

Mayor Sherry Inman and the Board of Aldermen met in regular session on December 9, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. in Selmer City Hall. All five Board of Aldermen were present as follows: John Finlayson, J. T. Hawkins, LaShell Moore, Felisha Porter, and Willie Sain.

The meeting opened with a prayer by Alderman J.T. Hawkins, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag of America led by Alderman John Finlayson.

Motion by J.T. Hawkins and seconded by LaShell Moore to accept the Minutes of November 2025. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Willie Sain and seconded by John Finlayson to accept the November 2025 Financial Statements. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Department reports were given.

When the Parks and Recreation department report was given by Robert Powell, a question was asked by Alderman Hawkins on why the Hope Outdoors Civic Center rental was denied. Hawkins stated Hope Outdoors had previously rented for 4 years with no hitch, but in the last 2 years, they have been denied rental. Hope Outdoors is a Christian-based organization that provides hunting experiences for children with special needs. Hawkins is concerned about why this "fell through the cracks." Robert Powell responded by stating he was not sure what happened and he takes full responsibility.

During the Fire Department report, Chief Carr gave an update on the North Y portable traffic light reimbursement from insurance. The invoice from Trilec for lights is \$166,945.00, and the city's insurance pays \$142,287.00 with no deductible. Balance of \$24,658.00 will be paid from the Street Aid Fund. Chief Carr will apply with FEMA for the Town of Selmer to be reimbursed for this expense since the damage was from the April 1, 2025, tornado.

Street Department update Brian Cagle: working on repairing the leaf truck, and it should be ready next week.

North Y update from Brandon Vaughn, Building Inspector: has spoken with the contractor, and he is working on giving an update on building status, whether it can be repaired or will need to be torn down.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by J. T. Hawkins and seconded by Willie Sain to approve the Health Insurance Policy Renewals for the Town of Selmer Employees and Selmer Utility Division Employees that were presented in Monday night's work session by Richie Bodiford of White Insurance and Doug Godfrey of Godfrey Insurance. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by LaShell Moore and seconded by J.T. Hawkins to approve Ross Mitchell as the new attorney for the Town of Selmer. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Willie Sain and seconded by Felisha Porter to approve the purchase of the property directly behind SUD. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by LaShell Moore and seconded by J.T. Hawkins to approve the rezoning request of the Jesus Cares Property at 120 W Court Avenue. Zoning will be from R2 (residential) to B1 (business). All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by John Finlayson and seconded by Felisha Porter to approve the ordinances of the new 2024 building codes. The 4 ordinances are: International Plumbing Code, International Building Code, International Mechanical Code, and International Residential Building Code. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by LaShell Moore and seconded by John Finlayson to not reinstate John Parker as Superintendent of Street and Sanitation. John Parker had been on suspension since December 3, 2025, for misuse/unauthorized use of a Town of Selmer credit card. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

** Before the motion, John Parker spoke and sincerely apologized for his misuse of the City's credit card for his personal use to help with his family. John Finlayson addressed John Parker and told him that when we appoint a person as department head, we put a lot of trust

in that employee, and you are held to a higher standard than a normal employee. Will have an issue with trusting you in a department head position. Unfortunately, we can't move forward with him in the role of department head. Willie Sain agreed with John Finlayson.

Motion by Willie Sain and seconded by John Finlayson, approval to allow MTAS to assist with developing a better travel policy, a credit card policy, and creating an employee pay scale structure for all departments. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by J.T. Hawkins and seconded by Willie Sain to approve the implementation of getting all employees to sign that they have read the personnel policy for the Town of Selmer; documentation of signatures will be kept by each department head and at City Hall. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by LaShell Moore and seconded by John Finlayson to freeze all raises until the pay structure is in place and has been board-approved. This motion also included rescinding the raise given to a Parks and Recreation employee and making it comparable to other raises given in that department, and taking away the title that was given to the employee. John Finlayson stated that when the FY27 budget is compiled, there will be a plan in place at that time for raises. All five voted yes. Motion carried.

Attorney Ken Seaton administered the Oath of Aldermen to Ms. Felisha Porter, Ms. Johnnie Kay Witt, and Mr. John Finlayson. Ms. Porter and Ms Witt were elected on November 4, 2025, to a new four-year term as Aldermen for the Town of Selmer beginning January 1, 2026.

Attorney Ken Seaton administered the Oath of Office to Mayor-Elect John Smith. Mr. Smith was elected on November 4, 2025, to a new four-year term as Mayor for the Town of Selmer beginning January 1, 2026.

John Finlayson presented Terry Abernathy with a plaque commemorating his 40 years of service to the Town of Selmer.

Meeting Adjourned