

HUNTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Special Session - September 3, 2024 - 12:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers, Municipal Building
Huntsville, Alabama

Members Present: **Mr. David Little, President**
 Dr. Jennie Robinson
 Mr. Bill Kling

Members Absent: **Mr. Devyn Keith**
 Mr. John Meredith

City Attorney: **Mr. Trey Riley**
City Clerk: **Ms. Shaundrika Edwards**

President Little called the meeting to order at the time and place noted above.

This Special Session of the Council was called by President Little for the purpose of canvassing the returns of the General Municipal Election held on August 27, 2024, and to consider New Business Items for Consideration or Action on the Agenda.

President Little said Councilmember Keith and Councilmember Meredith were not in attendance at the meeting, and that the City Clerk, Shaundrika Edwards, was seated on the podium, along with her staff.

President Little said they would at this time open the provisional ballots accepted by the Board of Registrars, and all ballots would be counted by the DS200 electronic vote counting machine, which was the same type machine used in the precincts during the General Election.

Ms. Edwards said they would be using the DS200 to officially count the ballots, but as they were opened, she would read the results.

During the counting, Councilmember Kling asked to be recognized.

Councilmember Kling said this appeared to be being handled a little differently from the way it had been done in the past, noting that in the past, the Council members would get the envelopes that had the totals that were signed off by each of the individual workers at the respective boxes, and then they would go through, as a line, and the Council members would verify the numbers the City Clerk would be reading out. He asked if they were going to be doing anything like that. He said he felt like that, basically, he had gotten a sheet of paper, and the machine was there, and they were supposed to go with the machine. He asked how much verification there would be.

Ms. Edwards said they were going to use the machine because there was such a close percentage in one of the races, that they were just double-checking their totals. She said they would also hand count, according to the spreadsheet furnished to the Council members.

After the counting of the provisional ballots was completed, for City Council District 1, Michelle Watkins had 4 votes, Devyn Keith had 3 votes, and Reggie McKenzie had 1 vote; and for Huntsville City School Board District 1, Will Culver had 2 votes, Claudia Harris had 1 vote, Chaundra Jones had 1 vote, and Pat King had 3 votes, with 1 under vote, resulting in only 7 votes.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION OR ACTION.

Ordinance No. 24-629, declaring John Meredith, District 5, City Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, and Carlos Mathews, Member, District 5, Board of Education of the City of Huntsville, duly elected to their positions, for a term beginning November 4, 2024.

Moved for Approval by Little/Seconded by Robinson/Unanimously

Adopted by the Council Members Present.

(ORDINANCE NO. 24-629)

Ordinance No. 24-630, calling for a Run-Off Election to be held on the 24th day of September, 2024, for candidates for City Council District 1 and Board of Education District 1.

Moved for Approval by Little/Seconded by Robinson.

Councilmember Kling said they had not gotten the box totals.

Ms. Edwards said she had stated the final numbers from the precincts.

Councilmember Kling asked if it was correct that that would be open for the public to look at.

Ms. Edwards replied in the affirmative.

Councilmember Kling inquired as to the names of the candidates in the run-off election.

President Little said that for City Council, Devyn Keith and Michelle Watkins would be in the run-off, and for the Huntsville Board of Education, Chaundra Jones and Pat King would be in the run-off.

Councilmember Kling asked, for verification, if Mr. Riley would nod in the affirmative if the Council was following the right procedure in this matter.

Councilmember Kling said that Mr. Riley had responded by nodding in the affirmative.

Unanimously Adopted by the Council Members Present.

(ORDINANCE NO. 24-630)

President Little adjourned the meeting.

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

(Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m. on September 3, 2024.)