

City of Margaret

July 1, 2025

6:00 P.M.

In attendance: Councilman Darius Crump, Councilman Matthew Tortorice,  
Councilman Jonathan Ray, and Mayor Daryl McIntyre

Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem James Chapman

Prayer: Mr. Barker

Pledge of Alliance

A quorum was declared.

Adoption of Agenda

Discussion:

*Councilman Darius Crump moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mayor Daryl McIntyre seconded the Motion. The Motion passed with three yeases and two noes.*

*Councilman Matthew Tortorice moved to amend the agenda to add the following to the agenda: employee pay raises, the sinkhole, financial reports, organization ordinance, capital improvement plan, reserve fund, and sewer upgrades. Councilman Jonathan Ray seconded the Motion. The Motion was not passed due to two yeases and three noes.*

*Chief Anthony Fields asked the Council to amend the current parking ordinance to remove the 48-hour allowed parking. The 48-hour parking*

*Councilman Matthew Tortorice stated that the Mayor/Council Handbook requires a public hearing or notice to amend an ordinance. Councilman Matthew Tortorice moved to have a public hearing to amend the current parking ordinance. The Motion dies from a lack of a second.*

*Councilman Jonathan voiced concerns about holiday parking.*

*City Clerk read the resignation of City Attorney Erskine Funderburg dated June 17, 2025, and it became effective June 20, 2025.*

*Councilman Jonathan Ray inquired about when the resignation letter was received, and Councilman Jonathan Ray was informed that the letters were asked to be given out on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, by Erskine Funderburg.*

*Councilman Matthew Tortorice moved to table the council minutes 6-17-2025. Councilman Jonathan Ray seconded the Motion. The Motion passed with three yeses, one abstention, and one no. Councilman Tortorice stated that the Wiggin case was not discussed by the lawsuit attorney, Bradley Cornett, the Woodland Ridge drainage overgrowth, his response to an accusation, the last comments were cleaned up and edited, and missing what was actually said.*

*Councilman Matthew Tortorice stated that the city has two outstanding invoices that are in his possession—the Birmingham Regional Planning committee for \$3089.00 and Argo Animal Clinic \$12,000.00.*

*Councilman Matthew Tortorice stated that he is still waiting for the requested information. Mayor Daryl inquired about the meeting scheduled for Councilman Matthew Tortorice concerning his records request. The appointment is scheduled for tomorrow at 10 AM.*

*Councilman Jonathan Ray stated that the water report was missing. The city also has drainage issues all across the city.*

*Councilman Jonathan Ray feels that residents' complaints should be addressed when numbers are provided.*

*Councilman Matthew Tortorice has pictures of drainage issues.*

*Mr. Barker stated that the drains are clogged up with debris.*

*Mr. Barker feels that each council member should address the issues in their district.*

*Councilman Darius Crump stated that there are drainage issues in the area that was just repaired on Starlite.*

*Councilman Darius Crump stated that the employee raises are hard to address without a budget. Part-time fire and police employees are not receiving the same pay as full-time employees.*

*Councilwoman Sandra Cook stated that the budget workshop allows the auditor to assess the city's financial position and consider employee raises. Tabitha Hanner addressed the parking ordinance issue by reading*

*something from the internet, which stressed the importance of following proper procedure to pass an ordinance. And informed everyone that the Alabama League of Municipalities is the governing board that tells the Council what they can and can't do.*

*Shelby Eldridge stated that the city needs to have proper planning to prevent the drainage problem.*

*Joe Smith is truly disappointed that the council meeting is a campaign platform and not being productive for the City of Margaret. Some Council members are trying to look good on camera and get a pat on the back, which is useless and worthless if the council is not working together. Putting on a show and coming back in two weeks to do the same thing. The council needs to work together and get things passed. Can't complain about not having anything until everyone works together. Questioning what is being brought to better the city besides pointing fingers to get someone to say something that looks good on camera.*

*Clyde Beverly is questioning the reasoning for the loss of legal counsel for the city attorney. The attorney has been in the community for almost 40 years, and is considered one of the leading attorneys in Saint Clair County. Mr. Beverly feels this is a problem because this is a world where who you know has great influence. Mr. Beverly feels that whoever the city hires as will their city attorney will call Erskine Funderburg to ask about the City of Margaret. YouTube video of an employee trimming grass on a setback maintained by the city, and there is a campaign sign. The employee takes the sign and stores it for the person to come and get. The video accuses the employee of stealing the sign. Mr. Beverly sees this as a form of harassment against the city employee.*

*Councilwoman Sandra Cook verified that the same thing happened when the MCO used to have food truck signs put out in the right-of-way.*

*Freddie Parham stated that the city cannot move forward with all lawsuits being filed.*

*Chief Anthony Fields is getting frustrated with doing his job. He had a violation against him for the 1033 program. Councilman Matthew Tortorice took a picture with his camera in Sterling Place, trying to see what brand, and discussing Chief Fields' personal business with others.*

*Janice McIntyre, a lot of people are lifelong residents of the City of Margaret. Mrs. McIntyre feels some councilmembers truly love Margaret and others who are just there to be there and cause chaos. The Council has to work together to get something done, or the city will not move forward. Must have solutions to match issues. Mrs. McIntyre feels*

*that some council members are very disrespectful to older people and former City Attorney Erskine Funderburg. Margaret is being depicted horribly by the media and social media.*

*Councilman Darius Crump stated that a hostile work environment has been created for employees by the actions of some council members. He has had three ethics complaints filed against him, one involving him and Chief Fields, filed by Councilman Matthew Tortorice, and one not living in his district, filed by Councilman Matthew Tortorice. Councilman Darius Crump believes that complaints without grounds should be stopped. Councilman Darius Crump encourages everyone to get out and vote. Councilman Darius stated that unrealistic promises are being made without having a budget first. The Council should consider prioritizing the repair of severe roads that are used by everyone, including first responders and employees who work multiple jobs.*

*Councilwoman Sandra Cook stated that the city has a clean audit with no discrepancies. And during the budget workshop, the auditor received action items to review, including roads and salaries.*

*Councilwoman Sandra Cook moved to adjourn. Mayor Daryl McIntyre seconded the Motion.*

*Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.*

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**Daryl McIntyre, Mayor**

*Attest:*

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*Teja McIntyre, City Clerk*