

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION
ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
January 16, 2024**

Commissioner Craig Inzer, Jr., called the Commission Meeting to order on the 16th Day of January, 2024 at 9:00 am and Scott Hassell, Judge of Probate, asked the Prayer and led the Pledge to the Flag.

CALL OF ROLL TO ESTABLISH A QUORUM: The following 6 out of 6 Commission members were at the meeting and accordingly a quorum was present:

District 1 – Joey Statum	District 4 – Tim Ramsey
District 2 – Johnny Grant	District 5 – Jeffery Washington
District 3 – Jamie Grant	District 6 – Craig Inzer, Jr.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: Gary Phillips, former ADA spoke about issues with neighbors dogs roaming the neighborhood and killing his chickens and harassing his other animals.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS: None. (The Proclamation for Family Success Center regarding Human Trafficking Awareness Month was postponed until the meeting on February 2, 2024, due to icy road conditions).

Robert Nail updated everyone on the roads saying that some of the roads in the North & West parts of the county are impassable and the Southern & Eastern parts of the county are under an advisory.

Upon motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Craig Inzer, with all other members voting “yes”, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To recess in order to have a Work Session at 9:20 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.

Upon motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Joey Statum, with all other members voting “yes”, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To call the Etowah County Commission Meeting back to order at 9:35 am.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon motion of Commissioner Jeffery Washington, seconded by Commissioner Johnny Grant, with all other members present voting “yes”, the following resolution was passed and adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following items on the Consent Agenda were approved as presented:

CONSENT AGENDA: All items designated as “Consent” are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. No separate discussion of these items will be permitted unless a commissioner so requests. If so, such item(s) will revert to New Business.

- A. That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting(s) dated December 5, 2023, and December 19, 2023, and January 2, 2024, of the Etowah County Commission be, and the same are hereby approved as written.
- B. The Proposed Agenda for January 16, 2024.
- C. Any Reported Financial Transactions. Copies of the Purchasing Charges, Cash Disbursements, and Online Transfers for December 2023 are filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 14.
- D. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to renew Bid No. FY 2023-06 Janitorial Services – Fleet Maintenance Building with the current vendor, Alabama Rent-A-Maid, for a second year, as provided for in the original bid.
- E. To approve the request of Melissa Lett, Purchasing Accountant, to award Bid No FY 2024-02 Fleet (one or more) 2024 Ford Explorers to Ronnie Watkins Ford, the lowest bidder.

- F. To place the name of Blake Hammonds in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Deputy, effective January 12, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
- G. To place the name of Jerry Bone, Jr. in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Deputy, effective January 16, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff’s Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$17.37.
- H. To place the name of Paul Williams, Jr. in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Deputy, effective February 5, 2024. This is a replacement to be paid from the Sheriff’s Office, General Fund, at an hourly rate of \$17.37.
- I. To place the name of Bradley Saylor. in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of Detention Captain, effective January 9, 2024. This is a promotion and a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$25.79.
- J. To place the name of Chris Newman in the Sheriff’s Office job slot of S.O.D., effective January 12, 2024. This is a promotion and a replacement to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$16.95.
- K. To approve the request of Kevin Hassell, DEU Commander, to place the name of Christopher Shane McClellan in the job slot of DEU Agent, effective January 14, 2024. This is a promotion and a replacement to be paid from the DEU Fund, at an hourly rate of \$21.70.
- L. To place the following names in the Sheriff’s Office open job slots of Detention Deputy, effective January 16, 2024. These are replacements to be paid from the Jail Fund, at an hourly rate of \$15.36.
 - a. Jeremy Dodd
 - b. Donald Thrasher
 - c. Nicholas Esloon
 - d. Tyler Phillips
 - e. Brandon Burton

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon the motion of Commissioner Jamie Grant, seconded by Commissioner Jeffery Washington, with all other member voting ‘yes’, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the ‘Memo of Understanding’ between the City of Gadsden and Etowah County Commission for an application for an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECGB) to replace and upgrade streetlights with energy-efficient components within the city limits of Gadsden. A copy of this agreement is filed in Attachment Book 14, Page 15.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Craig Inzer, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other member voting ‘yes’, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the request of Kevin Dollar, Deputy Administrator/CFO, to make the following budget amendment to cover the accrued sick and vacation leave paid to 2 jail employees that retired this fiscal year:

Jail	Increase:	
	Salaries & Wages (001.52200.113)	\$28,358
	Social Security & Medicare Taxes (001.52200-124)	\$2,169
	Decrease:	
	Fund Balance (001.35900)	\$30,527

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Johnny Grant, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other member voting ‘yes’, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

To approve the ‘Resolution in Support of Local Legislation to provide for the collection and dispensation of fees associated with service of process’.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Johnny Grant, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other member voting ‘yes’, the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ETOWAH COUNTY COMMISSION: That the following item was approved:

The request of Mark Bullock, Sheriff’s Office Assistant Chief, to declare the following as surplus:

2010 Chevrolet Tahoe	VIN# 1GNUKAE01AR261989
2010 Crown Victoria	VIN# 2FABP7BV8BX107720
1998 Econoline Van	VIN# 1FTNE242WHA33557
Chevrolet Tahoe	VIN# 1GNLCZEC9FR674261
2016 Dodge Charger	VIN# 2C3DXAG3HH544025
2002 Crown Victoria	VIN# 2FAFP71W13X154603
2007 Crown Victoria	VIN# 2FAHP71V98X118830
2004 Harley-Davidson Motorcycle	VIN# 1HD1FMW165Y610471

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.

REPORTS FROM THE STAFF

**Chief Administrative Officer -
County Engineer
County Attorney
Other – CFO – presented the FY '23 Financial Recap.**

DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Jamie Grant said the Sheriff was trying to replace the money the Senator took away and the Commission was having to bail him out once again. When he took away the pistol permit requirement, he said he would replace the money they lost.

Commissioner Joey Statum said the Mayor’s Ball was a good event. He told everyone to stay warm and stay safe. He said year looked good financially.

Commissioner Johnny Grant didn’t have any comments today.

Commissioner Jamie Grant said the Senator trying to eliminate the occupational tax without making plans to replace the funds and said the mayors run the cities and the legislators need to stay out of their business.

Commissioner Jeffery Washington said he was on the same wave length as Jamie He said the legislators had taken money away but are looking to the Commissioners to put the money back. He asked everyone to be safe and keep warm.

Commissioner Inzer said he was also jumping on the bank wagon because the Sheriff’s Office had a lot of papers to be served and they have to be signed for. It takes multiple trips sometimes to get in touch with someone. He said he doesn’t agree with the Commissioners having to pass the Resolution or it being put back on them. He said they can pass a bill without having to have a resolution from the Commission. He said he was a team player and would agree with this resolution because papers have to be served but he may not be in favor of some other bills that will be coming down the road.

Commissioner Ramsey said he would like for the Senator and Sheriff to pass the bill without Commission involvement but now we have to make up for the lost funds from the pistol permits.

ADJOURN: The Chair then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion of Commissioner Joey Statum, seconded by Commissioner Jamie Grant, with all other members voting “yes”, the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Joey Statum, Commissioner, District 1

Tim Ramsey, President, Commissioner, District 4

Johnny Grant, Commissioner, District 2

Jeffery Washington, Commissioner, District 5

Jamie W. Grant, Commissioner, District 3

Craig Inzer, Jr., Commissioner, District 6