

# City of Lanett Meeting Minutes

401 N. Lanier Ave.  
Lanett, AL 36863

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Monday, January 6, 2025,

6:00 PM

Lanett Council Chambers

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## **Regular Session -**

The City Council of the City of Lanett, Alabama, met in a regular meeting on Monday, January 6, 2025, in the Council Chambers of the Lanett Municipal Complex at 6:00 P.M.

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

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

Mayor Heard asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Malone made the motion which was seconded by Autry. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Tucker made the motion to approve the minutes of December 16, 2024, Council Meeting. Councilmember Dobbs seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Angelia Finley-Thomas read a Proclamation declaring January 2025 as “Human Trafficking Month” in the city of Lanett. The Proclamation was accepted by Adrian Carpenter with the Circle of Care on behalf of the Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force.

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

Resolution 01-25-01 a resolution to Upgrade and Remove Traffic Signal Equipment at US 29 @ 1<sup>st</sup> Street and at US 29 at 10<sup>th</sup> Street was read by Councilwoman Autry and was put in motion by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Dobbs. Motion unanimously carried. Mayor Heard states that he had a meeting with ALDOT where it was determined that these traffic signals were not up to code therefore 1<sup>st</sup> Street signal would be upgraded (with assistance from a grant) and the one on 10<sup>th</sup> Street would be removed.

Resolution 01-25-02 a resolution to observe Severe Weather Preparedness Tax Holiday was read by Councilmember Finley-Thomas and was put in motion by

Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried

Resolution 01-25-03 a resolution authorizing the purchase of one Ambulance was read by Councilmember Autry and was put in motion by Councilmember Tucker and seconded by Councilmember Autry. Motion unanimously carried. Attorney Gray stated that this would be purchased by a company that is on the Alabama Cooperative Group approved by the State of Alabama. Chief Jamie Heard stated that we currently have three ambulances, and the reserve vehicle was in use now and the truck that we are replacing is in need of major work with a lot of miles on it. He also stated that instead of surplus, the box on the back would be used and the chassis of the truck will be transferred to another department as was done in the past.

Council Member Malone had no committee report. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Council Member Autry had no committee report. She stated that she was glad to see the sign coming into the city.

Council Member Tucker had no committee report. He wished everyone a Happy New Year. He also asked about a warming center for the weather.

Council member Thomas had no committee report. She wished everyone a Happy New Year. She also thanked the Fire department for continuing the tradition of Santa on Christmas Eve.

Council Member Dobbs had no committee report. He stated that he would like to see the streets around city hall paved.

Mayor Heard announced that the Groundswell Grant had been approved and that we would begin next month working on houses in the city. He asked all of the Councilmembers to let him know if they know of homeowners that qualified for repairs, especially seniors. Heard stated that we were waiting on the results of the second grant application.

Mayor Heard recognized Matthew Bourguignon with Blue Skies Flight School. Bourguignon stated that he had been operating the Flight School since March of 2023 and currently has a staff of 15 people with 10 instructors, AU students working the front office and 6 aircraft. They have sent 3 dozen students for their flight test to become pilots with a pass rate of 90% (average is mid 70s). This past

year the school purchased approximately 13,000 gallons of fuel from the airport totaling \$75,000. Their payroll last year was approximately \$160,000.

He let everyone know that Santa had done a flyover at Lanett Municipal Airport had done a flyover and landed to about 3 dozen parents and children. Some of his concerns for the airport were the entrance road, a weather system, safety improvements, and taxiway only accessing runway 6. He announced that the Young Eagles program for children between ages 8-17 will be held January 25, 2025. Their non-profit will provide insurance for all of the children who will be flown up for about 30 minutes. He also stated that they offer Discovery Flights for \$160.

Mayor Heard recognized Commissioner Bradford and the Restoration Committee. The members of the council received a draft copy of the 2025 Financial Audit.

Mayor Heard asked for a motion to adjourn. Malone made the motion and Thomas seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:39.

Attest:

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Jamie L. Heard, Mayor

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Deborah Gilbert, City Clerk/Treasurer