

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
October 27, 2025 – 5:30pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, October 27, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Talladega City Hall Chambers. The meeting was called to order and the following were present: Council President Hugh Sims, Councilman Steve Dickerson, Council Member Vickey Hall, Council Member Betty Spratlin, Interim City Manager Danny Warwick, and Mayor Ashton Hall.

Moment of Silence.

Motion by Council President Sims with a second from Councilman Denney for the approval of the amended agenda. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Council Member Hall with a second from Council Member Spratlin to approve invoices and expenditures. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Sims, Councilman Dickerson, Council Member Hall, and Council Member Spratlin NAY: Councilman Denney

Total Invoices & Expenditures from 10/3/2025-10/16/2025		\$266,040.67
General Fund	205,359.90	
Corrections Fund	24,390.90	
Municipal Airport	195.80	
Capital Projects Trust Fund	36,094.007	

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second from Councilman Dickerson for the approval of the minutes of the Special Called Meeting of October 1, 2025, Special Called Meeting of October 3, 2025, Work Session of October 13, 2025, Regular Meeting of October 13, 2025, and Amended Minutes of September 29, 2025. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Mr. Kevin Steward from K&D Adventures LLC appeared before the Council to present a proposal to purchase and dismantle Wehadkee. Mr. Steward explained that his company would remove the structure, salvage usable materials, and leave the lot level and free of debris in accordance with environmental regulations. He further stated that the City would retain ownership of the property, and his company would pay \$5,000 for the structure.

During discussion, Council members asked questions regarding the proposed timeline, scope of demolition, asbestos handling, and overall site cleanup. Mr. Steward responded that work would begin within sixty days following approval, which would not include removal of the large metal building unless directed, and that he would assume responsibility for any environmental or hazardous material compliance.

Interim City Manager Mr. Warwick stated that this was the only proposal the City had received for the demolition project. City Attorney Mr. O’Brien advised that the building could be declared surplus property and that he would prepare the contract for Council review and approval at the next regular meeting. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to direct the City Attorney to prepare the necessary agreement for the project, to be presented for consideration at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Keenan Wynn, representing the Talladega Rotary Club, addressed the Council regarding the upcoming Talladega Health and Wellness Fair, a community event dedicated to improving the health and well-being of residents. Mr. Wynn expressed appreciation to the Mayor, Council, City Manager, and community sponsors whose support made the event possible.

He explained that the fair is designed to promote preventive health awareness and will feature a wide array of healthcare vendors, educational displays, and wellness screenings. The kickoff event is scheduled for Thursday morning from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., beginning with breakfast and vendor setup. Mr. Wynn stated that participation is expected from approximately 150 to 200 attendees, including representatives from UAB, the Alabama Department of Public Health, and other organizations throughout the state. He announced that Dr. Scott Harris, State Health Officer, will serve as guest speaker, addressing topics such as the opioid crisis, rural healthcare, and infant mortality. Mr. Wynn emphasized that the event is not merely a one-day activity but part of an ongoing movement toward improving the overall health and quality of life for the citizens of Talladega.

Mr. Wynn also discussed logistical details, noting that activities will take place at multiple downtown locations, including the Ritz Theatre, nearby storefronts, and the Bottling Works. Some parking spaces and road areas will be temporarily closed to accommodate the blood drive bus and

related activities, with alternate parking and shuttle access provided. He thanked the City for its continued support of Rotary’s community efforts and requested limited traffic assistance from the Police Department to ensure a safe and organized event. Council President Sims thanked Mr. Wynn for his presentation and offered his appreciation.

Resolution #6464 approving an agreement with AIDB for Interpreter Services

Motion by Council president Sims with a second from Councilman Dickerson for the approval of Resolution #6464. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Weed Abatements

Resolution #6465 declaring 401 Lancaster St. E. a public nuisance for weeds

Resolution #6466 declaring 402 E. Lancaster St. a public nuisance for weeds

Resolution #6467 declaring 822 E. Coffee St. a public nuisance for weeds

Resolution #6468 declaring 433 East St. N. a public nuisance for weeds (1)

Resolution #6469 declaring 433 East St. N. a public nuisance for weeds (2)

Resolution #6470 declaring 602 Howard St. a public nuisance for weeds

Resolution #6471 declaring 901 Washington Ave. a public nuisance for weeds

Resolution #6472 declaring 1202 Ola Ave. a public nuisance for weeds

Resolution #6473 declaring 1206 Ola Ave. a public nuisance for weeds

Resolution #6474 declaring 433 North Court St. a public nuisance for weeds

Motion by Councilman Denney with a second from Councilman Dickerson for the approval of Resolution #6465 to Resolution #6474. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #6475 assessing a weed abatement lien on property located at 385 Pinehurst Drive

Motion by Council President Sims with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #6475. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Council Member Hall with a second by Councilman Dickerson to approve invoices and expenditures for the Water Department. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Water Department Expenditures for 10/3/2025 to 10/16/2025		\$283,918.57
Water/Sewer Fund	283,918.57	

Interim City Manager Warwick deferred his comments to Parks and Recreation Director Summer Ammons, who reported on the success of the Trunk or Treat event held downtown. Director Ammons stated that the event was well attended and included participation from numerous local businesses, community organizations, and churches who distributed candy to children. She noted that turnout exceeded expectations, with many families attending throughout the evening.

Council President Sims commented on the impressive community participation and expressed surprise at the number of children present. Director Ammons added that many additional families arrived after the initial rush. Council President Sims thanked Director Ammons for her efforts and commended the coordination between the City, businesses, and community partners. He suggested that in future years the event might be coordinated with the Chamber of Commerce’s activities to increase participation.

Interim City Manager Warwick provided an update on the City’s ongoing search for a permanent City Manager, reporting that the Human Resources Department had received approximately thirty applications. He presented a list of three recommended search firms for Council consideration based on the approved budget and confirmed that HR had distributed applicant résumés for review. Council President Sims acknowledged receipt of the applicant list and noted that several qualified candidates had applied.

Following discussion, Council members reviewed whether to proceed with hiring an outside firm or continue the process internally. Councilmember Denney stated that the Council had previously voted to hire a search firm but questioned whether doing so was still necessary given the strong applicant response. He emphasized the importance of fiscal responsibility and ensuring the City hires the most qualified individual. City Attorney O'Brien advised that the Council could, if desired, rescind its prior action authorizing a firm and revisit the matter. Councilmember Dickerson recommended delaying any final decision until additional information regarding candidate qualifications could be reviewed.

Interim City Manager Warwick informed the Council that several firms were available to meet virtually to answer questions or provide information on their services. Council President Sims directed that the matter be tabled until the next regular meeting to allow time for Council review of applications and firm proposals before making a final decision.

Council President Sims commended Nicole McClurkin for her work compiling the applicant information and preparing the summary booklet for the Council's review.

Mayor Hall expressed appreciation to Director Ammons and City staff for the successful Trunk or Treat event, noting he was out of town that weekend. He congratulated the local high school football team on advancing to the next playoff round and encouraged youth participation in the upcoming basketball program.

Councilmember Dickerson congratulated Talladega College on its upcoming Homecoming and anniversary celebration, recognizing the institution's historic legacy as one of the first HBCUs in the Southeast. He also thanked Mr. Wynn and the Rotary Club for their earlier presentation and recognized October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, encouraging citizens to continue prioritizing health and wellness.

Councilmember Denney inquired about ambulance staffing and confirmed through Thomas, with NorthStar EMS, that all ambulances operating in the City include a certified paramedic. Councilmember Denney further initiated discussion regarding transparency and accountability, recommending that the City conduct an audit to address public concerns and ensure confidence in City operations. He expressed his belief that an independent audit would provide clarity and help strengthen community trust.

Council President Sims asked for clarification on the process, and City Attorney O'Brien advised that the City could solicit proposals from qualified auditors, then enter a contract through formal resolution once the scope of work is defined.

Councilmember Hall stated she preferred additional time before making a decision.

Councilmember Denney agreed to revisit the matter once more information is gathered.

Later in discussion, Councilmember Denney also proposed that the City consider declaring several City-owned properties surplus to advance revitalization efforts. He identified locations including 121 Court Street North, 119 Court Street North, the North Pole building, 126 Court Square East (Hubbard Building), and 113 Court Square West (A.J. Building). Mr. Denney stated that transferring or redeveloping these aging structures would relieve the City of maintenance expenses and support downtown improvement efforts.

City Attorney O'Brien advised that any such action must be done by ordinance, as required for the disposition of municipal real property.

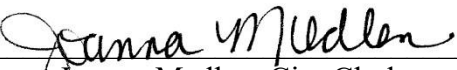
Motion by Councilman Denney with a second from Councilman Dickerson to consider surplusing the properties located at 121 Court S. N., 119 Court S. N., 126 Court Square E. and 113 Court Square W. and direct Attorney O'Brien to draft an ordinance to surplus the properties to the Redevelopment Authority. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Council President Sims thanked everyone for attending and participating.

Motion by Councilman Dickerson with a second from Council President Sims to adjourn the meeting. AYES: All.

AUTHENTICATION

I, Joanna Medlen, City Clerk of the City of Talladega, Alabama, do hereby attest that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings of the City Council of Talladega, Alabama, which met in a regular session on Monday, October 27, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the City of Talladega, Alabama City Hall Council Chambers.


Joanna Medlen, City Clerk