

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

APRIL 22, 2025 AGENDA WORKSHOP

The City Council met in an **agenda workshop** on **Tuesday, April 22, 2025**, at 5 pm to review the proposed agenda for its next regular session. Council President Ben Short presided over the meeting and Stacy Frazier served as recording secretary.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Ben Short
Councilor Jaime Anderson
Councilor Lisa Bright
Councilor Perry Cook
Councilor Alan Taylor

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat
City Attorney Chesley Payne

Those absent: City Clerk Dan Weinrib

The City Council determined the order of consideration. Rice Advisory Managing Director Chris Williams & Bradley bond counsel Rod Kanter briefed the council on the proposed \$6.125 million general obligation warrants for the Loop Road Project. At Mayor Choat's request, the council agreed to go into an executive session to discuss a personnel matter. With nothing left to review, President Short adjourned the workshop around 6:15 pm.

APRIL 22, 2025 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in **regular session** on **Tuesday, April 8, 2025**, at 5:18 pm at the City Hall Annex, with Council President Ben Short presiding and Stacy Frazier serving as recording secretary.

President Short called the meeting to order. Councilor Anderson led the prayer; Councilor Bright led the pledge.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Ben Short
Councilor Jaime Anderson
Councilor Lisa Bright
Councilor Perry Cook
Councilor Alan Taylor

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat
City Attorney Chesley Payne

Those absent: City Clerk Dan Weinrib

They reviewed the minutes from the April 3 agenda workshop & April 8 regular session. Councilor Taylor moved & Councilor Anderson seconded the motion to approve the minutes. **UNANIMOUS**

President Short then introduced the consent agenda & regular agenda. Councilor Taylor moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion to approve the two-item consent agenda. The reappointment of Kathy Brown to the city school board stirred public opinions online, thus prompting the councilors to comment from the dais. Councilor Cook was the only one to advocate change to the selection process, which included term limits for BOE members. His four colleagues expressed support for the current process. **By a 4-1 margin (Cook dissenting), APPROVED**

There were no public comments.

Under the regular agenda, Councilor Anderson introduced a proposed proclamation declaring the Trussville Freedom Celebration on July 4 a citywide event. **She moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS, except for Councilor Taylor, who abstained since his employer sponsors this annual event. Proclamation No. 2025-09**

Councilor Cook then introduced a proposed proclamation declaring the Foundations for Hope 5K Run on October 25 a citywide event. **He moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2025-10**

Councilor Bright then introduced a proposed proclamation honoring the Daybreak Rotary Club's 35th Anniversary. **She moved & Councilor Taylor seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2025-11**

After the brief recess for a group picture, President Short resumed the meeting. Councilor Taylor summoned Rice Advisory Managing Director Chris Williams to summarize the results from the City's request for proposal. He recommended Regions Bank's \$6.125 million offer. **Councilor Taylor then moved for unanimous consent to suspend the rules in order to bring a proposed ordinance up for immediate consideration. Councilor Bright seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Taylor then moved, & Councilor Bright seconded the motion, to approve an ordinance to borrow up to \$6.125 million in issued general obligation warrants for financing the Loop Road Project. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2025-006-ADM**

Councilor Bright then introduced a proposed resolution to authorize Mayor Choat to sign a cooperative maintenance agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation. **He moved & Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2025-18**

During committee reports, Councilor Anderson promoted the Library's Wag & Tail Reading event, which also promotes dog adoptions.

Councilor Bright reported that the new Trussville Springs entrance will open on April 23, which occurs simultaneously as the closure of its 18-year-old temporary entrance. Also, she shared various news from the school board, including that Paine & Magnolia elementary schools will have new principals. Also, the HTMS girls softball team are local metro champions.

Councilor Cook reported the Seniors Center has planned a group day trip to Atlanta on April 29; also, the Center's kitchen got a perfect 100 score for food safety.

Councilor Taylor reported that Finance committee had met earlier that day to review budget numbers. The City will have to make mid-year adjustments; revenues from online shopping are impacting city finances. Also, the Public Safety committee met to review traffic studies as well as citywide event applications. Also, the Chamber is hosting the Taste of Trussville on May 1. ALDOT Regional Director DeJarvis Leonard discussed highway projects at the recent luncheon. Also, the third Leadership Trussville class graduates next month.

Councilor Short told his colleagues and the public that they will hear a presentation on a proposed development next to the Publix-anchored shopping center on Gadsden Highway at the next workshop. Also, Design Review will meet on April 28.

Mayor Choat reported that the Stockton neighborhood traffic light should be ready in early May, thanks to the work by the traffic engineering firm Skipper Consulting. Also, the school board will lease the former Public Works building from the City to maintain its bus fleet. Also, Mayor hopes to present a new solid waste contract with AmWaste next month. He congratulated Kathy Brown on her reappointment. He also mentioned the great turnout for the Miracle League Field's dedication.

During audience comments, former councilor Jef Freeman (318 Woodward Road) praised and thanked city leaders. Kristi Jones (102 Pine Street) wanted the council to share its scoring rubric for rating school board candidates. She stated that incumbent school board members can become complacent after an extended term. Trussville Tribune publisher Scott Buttram (200 Mountain Drive) lamented that the public was not aware of the school board selection process and asked why the city can not share its questions and answers with the public.

Councilor Taylor moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. UNANIMOUS. The Council recessed briefly at 6:17 pm, then met behind closed doors. Once they finished, they went back into regular session, strictly to adjourn at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



City Clerk Dan Weinrib CMC