

City of Lanett

Meeting Minutes

401 N. Lanier Ave.
Lanett, AL 36863

Monday, August 5, 2024 6:00 PM

Lanett Council Chambers

Regular Session -

The City Council of the City of Lanett, Alabama, met in a regular meeting on Monday, August 5, 2024, in the Council Chambers of the Lanett Municipal Complex at 6:00 P.M.

Council members present were Tony Malone, Ronnie Tucker, Tamalita Autry, Tifton Dobbs, and Angelia F. Thomas. Mayor Pro-tempore Dobbs presided over the meeting.

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

Councilman Malone asked for a motion to amend the agenda by removing item B (an Ordinance allowing alcoholic drinks at special events). Dobbs gave the second. City Attorney stated that there needed to be a motion to approve the agenda first. Malone made the motion which was seconded by Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Autry made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2024 Council Meeting and Special Called Meeting. Councilmember Autry seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilman Malone again made a motion to amend the agenda by removing item B (an Ordinance allowing alcoholic drinks at special events). Thomas gave the second. Motion unanimously carried. A Roll Call Vote yielded the following: Malone = yes, Autry = yes, Thomas = yes, Tucker asked why it was being removed to which Malone stated that there were some questions regarding the ordinance and the attorney's first time seeing the Ordinance was when he arrived at today's meeting. Dobbs stated that the Ordinance seemed possible that we may be attempting to change a law that was a state law. Tucker asked Gray if it was true that this was the first time seeing it whereas Gray stated that he received it the previous Friday but had not had time to look at it extensively. Tucker then voted yes,

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

Resolution 08-24-01 Resolution to Impose a Lien on Jennings and Preston property was put into motion by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried. Code Enforcement Officer Johnny Wood explained the need for Resolution 08-24-01 to 08-24-10.

Resolution 08-24-02 Resolution to Impose a Lien on Smith property was put into motion by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 08-24-03 Resolution to Impose a Lien on Porter property was put into motion by Councilmember Malone and seconded by Councilmember Tucker. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 08-24-04 Resolution to Impose a Lien on Watts property was put into motion by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 08-24-05 Resolution to Impose a Lien on Shaw property was put into motion by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 08-24-06 Resolution to Impose a Lien on Buckhanon property was put into motion by Councilmember Autry and seconded by Councilmember Thomas. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 08-24-07 Resolution to Impose a Lien on PointLink property was put into motion by Councilmember Malone and seconded by Councilmember Thomas. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 08-24-08 Resolution to Impose a Lien on Webb property was put into motion by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 08-24-09 Resolution to Impose a Lien on Bandy property was put into motion by Councilmember Autry and seconded by Councilmember Tucker. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 08-24-10 Resolution to Impose a Lien on Grant property was put into motion by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilmember Malone. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 08-24-11 Resolution to apply for an American Public Power Association DEED Program Grant was put into motion by Councilmember Malone and seconded by Councilmember Thomas. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilman Malone had not committee Report.

Councilwoman Autry had no committee report. She thanked the City of Lanett for assisting with Lanett City Schools back to school.

Councilman Tucker had no committee report.

Councilwoman Thomas had no committee report. She thanked everyone for coming and thanked the city workers for their promptness. She stated that she had some concerns about a recent shooting at a Back-to-School bash as well as concerns with a recent party at a Hispanic Restaurant in a shopping center in Lanett. She stated that our police department had to get disciplined saying that our law enforcement needed to be stronger because right now they are looked at as a joke. Thomas stated that we are turning a blind eye to non-citizens in our area and not doing anything, but we need to arrest them. Police Chief McCain stated that they were making arrests but when the criminals went to court, they were given a slap on the wrist by the Judge and Juvenile authorities therefore making it difficult for the police to keep arresting people with no actions being taken. She stated that in regards to the shooting, this was an isolated incident where the shooter was after one person and that they are arresting the same kids over and over again and as far as the party, once the police got a call about it, they went there and immediately shut the party down. McCain addressed police salaries and stated that we now have three new police officers hired. Thomas stated that she was addressing the chief because after the Mayor and Council, she was the next highest person in the city. Tucker corrected her that it was actually the City Clerk. Thomas stated that she meant the next person that could do something. Malone asked the chief how many police officers we had patrolling when she took office. The answer was 12. He then asked how many patrol officers we have now. She stated 10. Malone said to the council that it is not the pay but the leadership that maybe they need to change leadership. Thomas asked that she be allowed to finish her comments since these were things that were brought to her attention by her constituents.

Councilman Dobbs had no committee report. Dobbs thanked the Street Department for correcting water issues at Cahaba Springs. He also stated that he had some concerns about Business Licenses. He said that as a council we should come up with a check list for business owners when they get a license so that they don't get shut down due to not having everything done that needs to be done before they open up. He stated that there needed to be a work session to discuss this. Dobbs also stated that he was glad that he was not the Mayor because we need to read and follow Roberts Rule of Order which states "No person should speak until recognized by the chair • Personal remarks or side discussions during debate are out of order • Only one question at a time may be considered, and only one person may have the floor at a time".

Councilman Tucker asked if the Architectural drawings were a state matter and not us. He was told yes by Johnny Wood because we don't have a building inspector. Wood stated incorrectly that we have a part time building inspector. This comment was corrected by the city clerk.

Mayor Pro-tempore Dobbs asked for a motion to adjourn. Malone made the motion and Thomas seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dobbs stated that there being no further business to come before this council, motion duly made, the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Attest:

Jamie L. Heard, Mayor

Deborah Gilbert, City Clerk/Treasurer