

February 18, 2025

Pre-Council meeting called to order at 6:12 p.m. by Mayor W. Keith Varner at Mulga Town Hall.

Council members present Jeremy Davis, Lelan Taylor and Rachel Davis.

Council members absent Brenda Zinnerman and Lisa Armstrong.

Visitors Dalton Vildibill.

District 1: Nothing

District 2: Absent

District 3: Absent

District 4: This is dumpster weekend.

Sunday night, there were a lot of gun shots in the area. The sheriff's department was called.

Mayor: The sheriff's department came out and found multiple shell casings. But, no one was shooting when they arrived.

District 4: The house next to India's house, on Willow Ave., has been having a lot of work done to it.

Mayor: The person that bought it hasn't bought any permits. The house is on the tear down list. He has been informed that he should check with town hall. No appeal has been filed to the demolition order.

District 5: When will the potholes in the roads be patched?

Mayor: As soon as the weather permits. It can't be done in the winter and has to be dry with no rain.

District 5: We are having issues with the neighbors across the street. They are raking garbage into the drains.

There have been loose dogs on Lakeshore Circle.

Mayor: Call animal control and they will come out.

Mayor: We need to come up with a budget for the block party in August. We need a budget amount to put towards blow up houses, port a potty, food trucks, etc.

District 5: Are we paying for the food truck?

Mayor: I'd like to. We will probably feed around 150-200 people and cost \$1500-\$2000 for the food truck.

The date is set for August 9th. August 16th is the makeup date.

The sheriff's department will come out, Red Cross will come out, the fire department will be giving out smoke detectors, we will be inviting all churches in the area. We will also have vendors there.

We will have a stage for entertainment. The churches would handle the entertainment part.

District 5: Will there be designated parking?

Mayor: We are going to ask Mulga Baptist Church if we can use their parking lot. There will be parking in the field and we'll ask the methodist church if we can use their parking lot.

Ben Goldman: I will send you a vendor form that you can use for the vendors.

Mayor: We will have a shuttle, if needed.

These are all preliminary plans.

Council meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by W. Keith Varner at the Mulga Town Hall.

Invocation by Lelan Taylor, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rachel Davis makes a motion to accept the 02/04/25 minutes. Second by Jeremy Davis. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Absent

District 3: Absent

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

Lelan Taylor makes a motion to accept the 02/10/25 special meeting minutes. Second by Rachel Davis. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Absent

District 3: Absent

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

Rachel Davis makes a motion to approve the bills for payment. Second by Jeremy Davis. Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Absent

District 3: Absent

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

District 1: We need our own police force.

Mayor: We've reached out to Adamsville, Pleasant Grove and Birmingham with no avail. They are short staffed and can't take us on.

If we make our own police force, there are so many logistics that would go into that. Things like dispatch, housing inmates, etc.

Contracting with someone is the easiest thing to do. We are trying to come up with a solution.

There is no state law on shooting outside. An officer has to witness it, themselves.

If we had a city ordinance, we'd be wasting our time because there is no one to enforce it.

The sheriff's department makes it clear they will not enforce city ordinances. We are not going to give up. We are still looking at solutions.

Ben: I have been looking into grants that could help with this. Giving the sense of urgency, the council could authorize the mayor to take on a grant writer. They will be able to search out and find grants to help with this situation.

Lelan Taylor makes a motion to authorize the mayor to take on a grant writer. Second by Jeremy.
Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Absent

District 3: Absent

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

Mayor: Recommends a motion to approve the registration, meals, hotel and airfare expenses for himself and Lisa Armstrong (District 3) to attend the NLC Conference in March.

Jeremy Davis makes a motion to approve the conference expenses. Second by Rachel Davis.

Roll call vote:

District 1: Yes

District 2: Absent

District 3: Absent

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

District 4: Nothing

District 5: The haunted trail actors went to Nightmare 3008. They won first place against the other scare actors there including the ones that placed first place in the state last year.

Ben Goldman: Resolution No. 2025-04, as corrected

A resolution of the town of Mulga, Alabama, to authorize the purchase of certain real property at 116 Woodland Avenue, Mulga, Alabama 35118, Parcel ID No. 21-00-20-2-001-013.000 and certain personal property located thereon.

This authorizes the purchase of property and a shipping container located on the property for \$3000.00

District 4: We are getting the land for almost nothing?

Mayor: Yes, shipping containers are expensive. So, this is a good deal. The shipping container will be relocated.

Leland Taylor makes a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-04, as corrected. Second by Rachel Davis.

District 1: Yes

District 2: Absent

District 3: Absent

District 4: Yes

District 5: Yes

Mayor: Yes

Lelan Taylor: Did you negotiate this price or is this what he asked for it?

Mayor: We discussed several prices. This is what we agreed on. We will make contact with Ralph Black to let him know it has been approved. Ben will draw up all the paperwork.

District 5: Is there anymore talk about building a new town hall?

Mayor: Yes, the current building will become a community center. It has been pushed back but is still in the works.

District 5: Have you found the parts to repair the tap machine?

Mayor: We are still searching for the parts.

Dalton Vildibill: The newly purchased fire engine has a leaking pump. Johnathan has someone coming from Sunbelt to look at it for free.

The fire department will set up a tent at the Meet Your Neighbor block party.

3 volunteers are going to the Tuscaloosa Fire college to partake in the Explorer Program. They each will receive Explorer certificates.

The newly purchased engine is getting new tools like bolt cutters, nozzles, etc.

Mayor: How many volunteers have recently joined?

Dalton Vildibill: The roster has about 20 on it. But, many of them are inactive. We are trying to reach new volunteers.

How do we get the website changed? It still shows the old chief's name.

Mayor: Get with us in the office and we can get it changed.

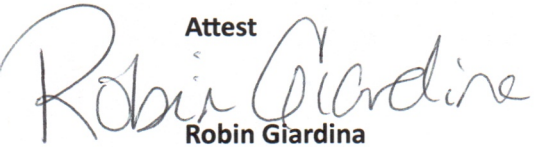
Rachel Davis makes a motion to adjourn. Second by Jeremy Davis. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Keith Varner', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

W. Keith Varner
Mayor

Attest

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robin Giardina', written in a cursive style.

Robin Giardina
Town Clerk