

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

AUGUST 7, 2025 AGENDA WORKSHOP

The City Council met in an **agenda workshop** on **Thursday, August 7, 2025**, at 5 pm to review the proposed agenda for its next regular session. Council President Pro Tem Ben Short presided over the meeting and Dan Weinrib served as recording secretary.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Pro Tem Ben Short
Councilor Jaime Anderson
Councilor Lisa Bright

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat
City Attorney Rick Stotser
City Clerk Dan Weinrib

Those absent: Councilor Perry Cook
Councilor Alan Taylor

The City Council determined the order of consideration. At Mayor Choat's request, the council agreed to add an executive session to the agenda. Since there were no discussion items, President Short adjourned the workshop at 5:27 pm.

AUGUST 12, 2025 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in **regular session** on **Tuesday, August 12, 2025**, at 6 pm at the City Hall Annex, with Council President Ben Short presiding and Dan Weinrib serving as recording secretary.

President Short called the meeting to order. Councilor Cook 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 Rick Stotser
City Clerk Dan Weinrib

They reviewed the minutes from the July 22 agenda workshop & regular session. Councilor Bright moved & Councilor Anderson seconded the motion to approve the minutes. **UNANIMOUS**

President Short then introduced the consent & regular agenda. Councilor Taylor moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion to approve the four-item consent agenda. **UNANIMOUS** Councilor Bright moved & Councilor Taylor seconded the motion to approve the regular agenda. **UNANIMOUS**

During public comments, Melanie Sickels (208 Oak Drive West) asked questions about or commented on residential development, master plan, & garbage-&-recycling sorting. Council President Short, Councilor Bright & City Clerk Weinrib took turns answering.

Under the regular agenda, Councilor Bright introduced a proposed proclamation honoring Cahaba Elementary School STEM teacher April Smith. **She moved & Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2025-15** After a brief recess for group pictures and a brief speech full of gratitude by April Smith, President Short resumed the meeting.

Councilor Taylor then introduced a proposed ordinance. **He moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion for unanimous consent to suspend the rules to bring an ordinance up for immediate consideration. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS** Councilor Taylor then moved, **& Councilor Bright seconded the motion, to approve an ordinance to renew the \$6 million line of credit with Synovus Bank. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2025-017-ADM**

Councilor Taylor then introduced a proposed ordinance. **He moved & Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for unanimous consent to suspend the rules to bring an ordinance up for immediate consideration. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS** Councilor Taylor then moved to

approve an ordinance to establish a fee for Lift Assistance Services Performed at Extended Care Facilities by the Fire Department. Councilor Bright seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2025-018-PS

President Short then convened a public hearing for the proposed rezoning of 3101 Mary Taylor Road. He explained the proposed zoning change. Since nobody in the audience spoke up, he promptly closed the public hearing.

Councilor Anderson then introduced a proposed ordinance. **She moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion for unanimous consent to suspend the rules to bring an ordinance up for immediate consideration. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Anderson then moved to rezone the property located at 3101 Mary Taylor Road, to A-1 (Agricultural) from R-6 (Mobile Home Residential) Councilor Bright seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2025-019-PZ**

President Short then convened a public hearing for a proposed alcohol license. New business owner Bassam Shairi approached the podium and introduced himself as the operator for Trussville Chevron, located at 5981 Chalkville Mountain Road. Councilor Taylor reviewed parts of his application and asked him questions about his prior experience vending beer and table wine, as well as how he trains his employees. Shairi answered that he uses ABC's Responsible Vendor Program. Once the council was done with questioning, President Short turned to the audience. Detecting no interest from the public, Councilor Short closed the public hearing.

Councilor Cook then introduced a resolution to approve the alcohol licenses (off-premises only on beer and table wine) application for Trussville Chevron. **He moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2025-33**

Councilor Cook then introduced a resolution to adopt the City's Annual Transportation Plan, as required by the 2019 Rebuild Alabama Act. Mayor Choat explained that the City now has over \$600,000 in accumulated funds. Half will be used for finishing city streets abandoned by developers; the other half will be used to pay for long-term bonds financing roads & bridge construction. **He moved & Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2025-34**

Councilor Bright then introduced a resolution supporting Tuscaloosa & Mountain Brook's efforts to change the SSUT distribution formula. She gave an explanation behind the City's resolution. Councilor Taylor commended his colleagues & incoming councilor Brian Jackson on their efforts on behalf of the City. President Short explained further explained to the public the consequences of the present SSUT payout to Trussville, which shortchanges the city schools' funding. **She moved & Councilor Taylor seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2025-35**

Councilor Taylor then introduced a proposed resolution to offer early retirement incentives to certain city employees, from October through December 2025. At his prompting, Human Resources Director Mandy Dixon briefly explained the proposal. **He then moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2025-36**

Councilor Anderson then introduced a proposed resolution to establish medical & dental insurance rates for any city employee who chooses to retire between October 1 & December 31. Dixon explained what the rates would be. **Councilor Anderson moved & Councilor Taylor seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2025-37**

During committee reports, Councilor Anderson reported that the City Museum had over 200 visitors during the Dog Daze Festival. Also, State Rep. Danny Garrett secured a \$5000 grant to the Historical Committee. Also, the Veterans Committee remains busy organizing its annual Take the Day Back on September 11. Also, she complimented the Library on its impressive Book Mobile. She acknowledged Library board member Marcia Ward, then encouraged the community to volunteer for various citizen boards.

Councilor Bright complimented Public Works on their work prior to, during & after the Dog Daze Festival. Public Works remain busy with sign removal, mowing grass and asphalt repair. Also, schools are back in session. The Huskies are about to start playing football. She promoted Husky Night on August 15 & Join the Pack fundraiser for the Schools Foundation. After acknowledging the school board chairman, Dr. Steven Ward, she informed the public that the school board's next meeting is August 18. Also, the Finance committee is meeting with department heads regarding their prospective FY2026 budgets. FY2025 now has a \$785,000 surplus, following the latest property sale. Over the budget year, the City has retired \$9 million of debt. Also, she met with Norfolk-Southern representative Elizabeth Lawlor & State Rep. Danny Garrett regarding the Mary Taylor Road rail crossing project.

Councilor Cook thanked Inspections for all its citywide work. Also, Tandi Smith is the new Parks & Recreation Board chairwoman. Parks & Recreation hosted a basketball tournament featuring a team from France. Also, the Civic Center is hosting the annual Home & Garden Show. He thanked Fire, Police & Public Works for all their work during the Dog Daze Festival.

Councilor Taylor thanked both police & fire chiefs for their public safety work. Also, he thanked community volunteers for their roles in making the Chamber's Dog Daze Festival a successful event. Chamber members get early access to the Home & Garden Show on Friday. The Chamber's annual prayer breakfast had its biggest attendance ever. Also, Leadership Trussville's board will plan out the its opening retreat for its fourth class.

Councilor Short reported that the Active Transportation's proposal has been sent to the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham for its review & support. Also, a Planning & Zoning subcommittee is reviewing ideas for updating the City's subdivision regulations.

Mayor Choat thanked Jefferson County for its roadwork on Happy Hollow Road & Trussville-Clay Road. Also, he learned from ALDOT District Chief DeJarvis Leonard that the contractor will start work on northbound I-59 lane in early 2026.

During audience comments, Richard Epstein (4742 Boulder Road) suggested putting rubber O-rings on manhole covers. He pointed out that a pipe on Valley Road is protruding.

With nothing left to review, President Short adjourned the meeting at 6:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,



City Clerk Dan Weinrib MMC