

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CHEROKEE
CITY OF CENTRE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CENTRE, ALABAMA

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CENTRE MET IN REGULAR SESSION TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026 AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL.

ROLL CALL FOUND THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

JAY HOWELL, MAYOR
TOREY CHANDLER, COUNCILMEMBER
CARETHA CLIFTON, COUNCILMEMBER
DON COTHRAN, COUNCILMEMBER
SID GARRETT, COUNCILMEMBER
PHILLIP ROBERTS, COUNCILMEMBER
KAREN SLUPE, COUNCILMEMBER
JIMMY WILLIAMS, COUNCILMEMBER

MAYOR JAY HOWELL PRESIDED OVER THE MEETING AND SHERRIE CHANDLER, CITY CLERK, WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT, RECORDED THE MINUTES.

MAYOR HOWELL STATED A FULL MEMBERSHIP WAS PRESENT AND DECLARED THE MEETING OPEN FOR THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS.

MAYOR JAY HOWELL OPENED THE MEETING WITH PRAYER.

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025 AND SPECIAL MEETING OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025 WERE BROUGHT BEFORE THE COUNCIL FOR CORRECTION AND/OR APPROVAL. COUNCILMEMBER DON COTHRAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PHILLIP ROBERTS. THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR OF SAME.

COUNCILMEMBER PHILLIP ROBERTS MADE A MOTION TO GIVE THE CHEROKEE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS PERMISSION TO USE THE CITY PARK FOR A PLANT SALE TO BE HELD APRIL 11, 2025, FROM 8:00 A.M. UNTIL 2:00 P.M. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOREY CHANDLER. THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR OF SAME.

AMANDA CHESTNUT WITH CED MENTAL HEALTH MET WITH THE COUNCIL AND REQUESTED AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,000.00 FOR THE YOUTH PREVENTION CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT GADSDEN STATE-CHEROKEE CAMPUS ON FEBRUARY 17, 2026, FOR ALL CHEROKEE COUNTY STUDENTS FROM GRADES 7-8. COUNCILMEMBER CARETHA CLIFTON MADE A MOTION TO APPROPRIATE \$1,000.00 FOR THE YOUTH PREVENTION CONFERENCE. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER KAREN SLUPE. THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR OF SAME.

LANDON MARKS WITH CHEROKEE COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE 4-H MET WITH THE COUNCIL AND REQUESTED AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,000.00 TO SUPPORT THE CHEROKEE COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM. COUNCILMEMBER KAREN SLUPE MADE A MOTION TO APPROPRIATE \$1,000.00 FOR THE 4-H PROGRAM. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JIMMY WILLIAMS. THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR OF SAME.

COUNCILMEMBER DON COTHRAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE CHEROKEE COUNTY FORESTRY COMMISSION REQUEST OF \$350.00 TO SUPPORT ARBOR DAY. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER KAREN SLUPE. THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR OF SAME.

MAYOR HOWELL PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CENTRE, ALABAMA, TO WIT:

RESOLUTION NO. 27-01-27

RESOLUTION TO PROTECT THE CITY'S INTEREST BY INTERVENING AS A DEFENDANT IN THE SIMPLIFIED SELLER USE TAX (SSUT) LITIGATION

WHEREAS, the Alabama Simplified Seller Use Tax (SSUT) Remittance Act, codified at Section 40-23-191 et seq., Code of Alabama, 1975, established a process by which the State of Alabama collects use taxes from eligible sellers on behalf of Alabama consumers; and

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2025, The City of Tuscaloosa, the School District of the City of Tuscaloosa, and the City of Mountain Brook filed a lawsuit in the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Alabama, against Vernon Barnett, in his official capacity as Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Revenue, asking the Court to direct Commissioner Barnett to disqualify particular business entities from the SSUT program; and

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2025, the Court imposed a 30-day deadline for any other interested parties to file motions to intervene in this litigation; and

WHEREAS, the SSUT program has been an essential source of revenue for the City of Centre and the plaintiffs' lawsuit, if successful, would jeopardize the City's ability to maintain the current level of governmental services it provides to the public.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE City Council that the City is directed to take all necessary actions, whether by itself or as part of a joint undertaking, to intervene as a defendant in the SSUT litigation and to protect the City's interest in this critical revenue.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City Council of the City of Centre has caused this resolution to be executed in its name and on its behalf by its Mayor, on this the 27th day of January, 2026.

JAY HOWELL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

SHERRIE CHANDLER, CITY CLERK

COUNCILMEMBER DON COTHRAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SID GARRETT. THE FOLLOWING VOTES WERE RECORDED:

YEAS: TOREY CHANDLER, COUNCILMEMBER
CARETHA CLIFTON, COUNCILMEMBER
DON COTHRAN, COUNCILMEMBER
SID GARRETT, COUNCILMEMBER
PHILLIP ROBERTS, COUNCILMEMBER
KAREN SLUPE, COUNCILMEMBER
JIMMY WILLIAMS, COUNCILMEMBER

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAINING: JAY HOWELL, MAYOR

MAYOR HOWELL PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CENTRE, ALABAMA, TO WIT:

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-27-01

BE IT RESOLVED THAT JASON DAWSON BE RE-APPOINTED TO THE CHEROKEE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR A SIX YEAR TERM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THIS TERM SHALL EXPIRE JANUARY 27, 2032.

APPROVED AND APPOINTED THIS 26TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2026.

JAY HOWELL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

SHERRIE CHANDLER, CITY CLERK

COUNCILMEMBER PHILLIP ROBERTS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JIMMY WILLIAMS. THE FOLLOWING VOTES WERE RECORDED:

YEAS: TOREY CHANDLER, COUNCILMEMBER
CARETHA CLIFTON, COUNCILMEMBER
DON COTHRAN, COUNCILMEMBER
SID GARRETT, COUNCILMEMBER
PHILLIP ROBERTS, COUNCILMEMBER
KAREN SLUPE, COUNCILMEMBER
JIMMY WILLIAMS, COUNCILMEMBER

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAINING: JAY HOWELL, MAYOR

MAYOR HOWELL PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CENTRE, ALABAMA, TO WIT:

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-27-02

**A RESOLUTION COMMITTING \$100,000 IN MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE 2026
REBUILD ALABAMA ACT ANNUAL GRANT**

WHEREAS, the City of Centre intends to apply for funding through the Alabama Department of Transportation's 2026 Rebuild Alabama Act (RAA) Annual Grant; and

WHEREAS, the funding program requires the commitment of local matching funds for an additional \$100,000 in grant funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CENTRE, THAT:

1. The City commits \$100,000 in local matching funds for 2026 RAA grant application.
2. The Mayor is authorized to execute all documents necessary to evidence this commitment in connection with the funding application.
3. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this 27 day of January, 2026.

CITY OF CENTRE

Jay Howell, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherrie Chandler, City Clerk

COUNCILMEMBER CARETHA CLIFTON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOREY CHANDLER. THE FOLLOWING VOTES WERE RECORDED:

YEAS: TOREY CHANDLER, COUNCILMEMBER
CARETHA CLIFTON, COUNCILMEMBER
DON COTHRAN, COUNCILMEMBER
SID GARRETT, COUNCILMEMBER
PHILLIP ROBERTS, COUNCILMEMBER
KAREN SLUPE, COUNCILMEMBER
JIMMY WILLIAMS, COUNCILMEMBER

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAINING: JAY HOWELL, MAYOR

COUNCILMEMBER DON COTHRAN MADE A MOTION TO PURCHASE A 20' COMPACT AUTO FLOOR SCRUBBER FROM U-LINE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,450.00 FOR THE CENTRE COMMUNITY CENTER. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PHILLIP ROBERTS. THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR OF SAME.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL, COUNCILMEMBER JIMMY WILLIAMS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 5:15 P.M.

JAY HOWELL, MAYOR

SHERRIE CHANDLER, CITY CLERK