

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
November 24, 2025 – 5:30pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, November 24, 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, Councilman Shane Denney, Interim City Manager Danny Warwick, and Mayor Ashton Hall.

Invocation by Councilman Denney.

Motion by Councilman Dickerson with a second from Councilman Denney for the approval of the amended agenda. AYES: All.

Public hearing was opened for anyone who wished to comment/and or object to the weed abatement of eight (8) properties. No one was present to comment and the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Council President Sims 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 11/1/2025-11/12/2025		\$87,906.78
General Fund	87,731.56	
Municipal Airport	175.22	

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2025. AYES: All.

Ms. Sandra Beavers addressed the Council regarding the classification and advertisement of City positions. She stated that City jobs should be defined by duties and responsibilities rather than by individuals and expressed concern that creating or adjusting positions for specific people can create the appearance of favoritism. Ms. Beavers emphasized the need for fairness, transparency, and open competition in all hiring practices and stated that the public deserves assurance that hiring decisions and salaries reflect what is best for the community.

Councilman Denney asked whether Ms. Beavers believed there had been instances where these principles were not followed. Ms. Beavers responded that she did, but that this meeting was not an appropriate setting to discuss specific examples and that Council Members could contact her directly for further information.

Motion by Councilman Denney with a second from Council President Sims to accept the resignation of Nicola Lawler from the Public Library Board. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Denney with a second from Council President Sims for the appointment of Kelly Adams to the Public Library Board, the re-appointment of Jeff Roberts and Clarence Haynes to the Talladega Airport Board and Ken Allen Jr. to the Talladega Redevelopment Authority. AYES: All.

Dr. Quentin J. Lee, Superintendent of Talladega City Schools, addressed the Council regarding proposed funding options for operational and capital improvements at Talladega High School. Dr. Lee outlined the district’s facility needs, funding limitations, and potential options for City support, including partial or full allocation of sales tax or inclusion in the City’s CIP.

Council members discussed funding options, potential project costs, and timing of construction. Concerns were raised regarding the impact on the City’s budget and CIP, the need for a phased or single-project approach, and the role of state funding. Dr. Lee stated that a new facility would provide modern educational and athletic spaces, benefit the community, and enhance student opportunities.

Council members requested additional information and plans for review. Council President Sims wished to table this until the December 1 meeting.

- Resolution #6515** approving the weed abatement for property located at 401 E. Lancaster St.
- Resolution #6516** approving the weed abatement for property located at 402 E. Lancaster St.
- Resolution #6517** approving the weed abatement for property located at 433 East St. N. (1)

- Resolution #6518** approving the weed abatement for property located at 433 East St. N. (2)
- Resolution #6519** approving the weed abatement for property located at 602 Howard St.
- Resolution #6520** approving the weed abatement for property located at 901 Washington Ave.
- Resolution #6521** approving the weed abatement for property located at 1202 Ola Ave.
- Resolution #6522** approving the weed abatement for property located at 1206 Ola Ave.
- Resolution #6523** approving the weed abatement for property located at 433 N. Court St.

Motion by Councilman Denney with a second from Council President Sims for the approval of Resolution #6515 to Resolution #6523. AYES: All.

Weed Abatement Liens

- Resolution #6524** assessing a lien on property located at 301 Alexander St.
- Resolution #6525** assessing a lien on property located at 514 East St. S.
- Resolution #6526** assessing a lien on property located at 111 Elizabeth Ave.
- Resolution #6527** assessing a lien on property located at 606 Eastwood Ave.
- Resolution #6528** assessing a lien on property located at 416 E. Damon Ave.
- Resolution #6529** assessing a lien on property located at 311 Ave H
- Resolution #6530** assessing a lien on property located at 502 E. Parkway Ave.
- Resolution #6531** assessing a lien on property located at 823 Allen St.
- Resolution #6532** assessing a lien on property located at 110 Nassau St.

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second from Council President Sims for the approval of Resolution #6524 to Resolution #6532. AYES: All.

Resolution #6533 approving an agreement with Vertical Communication for VOIP Phone System for the City of Talladega

Motion by Council President Sims with a second from Council Member Spratlin for the approval of Resolution #6533. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #6535 approving an agreement with Cintas for uniform rental services, facility services, and related items

Motion by Council President Sims with a second from Councilman Dickerson for the approval of Resolution #6535. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Council President with a second from Council Member Spratlin to draft an ordinance affecting traffic control on South St. by the removal of the traffic light. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Dickerson with a second by Council Member Spratlin to approve invoices and expenditures for the Water Department. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Sims, Councilman Dickerson, Council Member Hall, and Council Member Spratlin ABSTAIN: Councilman Denney

Water Department Expenditures for 11/1/2025 to 11/12/2025	\$9,925.63
Water/Sewer Fund	9,925.63

Resolution #6534 approving an agreement with Schmidt Environmental Construction, Inc. for replacing the raw sewage pump and grit pump at the Main Wastewater Treatment Plant at a cost of \$499,500.00

Motion by Councilman Dickerson with a second from Council President Sims for the approval of Resolution #6534. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Council President Sims with a second from Councilman Dickerson to authorize the expenditure of \$280.00 from each council member’s discretionary fund for 2 Christmas Parade Floats. AYES: All.

Council Member Spratlin reported that while traveling earlier that evening, she observed three streetlights that were not functioning and asked whom she should notify when streetlights are out. Interim City Manager Warwick stated that Council Member Spratlin may contact him directly and he would ensure the matter is addressed. Council President Sims commented that he ties a ribbon on poles when he notices lights out.

Mayor Hall welcomed everyone and extended wishes for a safe and blessed Thanksgiving. He thanked Dr. Lee for his presentation and expressed hope for continued partnership with the school system for the benefit of students.

Council Member Hall stated that while the Council recently reviewed Robert's Rules of Order, Council members must avoid becoming involved in day-to-day administrative operations. She noted that the City employs a City Manager to perform those duties and that Council involvement in departmental matters creates confusion for department heads regarding whom to follow. She stated that Council members should remain within their defined roles. Council Member Sims responded that he did not know to whom Council Member Hall was referring to and stated that when he visits City Hall, it is to speak with Interim City Manager Warwick, not with department heads. Council Member Hall reiterated her concerns and stated that frequent visits and involvement with department operations place the City Manager in a difficult position. She restated her belief that the Council should avoid involvement in administrative matters.

Councilman Dickerson thanked those in attendance and expressed appreciation to individuals who provided presentations and volunteered for service. He encouraged everyone to check on neighbors and loved ones during the holiday season. He stated that the City will have two floats in the upcoming parade and encouraged participation to ensure neither float is left empty. He noted that including children and City staff on the floats would prevent past issues where floats were underutilized.

Council Member Denney thanked Dr. Lee for the presentation and thanked Ms. Hall for her willingness to discuss the proposed ordinance during the meeting. He stated that his purpose for running for City Council was to support positive changes in Talladega and to work collaboratively to advance the community. He noted that many efforts toward improving the City are not visible to the general public, and he expressed a desire to see progress in large projects, including the development of a new sports complex. He stated he recently spoke with Mr. Sims regarding potential funding options and acknowledged discussions about whether to allocate budget funds for a feasibility study. He stated he believes the City is not yet at the point of moving forward but would like additional discussion with management to ensure the process is done correctly. Council Member Denney expressed strong support for investment in youth, education, and community facilities. He stated that residents need to see progress and that minor improvements alone will not address the long-term needs of the City. He referenced Talladega High School construction in the 1970s and stated that major investments have lasting value. He stated that the City must choose between allowing facilities to deteriorate or reinvesting them. He stated that he wants Talladega's children to be able to look back and see meaningful improvements made during this time. Council Member Denney also requested that the Interim City Manager provide a list of employees who are currently drawing a salary but are not reporting to work daily due to extended leave. He stated that understanding staffing and leave status is important for financial planning and that the City must invest in its operations to be successful.

Council Member Spratlin wished everyone safe travel during the Thanksgiving holiday and encouraged citizens to be careful on the roads and enjoy the holiday with family. She also asked for an update at the next meeting regarding the status of the audit. She stated that the council had previously discussed initiating an audit and were to coordinate with Finance Director Phillips. Council President Sims stated that the audit is in process and is currently being worked on. Finance Director Phillips confirmed that the audit work was underway and stated she will provide an update to the council.

Council President Sims noted positive public comments regarding Christmas decorations on the square and stated that the City was installing the Christmas tree that day. He acknowledged improvements at Brecon Park, including recent pavilion construction, upcoming concrete work, new picnic tables and a barbecue grill. He stated that the program at the park has been successful, with residents and county-wide participation. He noted that approximately 200 participants attended the recent movie at the Ritz Theatre, which required minimal cost beyond ticket fees. He stated that he would like to allocate \$300 from his discretionary fund to support the Rehab Select program.

Motion by Council President Sims with a second from Councilman Dickerson to allocate \$300.00 from his discretionary fund to support Rehab Select. AYES: All.

Council President Sims next stated that the Council would need to enter executive session to discuss pending litigation.

City Attorney O'Brien thanked Council President Sims for the summary. He stated that the Council requested information on pending litigation, and that the matter qualifies as a permitted exception under the Open Meetings Act. He advised that an executive session would require a motion, a second, and a roll-call vote, and stated the expected duration was no more than 15 minutes. He stated that no action item would follow the return to open session.

Motion by Council President Sims with a second from Councilman Denney to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. Roll Call. AYES: All.

The Council entered into Executive Session at 6:26pm and reconvened in Open Session at 6:58pm with no action taken following Executive Session.

Motion by Councilman Dickerson with a second from Council Member Spratlin 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, November 24, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the City of Talladega, Alabama City Hall Council Chambers.


Joanna Medlen, City Clerk