

**Birmingham City Commission
Special Meeting Minutes - Workshop
Monday, September 11, 2023
6:00 p.m.**

Vimeo Link: <https://vimeo.com/858838068>

This will be considered a workshop session of the City Commission. No formal actions will be taken. The purpose of this workshop is to participate in a discussion on Water, Sewer, and the August 24, 2023 Rain Event.

I. Call to Order

Therese Longe, Mayor

II. Roll Call

City Clerk Bingham called the roll.

Present: Mayor Longe
Mayor Pro Tem McLain
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Boutros
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner Schafer

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Ecker; City Clerk Bingham, City Engineer Coatta, Assistant City Manager Fairbairn, City Attorney Kucharek

III. Presentation & Discussion

CE Coatta and ACM Fairbairn presented the topic. Staff answered informational questions from the Commission.

Commissioner discussion was as follows:

- Water enters drains in Birmingham, continues through Birmingham’s water and sewer infrastructure, and then enters other water and sewer infrastructure outside of Birmingham’s jurisdiction;
- Birmingham was not the only municipality in the area that experienced flooding;
- Residents with homeowners’ insurance should call their agents regarding flooding;
- As the City improves its water and sewer infrastructure, the stormwater capacity will be increased. In addition, the City is reviewing opportunities to add bioswales and rain gardens in order to reduce stormwater issues;
- Bioswales and rain gardens would not be able to completely mitigate stormwater issues during high-intensity storm events;

- The page regarding [Storm Water Credits](#) on the City’s website lists ways of reducing the amount of stormwater runoff generated by a single family residence that enters the sewer system;
- If the City were to require that residents install backflow prevention valves, it could create liability for the City;
- The Staff presentation was very helpful and would be posted on the City website; and,
- The City would continue seeking reports regarding flooding experiences from residents.

IV. Public Comment

Scott Goodwin made a comment in favor of collecting more data about instances of flooding in order to know where issues arise more frequently.

Denise Rumsey made comments in favor of: a retention basin at S. Eton and Lincoln, procuring money from the State in order to improve infrastructure, and the preservation of pervious surfaces in the City in order to reduce stormwater runoff. She also made a comment raising concerns about the impact of having sewage flood into one’s home.

Staff replied to questions from David Bloom.

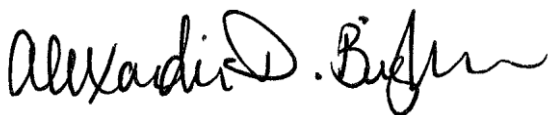
Mr. Bloom made a comment in favor of reviewing the City’s policies on pervious surfaces.

Anthony Long made comments in favor of lobbying the County and the State to improve the water and sewer infrastructure downstream of Birmingham and spoke in favor of adding retention basins within the City where possible.

The Mayor replied to some of the public comments.

V. Adjourn

Mayor Longe adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.



Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk



Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist