

MINUTES
September 5, 2023
Irondale City Council Meeting - City Council Chambers, City Hall
Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

I. Invocation and Pledge – *Councilor London led the invocation and pledge.*

II. Call to Order – *The meeting was called to order by Council President Spivey at 6:03 p.m.*

III. Roll Call

Present

David Spivey, Council President

Aaron Sims

Cindy Cuellar

Robert Box

John London, President Pro Tem

IV. Approval of Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting on August 15, 2023.

Councilor Cuellar made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting on August 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilor Box. A vote was held and this motion passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Current Bills for Payment (\$1,147,061.51)

Councilor Box made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$1,147,061.51. This motion was seconded by Councilor Sims. A vote was held and this motion passed unanimously.

VI. Professional/Consultants' Reports – *None*

VII. Mayor's Report, Announcements, Special Guest

VIII. Department Heads' Reports

Councilmembers, Standing Committees, or Special Committee Reports

A. David Spivey (Economic Dev., Library, Finance, Planning & Zoning)

B. John London (Parks)

C. Cindy Cuellar (Water Dept., Judicial Ordinances, CDA)

D. Robert Box (Senior Activity Center, Public Safety, Abatement Board)

E. Aaron Sims (Public Works)

IX. Reports of Boards and Non-Council Committees

X. Public Hearings – *None*

XI. Council Deliberation on Agenda Items Only – *The City Council discussed all agenda items.*

XII. Approval of the Form of the Agenda – *Councilor Box made a motion that the form of the agenda be approved. Councilor Sims seconded the motion. A vote was held and this motion passed unanimously.*

XIII. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

XIV. Consent Agenda

Councilor Box made a motion that all items on the Consent Agenda be approved. Councilor Cuellar seconded this motion. A vote was held and this motion passed unanimously.

1. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-107 approves an Alcohol License for Event Concessions Inc. for the Rocky Horror Masquerade Ball which will be held on October 27, 2023, at 3521 Ratliff Road, Irondale, AL 35210. (*Doss*)
2. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-108 approves an Alcohol License for Topsy Tending LLC d/b/a Topsy Tending for an event which will be held on September 16, 2023, at 3521 Ratliff Road, Irondale, AL 35210. (*Doss*)
3. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-109 authorizes the allocation of public funds in the amount of \$4,000.00 to Shades Valley High School from the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. and the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Councilor Aaron Sims to be used exclusively for the Shades Valley High School band. (*Mayor/Sims*)
4. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-110 authorizes the allocation of public funds in the amount of \$2,500.00 to Shades Valley High School from the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. to be used exclusively for the Shades Valley High School volleyball team. (*Mayor*)
5. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-111 authorizes the allocation of public funds in the amount of \$2,500.00 to Irondale Middle School from the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. to be used exclusively for the Irondale Middle School volleyball team. (*Mayor*)
6. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-112 authorizes the allocation of public funds in the amount of \$4,000.00 to Shades Valley High School from the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. and the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Funds of Councilor Aaron Sims to be used exclusively for the Shades Valley High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). (*Mayor/Sims*)
7. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-113 authorizes the allocation of public funds in the amount of \$2,500.00 to Shades Valley High School from the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. to be used exclusively for the Shades Valley High School wrestling team. (*Mayor*)

8. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-114 authorizes the allocation of public funds in the amount of \$3,000.00 to Shades Valley High School from the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. and the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Funds of Councilor Aaron Sims to be used exclusively for the Shades Valley High School arts program. *(Mayor/Sims)*
9. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-115 authorizes the allocation of public funds in the amount of \$2,500.00 to Irondale Middle School from the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. to be used exclusively for the Irondale Middle School football team. *(Mayor)*
10. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-116 authorizes the allocation of public funds in the total amount of \$12,000.00 from the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. and the 2022-23 FY Discretionary Fund of Councilor Aaron Sims to be used exclusively for the school library as follows: Shades Valley High School (\$3,000.00), Irondale Middle School (\$3,000.00), Irondale Community School (\$3,000.00), and Grantswood Elementary School (\$3,000.00). *(Mayor/Sims)*
11. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-117 adopts a policy for the sell back and/or use of holiday time by City employees. *(City)*
12. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-118 authorizes the allocation of public funds in the total amount of \$20,000.00 to Jefferson County Schools for the purpose of providing retention stipends for payment solely to principals who have been at a public school within the City of Irondale for at least one year in order to encourage the retention of school administration with such amount paid as follows: Dr. Loni Hodge, Principal at Grantswood Community School, (\$10,000.00) and Mr. Taki Sarhaan, Principal at Shades Valley High School, (\$10,000.00). *(City)*
13. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-119 amends Resolution 2023-R-92 to reflect the removal of Public Safety Dispatcher II and Public Safety Dispatcher Supervisor from the list of classified and unclassified employees of the City so that they may be properly included within the public safety employee classification and further approves a compensation increase of 5% for all public safety employees (which also includes Public Safety Dispatcher II and Public Safety Dispatcher Supervisor positions) included in the Public Safety Pay Schedule. *(City)*
14. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-120 accepts the bid from J.D. Morris Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$660,192.16 for the TAP Sidewalk Project and authorizes Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr., or his designee, to execute an agreement with J.D. Morris Construction Co., Inc. for the same. *(Pennington)*
15. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-121 accepts the bid from RCI & Associates for the Ellard Park Dog Park Project and authorizes Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr., or his designee, to execute an agreement with RCI & Associates related thereto in an amount not to exceed \$851,650.00. *(Pennington)*

16. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-122 amends Resolution 2023-R-49 authorizing Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. or his designee to execute a temporary construction easement agreement with Russo Corporation on the property at 6350 Highway 78 E, Trussville, Alabama 35173 to expand the easement area as needed by the contractor for the Birmingham Water Works Board for completion of its water project. (*Cochran*)
17. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-123 authorizes Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr., or his designee, to execute an agreement with Church of the Highlands for public safety access. (*Wiggins*)

XV. Regular Agenda

Unfinished Business

18. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-94 authorizes Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr. or his designee, to execute an agreement with Sheppard Harris & Associates for accounting services for the City of Irondale in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00. (*City*)

Councilor London made a motion that Resolution 2023-R-94 be approved. Councilor Sims seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

New Business

19. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-124 authorizes a one-time bonus for retirees pursuant to Act No. 2023-107 passed by the Alabama Legislature. (*City*)

Councilor Sims made a motion that Resolution 2023-R-124 be considered read. Councilor Box seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

Councilor Sims made a motion that all rules that would prevent the immediate consideration of Resolution 2023-R-124 be suspended. Councilor Box seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

Councilor Sims made a motion that Resolution 2023-R-124 be adopted. Councilor Cuellar seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

20. Resolved, That Resolution 2023-R-125 authorizes Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr., or his designee, to execute an agreement with Gonzalez-Strength & Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$49,500.00 for landscape architecture and graphics services. (*City*)

Councilor Box made a motion that Resolution 2023-R-125 be considered read. Councilor Sims seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

Councilor Box made a motion that all rules that would prevent the immediate consideration of Resolution 2023-R-125 be suspended. Councilor Spivey seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

Councilor Box made a motion that Resolution 2023-R-125 be adopted. Councilor Sims seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

21. Ordained, That Ordinance 2023-25 amends Chapter 7.5, Garbage, Refuse, and Trash, of the *Irondale Municipal Code* to increase garbage rates by \$2.00. (Pennington)

Councilor Sims made a motion that Ordinance 2023-25 be considered read. Councilor London seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

Councilor Sims made a motion that all rules that would prevent the immediate consideration of Ordinance 2023-25 be suspended. Councilor London seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

Councilor Sims made a motion that Ordinance 2023-25 be adopted. Councilor London seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

22. Ordained, That Ordinance 2023-26 amends Chapter 18, Water, of the *Irondale Municipal Code* to amend the rate paid beyond the first 1,500 gallons of water used. (Morris)

Councilor Cuellar made a motion that Ordinance 2023-26 be considered read. Councilor Box seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

Councilor Cuellar made a motion that all rules that would prevent the immediate consideration of Ordinance 2023-26 be suspended. Councilor Box seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

Councilor Cuellar made a motion that Ordinance 2023-26 be adopted. Councilor Box seconded this motion. A roll call vote was held and this motion passed with all councilors voting in favor of the motion.

XVI. Public Comments to the Council

Michael Anne Markiewicz; 478 Cahaba Landings Rd

- XVII. Executive Session** – *(1) To discuss the consideration the governmental body is willing to offer or accept when considering the purchase, sale, exchange, lease, or market value of real property and (2) To discuss preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce in which the governmental body is in competition with private individuals or entities or other governmental bodies in Alabama.*

Councilor Box made a motion to enter into executive session. Councilor Cuellar seconded the motion. The executive session began at 7:42 p.m.

Councilor made a motion to exit executive session. Councilor seconded the motion. The executive session ended at p.m.

XVIII. Adjournment

Councilor made a motion to adjourn the council meeting. Councilor seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at p.m.

Leigh Ann Allison, City Clerk

Read and approved on the 19th day of September 2023.

David Spivey, City Council President