



Garbage Rate Adjustment Approved

The Pelham City Council recently approved a small adjustment to the monthly residential garbage rate, in line with the city's service contract. While the Consumer Price Index saw a 6% increase, the contract caps annual rate changes at 5%.

As a result, the monthly rate will increase by \$1.31, from \$26.08 to \$27.39, starting October 1, 2025. This reflects a \$15.72 increase over the course of a year.

Reminder: Annual Water & Sewer Rate Adjustment

Each year, the City of Pelham adjusts water and sewer rates based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), which reflects changes in the cost of goods and services. This year's CPI adjustment is 2.24%.

The updated rates go into effect on October 1, 2025. [You can view a chart with water and sewer rates on the City of Pelham website.](#) Please note that the amounts shown do not include applicable utility taxes.

The City of Pelham remains committed to delivering safe, high-quality water and reliable sewer service to all residents and businesses.

Pelham Train Depot Earns Historic Recognition

The historic Pelham Train Depot, located near the entrance of Pelham City Park, has officially been added to the Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage.

Believed to be one of the oldest structures in Pelham, the depot once stood behind City Hall along the railroad tracks. Mayor Gary Waters said he was told the depot was built in 1909. According to the Alabama Yesterdays blog, the depot remained in that location until it was relocated to the park and restored in 1988. Today, it's painted in olive and khaki, which are believed to be the building's original colors.

Brian Cooper, Director of Pelham Parks & Recreation, said the City of Pelham sought the designation to formally recognize the depot's historical significance and ensure its preservation for future generations.



Praise for the Pelham Splash Pad

Cassie Smith sent this kind note to Pelham Parks & Recreation through Facebook: "We had several recommendations from other moms in the area to drive up to Pelham to check out the splash pad and playground. I'm so glad we did! There were plenty of shaded areas for baby sister and me to hang out and still be able to be within a reasonable distance of my toddler. We can't wait to come back!"

We love hearing from our community and visitors alike. Thank you for the kind words!

Municipal Election: Your Voice Matters

The City of Pelham's Municipal Election is quickly approaching, and the official sample ballot is now available. Voters are encouraged to review the ballot ahead of Election Day to familiarize themselves with the candidates and issues.

Election Day is Tuesday, August 26, 2025, and all registered voters in Pelham will cast their ballots at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

To ensure your voice is heard, please take note of the following key deadlines:

- August 11 – Voter registration deadline
- August 19 – Last day to apply for an absentee ballot by mail
- August 21 – Last day to apply for an absentee ballot in person
- August 25 – Last day to hand-deliver absentee ballots
- August 26 – Election Day (Absentee ballots returned by mail must be received by noon)

For full details, including how to register, request an absentee ballot, or view the sample ballot, please visit the Voter & Election Information Page on the City of Pelham website.

Make a plan, mark your calendar, and be ready to vote at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena.



OFFICIAL BALLOT BALLOT STYLE-1		GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION CITY OF PELHAM, ALABAMA AUGUST 26, 2025			
INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VOTER					
TO VOTE YOU MUST BLACKEN THE OVAL <input type="radio"/> COMPLETELY! <input checked="" type="radio"/> IF YOU SPOIL YOUR BALLOT, DO NOT ERASE, BUT ASK FOR A NEW BALLOT.					
FOR MAYOR (Vote for One)		FOR CITY COUNCIL, PLACE NO. 5 (Vote for One)			
<input type="radio"/> MAURICE MERCER		<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL HARRIS			
<input type="radio"/> RICK WASH		<input type="radio"/> RUSSELL PLATT			
FOR CITY COUNCIL, PLACE NO. 1 (Vote for One)		SAMPLE			
<input type="radio"/> DAVID CORAM					
<input type="radio"/> MICHELLE POWER					
FOR CITY COUNCIL, PLACE NO. 2 (Vote for One)					
<input type="radio"/> WILL BLAKE					
<input type="radio"/> CHAD LEVERETT					
FOR CITY COUNCIL, PLACE NO. 3 (Vote for One)					
<input type="radio"/> CATHY CARTAGENA					
<input type="radio"/> TIM REDDOCK					
<input type="radio"/> CHRIS TOWNES					
FOR CITY COUNCIL, PLACE NO. 4 (Vote for One)					
<input type="radio"/> DARIUS FOSTER					
<input type="radio"/> RON GRIGGS					
<input type="radio"/> MARKUS HAL SNOWDEN					
END OF BALLOT				Type 02 Sep 0001 Sep 01	

OFFICIAL BALLOT
BALLOT STYLE-1GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION
CITY OF PELHAM, ALABAMA
AUGUST 26, 2025

General Municipal Election City of Pelham

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena



A Pelham firefighter is shown wearing the current helmets used by the Pelham Fire Department. The purchase of 75 new, lighter helmets with a more functional design will enhance the safety of firefighters.

New Helmets Approved for Pelham Firefighters

The Pelham City Council has approved the purchase of 75 new fire helmets to enhance the safety and performance of the Pelham Fire Department. Fire Chief Mike Reid noted that the department's current helmets are outdated and heavier than necessary. The newly selected Phenix First Due Helmets offer a lighter, more functional design that improves comfort and operational efficiency for firefighters in the field.

The \$38,312.50 purchase is being funded through savings from a previously budgeted item no longer needed—thanks to the Shelby County Commission's generous provision of new handheld radios at no cost to the city. This partnership allowed Pelham Fire to redirect funds toward critical protective gear without impacting the existing budget.

GREENWAY TRAIL PROGRESS CONTINUES

Construction is moving forward on Phases III and IV of the Pelham Greenway Trail. The City Council approved a \$169,400 contract with Wisener, LLC for right-of-way acquisition and related services, following state and federal guidelines. The cost is included in the FY 2025 budget and is eligible for 80% reimbursement through the State of Alabama's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) grant program.



A REQUEST FROM AMWASTE

As a reminder to Pelham residents, Amwaste does not accept propane tanks through curbside trash collection. Tanks can be punctured during pickup, posing serious safety risks to sanitation crews and equipment.

For safe disposal, Amwaste suggests contacting local propane retailers to ask about recycling or exchange programs.

For a complete list of acceptable and unacceptable items, [visit the City of Pelham website.](#)

BACK TO SCHOOL: WATCH FOR BUSES

School bells will soon ring across Pelham, with the new school year beginning on Thursday, August 7. That means school buses will be back on the roads during your morning and afternoon commute. Please drive carefully and allow extra time for frequent stops.

Alabama law requires drivers to stop for school buses with flashing red lights and extended stop arms, regardless of the direction of travel, unless the road is divided by a median. On divided highways like U.S. Highway 31/Pelham Parkway, drivers in the opposing lanes do not need to stop. Stay alert and keep Pelham's students safe.



Pelham Police to Launch Youth Academy in Summer 2026

The Pelham Police Department is planting the seeds for something special. In the summer of 2026, the department will launch its first-ever youth police academy, an initiative designed to build confidence, character, and leadership skills in young people. Named the “We are P.E.L.H.A.M.–PD Youth Academy,” the program will serve youth ages 12–15 and is deeply rooted in service, personal growth, and community connection.

The idea to bring the program to Pelham was inspired by Chief Ed Delmore, who participated in the original Youth Police Academy in Fairview Heights, Illinois, now believed to be the longest-running program of its kind in the U.S. Chief Delmore encouraged Officer Lavita Scott to travel to Fairview Heights to observe the program this summer, accompanied by her daughter Kayla, who enrolled as a participant.

Officer Scott returned home with a clear vision. “Our youth deserve to know that their community supports them and is willing to invest in them,” she said. “This program is another opportunity to mentor our children in a proactive way, one child at a time.”

The name P.E.L.H.A.M.–PD represents the program’s values: Professional, Educated, Leader, Healthy, Accountable, and Moral. Officer Scott and the department aim to provide hands-on learning that includes team-building, safety training, outdoor adventures, and mentorship from law enforcement and public service professionals.

Scott presented the plan to the Pelham City Council in July and was met with enthusiastic support from city leaders and residents alike. The department is now focused on building the program in order to bring this vision to life.

“We believe this mission is possible,” Scott said. “Together, we can create a lasting legacy that empowers Pelham’s youth to become tomorrow’s leaders.”



Chief Ed Delmore, along with Officer Lavita Scott and daughter Kayla at the Fairview Heights Youth Police Academy graduation.



Youth Police Academy participants had fun while learning important life skills.



Lighting it Up

The final touches are being placed on the new 300-space parking lot on the west side of the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena. Lighting installation, one of the final steps in the construction process, was completed in late July. The expanded parking will make it easier for guests to attend events and ice skate, as well as for those accessing the trails during daylight hours.



Landscaping Complete for New City Park Message Board

The landscaping around the new message board sign at the corner of Pelham Parkway and Pelham Park Boulevard is officially complete, and it's looking great! Advanced Landscaping, selected by the Pelham City Council to lead the project, transformed the space with vibrant flowers, lush shrubs, and decorative edging. The new greenery has been carefully watered in to give it a healthy start. It's just one more way we're enhancing the visual appeal of Pelham's public spaces.



Labor Day Closings & Special Hours Monday, September 1, 2025

Pelham City Hall & Administrative Offices
CLOSED

Pelham Public Library
CLOSED

Pelham Senior Center
CLOSED

Pelham Recreation Center
Special Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Pelham Racquet Club
Special Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Ballantrae Golf Club
Holiday hours & rates

Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena
CLOSED Sunday, August 31 & Monday, September 1

Amwaste
Routes shift one day

Pelham City Council & Work Session
Meetings are rescheduled for September 8 & September 22

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.](#)

- Voted to establish the rank of Master Sergeant in the Pelham Police Department and approved the revised Public Safety Classification Pay Plan.
- Declared certain items (vehicles/equipment/supplies) as surplus personal property and authorized disposal of the same.
- Accepted a proposal from Chambliss King Architects for additional architectural and engineering services for the City Park Renovations project.
- Rejected the sole bid for the Heather Ridge Well Electrical Upgrades project and accepted the lowest negotiated price from ICS, Inc.
- Accepted a proposal from Sain Associates for construction and engineering inspection services related to the U.S.Highway 31 lighting replacement project.
- Approved the final change order for the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Phase III project.
- Accepted a proposal from Advanced Landscaping for services related to the Pelham City Park entrance sign project.
- Accepted a proposal from Advanced Landscaping for landscape services near the Pelham Gateway sign located at the intersection of US Highway 31 and Highway 261.
- Authorized an agreement with Alabama Power for public safety services.
- Entered into an easement agreement with Alabama Power Company for electrical services located near the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena.
- Approved a request by AT&T for a special use permit for modifications to an existing telecommunications facility located at 5010 Oak Mountain Lane.
- Set a date and time for a public hearing to accept property for a sewer easement and lift station in the Eagle Cove subdivision. The hearing will be held on August 18, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Pelham City Hall.
- Appointed citizens to serve as Election Officials for the 2025 Pelham Municipal Election.
- Authorized the payment of the final invoice from the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) related to the Industrial Park Drive and Bearden Road sidewalk project.
- Authorized the purchase of protective fire equipment (helmets) for the Pelham Fire Department.
- Accepted the lowest responsive and responsible bid from Gillespie Construction for the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project Phase IV-A.
- Accepted a proposal from and entered into an agreement with Wisner, LLC to provide appraisal, right-of-way acquisition, and project management services related to the Pelham Greenway Trail Project, Phases III and IV.
- Declared a temporary moratorium on stores that sell, or intend to sell, hemp and/or vape products in the corporate limits of the City of Pelham.
- Approved an ABC license 020 (Restaurant retail liquor) for Waldo's Chicken & Beer.
- Entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Pelham Commercial Development Authority (CDA) related to adjacent parcels located along Montgomery Highway.
- Consented to the annexation of property located at 104 Meadow Creek Lane into the corporate limits of the City of Alabaster.
- Established the new monthly residential garbage rate based on the annual CPI-U increase, in accordance with the City of Pelham's contractual obligations.

