

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
February 23, 2026 – 5:30pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, February 23, 2026, 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.

Invocation by Councilman Sims.

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Council Member Hall to excuse the absence of Councilman Denney. AYES: All.

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second by Councilman Sims to approve the agenda. AYES: All.

Interim City Manager Warwick reported that staff has completed most of the preparation for the warming station. The station was not ready to open that evening but is expected to be fully operational by the end of the week. Council President Dickerson inquired whether protocols are in place for activation when temperatures drop below freezing. Interim City Manager Warwick confirmed that protocols are in place.

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Council Member Hall to approve invoices and expenditures. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Total Invoices & Expenditures from 1/30/2026-2/3/2026	\$84,108.72
General Fund	84,041.96
Corrections Fund	66.76

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second by Council Member Hall to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 9, 2026. AYES: All.

Council President Dickerson informed the Council that the Statement of Economic Interests is to be completed by April 30.

Council President Dickerson stated that over the last several months the Council has committed funding and effort toward rebuilding the Youth and Recreation Department. He noted that in prior years there were community concerns involving youth and that the Council pledged to increase youth activities and engagement. He encouraged continued community support and noted that volunteer coaches and other volunteers are needed.

Coach James Garrett addressed the Council and introduced Assistant Coach Carlos Braxton and team members. Coach Garrett reported that the team went undefeated during the season, winning tournaments in Talladega and Pell City and another tournament in Stemley. The team will compete again this weekend representing Talladega All Stars with the goal of advancing to state competition. Coach Garrett thanked the Council for its investment in youth programs. Mayor Hall asked each player to state their name and age, and each team member did so.

Weed Abatements

Resolution #6618 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 433 East St. (1)

Resolution #6619 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 433 East St. (2)

Resolution #6620 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 602 Howard St.

Resolution #6621 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 901 Washington Ave.

Resolution #6622 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 1202 Ola Ave.

Resolution #6623 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 1206 Ola Ave.

Resolution #6624 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 401 E. Lancaster St.

Resolution #6625 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 402 E. Lancaster St.

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Council Member Spratlin to approve Resolution #6618 to Resolution #6625. AYES: All.

Travel Requests

Resolution #6626 ratifying and approving travel for Eric Walker to attend the District V Basketball Credentials Meeting on February 18, 2026 in Lanett, Alabama

Resolution #6627 approving the travel for Eric Walker to attend the District V Basketball Tournament on February 28, 2026 in Lanett, Alabama

Resolution #6628 approving the travel for Scott King, Brooke Phillips, and Britni Davidson to attend the 2026 Regional Seminars for Municipal Court Officials on April 2, 2026 to April 3, 2026 in Birmingham, Alabama

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Council Member Hall to approve Resolution #6626 to Resolution #6628. AYES: All.

Resolution #6629 designating the City of Talladega's Voting Delegate and Alternates for the Alabama League of Municipalities 2026 Annual Business Meeting

On motion of Council Member Hall, seconded by Councilman Sims, Council President Dickerson was designated as the City of Talladega's Voting Delegate for the Alabama League of Municipalities 2026 Annual Business Meeting, with Councilman Sims and Council Member Hall designated as Alternates.

Council President Dickerson relinquished the chair to Council Member Spratlin during consideration of the motion.

Council Member Spratlin presided. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: AYES: All. The motion carried. Council President Dickerson resumed the chair.

Resolution #6630 awarding the beverage services contract to Coca-Cola Bottling Company for a total contract value of \$43,500.00 for Talladega Parks and Recreation exclusive beverage services

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Council Member Hall to approve Resolution #6630. AYES: All.

Resolution #6631 approving a contract with Hurst Construction for the Chamber of Commerce roof replacement in the amount of \$120,677.00

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second by Council Member Hall to approve Resolution #6631. Roll Call. AYES: All.

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

Water Department Expenditures for 1/30/2026 to 2/3/2026	\$303,279.40
Water/Sewer Fund	303,279.40

Resolution #6632 designating Danny Warwick, City Manager, as the City of Talladega's Official Representative for the Alabama Department of Environmental Management Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Programs, replacing Derrick Swanson

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second by Councilman Sims to approve Resolution #6632. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #6633 approving a contract with Denali Water Solutions LLC for sludge removal services per bid specifications

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second by Council Member Hall to approve Resolution #6633. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Interim City Manager Warwick reported that the next municipal election will occur in 2027. Any salary increase for elected officials must be adopted no later than six months prior to the election and must be accomplished by ordinance. He further reported that Council must designate a new polling site for Ward 2, which will require amendment of Ordinance No. 1789.

Councilman Sims asked where Ward 2 voted previously. Interim City Manager Warwick responded that the prior site was the CACC location. Councilman Sims asked whether that location remains suitable. Council Member Hall stated it was not ideal and expressed hope that the Eastside location could be used but noted it is not yet ready. Councilman Sims asked whether the Armory could be used. Interim City Manager Warwick stated he would confirm availability and report back.

Mayor Hall stated he was pleased to see interns who recently began working in various departments at City Hall and thanked Interim City Manager Warwick, Ms. McClurkin, Human Resources, and Talladega College. Mayor Hall also addressed the issue of elected officials' salaries and stated that he previously asked why the Mayor's salary was not included in prior discussion and was advised he was not present at that meeting. He stated that going forward he desires fairness across the board. Council President Dickerson directed that the Mayor's salary be included in the salary review.

Councilman Sims reported that he attended the investiture ceremony of Dr. Willie Todd, new President of Talladega College, along with Council President Dickerson, Interim City Manager Warwick, and Mayor Hall. He stated the event was well attended and expressed support for Dr. Todd as an asset to the City. Councilman Sims also reported that he gave a presentation to the Lions Club and expressed appreciation for the invitation. He further announced that Mr. Dale Price, candidate for District Judge, will host a meet and greet at Heritage Hall on Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and encouraged attendance.

Council Member Spratlin had no comment.

Council President Dickerson recognized February as Black History Month and highlighted notable contributions connected to Talladega, including the Five Blind Boys of Alabama originating from the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind; former Mayor Timothy Ragland, first African American Mayor of Talladega; Clarence Carter; Talladega College, founded in 1867 and chartered in 1869; Mr. Wallace, first African American firefighter in Talladega; Mr. Wilby Wallace, first African American police officer in Talladega; Mr. Lawrence Taylor, first African American councilman; and Mr. Kenneth Dickerson, first African American Fire Chief. He encouraged continued community involvement.

Council Member Hall requested an update regarding the City Manager search. Interim City Manager Warwick reported that 16 candidates have been identified and that a second report is pending, which will include research on qualifications and background review. He anticipates narrowing the list to five or six candidates. Council President Dickerson noted that several Council members submitted some of the same candidate names. Council Member Hall expressed concern regarding the reduction process and stated she believed the consultant was hired to handle screening. Interim City Manager Warwick explained that the consultant is conducting further research and social media and news background checks and will brief Council. Final selection authority remains with Council. Councilman Sims asked whether the number should be reduced to three. Council President Dickerson stated that once review is complete, Council will determine the number of finalists to interview and reiterated that selection of the City Manager remains the responsibility of the Council.

Motion by Council Member Hall with a second by Councilman 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, February 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the City of Talladega, Alabama City Hall Council Chambers.


Joanna Medlen, City Clerk

