

CITY OF BESSEMER, ALABAMA

REGULAR SESSION

The Council of the city of Bessemer, Alabama met in regular session at the City Hall in said City on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Central Standard Time. The meeting was called to order by Council President Jarvis Collier.

The invocation was given by Councilor Carla F. Jackson and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilor Sarah B. Person.

Upon roll call, the following council members were found to be present; Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Absent: None. City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor stated that a quorum was present and the meeting was opened for the transaction of business.

Presentation, Awards, Announcements, and Recognition:

City of Bessemer Mayor Kenneth E. Gulley greeted the council and all attendees present at the meeting. Mayor Gulley extended condolences to the Jones family following the recent passing of Bessemer Police Department Community Service Worker Ms. Erin Jones. He stated that her funeral would be held on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.

Mayor Gulley invited everyone to attend the Valley Creek Clean-Up on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at McNeil Park from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. He also invited everyone to the 2026 Community Leadership Breakfast hosted by the Boy Scouts of America on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at the Bessemer Civic Center at 7:30 a.m.

Mayor Gulley asked Council President Jarvis Collier whether the council had considered rescheduling the council meeting scheduled for March 17, 2026, due to councilmembers attending a conference that week.

Council President Collier stated that the meeting could be rescheduled next week Tuesday, March 10, 2026, to immediately follow the regular scheduled Planning Session.

Councilor Porter recognized centenarian Ms. Alexzeanie Hall from his community, who recently celebrated her 101st birthday on February 10, 2026. As Ms. Hall was unable to attend, he presented her family with an honorary proclamation and flowers from the Bessemer City Council Office.

Ms. Hall's family member thanked the mayor and councilmembers on behalf of Ms. Alexzeanie Hall for the love, kindness, and appreciation shown to her. She stated that Ms. Hall considers reaching the age of 101 an amazing milestone and a gift.

Councilor Collier asked for Item #5 to be remove the City Council meeting agenda.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#6: Resolution Appropriating Funda from District 1 Discretionary Fund for Easter Egg Hunt at Carver Park.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 025-26
A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM DISTRICT ONE (1)
JARVIS COLLIER DISCRETIONARY FUND BUDGET LINE ITEM TO
SPONSOR AN EASTER EGG HUNT AT CARVER PARK**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, "City" appropriated funds in its fiscal year 2025-2026 budget for use by each council district. Councilor Jarvis Collier has requested the use of Carver Park and that the City appropriate funds in the amount of Six Hundred Dollars and no/100 Cents (\$600.00) from District One (1) Discretionary Fund Line-Item number 001-10000-021-527067 to host a public Easter Egg Hunt on March 29, 2026, between the hours of 2pm to 4pm at Carver Park; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby determines that providing funding and granting the use of Carver Park to support an Easter Egg Hunt serves a public purpose in that it has for its objective the promotion of public health, safety, morals, security, prosperity, contentment, and the general welfare of the community and, as such, serves a public purpose; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, at a regularly scheduled meeting duly assembled, with a quorum being present, as follows:

1. That the use of Carver Park is hereby granted and the Sum of Six Hundred Dollars and no/100 Cents (\$600.00) is hereby appropriated from District One (1) Discretionary Fund Line-Item number 001-10000-021-527067.
2. Documentation of all expenditures required.

ADOPTED this the 3rd day of March 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that Council President Collier is requesting \$600 to be allocated from his discretionary funds account to host an Easter egg hunt on March 29, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., as well as the use of Carver Park for the event.

Councilor Porter made a motion to approve the item. Councilors Jackson and Stephens seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes:

Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#7: Resolution of the Bessemer City Council Amending and Restating Cedar Hill Rules and Regulations.

RESOLUTION NO. 026-26

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BESSEMER
AMENDING AND RESTATING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CEDAR
HILL CEMETERY**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer previously amended the Rules and Regulations governing Cedar Hill Cemetery on August 1, 2023, pursuant to Resolution No. 252-00; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary and in the best interest of the public to further revise and restate the Rules and Regulations governing Cedar Hill Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds it necessary to revise and clarify the office hours, cemetery lot pricing, and opening and closing fees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BESSEMER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. ADOPTION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Rules and Regulations for Cedar Hill Cemetery, attached hereto as **Exhibit “A”** and incorporated herein by reference, are hereby adopted and approved.

All prior rules, regulations, resolutions, or policies governing Cedar Hill Cemetery that are inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby repealed and superseded.

SECTION 2. OFFICE HOURS

The official office hours for Cedar Hill Cemetery shall be:

7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Sunday,
and at such other times as may be scheduled by appointment to meet with families.

SECTION 3. GATE HOURS

Cemetery gate hours shall remain unchanged. The gates shall be open daily from:

7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SECTION 4. PRICE OF CEMETERY LOTS

The price for cemetery lots at Cedar Hill Cemetery shall be:

\$2,400.00 per grave space

All prices shall be payable as required by the City and are subject to change by future resolution of the City Council.

SECTION 5. OPENING AND CLOSING FEES

The fees for opening and closing graves shall be as follows:

(A) Traditional Burial – Opening & Closing

1. Monday through Saturday – **\$1,250.00**
2. Sunday and Holidays – **\$2,250.00**

(B) Cremation Burials

(Grave space must be purchased separately)

1. Without services – **\$75.00**
2. With service – **\$175.00**

(C) Tent and Chair Setup Fees

1. Monday–Friday (with tent & chairs) – **\$175.00**
2. Saturday (with tent & chairs) – **\$275.00**
3. Monday–Friday (without tent & chairs) – **\$75.00**
4. Saturday (without tent & chairs) – **\$200.00**

All fees shall be paid in advance and are subject to change by future resolution.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Resolution is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Resolution, which shall remain in full force and effect.

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this the 3rd day of March 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that the Cedar Hill Cemetery rules and regulations were previously approved on August 1, 2023. He noted that the update to the resolution was recommended by Bessemer Public Works Director Michael Reese to clarify details within the document. He explained that the amendment would not significantly change the resolution, such as the costs, but it would establish rules and set hours of operation. He stated that the changes would include office hours being Monday through Sunday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., gate hours from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., placing burial flowers inside vases, and parking regulations.

Councilor King asked if the council could receive the number of remaining available plots and the revenue report for possible road improvements.

Director Michael Reese stated that they are currently working with a contractor to provide road improvement services and are also clearing land to generate additional revenue.

Mayor Gulley recommended that all parties meet to discuss acquiring more property in the surrounding area to expand the cemetery.

Councilor Jackson made a motion to approve the item. Councilors Stephens and Person seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#8: Text Amendment Public Hearing.

Attorney Killings conducted the second reading of the City of Bessemer Zoning Ordinance related to zoning procedures, development plans, subdivision applications, and industrial zoning standards.

ORDINANCE NO. 3693

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 3391 OF THE CITY OF BESSEMER, ALABAMA, KNOWN AS THE “CITY OF BESSEMER ZONING ORDINANCE,” BY AMENDING SECTIONS 2.11, 2.12, 2.13, 4, AND 8.1, RELATING TO ZONING AMENDMENT PROCEDURES, DEVELOPMENT PLANS, SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS, AND INDUSTRIAL ZONING STANDARDS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 11-52-77 and 11-52-78 of the Code of Alabama, the Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, is authorized to review and recommend amendments to the City of Bessemer Zoning Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed proposed amendments to Sections 2.11, 2.12, and 2.13 concerning zoning amendment procedures and development plans, as well as Section 4, *Subdivision Application Procedure and Approval Process*, and Section 8.1, *Quantitative Development Criteria*, of Ordinance No. 3391; and

WHEREAS, public hearings were duly scheduled and held before the Planning and Zoning Commission in accordance with the notice and procedural requirements of Sections 11-52-77 and 11-52-78 of the Code of Alabama and applicable law; and

WHEREAS, following such hearings, the Planning and Zoning Commission submitted reports and recommendations to the City Council of the City of Bessemer in favor of the proposed amendments; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer has determined that it is in the public interest to adopt the proposed zoning text amendments and to conducted a public hearing with notice provided as required by law and has set a public hearing on for the 3rd day of March 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Bessemer City Hall, 1700 3rd Avenue N., Bessemer, Alabama and has directed the City Clerk to give notice thereof, as provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BESSEMER, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment of Section 2.11 — Zoning Amendments by Property Owner.

Section 2.11 of Ordinance No. 3391 is hereby amended so as to read in its entirety as follows:

Sec. 2.11. Zoning amendments by property owner.

(1) A proposed change of the zoning district boundaries or of the regulations as they pertain to a piece of property may be initiated by the city council, the planning and zoning commission, or at the request of the owner, owners or authorized agents of the property to be rezoned. All proposed amendments shall be considered by the city in accordance with the notice procedures listed in this section, which are required by Act No. 1123 of the 1973 Legislature of the State of Alabama and those requirements set forth in Section 11-52-77 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended. When a rezoning request is made by a petition of or on the behalf of the property owner the following procedure shall be followed:

(2) Application procedure.

(a) The application for rezoning shall be made on a form available from the department of buildings and inspections.

(b) The application shall contain the following information:

1. Name and address of the applicant.
2. Address and legal description of the property under consideration.
3. Present zoning of the property under consideration.
4. Requested zoning.
5. Reason for the rezoning request.
6. Availability of required utilities.

7. A map, drawn to scale, indicating: the dimension and exact location of the site in relation to the vicinity in which it is located; location of all public rights-of-way; location and dimension of all existing and proposed buildings and structures on the site and adjacent sites and the nature and location of all existing and proposed facilities for the disposal of storm water drainage.

8. Copies of any development plans required elsewhere in this ordinance.

(c) The application shall be submitted to the department of buildings and inspections at least thirty days prior to a scheduled meeting of the planning and zoning commission, if said meeting is the hearing date for a request. A fee of \$500.00 is due at the time of submission.

(3) **Public hearing by planning and zoning commission.**

(a) At least 15 days prior to the planning and zoning commission meeting at which the rezoning request is initially considered, the department of buildings and inspections shall give written notice to all owners of property located in whole or in part within 500 feet of the boundaries of the subject property as shown by the records of the office of the tax assessor of Jefferson County, Bessemer Division, on a date not more than one year prior to the date of such notice. The notice shall state:

1. The location of rezoning request (by mailing address and legal description).

2. The nature of the rezoning request (indicating the current zoning of the site and the proposed rezoning classification).

3. The time, date, and location of the planning and zoning commission meeting at which the rezoning request is to be reviewed.

4. That a protest may be filed with respect to the application.

(b) Such notice shall be deemed given when deposited in the United States Mail, first class postage prepaid, addressed to such property owners at their addresses as shown on the records of the office of the tax assessor. Any error in the address of any such notice shall not invalidate the giving of notice provided that no more than five percent of the total number of notices given contain any such error.

(c) Any property owners to whom the above-stated notice is given may protest the application before the planning and zoning commission in person or by filing with the department of buildings and inspections a written protest signed by such property owner.

(d) The planning and zoning commission shall hold a public hearing at the first regularly scheduled meeting, or at a special called meeting held for that purpose, after compliance with notice provisions as set forth herein. At the meeting in which the public hearing is held, the planning and zoning commission shall render a decision on the application unless additional information is required. If additional

information is required, the planning and zoning commission shall have 30 days from the date of submittal of this additional information to the city, in which to make a recommendation on the request to the city council.

- (4) **Public hearing by the city council.**
 - (a) Upon receipt of the recommendation of the planning and zoning commission regarding a proposed zoning amendment, the city council shall consider the proposed amendment at a public hearing, to be held either at a regular voting city council meeting or at a special called meeting of the city council, given that the required notice provisions herein are is given at least 15 days prior the public hearing.
 - (b) The city shall publish the proposed rezoning request once a week for two consecutive weeks in advance of its passage in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the city. Said advertisement shall follow the notice procedures and contain the information required in Section 2.11 of this ordinance.
 - (c) At the time and place scheduled for the public hearing of the proposed amendment, the city council shall hear the presentation of the applicant, review the recommendation of the planning and zoning commission, and hear any arguments in opposition and support by the general public of the proposal.
 - (d) Upon receipt of a negative recommendation from the planning and zoning commission on a proposed zoning amendment, the city council shall follow the review procedures as set forth in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this subsection.
 - (e) The city council may adopt amendments to the zoning ordinance by a majority vote.
- (5) **Limit on rezoning requests,** When the city council denies a rezoning request, the planning and zoning commission shall not reconsider the same request for a period of six months. Each time the city considers a zoning request, the \$500 administrative fee must be paid.

Sec. 2.12. Zoning amendments by City of Bessemer.

- (1) The planning and zoning commission and/or the city council, may, upon its own initiative, hold public hearings for the consideration of any proposed amendment to the provisions of this ordinance or to the zoning district boundaries. All proposed amendments shall be considered by the planning commission and city council in accordance with the notice procedures and contain the information required in Section 2.11 of this ordinance, which are required by Act No. 1123 of the 1973 Legislature of the State of Alabama and those requirements set forth in Section 11-52-77 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended.
- (2) **Public hearing by the city council.**
 - (a) Upon receipt of the recommendation of the planning and zoning commission regarding a proposed zoning amendment, the city council shall consider the proposed amendment at a public hearing, to be held either at a regular voting city council meeting or at a special called meeting of the city council, given that the required applicable notice provisions herein are is given at least 15 days prior the public hearing.
 - (b) The city shall publish the proposed rezoning request once a week for two consecutive weeks in advance of its passage in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the city. Said advertisement shall follow the procedures and contain the information required in Section 2.11 of this ordinance.
 - (c) At the time and place scheduled for the public hearing of the proposed amendment, the city council shall hear the presentation of the applicant, review the recommendation of the planning and zoning commission, and hear any arguments in opposition and support by the general public of the proposal.
 - (d) Upon receipt of a negative recommendation from the planning and zoning commission on a proposed zoning amendment, the city council shall follow the review procedures as set forth in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this subsection.
 - (e) The city council may adopt amendments to the zoning ordinance by a majority vote.

Section 3. Amendment of Section 2.13 — Development Plans.

Section 2.13 of Ordinance No. 3391 is hereby amended by revising subsection (3)(e)(3) to read as follows:

(3) If a determination is made that a final development plan is not generally consistent with the approved preliminary development plan, the Planning and Zoning Commission shall state the specific reasons for denial. The applicant may resubmit a revised final development plan addressing such reasons. As used herein, ‘general consistent’ means changes in the location, siting, or character of buildings, structures, roads, or improvements necessary for public improvements or sound design or engineering practices, provided such changes do not increase the intensity of the previously approved use.

Section 4. Amendment of Section 4 — Subdivision Application Procedure and Approval Process.

Section 4 of Ordinance No. 3391 is hereby amended by adding subsection (4) to read as follows:

(4) The addition of one or more lots within an existing subdivision, or the creation of a single-lot subdivision, provided that each resulting lot meets the minimum lot size requirements of the applicable zoning district. Such subdivisions shall not adversely impact traffic, drainage, utility services, or public safety.

Section 5. Amendment of Section 8.1 — Quantitative Development Criteria (Industrial Zoning).

Section 8.1 of Ordinance No. 3391 is hereby amended as follows:

A. Sec. 8.1(1) — No Change.

Section 8.1(1) shall remain unchanged.

B. Amendment to Table 2 — Industrial Zoning Districts (Maximum Height).

Table 2 is hereby amended only with respect to the maximum height standard applicable to all industrial zoning districts, including but not limited to I-1, I-2, I-2A, I-3, I-3-S, I-4, I-5, I-5A, I-6, and related industrial classifications to read as follows:

Maximum Height (Industrial Districts):

The maximum height of structures in all Industrial zoning districts shall be one hundred and five feet (105’). Where an industrially zoned property abuts a residential zoning district, the maximum height shall be forty-five feet (45’); however, additional height may be permitted by increasing the required setback from the abutting residential district property line by thirty-five feet (35’) of horizontal distance from the abutting residential property line for each additional ten feet (10’) of structure height above forty-five feet (45’). In no event shall the total structure height exceed one hundred feet (105’).

All other standards in Table 2 shall remain unchanged.

Section 6. Repealer.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

ADOPTED this the 3rd day of March 2026.

Council President Jarvis Collier opened the floor for discussion during the public hearing.

David Havron, 2501 Waterfront Drive, asked the council whether the newly amended ordinance would apply to construction projects that have already been approved by the council or if those projects would follow the previous standards.

Attorney Killings stated that the ordinance is intended to amend all industrial districts within the City of Bessemer.

Terry Harris, 2114 Rock Mountain Drive, expressed concern about potential pollution that may result from the data center.

Councilor Porter made a motion to approve the item. Councilor Jackson seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Abstention: Councilor Cleophus King. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#9: Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Execute Pole Attachment Audit Agreement Attachment.

RESOLUTION NO. 027-26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO EXECUTE SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH VULCAN LINE TOOLS, INC. TO PERFORM A JOINT USE POLE AUDIT FOR BESSEMER ELECTRIC SERVICE

WHEREAS, Bessemer Electric Service (BES) desires to retain the services of Vulcan Line Tools, Inc. (“Vulcan”) to perform a joint use audit of all Bessemer owned poles within the service area of BES in order for BES to correctly charge third party users for the use of BES poles; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City finds and determines that authorizing the Mayor to execute the Service Agreement with Vulcan is in the best interest of the City;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, of the City of Bessemer, Alabama at a regularly scheduled meeting duly assembled with a quorum being present that the City Council as follows:

- 1) That the City Council of the City hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor of the City to execute the attached Service Agreement with Vulcan to perform a joint use audit of all Bessemer owned poles within the service area of BES in order for BES to correctly charge third party users for the use of BES poles in such form as the Agreement attached as Exhibit “A”.
- 2) That this resolution shall become effective upon its due adoption as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 3rd day of March 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that Vulcan Line Tools, Inc. has proposed to assist Bessemer Utilities in counting all city utility poles using 360-degree imaging and foot

counting. He explained that this process will benefit the city by providing an accurate inventory of utility poles and help determine whether adequate revenue is being collected from third-party users. He stated that the cost for the services will be \$5 per pole for 360-degree imaging and \$10 per pole for foot counts.

Councilor Porter made a motion to approve the item. Councilors Jackson and Stephens seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

Councilor King asked if there was any update on the request regarding the Bessemer Utilities Fiscal Year budget.

Councilor Collier stated that he will meet with the Mayor and provide the information to the councilmembers.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#10: 3 Document Hueytown Water Line Relocation.

RESOLUTION NO. 028-26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO EXECUTE REIMBURSABLE AGREEMENT FOR RELOCATION OF UTILITY FACILITIES ON PRIVATE OR PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY WITH CITY OF HUEYTOWN, ALABAMA FOR CITY OF HUEYTOWN PROJECT STPBH-7021(600))

WHEREAS, the City of Hueytown, Alabama (“Hueytown”) requests that the City of Bessemer, Alabama, dba Bessemer Water Service (Utility) execute the attached Reimbursable Agreement for re-location of utility facilities on public right of way for Hueytown Project STPBH-7021(600) for road widening, resurfacing and drainage improvements for additional turn lanes and intersection improvements on CR-46 from North of Hillside Drive to Walker Avenue (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City finds and determines that authorizing the Mayor to execute the Reimbursable Agreement for the Project is in the best interest of the City;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, of the City of Bessemer, Alabama at a regularly scheduled meeting duly assembled with a quorum being present that the City Council as follows:

- 1) That the City Council of the City hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor of the City to execute the attached Reimbursable Agreement for re-location of utility facilities on public right of way for CITY OF HUEYTWON PROJECT STPBH-7021(600) for additional turn lanes and intersection improvements on CR-46 from North of Hillside Drive to Walker Avenue (the “Project”); in such form as the Agreement attached as Exhibit “A”.
- 2) That this resolution shall become effective upon its due adoption as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 3rd day of March 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that the City of Hueytown has undertaken road widening, resurfacing, and drainage improvements for additional turn lanes and intersection enhancements on CR-46. He noted that Bessemer Water Services has water lines that will interfere with these improvements and that Hueytown is requesting their removal. He added that Bessemer Water Services will have contractors remove the water lines, and the cost will be reimbursed by the City of Hueytown.

Councilor King made a motion to approve the item. Councilor Person seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#11: Approval of Discretionary funds in the amount of 250 from District 1 discretionary funds for Boy Scouts of America.

RESOLUTION NO.: 029-26

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM DISTRICT ONE (1) COUNCILOR JARVIS COLLIER DISCRETIONARY FUND BUDGET LINE ITEM AS A DONATION TO THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA dba SCOUTING AMERICA

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama (the “City”), appropriated funds in its Fiscal Year 2025–2026 Budget for use by each council district; and

WHEREAS, Councilor Jarvis Collier has requested that the City appropriate funds in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and No/100 Cents (\$250.00) from District One (1) Discretionary Fund Line-Item Number 001-10000-021-527067 as a donation to the Boy Scouts of America d/b/a Scouting America; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that providing financial support to youth development organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America serves a public purpose by promoting leadership development, citizenship, character building, and the general welfare of the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, at a regularly scheduled meeting duly assembled, with a quorum being present, as follows:

1. The sum of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and No/100 Cents (\$250.00) is hereby appropriated from District One (1) Discretionary Fund Line-Item Number 001-10000-021-527067 as a donation to the Boy Scouts of America dba Scouting America.

ADOPTED this the 3rd day of March 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that Councilor Collier is requesting that \$250 be allocated from his discretionary funds account to the Boy Scouts of America, which recently changed its name to Scouting America.

Councilor King made a motion to approve the item. Councilor Person seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#12: Approval of Discretionary funds in the amount of 500 from District 2 discretionary funds for Boy Scouts of America.

RESOLUTION NO.: 030-26

**A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL
DISCRETIONARY FUNDS FOR DISTRICT TWO (2) COUNCILOR CHESTER
PORTER**

WHEREAS, The Alabama Boy Scouts of America is a non-profit organization serving children in Bessemer and Birmingham communities by providing the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training, which helps young people be "Prepared. For Life." The Scouting organization is composed of members between the ages of 5 and 21, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, "City" appropriated funds in its fiscal year 2025-2026 budget for use by each council district. Councilor Chester Porter is requesting that the City appropriate funds in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars and no/100 Cents (\$500.00) from District Two (2) Discretionary Fund Account Line-Item number 001-10000-022-527067 for the purpose of providing support to The Boy Scouts of America d/b/a Scouting America; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby determines that providing support to The Boy Scouts of America serves a public purpose in that it has for its objective the promotion of public health, safety, morals, security, prosperity, contentment, and the general welfare of the community and, as such, serves a public purpose; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, at a regularly scheduled meeting duly assembled, with a quorum being present, as follows:

1. The City Council hereby approves the expenditure of Five Hundred Dollars and no/00 Cents (\$500.00) from Councilor Chester Porter's discretionary funds account to The Boy Scouts of America d/b/s Scouting America.
2. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 3rd day of March 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that Councilor Porter is requesting that \$500 be allocated from his discretionary funds account to the Boy Scouts of America, which recently changed its name to Scouting America.

Councilor King made a motion to approve the item. Councilor Person seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F.

Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#13: Executive Session.

The Mayor and City Council entered Executive Session at 7:05 P.M.

Councilor Jackson made a motion to enter into the Executive Session for fifteen minutes. Councilor Stephens seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

Councilor Thigpen made a motion to return to the regular order of business. Councilor Stephens seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

The Mayor and City Council returned to the regular order of business at 7:20 P.M.

Councilors Thigpen and Jackson made a motion to approve the mayor to purchase property without the identification of the property. Councilor Stephens seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

Councilor Thigpen made a motion to approve Killings and Poe Law Firm to represent the City of Bessemer in the Case #25BHM01237 of the estate of Thomas Dajuan Long. Councilor Person seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Carla F. Jackson, Cleophus King, Sarah B. Person, Teco Stephens, Donna Thigpen, Chester W. Porter, and Jarvis Collier. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#14: Council member's comments, statements, or motions:

Councilor King requested prayers for the Mayweather family following the passing of Bessemer City School System educator and advocate Ms. Louise Mayweather. He also asked for prayers for the school system and residents experiencing bereavement.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#15: Citizen Participation:

Earlene Rodgers, 722 28th Terrace South, stated that her son was recently pulled over and arrested in the City of Bessemer. She explained that excessive force was used during the detention and requested assistance with the issue.

Councilor Collier asked Ms. Rodgers to speak with Bessemer Police Chief Gary Carmichael following the city council meeting.

Charles Miller, 4439 5th Avenue South, inquired about when the next Planning and Zoning Committee meeting would occur regarding Project Marvel.

Attorney Killings stated that the Planning and Zoning Committee meeting for the proposed rezoning of Project Marvel has already occurred, and that once the project progresses through the process, a hearing will be held during a city council meeting.

Anthony Sterling, 2008 Clarendon Avenue, expressed concern about the ongoing gunfire in his neighborhood. Mr. Sterling also delivered dinner on behalf of Boateng Restaurant for the Mayor and council members.

Councilor Porter stated that on February 5, 2026, he attended a Zoom meeting hosted by the Alabama River Alliance. He expressed that he was very disheartened by the misinformation presented during the meeting regarding the City of Bessemer and the city's school system.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presents item#16: Motion to Adjourn.

All councilor members made the motion to adjourn. Councilor Collier adjourned the meeting.

**Wanda D. Taylor
City Clerk**

Presiding Officer