District No. 4 Greg Shaw	Absent
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, Deputy City Clerk-Treasurer Kerri Sulyma, City Attorney Brian Kilgore, Fire Chief David Bailey, Police Chief Johnny Gandy, Director of Development Services Mary Beth Broeren, Information Technology Director Chris White, Information Technology Support Technician Garrett Gillott, and City Engineer Michael Johnson

REDISTRICTING PRESENTATION

Slaughter and Associates Urban Planning Consultant Mike Slaughter and Planner Richard Donovan presented the information regarding the upcoming changes with the redistricting. The first plan presented was the benchmark plan which has the current council districts that were developed based on the 2010 decennial census, and the 2020 census block which shows to be out of balance from the one person one vote principal. The next chart shared was Plan 1 which shows an equal balance with the one person one vote principal. Mr. Slaughter explained that since the last meeting, input has been received from council regarding some changes.

Mr. Donovan shared the changes geographically between Plan 1 and 2. He expressed the biggest changes made were taking District 6 back to what it was and adding population to the west which caused part of District 5 to go into District 7, and into a part that was District 1. He expressed that part of District 1, 2 and 4 moved into Limestone County. Mr. Donovan explains that the overall outcome that took place was things shifted to the west to account for the new population growth.

Council Member Seifert asked Mr. Slaughter why he revised the plan. Mr. Slaughter responded that the Director of Development Services Mary Beth Broeren emailed him with some changes based on input from council members and citizens. Council Member Seifert reiterated his question as to why the changes and shared that he liked the original plan. He also shared that at the end of the day it's up to what the citizens want. Council Member Seifert pointed out that Council Member Spears had a valid point at the last council meeting relating to the districts and under sizing the districts with the most potential for growth. He stated that those are the districts that need headroom to grow.

The Preliminary Redistricting Plan Two presentation was shared and some of the highlights included:

- Overall population
- Voting age population
- Ideal population
- Graph of balanced districts

Council President Bartlett shared that the citizens have also echoed exactly what the council is pointing out pertaining to the growth areas being reduced in number from the first plan. She pointed out that's the changes between the first and second plan. Council President Bartlett opened the floor for the council members to ask Slaughter and Associates questions or suggestions about the projected plans to consider if the plan needs to be changed. Some of the implemented suggestions discussed were:

- Keeping neighborhoods together
- Council district in Limestone County
- Comparison of plans
- Districts with potential growth
- Many preliminary plans

Council President Bartlett suggested the public share if there were any observations or suggestions, they would like to be taken into consideration that had not been considered with the Plan 2 map: The public suggestions included:

- Plan two, ideal
- Professionals select the appropriate redistricting
- Having a district that encompasses Limestone County

Mr. Slaughter pointed out that Plan 2 transforms the current two Limestone County representatives into three which he believes is a positive. He also shared that if the new plan that has been tweaked and highlighted is desired, it could be updated, and a hard copy could be sent over to review for plan three. City Attorney Brian Kilgore reiterates that after looking at the code section the code states that the new plan would not take effect until the next election in 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss, the work session adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Minutes No. 2023-08-WS, dated August 14, 2023, read, approved and adopted this 28th day of August 2023.

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

Kerri Sulyma
Recording Secretary