

**TOWN OF STEELE**  
**COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 22, 2024**

The Town Council of the Town of Steele, Alabama met in Regular Session at 6:30 PM on Monday, January 22, 2024 at the Steele Community Center, following publication and posting pursuant to Alabama Law. The following members were present:

Present: Mayor Roger Adams  
Councilmember Michael Stevens  
Councilmember Rick Barnes  
Councilmember Philip Gleason Jr.  
Councilmember Nancy Miller-Borg  
Councilmember Deborah Banks

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Adams, who then led everyone in a word of prayer.

December 18, 2023, Council Meeting Minutes: Councilmember Miller-Borg asked about Lakeview St being included in the quote for street repair. Mayor Adams confirmed that Lakeview St is included in the quote from Vulcan. A motion to approve the minutes with the necessary corrections was made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Gleason Jr. and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, and Gleason Jr.

Nays: none

Abstain: Miller-Borg and Banks

A motion to approve the December 2023 Financials was made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Stevens and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Gleason Jr., Banks and Miller-Borg

Nays: None

Municipal Workers Compensation Fund (MWCF) invoice for 2024 is \$8,806.00. This amount is approximately \$2,000 less than the amount paid for 2023. A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes to approve this expense, seconded by Councilmember Miller-Borg and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Gleason Jr., Banks and Miller-Borg

Nays: None

Mayor Adams mentioned that he has made inquiries to a company called Text Em All, which provides a platform to quickly notify citizens of important information (i.e. garbage delays, water outages, etc.) Pricing for 600-800 contacts is approximately \$168 a month. A motion to approve signing up for this notification system was made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Miller-Borg and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Gleason Jr., Banks and Miller-Borg

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Employee Evaluations: Mark Ward, Samantha Chapman and Donna Ambrosius are due for yearly employee evaluations. Mayor Adams stated that he has completed the evaluations and agrees with the merit raise for each employee. Councilmember Barnes made a motion to approve these employee evaluations, seconded by Councilmember Banks and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Gleason Jr., Banks and Miller-Borg

Nays: None

Mayor Adams stated that the Police Chief's Conference is coming up in February. Councilmember Barnes mentioned that it has already been pre-approved in the budget for Chief Ward to attend.

Mayor Adams stated that Fire Chief Martin asked about the insulation in Fire Station #2. He stated that in the evenings when the weather is cold the station is very cold, and insulation needs to be installed. A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes to approve installing insulation in Fire Station #2, seconded by Councilmember Gleason Jr. and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Gleason Jr., Banks and Miller-Borg

Nays: None

Radios for the Fire Department: Quote to replace the radios is \$49,687.88. Mayor Adams stated that the County Commission agreed to pay 5% of the cost of the radios for the Police Department and the Fire Department. He stated that the old Fire Truck was sold, and this money will go toward radios, with the remaining balance being paid out of the General Fund. A motion to approve this expense was made by Councilmember Barnes, seconded by Councilmember Banks and approved by the Town Council as follows:

Ayes: Barnes, Stevens, Gleason Jr., Banks and Miller-Borg

Nays: None

Mayor Adams stated that Fisher Liquidation, new tenants in the rental building made him aware that every time the heat came on, it would blow a fuse and kick the heat off. Mayor Adams stated that he felt that we had a responsibility to provide the necessary items for heat to be in the building. Councilmember Barnes stated that it would fall under fixed property maintenance in the budget.

Mayor Adams stated that one of the tractors needed work, and he instructed the public works employees to purchase what was needed.

Mayor Adams stated that he received a phone call from one of the Senior Citizens, as well as a note requesting that the Council move their Council Meetings back to Town Hall.

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Councilmember Gleason Jr. stated that there has been discussion around town about the Town getting their own ambulance due to the delay in getting ambulance service in town. Firefighter Cox was present and stated that the longest he has waited for an ambulance was an hour and forty-five minutes. He stated that typically cities that have their own ambulance transport only for trauma or dire emergency. Councilmember Gleason Jr. also stated that spring baseball and softball will start next month and the calendar is already filled with practices. He also mentioned that July 4th is on a Thursday this year. He mentioned that the Council needs to decide about food trucks, car shows, water rides, etc. and when it should be celebrated.


Discussion was had regarding grants: Councilmember Barnes mentioned that he had talked to Candice Hill with the St. Clair County Economic Development Council about grants. Mayor Adams mentioned that he had a conversation with Grant Writer, Betty Loftin regarding seeking out another ADECA Grant.

With there being no further business to come before this regular Council Meeting of January 22, 2024, Councilmember Barnes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Adjourned at 7:22 PM.



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Mayor Roger Adams



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Donna Ambrosius, Town Clerk