

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
March 9, 2026 – 5:30pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, March 9, 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, Councilman Shane Denney, Interim City Manager Danny Warwick, and Mayor Ashton Hall.

Invocation by Reverend Hugh Morris.

Motion by Councilman Denney with a second by Councilman Sims to approve the agenda.
AYES: All.

City Manager Warwick reported that he had spoken with representatives from Central Alabama Community College and the National Guard Armory regarding use of their facilities as polling locations for Ward 2. Both sites indicated a willingness to allow the City to utilize the facilities. An additional location under consideration is Hal Henderson School. Council Member Hall noted that the Armory had been used previously but that the available space is now smaller. City Manager Warwick stated that the space has been reduced due to lockers that have been installed in the facility. He noted that the lockers may potentially be removed but are currently still in place. Council President Dickerson requested that Council Member Hall and City Manager Warwick visit the potential locations and provide a recommendation to the Council. No action was taken on this item.

City Manager Warwick reported that information regarding mayor and council compensation in other municipalities had been compiled and distributed to the Council for review. He stated that no municipalities with an identical form of government to Talladega were identified. City Attorney O'Brien provided information regarding the legal requirements governing compensation for elected officials and advised that any changes must be adopted by ordinance at least six months prior to the municipal election and would apply to the next term of office. The Council discussed the matter. Motion by Council President Dickerson with a second by Councilman Denney directing City Attorney O'Brien to draft an ordinance establishing the mayor's salary at the same amount as the city council salary. AYES: Council President Dickerson, Council Member Hall, and Councilman Denney NAYS: Councilman Sims and Council Member Spratlin

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

Total Invoices & Expenditures from 2/4/2026-2/25/2026	\$349,934.48
General Fund	280,751.25
Corrections Fund	36,573.31
Municipal Airport	2,250.19
Capital Projects Trust Fund	30,359.73

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Council Member Spratlin to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 23, 2026. AYES: All.

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

Mayor Hall presented a proclamation recognizing the American Red Cross.

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Council Member Spratlin to appoint Kelly Adams and Dede Elliott to the Talladega Library Board. AYES: All.

Mayor Hall administered the oath of office to Dede Elliott for service on the Talladega Library Board.

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second by Councilman Denney to appoint Willie L. Todd, Jr. to the Industrial Development Board. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Council Member Spratlin to appoint Charles Montgomery to the Heritage Hall Commission. AYES: All.

Resolution #6634 approving an agreement with Alabama Department of Education for participation in the 2026 Summer Food Program funded through the USDA

Motion by Councilman Denney with a second by Councilman Sims to adopt Resolution #6634 approving an agreement with Alabama Department of Education for participation in the 2026 Summer Food Program funded through the USDA. AYES: All.

Resolution #6635 authorizing the City Manager to execute a host agency agreement with Easter Seals Central Alabama for participation in the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) and providing for an effective date

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Council Member Spratlin to adopt Resolution #6635 authorizing the City Manager to execute a host agency agreement with Easter Seals Central Alabama for participation in the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) and providing for an effective date. AYES: All.

Resolution #6636 approving an agreement with River Tree Systems Inc. for local tax examination and audit services at a rate of \$75.00 per hour

James Thomas of River Tree Systems Inc. addressed the Council regarding the company's services related to local tax examination and audit services.

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Councilman Denney to adopt Resolution #6636 approving an agreement with River Tree Systems Inc. for local tax examination and audit services at a rate of \$75.00 per hour. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Council President Dickerson passed the gavel to Councilman Denney, who presided over the meeting during the consideration of the travel requests resolutions.

Travel Requests

Resolution #6637 ratifying and approving the travel for John Tyson to attend a pre-construction meeting for transport unit on February 22, 2026 to February 23, 2026 in West Jefferson, North Carolina

Resolution #6638 approving the travel for Jaylon Dulaney to attend Instructor 1 training on April 20, 2026 to April 24, 2026 in Lincoln, Alabama

Resolution #6639 approving the travel for Robert N. Hall to attend the 2026 Regional Seminars for Municipal Court Officials on May 6, 2026 to May 8, 2026 in Mobile, Alabama

Resolution #6640 approving the travel for Steve Dickerson, Hugh Sims, Vickey Hall and Betty Spratlin to attend the 2026 ALM Annual Conference and Business Meeting on April 28, 2026 to April 30, 2026 in Montgomery, Alabama

Resolution #6641 approving the travel for Joanna Medlen and Emily Light to attend the Alabama Association of Municipal Clerks Meeting "Clerks Day" at the 2026 ALM Annual Conference on April 29, 2026 in Montgomery, Alabama

Resolution #6642 approving the travel for Tyler Sharp to attend Interview and Interrogation training from May 4, 2026 to May 8, 2026 in Stapleton, Alabama

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second by Councilman Sims to adopt Resolutions #6637 through #6642 approving the travel requests as presented. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Council President Dickerson resumed the chair.

Weed Abatements

Resolution #6643 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 615 Ave F

Resolution #6644 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 515 Court St. N.

Resolution #6645 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 410 Broome St.

Resolution #6646 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 215 Brecon Circle

Resolution #6647 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 822 Coffee St.

Resolution #6648 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing a lien on property located at 418 Spring St. N.

Motion by Councilman Denney with a second by Council Member Hall to adopt Resolutions #6643 through #6648 assessing the cost of weed abatement and placing liens on the properties listed. AYES: All.

Resolution #6649 approving the purchase of a 2026 Southern Energy Tru River Birch mobile unit for the Talladega Fire Department in the amount of \$58,477.00 and authorizing execution of contract documents

Motion by Councilman Sims with a second by Councilman Denney to adopt Resolution #6649 approving the purchase of a 2026 Southern Energy Tru River Birch mobile unit for the Talladega Fire Department in the amount of \$58,477.00 and authorizing execution of contract documents. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #6650 approving Warming Station Operational Policies and Procedures for the City of Talladega

Motion by Councilman Denney with a second by Councilman Sims to adopt Resolution #6650 approving Warming Station Operational Policies and Procedures for the City of Talladega. AYES: All.

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

Water Department Expenditures for 2/4/2026 to 2/25/2026 **\$520,402.10**

Water/Sewer Fund 520,402.10

City Manager Warwick provided updates on several matters. He reported that the Pedestrian Improvement project is ongoing and that the contractor is currently conducting a sidewalk survey. The goal is to complete and provide a presentation to the Council by the end of March. City Manager Warwick also provided an update on the City Manager recruitment process, noting that an additional report regarding the process would be provided to the Council for review. He also reported that the City's audit is currently in progress and that an update would be provided once additional information becomes available. Finance Director Phillips provided clarification regarding the audit and noted that the State had requested an update regarding the City's audit status. City Manager Warwick also reported that staff are reviewing matters related to junk vehicles and blight and conducting property reviews throughout the city.

Mayor Hall reported on several community activities. Mayor Hall noted that Talladega College will host the ACC Basketball Tournament from March 12 through March 14 and encouraged citizens to attend and support the event. He also reported that the Mayor's Scholarship Program has raised \$5,000 this year, an increase from previous years, to be awarded to graduating seniors. Mayor Hall also expressed appreciation to the Council for considering matters related to compensation for elected officials and noted the importance of maintaining fairness among elected positions.

Council Member Hall – No comment.

Council Member Sims thanked citizens who volunteer to serve on city boards and encouraged residents to become involved in community activities. He also encouraged the public to support upcoming performances at the Ritz Theatre.

Councilman Denney requested staff review lighting at Jemison Park and the status of restroom repairs at Veterans Park. Councilman Denney also requested an update regarding the Pocket Park on East Street. City Attorney O'Brien stated that discussions are ongoing. Councilman Denney discussed the possibility of implementing an occupational tax for individuals working within the city limits. City Attorney O'Brien advised that the Council would need to adopt a resolution requesting local legislative

delegation introduce such legislation. Councilman Denney noted that this is something he would like to explore further.

Council President Dickerson encouraged increased community participation in council meetings and recognition of positive accomplishments within the community. He recognized Talladega Insurance Agency and the McGhee family for their continuous operation of the business since 1856, noting that it is the oldest continuously operating insurance company in Alabama. Council President Dickerson also recognized Women's History Month and acknowledged the contributions of women serving in city government and throughout the community.

Council Member Spratlin thanked Finance Director Phillips and Mr. Pointer for their time assisting the Council in reviewing road conditions and paving needs. She also thanked Councilman Denney and the Police Chief for their participation.

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second by Councilman Denney 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, March 9, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the City of Talladega, Alabama City Hall Council Chambers.



Joanna Medlen, City Clerk