

CITY COUNCIL OF THE

April 7, 2026

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, April 7, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Central Standard Time. The meeting was called to order by Council President Pro-Tem Chester W. Porter.

The invocation was given by Mr. William Stokes and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilor Teco Stephens.

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, and Chester W. Porter. Absent: Council President Jarvis Collier. City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor stated that a quorum was present and the meeting was opened for the transaction of business.

The minutes from the March 10, 2026, meeting were presented to the Council by City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor.

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

Presentation, Awards, Announcements, and Recognition:

City of Bessemer Mayor Kenneth E. Gulley greeted the council and all attendees present at the meeting. Mayor Gulley stated that he did not have any announcements at that time.

Councilor King recognized and presented a certificate to Ms. Markethisa Mathews, Bessemer City School System Teacher of the Year, in recognition of the positive attributes she brings to the students.

Dr. Erica Tanks, Principal of Jonesboro Elementary School, stated that Ms. Mathews currently serves as the physical education teacher and consistently goes above and beyond to support her students. She added that Ms. Mathews assists students with after-school tutoring and test preparation. Dr. Tanks expressed her gratitude for Ms. Mathews and stated that she is proud to have her as part of her administration.

Councilor King quoted, “A good education can change anyone, but a good teacher can change everything.”

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#6: Weed nuisance report for April 7, 2026 – Set Hearing Date.

**WEED NUISANCE REPORT
APRIL 7, 2026**

HEARING DATE: 5/5/2026 AT 6:00 P.M.

SITE ADDRESS	PARCEL NUMBER	OWNER(S)
1. 802 LEWIS AVENUE	38 00 16 2 004 013.000	PATTERSON C
2. 800 LEWIS AVENUE	38 00 16 2 004 012.000	PETTWAY LINDA F
3. 807 LEWIS AVENUE	38 00 16 2 003 010.000	MCADORY ERIC C
4. 320 7 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 16 2 020 001.000	WRIGHT PATRICIA ANN FONVILLE
5. 701 4 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 10 2 014 014.000	WRIGHT PATRICIA ANN FONVILLE
6. 705 4 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 009 009.000	WRIGHT PATRICIA ANN FONVILLE
7. 729 4 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 009 004.000	ADAMS RUBA LEE ESTATE OF
8. 815 4 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 004 008.000	JONES ZEPHAR
9. 501 4 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 029 003.000	HENRY OIL COMPANY INC
10. 305 5 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 16 2 029 004.000	HENRY OIL COMPANY INC
11. 303 5 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 16 2 029 005.000	PATTON ROBERT L & JACQUELINE B
12. 301 5 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 16 2 029 006.000	WALLACE CHRIS
13. 508 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 029 007.000	HENRY OIL COMPANY INC
14. 428 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 031 014.000	DICKERSON SHERRY
15. 424 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 031 013.000	DICKERSON SHERRY
16. 705 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 011 006.000	JACKSON ADDIE HEIRS OF
17. 709 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 011 004.000	MATTHEWS JEFFREY C JR
18. 721 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 011 003.004	WANDA ERICKSEN TRUST U/T/A
19. 725 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 011 003.003	IRON CITY INNOVATIONS LLC
20. 730 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 010 019.000	KAWTHAR PROPERTY VENTURES LLC
21. 726 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 010 018.000	FOWLER JOSEPH
22. 722 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 010 017.000	DIAL MICAH K
23. 718 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 010 016.000	DANNER GREGORY
24. 716 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 010 015.000	COOPER AUDREY FAYE & HARRY JAMES COOPER & ALFRED JAMES COOPER
25. 706 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 010 014.000	CARTER CLAUDETTE
26. 806 2 ND AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 002 017.000	NGIMBI SIMPLICE
27. 1014 1 ST AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 4 038 013.000	CUEVAS ASUCENA ACUNA
28. 1012 1 ST AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 4 038 012.000	MANIECE ANGELA (R/S WITH DEED)
29. 916 1 ST AVENUE NORHT	38 00 16 1 007 012.000	KING ELLA & LESHORE LEILA
30. 910 1 ST AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 1 007 011.000	WRIGHT J J & ASSOCIATES INC
31. 825 1 ST AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 1 009 002.000	SEWELL ETHELINE W & CHARLOTTE STEWART
32. 821 1 ST AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 1 009 003.000	WILLIAMS RUTHIE MAE THE HEIRS OF
33. 802 ALABAMA AVENUE	38 00 16 1 009 016.000	THOMPSON ROBERT L
34. 806 ALABAMA AVENUE	38 00 16 1 009 017.000	DIS & DAT ENTERPRISE LLC (R/S W DEED)
35. 602 8 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 024 013.000	LOTUS CAPITAL ESTATE LLC (R/S W DEED)

36. 515 8 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 16 2 025 005.000	FLANAGAN CONZIE HEIRS OF
37. 1614 10 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 2 008 009.000	PORTER YOLANDA
38. 1608 10 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 2 008 008.000	COWLIN KENNETH E
39. 1604 10 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 2 008 007.000	LLOYD DERRICO
40. 1530 10 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 2 015 009.000	MITCHELL CLARENCE (R/S WITH DEED)
41. 1230 24 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 04 2 013 002.000	PARKER BETTY HEIRS OF
42. 1301 24 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 04 2 007 010.001	TOWNS GREGORY JR & GREGORY SR
43. 1306 24 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 04 2 012 002.001	BASCOM, KEVIN
44. 1201 13 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 08 1 016 008.000	MYLES KAY D
45. 1203 13 TH AVENUE NORTH	38 00 08 1 016 007.000	HOLLIS TERRY H
46. 1314 12 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 08 1 026 011.000	FRESKE MICHAEL
47. 1420 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 4 013 012.000	LEIGH NATASHA
48. 1017 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 4 039 008.000	DUNHAM BARBARA
49. 1013 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 4 039 009.000	JONES SARAH RICE &
50. 1011 3 RD AVENUE NORTH	38 00 09 4 039 010.000	WARREN EUGENE III (R/S W DEED)
51. 1927 ARLINGTON AVENUE	38 00 10 2 029 002.000	RAMOS ELIZABETH DIAZ
52. 1931 ARLINGTON AVENUE	38 00 10 2 029 001.000	RAMOS ELIZABETH DIAZ
53. 1926 ARLINGTON AVENUE	38 00 10 2 030 009.000	NEW LEVEL LLC (R/S)
54. 16 20 TH STREET SOUTH	38 00 10 2 030 010.000	NEW LEVEL LLC (R/S)
55. 1931 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 4 028 006.000	CANADA SEABIE ANN
56. 1924 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 4 031 007.000	HALL STANLEY B REVEREND SR
57. 2008 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 4 030 003.000	AMARK EXPRESS SERVICES, INC.
58. 2007 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 4 029 014.000	RUSSELL GEORGE EDWARD
59. 2013 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 4 029 012.000	HARRIS BEVERLY & NAYLAN R/S
60. 2021 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 4 029 010.000	JPG GENERAL SERVICES CORP (R/S W DEED)
61. 2030 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 3 003 002.000	HARRIS NAYLAN (R/S)
62. 2120 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 3 004 006.000	DIAL THORNTON & CLARA MAE
63. 2124 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 3 004 007.000	DIAL THORNTON & CLARA MAE
64. 2128 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 3 004 008.000	DIAL THORNTON & CLARA MAE
65. 2125 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 3 002 010.000	SHIELDS GWENDOLYN D
66. 2127 16 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 05 3 002 009.000	WHITE EDDIE LEE JR &
67. 2120 16 TH WAY NORTH	38 00 05 3 002 007.000	JOHNSON ELIJAH
68. 2116 16 TH WAY NORTH	38 00 05 3 002 005.000	EATMON ALBERTA HEIRS OF
69. 1523 25 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 04 2 004 007.000	FINKLE CATHY COOLEY & BRYANT LOUIS H
70. 1508 25 TH STREET NORTH	38 00 04 2 008 002.000	MASON BARBARA

Sanitation and Ordinance Inspector Aleria Harper greeted all and presented the weed nuisance report to the City Council. Mrs. Harper stated there are 70 properties that are out of code and she would like the hearing date to be set for May 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Councilor Thigpen made a motion to approve the hearing date for May 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. 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, and Chester W. Porter. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#7: Resolution authorizing the use of Bessemer Civic Center for Jefferson County Poll Workers Training.

RESOLUTION NO. 104-26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF BESSEMER CIVIC CENTER BY JEFFERSON COUNTY ELECTIONS COORDINATOR FOR POLL WORKERS TRAINING

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Election Coordinator will host a "Jefferson County Poll Workers Training Class" on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, starting at 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and has requested the use of the Bessemer Civic Center without charge to conduct the training; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama reviewed the request of the Jefferson County Elections Coordinator and has determined that the event promotes health, welfare, morals, prosperity, contentment, safety and security of the community and the public.

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

1. That the City Council for The City of Bessemer, Alabama hereby authorizes the use of Bessemer Civic Center by Jefferson County Elections Coordinator on the date stated herein above for Poll Worker's Training at no cost.

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 7th day of April 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that the Jefferson County Election Coordinator requested the use of a room at the Bessemer Civic Center, at no cost, to host a poll worker training class on May 6, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Councilor Person made a motion to approve the item. 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, and Chester W. Porter. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#8: A resolution authorizing the use of City Facilities and declaring it a public purpose.

RESOLUTION NO. 105-26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CITY FACILITIES AND DECLARING A PUBLIC PURPOSE

WHEREAS, Councilor Carla Jackson of District 6 request the use of the **East Meeting Room at the Bessemer Civic Center** to host a Community Meeting on April 14, 2026, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the Community Meeting is intended to provide residents with information regarding City services, public safety initiatives, and community programs, while promoting civic engagement, transparency, and communication between residents and local government; and

WHEREAS, Councilor Carla Jackson also requests that the city council appropriate Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$350.00) from her **Discretionary Fund line item # 001-10000-026-527067** to fund the community meeting; and

WHEREAS, Councilor Carla Jackson, in collaboration with the Jefferson County Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., has requested the use of **DeBardleben Park on April 12, 2026**, between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to host a community “Fun Fit Day” event; and

WHEREAS, the “Fun Fit Day” event is designed to promote public health and wellness by encouraging physical activity, providing access to health-related resources, and fostering community participation and engagement among residents of all ages; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, having considered the requests, finds that the use of City facilities and the use of public funds for these events promotes public health, safety, morals, security, prosperity, contentment, and the general welfare of the community, and therefore serves a valid and sufficient public purpose;

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

1. That the City Council hereby determines that the Community Meeting described herein serves a valid public purpose and approves the use of the East Meeting Room at the Bessemer Civic Center on April 14, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The council further approves and approves the sum of Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$350.00) from district 6 **Discretionary Fund line item # 001-10000-026-527067**.
2. That the City Council hereby determines that the “Fun Fit Day” event serves a valid public purpose and approves the use of DeBardleben Park on April 12, 2026, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
3. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this the 7th day of April 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that Councilor Jackson is requesting the use of the East Room at the Bessemer Civic Center and \$350 from her discretionary funds to host a community meeting on April 14, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. He stated that she is also requesting the use of DeBardleben Park to collaborate with the Jefferson County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. to host a Community Fun Fit Day on April 12, 2026, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Councilor Stephens made a motion to approve the item. Councilor King 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, and Chester W. Porter. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#9: Resolution authorizing the use of discretionary to Bessemer City School System – Councilor Cleo King.

RESOLUTION NO.: 106-26

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM COUNCILOR CLEO KING DISTRICT SEVEN (7) DISCRETIONARY FUND BUDGET LINE ITEM

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama has appropriated funds in its Fiscal Year 2025–2026 budget for use by each council district; and

WHEREAS, Councilor Cleophus King has requested that the City allocate funds from District Seven (7) Discretionary Fund, line-item number 001-10000-528137, for the purpose of supporting the Bessemer City High School System, specifically the Bessemer City High School Basketball Team; and

WHEREAS, Councilor King has requested the appropriation of funds in an amount not to exceed **Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)** from the aforementioned discretionary fund to provide such support; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that the appropriation and expenditure of municipal funds for the purpose of supporting the Bessemer City School System serves a valid and sufficient public purpose by promoting public health, safety, morals, security, prosperity, contentment, and the general welfare of the community;

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

1. That the City Council hereby finds and determines that the expenditure of municipal funds to support the Bessemer City High School System, earmarked for the Bessemer City High School Basketball Team, serves a valid and sufficient public purpose.
2. That the City Council hereby approves the expenditure of funds in an amount not to exceed **Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)** from District Seven (7) Discretionary Fund, line-item number 001-10000-528137, for the purposes stated herein.
3. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 7th day of April 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that Councilor King is requesting the allocation of \$250 from his discretionary funds to support the Bessemer City High School Basketball Team.

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

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#10: Resolution authorizing the use of discretionary funds Jonesboro Elementary staff Appreciation Day – Cleo King.

RESOLUTION NO.: 107-26

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM COUNCILOR CLEO KING DISTRICT SEVEN (7) DISCRETIONARY FUND BUDGET LINE ITEM

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama appropriated funds in its fiscal year 2025-2026 budget for use in each council district. Councilor Cleophus King has requested that the City of Bessemer appropriate funds from District Seven (7) Discretionary Fund line-item number 001-10000-528137 in the amount of One Eight Hundred Dollars **(\$800.00)** for the purpose of providing support to Jonesboro Elementary School Staff Appreciation event; and

WHEREAS, the appreciation event is intended to encourage staff, students, and community leaders to continue to pursue excellence in education, promote community engagement in educational initiatives, and support the overall well-being of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama hereby determines that the appropriation and expenditure of municipal funds for the purpose of supporting Jonesboro Elementary School Staff Appreciation event in council district Seven (7) serves a valid and sufficient 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 City Council hereby finds and determines that the expenditure of municipal funds to provide Jonesboro Elementary School Staff Appreciation event serves a valid and sufficient 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.
2. The Council hereby approves the expenditure of funds up to One Eight Hundred Dollars **(\$800.00)** from district Seven (7) budget line item # 001-10000-528137 for use as herein stated. Said funds to be paid upon presentation of proof of expenditures.

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 7th day of April 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that Councilor King requested the allocation of \$800 from his discretionary funds to contribute to Jonesboro Elementary School's Staff Appreciation Day.

Councilor Jackson made a motion to approve the item. 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, and Chester W. Porter. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#11: Resolution authorizing the use of discretionary finds and the use of Kenneth E. Gulley Rec. Center – Councilor Sarah Person.

RESOLUTION NO.: 108-26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF DISTRICT THREE DISCRETIONARY FUNDS AND CITY FACILITY FOR A COMMUNITY RESOURCE EVENT

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer (the "City") has appropriated funds in its Fiscal Year 2025—2026 budget for use by each council district; and

WHEREAS, Councilor Sarah Person has requested that the City allocate funds in the total amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) from District Three (3) Discretionary Fund, line item number 001-10000-23-527067, and authorize the use of the multi-purpose room at the Kenneth E. Gulley Recreation Center to support a Community Resource Event scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this event is to provide residents with access to valuable information and resources related to economic development, public safety, and mental health and wellness, while also promoting community engagement and strengthening connections between residents and City departments and services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby determines that providing support to District 3 Community Resource Event for the purposes stated herein 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 city council hereby approves the use of the multi-purpose room at the Kenneth E. Gulley Recreation Center and the expenditure of municipal funds from District #3 Discretionary Fund line-item number 001-10000-23-527067 to support a Community Resource Event in the Amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) upon presentation of proof of the expenditure.

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 7th day of April 2026.

Attorney Killings stated that Councilor Person requested the allocation of \$500 from her discretionary funds and the use of the Kenneth E. Gulley Recreation Center to host a Community Resource Event on April 28, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Councilor Jackson made a motion to approve the item. Councilor King 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, and Chester W. Porter. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#12: Approval of Liquor, Wine, and Tobacco.

- A. N-G0 LLC-Buy N GO-1430 9TH Ave North Bessemer, A1- 050-Retail Beer (Off Premises Only)-070- Retail Table Wine- (Off Premises Only)- 990-Tobacco and Alternative Nicotine**
- B. D'S Event center LLC- 201-4TH Ave North Bessemer, Al- 160- Retail Beer License-Special Retail-m More than 30 Days.**
- C. Dartmouth Groceries, LLC- New Pantry Package Store-3230-Dartmouth, Ave STE.104- Bessemer, Al- 011-Lounge Retail Liquor Class 11-990- Tobacco only.**
- D. Logan's Roadhouse-475- 5000 Bond Blvd. Bessemer, 1-020-Restaurant Retail Liquor- Transfer in Ownership.**
- E. Bob Sykes BBQ and Blues Festival- 1632 2nd Ave North- Bessemer, AL140- Special Events Retail Liquor.**
- F. Piggie Wiggly 266- 4750- Eastern Valley Road- Bessemer, A1- 720- Retail Food Store Consumable Hemp Products.**

Councilor Thigpen 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, and Chester W. Porter. Nays: None. The motion carried.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#13: Council member's comments, statements, or motions.

Councilor King extended his condolences to Councilor Thigpen following the recent passing of her husband. He asked the council and all in attendance to keep Councilor Thigpen and her family in their prayers during this time of bereavement.

Councilor King thanked the sponsors and all who attended and supported his annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Councilor Jackson invited everyone to attend the Fun Fit Day she is co-sponsoring with members of the Jefferson County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority,

Inc. on April 12, 2026. She also invited all citizens of District 6 to attend the community meeting scheduled for April 14, 2026. Councilor Jackson thanked the Street and Sanitation Department for their continued hard work and assistance with cleanup efforts throughout her district.

Councilor Stephens thanked everyone who attended his recent community meeting at the Bessemer Civic Center.

Councilor Thigpen expressed her appreciation to everyone who reached out to her and her family following the recent passing of her husband.

Councilor Porter stated that he recently had the opportunity to speak at the funeral service for longtime Bessemer City Schools Educator Ms. Bertha Lee Robinson. Councilor Porter also extended his condolences to all families experiencing bereavement at this time.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presented Item#14: Citizens Participation:

Gale Harris, 2203 Long 14th Street, expressed concerns regarding the excessive dumping of trash near her residence. She stated that she spoke with personnel from the Street & Sanitation Department and was informed that the property across from her home is considered a dumping site.

Mayor Gulley stated that he would speak with Street & Sanitation Department Director Michael Reese to determine why she was advised that the property near her residence is considered a dumping site.

Glenn Rogers, 2930 Dartmouth Avenue, stated that he received a phone call from City Housing Inspector Lovell McElroy notifying him that his property had been deemed a public nuisance.

Attorney Killings stated that Mr. Rogers' property received the same notice issued to the trailer park located on 4th Avenue. He further explained that the City of Bessemer has reengaged its process of issuing public nuisance notices.

Councilor King addressed Mr. Rogers, stating that his property has not been maintained for numerous years and that corrective action must be taken.

Howard Johnson, 2601 9th Avenue North, stated that Johnson's Memorial has been a part of the City of Bessemer for 59 years. He stated that he received notification from Cedar Hill Cemetery that they are no longer accepting check payments.

Attorney Killings stated that the city recently adopted a new policy regarding Cedar Hill Cemetery payment procedures. He explained that if a check is returned due to insufficient funds after a burial service has been completed, it could create an issue for both the cemetery and the family of the deceased.

Jesse Matthews, 600 Flint Hill Road, stated that the U.S. Pipe facility located in Bessemer has a slurry pond behind its building that is reportedly flowing into creeks in the Pipeshop community. He stated that he and residents within the community are requesting that the city determine whether the facility has the proper permits to discharge or pump slurry into the pond and the surrounding area.

City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor presents item#15: Motion to Adjourn.

Councilor Jackson made the motion to adjourn. Councilor Porter adjourned the meeting.

**Wanda D. Taylor
City Clerk**

Presiding Officer