

Approved as presented to Council on 3/17/26

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
March 2, 2026

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time for the regularly scheduled Work Session on Monday, March 2, 2026, in the Council Chambers located within the Public Safety Building at 1111 Broad Street, Phenix City, Alabama 36867. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey Carter Green, Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember Jasponica G. Florence, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace Hunter, Assistant City Manager Chan Gamble, City Clerk Shannon Davis and City Attorney James Graham. Department Heads in attendance: Chief Building Official Ray Rogers, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Engineering/Public Works Director Angel Moore, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain, IT Director Mike Bauer, Library Director Tammy Henry, Municipal Court Clerk Ruby White, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Chief of Police Joseph Weierick, Assistant Chief of Police Donnie Thomas, and Director of Utilities John Spraggins. City Professionals in attendance: Licensed Engineer Chris Casey and Finance Clerk Kendra Ward.

Upon a quorum being established, Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order.

Councilmember Bailey led the invocation.

Mayor Lowe called upon Engineering/Public Works Director Angel Moore to discuss the actions taken at the Planning Commission Meeting for February 24, 2026.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Shannon Davis who discussed the following with Mayor and Council:

1. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building.
2. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 5:15 p.m.
3. Informed Council that the Mayor's Unity Prayer Breakfast will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 7:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
4. Advised Council that the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference will be held March 16-18, 2026 in Washington DC.
5. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on Monday, March 16, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.
6. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
7. Advised Council that the Board of Zoning Adjustments and Appeals will meet on Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
8. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 5:15 p.m.
9. Informed Council that Parks and Recreation will hold the Easter Egg-Stravaganza Hunt on Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at Garret Harrison Stadium.
10. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on Monday, April 6, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.
11. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building.

12. Advised Council that the Library Board Meeting will be held on Friday, April 10, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
13. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 5:15 p.m.
14. Advised Council that the DRA – Downtown Redevelopment Authority will meet on Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.
15. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on Monday, April 20, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.
16. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building.
17. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 5:15 p.m.
18. Advised Council that the Alabama League of Municipalities Convention will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2026 through Thursday, April 30, 2026.
19. Informed Council of the upcoming Board Appointments.

Councilmember Green inquired about the old Medical Park Building Project. Chief Building Official Ray Rogers provided an overview of the status of the project.

Councilmember Green inquired about the South Railroad Street Project. Director of Utilities John Spraggins provided an overview of the temporary work that has been completed and the timeline for the completion of the permanent placement to cover the concrete. Councilmember Green also inquired about all of the gravel that has been left near the railroad. Engineering/Public Works Director Angel Moore stated that it was the property of the Railroad and on their right of way and that the City had no control over it.

Councilmember Green inquired about the Seeds Grant and if Lee and Russell County Government had been included. Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan stated that the City has been awarded the grant and that they are working on the planning survey assessment with Sain Associates. Mr. Culligan also stated that the site assessment has been completed.

Councilmember Bailey inquired about the status of the 14th Street Project. Engineering/Public Works Director Angel Moore stated that the appraiser is working to gather the appraisals of the 16 properties and once that is completed, they will begin going out to each of the properties. Councilmember Bailey inquired about the timeline for completion. Ms. Moore stated that it will be hard to determine at this time as it depended on the results of the conversation with homeowners.

Councilmember Bailey stated that the updates made to Idle Hour Park Moon Lake look really good so far and that he continues to communicate to his district that the walking path around the lake is still closed for safety of the Citizens until the project is completed. Councilmember Bailey also stated that the new lights at the ball field were being installed and that it looks good. Councilmember Bailey further stated that the majority of feedback he has received on the work being done by Parks and Recreation Department is positive.

Councilmember Florence inquired about the process to request a street light. Engineering/Public Works Director Angel Moore stated that they should come to the Engineering Office to request the light and then her department will investigate to determine if it will meet requirements.

Councilmember Day inquired about the status of any development on Crosswinds Drive. Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan provided a status update on any progress that has been made.

City Manager Wallace Hunter thanked the City workers for continuing to have good attitudes towards keeping the City clean and safe. Mr. Hunter stated that they are trying to clean the City up and that it has been a struggle with some of the Citizens that continue to throw trash out with no regards for the workers having to constantly cleanup their mess. Mr. Hunter also stated that the City has to put measures in place to help prevent people from throwing out trash and that it will start with the judicial system to impose stricter fines and penalties for the offenses in order to clean up the City. Mr. Hunter further stated that it is a disrespect to the workers that are on the streets all over the City continuously cleaning up. Mr. Hunter encouraged everyone to be more respectful as a community and have compassion for people. Mr. Hunter stated that there will be cameras put out to catch those that are littering and measures in place for Citizens to report what they see. Mr. Hunter also stated that they have to clean up Phenix City. Mr. Hunter further stated that the City is working on a program for local teens to assist with cleaning up and that the group will be joined by the Police Department. Mr. Hunter stated that Russell County should also be working to clean up their districts as many of their districts are located inside the City.

Councilmember Green stated that recently 13th Avenue has been cleaned up and that there are a lot of dead-end streets within the Second District that have become dumping areas. Councilmember Green also stated that she has met with Dr. Sneed with Keep Phenix City Beautiful and that Dr. Sneed is working with the State to determine any resources available to assist the City with cleanup efforts.

Mayor Lowe called upon Jim Marshall with Jackson Thornton Utilities Consultant to address Council as listed on the agenda. Mr. Marshall presented the 2026 Water and Sewer Cost of Service Studies presentation to Council. Mr. Marshall reviewed the presentation and the findings that he is recommending for the Utilities Department. Mayor Lowe thanked Mr. Marshall for addressing Council.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

Councilmember Florence moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Potential Litigation and Potential Development for 1 hour, from which the meeting would adjourn which said motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. All were in favor.

Council went into Executive Session at 5:00 p.m.

Council came out of Executive Session at 5:34 p.m.

Mayor Lowe stated that there being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until March 16, 2026.