

City of Lanett

Meeting Minutes

401 N. Lanier Ave.
Lanett, AL 36863

Monday, July 21, 2025, 6:00 PM

Lanett Council Chambers

Regular Session -

The City Council of the City of Lanett, Alabama, met in a regular meeting on Monday, July 21, 2025, in the Council Chambers of the Lanett Municipal Complex at 6:00 P.M.

Councilmembers present were Tony Malone, Tamalita Autry, Ronnie Tucker, Angelia Finley Thomas and Tifton Dobbs. Mayor Jamie Heard presided over the meeting.

Chaplain Rodney Jones said the invocation and Mayor Heard led the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmember Thomas made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Tucker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Autry made the motion to approve the minutes of July 7, 2025, Council Meeting. Tucker seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

A Proclamation recognizing Day of Prayer for Chambers County was read by Councilmember Autry. Diane Perry accepted the Proclamation, thanking the Mayor and Council for their support. She stated that this initiative has been ongoing for the past 24 years. This year's event will be held on Friday, August 1, 2025.

Ordinance 07-25-01 to amend Animal Control Ordinance 3-85-3 First Reading was announced by Mayor Heard.

Approval of Invoices was motioned by Councilmember Malone and seconded by Councilmember Tucker. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 07-25-03, a resolution to select Election Officials for the upcoming Municipal Election was put in motion by Councilmember Dobbs and was seconded by Councilmember Tucker. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 07-25-04, a resolution for Determination of Public Nuisance – Norma and Chad Roberts was addressed by Code Enforcement Officer Johnny Wood. Wood stated that these 3 properties located at 602, 604 and 606 South 8th Street were identified as nuisance properties back in October and at the time homeless

people were staying in the house. The roof is caving in, the house is in disrepair and overgrown. He stated that a notice was sent to the Roberts giving them 45 days for repairs. Again, in late November he met with them for a plan of action. They were then given more time. As a follow up in February, nothing had been done to the property outside of grass and bushes cutting. Nothing else was done. Wood stated that he had reached out to them several times and extended all the courtesies that could take place. Wood at that time added it back to the agenda. Malone asked if there had been a reason given for no progress. Attorney Gray asked if we could go ahead and get a motion before further discussion. Councilmember Thomas put in the motion and seconded by Councilmember Dobbs. Motion unanimously carried. Malone asked Roberts why nothing had been done in 9 months. Mr. Roberts stated that the homes had been broken into several times and the police had not properly investigated. He stated that the home had building materials and appliances that had been stolen. He stated that he met with Colin Bradley from the Attorney General office. Roberts stated that 604 does need demolishing. Mayor Heard asked how long the house had been vacant. Roberts stated that it had been several years and once again asked for another 45-day extension to handle repairs. Heard stated that we had worked with them for 9 months and nothing had changed. He felt that if we extended this for them, we would have to give the same courtesy to all others. Mayor Heard asked for all in favor or oppose for acceptance Resolution 07-25-04. The Resolution passed. Mr. Roberts stated that he did not understand and asked again for an extension. Mayor Heard stated that this request had been denied.

Resolution 07-25-05, a resolution to extend storm drain project on North 17th Court was read by Councilmember Thomas and was put in motion by Councilmember Tucker and was seconded by Councilmember Malone. Motion unanimously carried.

Next on the agenda was a request for approval of a Restaurant Retail Liquor License for 1701 Bar and Grill, located at 2025 Magnolia Road, Lanett, Alabama (owner Freriquz Williams). Councilmember Dobbs asked if the building had been inspected. Code Enforcement Officer stated that he had already gotten his business license but the inspection was not complete. Dobbs motioned to table the request until proper inspections were done. Thomas seconded. Motion carried.

Council Member Malone had no committee report. He stated that one of our oldest citizens (108 years old Lula Mae Roberts) had passed away last week. He also had questions about upkeep on land for demolished homes. Johnny Wood explained that the homeowner was still responsible until lien procedures had been done. He

also asked for explanation of our vicious dog ordinance as it pertained to pit bulls. Malone thanked Mayor Heard for paving in his district.

Council Member Autry had no committee report. She stated that school is about to start and she wanted to welcome Mt. Hermon pastor Justin Freeman. Autry reminded everyone about an upcoming forum at Berean Church.

Council Member Tucker had no committee report. He questioned animal leash laws. He was told by Wood that all dogs are required to be on a leash and the penalty is a citation. Tucker asked about a no littering sign on Phillips Road. Rocky Bolt stated that he would place one there. Tucker stated that we have people posting negatively on social media. He felt like it was time for uplifting our city because other cities have issues as well.

Council member Thomas had no committee report. She thanked Pastor Henson for the neighborhood watch efforts and recognizing the police department. She thanked Wood for assisting with ordinances. She stated that District 4 would be having a forum at Lanett Nazarene Church the following week.

Council Member Dobbs had no committee report. He stated regarding paving, this was voted on back in September, but Chris Clark had a delay in getting to it.

Matt Shiver with Fire/EMS stated that this month they had received 245 calls with 226 of those being for EMS. He also stated that they were fully staffed.

Rocky Bolt with the Street Department state that they now are fully staffed and they were currently paving in Crystal Springs and had 3 more to do.

Bo Lauderdale stated that he did not have anything to report for the Grounds Department.

Craig Stapleton stated that everything was going well at the Airport.

Trent Heard with the Recreation Department stated that Fall registration had begun as well as high school flag football. He also stated that Wednesday would be the last day for the pool to open for the summer.

Allen Summers with the Electric and Gas Department stated that the Electric Department was all well and that with the Gas Department, we had finally gotten to the point where we could start taking bids for the PHMSA grant that was awarded in the amount of 4.3 Million Dollars to replace cast iron pipes.

Denise McCain with the Police Department stated that we were kicking off National Night Out which would be held Tuesday, August 5th. She thanked Vernon Carter with Berean Church for allowing a meeting at the church. 520 donated bookbags to be given out at this event. She stated that there are 22 officers on the force including several Point University students applying.

Richard Casner reported on a recent house party that the department received calls about. Casner stated that they had extra officers working, stopped 11 cars, made an arrest for cocaine, served several warrants and only 1 officer had to be paid overtime.

Attorney Gray had no comments.

City Clerk wished Chief McCain a Happy Birthday and congratulated Matt Shiver for receiving Valley Times News Best in Chambers County Fireman.

Mayor Heard thanked the department heads and everyone for coming out. He also thanked the churches for their participation in the upcoming National Night Out. He echoed what Councilman Tucker stated about uplifting Lanett.

Mayor Heard asked for a motion to adjourn. Malone made the motion and Tucker seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Attest:

Jamie L. Heard, Mayor

Deborah Gilbert, City Clerk/Treasurer