COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF LUVERNE

July 28, 2025

The City of Luverne Council met in regular session on July 28, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in the City Hall Building. The following members were present:

Mayor Ed Beasley

Betty Dawson, Councilwoman

Kip Smith, Councilman

Elliott Jones, Councilman

Eddie Billings, Councilman 5:33

Attorney Mike Jones

Mike Johnson, Chief 5:34

Margie Gomillion, Clerk

Absent: Kathy Smyth, Councilwoman

Visitors: Steve Defee Lisa Oliver Jeff Strowd Larry Coggins

Randy Smyth Dianne Richardson

Mayor Beasley called the meeting to order. The mayor called on Councilman Smith to lead the pledge of allegiance to the flag and Steve Defee to say a prayer.

The mayor called for the approval of the minutes of July 14, 2025. Councilman Jones made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Councilwoman Dawson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously approved.

Mayor Beasley reported there are two projects going on right now in town. There is the Glenwood Highway intersection and a couple of days ago the Mt Ida Road intersection began. We have finished with 9th Street, 10th Street and Woodford paving. It looks great to me. Councilwoman Dawson stated everyone loves it.

The mayor stated everything was routine for the administrative report. Everyone has a copy of the report in their packet.

Mayor Beasley called on Councilman Billings for the park report. Councilman Billings stated everyone should have received an email from Merrill about what is being done at the park. There’s been some sandlot games for girls 10 and under. Restrooms are being cleaned. You have also gotten a diagram about what we are trying to do with the tennis courts. The proposal is for two tennis courts, two pickleball courts and two half basketball courts. It would be separated with netting. We’re also going to talk to the water department about getting the water fountains back. Outside of that it’s mostly maintenance. We should be starting the splash pad August 1st.

The mayor called everyone’s attention to the police report. The clerk stated that since the last meeting, the police department had 205 calls for service not including building checks, made 38 traffic stops, wrote 13 citations, and gave 25 warnings. The department made 6 misdemeanors and 1 felony arrest. There have been 7 animal control calls since the last meeting.

Mayor Beasley called on Steve Defee to report on the airport. Mr. Defee stated he met with Mr. Frank Folmar with ALDOT and Michael Cole who is the engineer for the city that will be drawing up the grant. The proposal from ALDOT is to do a 25/75 versus a 50/50 this time. They do have a little extra money that they are allotted this coming year. They felt for sure it was time for the City of Luverne to acquire some of that. We don’t know the extent of what the project is going to cost. We are looking at roughly $400,000 for the taxi-way and the ramp. The city’s cost would be $100,000 and ALDOT $300,000. It would be in three different stages. Stage one would be for the ramp to run it out to the taxi way; stage two would be a procedure that’s right in front of the old hangar where the gas pump is at and the third stage would be in front of the newest hangar omitting the side of the building itself. Michael Cole is drawing up plans now. We will need a resolution again from the council. All this must be done and submitted by the end of September. The mayor stated there will be new funds on the 1st of October, and we need to remember to contact Alan Bowen.

The mayor stated he spoke with Mrs. Kathyrn at the library and everything is going well.

Mayor Beasley called on Councilman Smith to report on Fire/Rescue. Councilman Smith stated everything is good.

The mayor stated he negotiated a new contract with ITAC on their rent at the old slacks factory. I did not feel we were getting enough rent due to the price on footings.

The mayor presented Resolution 072825 Appointing Election Officers for the 2025 Municipal Election. After some discussion, Councilman Billings made a motion to adopt Resolution 072825 Appointing Election Officers for the 2025 Municipal Election. Councilman Smith seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously approved. The resolution is as follows:

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION OFFICERS FOR

THE 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

**WHEREAS,** a regular municipal election has been called to be held on the 26th day August 2025, and a runoff election to be held, if necessary, on the 23rd day of September 2025, and

**WHEREAS,** Section 11-46-27 of the Alabama Code of 1975, and regulations adopted pursuant thereto provide, in part, that the municipal governing body, not less than 15 days before holding any municipal election must appoint from the municipality officers to hold the election, and

**WHEREAS,** an *INSPECTOR, REGISTRATION LIST CLERK*, *POLL LIST CLERK, BALLOT CLERK* *and ALTERNATE CLERK* are hereby appointed for each polling site where electronic ballot counters are to be used during said elections.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of Luverne, Alabama, that the election officers for said election shall be as follows:

# CRENSHAW COUNTY COURTHOUSE

INSPECTOR Lalar Tomberlin

REGISTRATION CLERK Mary Dixon

POLL LIST CLERK Teletha Jackson

POLL LIST CLERK Pam Speed

BALLOT CLERK Wanda Williams

BALLOT CLERK LaShara Dixon

**ABSENTEE POLL WORKERS**

INSPECTOR Beth Brown

CLERK Gwendolyn Darget

CLERK Beulah Boyd

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 28th day of July 2025.**

Mayor Beasley presented the council with an event application from Lisa Oliver/Crenshaw Cares for a free community event @Douglas Park on 8/21, 8/28, 9/4 and 9/11. Ms. Oliver passed out more information that she would like to do at the event. After further discussion, Councilman Jones made a motion to table this until Ms. Oliver is a 501c3 or similar status with the help of Attorney Jones. Councilwoman Dawson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimously approved.

Next, the mayor stated the street department has four vehicles they would like to surplus. Councilman Jones made a motion to surplus the following vehicles for the street department: 1994 Ford F800 (leaf/debris truck) vin# 1FDYK84E4RVA01522, 1999 GMC C8500 Dump truck 1GDP7H1C2XJ514708, 1997 Tarco Big-T-Vac (leafvac) vin# JR-20-12-A-4718-J02 and 2009 Vermeer BC1200XL (brush chipper) Vin# 1VR7141Y3A1000156. Councilman Billings seconded the motion and all was in favor.

Councilman Billings stated everyone had already received an email prior with the proposal to redo surfacing of the tennis court. I would like to move that forward. The proposal is from American Tennis Courts, Inc. for $49,865. Councilman Billings discussed in detail what all the price included. After further discussion, Councilman Jones made a motion to move forward with this project in the amount of $49,865. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and all was in favor.

Mr. Jones stated he had emailed the council about someone who is interested in just part of the Vanity Fair building. They mentioned some repairs they are concerned about. If everyone will look it over and get back with me. The mayor mentioned that ITAC is looking for storage. If this company rents the south end of the building, which is the office part, then ITAC may be interested in the remaining part, which is the warehouse. The warehouse and loading docks are what ITAC would need. Mr. Jones asked the council to let him know.

Mr. Jones stated he has the lease amendment on the AT&T site that we discussed last time. They have agreed with everything. The three – ten-year terms, the rent is $1,750 and 2% increase every year after the first five years. If everyone is good with it, I will get it signed. After some discussion, Councilman Smith made a motion to accept the offer with AT&T for the renewal of the contract. Councilman Jones seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously approved.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilman Billings made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Dawson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned.