

City of Lanett Meeting Minutes

401 N. Lanier Ave.
Lanett, AL 36863

Tuesday, June 21 2022

6:00 PM

Lanett Council Chambers

Regular Session -

The City Council of the City of Lanett, Alabama, met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 2022, in the Council Chambers of the Lanett Municipal Complex at 6:00 P.M.

Council members present were Tony Malone, Tifton Dobbs, Tamalita Autry and Angelia Thomas. Mayor Heard presided over the meeting.

Rev. Rodney Jones said the invocation and Mayor Heard led the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmember Dobbs made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss the Water Main on South 4th Avenue (Item L). Councilmember Malone seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilmember Dobbs made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Councilmember Malone seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilmember Autry made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2022 Public Hearing and June 8, 2022 Special Called Meeting. Councilmember Thomas seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

A plaque from Greater Valley Area Juneteenth Committee was presented to the City of Lanett by Trudy Johnson and Natalie Fannings. This was presented to Mayor Heard in gratitude of the city, Mayor & Council, and residents' ongoing commitment and dedication with the Greater Valley Juneteenth celebration.

A presentation from the Valley Times Readers Choice Award was presented by Councilmember Malone to the winner of the 2022 Award, Captain Jamie Heard.

Approval of Invoices was motioned by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 06-22-04 Authorization for Lanett Electric and Gas Department to apply for USDA Grant for Excavator was put in motion by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Dobbs. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 06-22-05 Authorization for Use of American Rescue Plan Funds for Fiber Optic installation for Detective Division was put into motion by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 06-22-06 Acceptance of results of the 20021 Fiscal Year Final Audit was put into motion by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried. Councilmember Malone questioned if everything was in line with the audit and Mayor Heard responded.

Resolution 06-22-07 funding assistance from the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program was put into motion by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried. Councilmember Malone asked Allen Summers to explain the details of the grant to the citizens. Allen Summers briefly explained.

Resolution 06-22-08 Authorization approving payment of one-time bonus to retirees was put into motion by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Dobbs. Motion unanimously carried. Councilmember Malone had some questions about the amount of the bonus. Mayor Heard responded.

Resolution 06-22-09 Resolution to accept paving bid for ALDOT Project No. TAPAA-TA21(922) was put into motion by Councilmember Malone and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried. Councilmember Malone questioned about the actual location and Councilmember Thomas questioned the start date of the project. Mayor Heard answered both.

Resolution 06-22-10 Resolution granting mayor authority to execute Airport agreements and documents was put into motion by Councilmember Malone and seconded by Councilmember Dobbs. Motion unanimously carried.

Attorney Stanley Gray spoke on the District 3 Vacancy. He stated that the city had previously accepted the resignation of Charles Looser in District 3 and the Council is in the process of considering someone for the open position. He stated that the Mayor and Council would make a decision by next council meeting. He discussed the roles of the Mayor and Council. Councilmember Malone and Councilmember Dobbs showed interest in accepting nominations tonight. It was put into motion by Councilmember Dobbs and seconded by Councilmember Malone.

A Roll Call vote was taken with the following results:

Councilmember Malone - Yes

Councilmember Autry - Yes

Mayor Jamie Heard - Yes

Councilmember Dobbs - Yes

Councilmember Thomas – Yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Stanley Gray entertained nominations to fill the vacancy of District 3. Councilmember Dobbs nominated Ronnie Tucker. There were no other nominations. Stanley Gray entertained a vote for Ronnie Tucker to fill seat in District 3.

A Roll Call vote was taken with the following results:

Councilmember Malone - Yes

Councilmember Autry - Yes

Mayor Jamie Heard - Yes

Councilmember Dobbs - Yes

Councilmember Thomas - Yes

Motion unanimously carried.

Attorney Gray stated that Tucker would be sworn in at the next meeting.

Councilmember Dobbs passed out a map of the building and water main on South 4th Avenue to the Mayor and Council, Stanley Gray, and the Acting Clerk Kelley Walton. Dobbs discussed his concerns about the water main on South 4th Avenue.

Councilmember Malone had no committee report. He congratulated Trent McCants, all of the city employees and the Juneteenth Committee on how neat and in order the Juneteenth celebration was. He thanked the committee for bringing the festivities to Downtown Lanett. He mentioned his concerns about trash pickup and how it is time for the city to explore other options for garbage services.

Councilwoman Autry had no committee report. She also congratulated Trent McCants and the Juneteenth committee. She mentioned that she had a chance to attend the viewing of the Fuller center projects and has been excited to see all of the work being done at the Lanett High School. She also stated her concerns about trash pickup and how it is a big issue for everyone and that they are working on it. She congratulated Ronnie Tucker and stated that she looks forward to working with him.

Councilwoman Thomas had no committee report. She mentioned how she enjoyed the Juneteenth program. She also congratulated the 2022 Readers Choice Award winner, Captain Jamie Heard as well as Ronnie Tucker.

Councilman Dobbs had no committee report. He echoed Councilmember Malone on the trash services. He mentioned that some areas had been a month without trash removal. He stated that citizens are paying for services that are not being done and he feels like they should review the contract with Amwaste and come up with a plan to fix the problem.

Chief Johnny Allen congratulated Captain Jamie Heard for winning the 2022 Readers Choice Award and thanked the city for recognizing him.

Allen Summers mentioned that the grant money the city is applying for is for \$20,000,000 to improve our gas system. He mentioned that July 25th is our deadline and that we are able to apply for the next 4 to 5 years if we do not receive it.

Trent McCants informed everyone that Adult Coed Softball will be held on Wednesdays and Sundays and that the swimming pool opened today. He also mentioned that the recreation department currently has 2 camps going on this week, JMA Cheer Camp and Camp-I-Care. He thanked everyone for helping out with the recreation department, Gator Media, The Valley Times News, April Ross, department heads, Council, citizens, Trudye Johnson, and Natalie Fannings.

Captain Jamie Heard thanked the city for recognizing him for winning the Readers' Choice Award.

Mayor Heard thanked the department heads for all they do and their staff during the storms and power outages. He mentioned that the Juneteenth celebration was a success. He thanked the committee for working with the city as well as the city workers who assisted with the event. He discussed Johnny Wood's retirement on July 29th, with over 29 years of service in law enforcement and that the city will start accepting applications on June 22, 2022. He mentioned to the council members that they were giving a copy of the city issued vehicle and equipment policy that they needed to review and act on it at the next meeting. He also expressed his concerns about the trash issue and mentioned getting Deborah Gilbert to put ads in the newspaper and possibly going back to doing our own trash pickup. He stated that he is doing the best that he can and also stated that trash has not gone up in the City of Lanett. He encouraged the citizens to go vote today and congratulated Ronnie Tucker. He also thanked Chief Allen for taking on the Airport duties and downtown fountain project. He mentioned that there will be an airport meeting on June 22, 2022.

City Attorney Stanley Gray had no comments.

Councilmember Dobbs made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilmember Thomas.

Mayor Heard stated that there being no further business to come before this council, motion duly made, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Attest:

Jamie L. Heard, Mayor

Deborah Gilbert, City Clerk/Treasurer