



A Prepared City

Saturday, March 15, was a rare and serious weather day for much of Central Alabama, including Shelby County. Three days before the event, the National Weather Service initially placed the area under a Level 4 out of 5 severe weather risk, later elevating it to a Level 5.

With the potential for life-threatening storms, the City of Pelham took swift and proactive measures to ensure the safety of its residents. Days before the storms arrived, emergency personnel developed response plans, coordinated resources, and stood ready to act.

Pelham Fire Chief Mike Reid, who serves as the City's

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) manager, led the preparation efforts. City Manager Gretchen DiFante commended Reid's leadership and the coordination of the staff. "Chief Reid and the entire EOC staff who came in on Saturday were there to ensure the safety of Pelham citizens," she said. Over 550 residents sought refuge in Pelham's storm shelters, a testament to the community's awareness and readiness.



Pelham City Council Considers an Ordinance to De-Annex the North Shelby Library

The Pelham City Council will consider an ordinance to de-annex the North Shelby Library's property, returning it to the unincorporated area of Shelby County.

Located at 5521 Cahaba Valley Road, the library sits nearly four miles east of Southern Heritage Funeral Home, which marks the eastern edge of Pelham's city limits. Representatives from the

North Shelby Library Board noted that emergency response times were a key factor in their request, as the North Shelby Fire District and Shelby County Sheriff's Office can respond more quickly to 911 calls at that location than Pelham's police and fire departments.

The ordinance's first reading was held on March 17, and a vote is expected in the next few weeks.

While a tornado directly impacted nearby Calera, Pelham was fortunate to escape major storm-related damage. However, the experience reinforced the importance of preparation. "It's always better to be over-prepared than unprepared," Chief Reid said. "We're glad we didn't have to activate our emergency response, but we always learn something from these experiences. We grew as a team and are even better equipped to keep Pelham safe the next time severe weather threatens."

The City of Pelham remains committed to ensuring the safety of its residents through preparation, communication, and swift action in times of crisis.

Your City at Work

Here are some of the recent items approved by the Pelham City Council. Please visit the City of Pelham website for the complete text of the agendas, minutes, ordinances, and resolutions.

- Declared a portable PA system at Ballantrae Golf Club as surplus and authorized disposal.
- Approved the lowest and most responsible bid from Duncan and Dearmon Building, LLC for paving the west parking lot at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena.
- Approved a proposal from Enviro Management Corp. (EMC) to perform water sampling and testing for the city's MS4 stormwater program.
- Approved a proposal from Byrd Contractors, Inc. to replace the water service line at Fire Station No. 1.
- Approved an agreement with Alabama Power Company for the installation and monthly service cost for a streetlight at the corner of Trade Center Drive and Old Montgomery Highway.
- Accepted a proposal from Massey Asphalt Paving LLC to repair and resurface damage to a portion of Kings Crest Lane. Repair and resurfacing costs will be reimbursed to the city.
- Accepted the responsibility for the monthly electrical billing for certain existing streetlights in the Eagle Cove subdivision.
- Held a first reading to consider Ordinance No. 520, deannexing the North Shelby Library District property.
- Approved ABC License for Retail Beer and Retail Table Wine (off-premises only) for Pelham Exxon and Kangaroo Marathon.
- Approved the FY 2024 Carry-Forward Capital Project Funding.
- Accepted the City of Pelham's Fiscal Year 2024 audit as prepared by Truitt Tingle Paramore & Argent, LLC., Certified Public Accountants, the city's independent auditors.
- Entered into a renewal agreement with RiverTree Systems, Inc. for external sales and use tax audits.
- Approved an Alabama Department of Revenue Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Pelham and Specification Rubber Projects, Inc.
- Amended the FY 2025 General Fund - City Clerk/Treasurer budget for anticipated expenditures related to the 2025 municipal elections.
- Appointed the City Clerk/Treasurer as the Assistant Elections Manager for the City of Pelham's 2025 municipal elections.
- Appointed an assistant to the Assistant Elections Manager and an Assistant Absentee Elections Manager for the City of Pelham's 2025 municipal elections.
- Set the election officers' compensation for the City of Pelham's 2025 municipal elections.
- Authorized the purchase of police investigative equipment from the Federal Forfeiture funds.
- Approved the lowest and most responsible proposal from Kevin Miller Development, Inc. for waterline replacement at the Pelham Splash Pad.
- Approved the lowest and most responsible bid from Temple J Electric for installing traffic signal camera detection system upgrades at 11 intersections in the City of Pelham.
- Entered into an agreement with the United States Geological Survey to perform required field and analytical work as directed through the city's MS4 Program and Stormwater Ordinance.
- Approved ABC License for special events retail applicant Legends Music, LLC, operating under the trade name Oak Mountain Spring Fair 2025.
- Approved a proposal from Barrett Architecture Studios to provide design services for the Pelham Public Library's circulation desk.

