

Town Board Meeting April 14, 2025

Supv. Crossen called the monthly meeting of the Alabama Town Board to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken, Councilperson Klotzbach, Fisher, LaGrou and Supv. Crossen were present. Also present were Mark Masse, Dave Bencic, Sharon Larmon and Rachel Smith.

Privilege of the Floor

Sharon Larmon – Asked several question about STAMP. What is local impact on Volunteer Fireman Study?, Who is paying for the study and who can see it? Plug Power has been shut down for four years, what is going on? Waterline to Oakfield, when will that be done? Things are being done without residents knowing about them. They have been trying to force STAMP for 20 years, is it time to give it up? Disc. held. Supv. Crossen asked her to email a list of the questions so that he can answer them.

Mark Masse commented that the EDC has provided the Town will the following amenities:

- \$11.8 million water project
- \$292,000, 5% sales from Plug Power
- \$441,000.00 Plug Power PILOT and Host Comm. Agreement so far.
- \$204,000.00 from Edwards sale

Rachel Smith – EDP Renewables, gave update on project.

Approx. 340 acres within fence, representing about 85 MW of solar power.

Eight property owners, 12 land parcels.

Located south of Judge Road between Maple and Macomber Road; North of Galloway Rd.

Next step:

Formal Town Consultation meeting in June or July.

Project public open house in July or August.

ORES State Site Permit Application submittal November 2025.

Supv. Crossen asked for a proposed project map. She will send one.

Highway – Supt. Covel sent a written report to Board Members.

STAMP – Mark Masse gave update:

Waterline extension to Edwards to be done soon.

Sewer line bids to be opened.

Water tank construction to start in July.

Edwards building to be done by July, operational by January.

Supv. Crossen received a letter on the force main and the effects of it.

Supv. Crossen and Councilperson Fisher met, March 27th, with Mark Masse to discuss a site visit to a data center, cost of meetings to Town for projects with Attorney and consultants. The Town needs funds to pay for these meetings. Disc. held.

Water District #2 – USDA report for 2024 has been done.

Kenyon & Ledge check valve man holes are too close to the road. Supt. Covel to talk to Town of Batavia.

Water District #1 – two late notices were sent to residents, the bills were paid without being shut off. Supv. Crossen advised the Board that there is not enough funds in Water District 1. New rate takes affect in the April invoices. He suggests another loan to the district. Disc. held.

Water District #1 Loan Resolution

WHEREAS, Water District #1, due to the increasing cost of operation, the increasing cost and frequency of required testing, and the increasing cost of water purchased, has insufficient margins to pay its ongoing expenses, and

WHEREAS Water District #1 currently has inadequate funds to pay its current obligations, and

WHEREAS, it will take several months to raise the water rate so as to provide sufficient margin to fund the district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Alabama duly convened as follows:

1. The Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to temporarily advance from surplus General Funds of the Town the sum of \$2,000.00 to Water District #1 Fund pursuant to provisions of section 9-a of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York.
2. Such temporary advance shall be repaid with interest at two (2) percent by Water District #1 to the General Fund as soon as monies are available, but in any event not later than December 31, 2025.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Councilperson Fisher offered the resolution which was seconded by Councilperson Klotzbach, voted on and approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Solar – Rachel Smith gave update during privilege of the floor.

Battery Storage Law – nothing new

Town Hall – nothing new

Court Audit – Councilpersons Klotzbach and LaGrou conducted the audit of Court records for 2024.

MOTION by Supv. Crossen, seconded by Councilperson Fisher to accept the audits of the Town Justices for 2024 as complete. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

JCAP grant for scanning records. Judge V. Williams sent three estimates for scanning:

Lincoln Archives, Inc. \$3,217.10

Avalon Legal \$5,226.65

Secure Scan \$11,986.00

MOTION by Councilperson Klotzbach, seconded by Councilperson LaGrou to accept the estimate from Lincoln Archives, Inc. at a cost of \$3,217.10 to scan court documents and have Supv. Crossen sign the bid acceptance. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Edwards Vacuum Permit Fees

Supv. Crossen informed the Board that there is a balance of \$560,000.00 in the Edwards Permit Fee. He proposes sending \$200,000.00 back to Edwards leaving \$360,000.00 for inspections, etc. Disc. held.

MOTION by Councilperson Klotzbach, seconded by Councilperson Fisher to return \$200,000.00 of the application fee to Edwards Vacuum on the May abstract. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Court Alternate Security

Supv. Crossen discussed court security. There was a trial during the day and the Sheriff’s Office was not able to provide security. Supv. Crossen secured Brian Thompson for the day. Supv. Crossen is going to see if he can find someone to fill in. Disc. held. Supv. Crossen to call the Corfu Police Dept. to see if they would be available to fill in when needed.

Bicentennial Committee – nothing new

FEMA Storm Denial

Supv. Crossen said the Town was denied again. We can ask for another review or go to arbitration. Disc. held on possibly getting State/Federal Politicians involved. After discussion, it was decided to go for another review.

Town Bank Accounts

Bank on Buffalo will be charging the Town \$100.00 per month for the remote deposit machines and if/when we do Positive Pay it will be another \$50.00. Supv. Crossen and Clerk Borkholder to meet with M&T Bank next week to see what they have to offer.

Resignation – Historian

Terry Thompson submitted his letter of resignation, effective immediately.

MOTION by Councilperson Klotzbach, seconded by Councilperson Fisher to accept the letter of resignation from Terry Thompson, Historian. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Clerk Borkholder will put the opening on the website.

AFD New Members

Bonnie Graham, Active Fire/Active EMS and Dylan Renden Euceda, Active Fire, both from the Town.

MOTION by Councilperson LaGrou, seconded by Councilperson Klotzbach to approve the new members, Bonnie Graham and Dylan Renden Euceda, of the Alabama Fire Dept. Approved by roll call vote: C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

2024 AFR Report

MOTION by Councilperson Klotzbach, seconded by councilperson Fisher to accept report as writing. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Schumer/Tenney Letters

Supv. Crossen would like permission to sign letters to Senator Schumer and Congressperson Tenney to ask for support for the County's request for \$10 million in the Energy and Water bill for the VA Water Storage Tank in the City of Batavia.

MOTION by Councilperson LaGrou, seconded by Councilperson Klotzbach to allow the Supv. sign the letters to Senator Schumer and Congressperson Tenney as written. Approved by roll call vote:
C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Town Travel Policy

Supv. Crossen drew up a draft Travel Policy for the Board's consideration. It will be on the May agenda.

Code/Zoning Violations & Engagement Letter

Supv. Crossen would like to sign the engagement letter from DiMatteo, Roach & Kelly for attorney services regarding Town code/zoning violations. CEO/ZEO Morris has 3 to 5 properties that are in constant violation. Disc. held.

MOTION by Councilperson Fisher, seconded by Councilperson Klotzbach to approve the DiMatteo, Road & Kelly engagement letter and have Supv. Crossen sign it. Approved by roll call vote:
C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Solar Project Sign Grant

Joe Cassidy applied for a grant five years ago, the Town was approved for a \$5,000 grant. Supv. Crossen received a drawing for anew sign from J3 Design, waiting for cost estimate.

Approval of Minutes

3/10/2025 Board Meeting – MOTION by Councilperson LaGrou, seconded by Councilperson Klotzbach to accept minutes as presented. Approved by roll call vote:
C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Supervisors Report

4/7/2025 -- MOTION by Councilperson Fisher, seconded by Councilperson Klotzbach to accept report as written. Approved by Roll Call Vote:
C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Audit Bills

MOTION by Councilperson Klotzbach, seconded by Councilperson LaGrou to accept Abstract #004-2025 and pay bills in the amount of \$67,863.65 vouchers 80 to 107 General Fund; \$85,254.63 vouchers 49 to 74 Highway Fund; \$4,846.80 vouchers 9 to 13 Water District 2. Approved by Roll Call Vote:
C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Town Clerk's Report

March 2025 -- MOTION by Councilperson Fisher, seconded by Supv. Crossen to accept report as written. Approved by Roll Call Vote:
C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Assessor's Report

12/13/2024 to 3/25/25 Transfers and written report -- MOTION by Councilperson Fisher, seconded by Supv. Crossen to accept reports as written. Approved by Roll Call Vote:
C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

CEO/ZEO Report

March 2025 -- MOTION by Councilperson LaGrou, seconded by Councilperson Fisher to accept report as written. Approved by Roll Call Vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Age Exemptions

Supv. Crossen to get information from the County.

MOTION by Councilperson Klotzbach, seconded by Councilperson LaGrou to adjourn meeting at 8:31 p.m. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. Klotzbach – yes C. LaGrou – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca L. Borkholder
Town Clerk