

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 21, 2018**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers within the Public Safety Building located at 1111 Broad Street, Phenix City, Alabama. Upon roll call, the following members of Council were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey Carter Johnson, Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter and City Clerk Melony Lee. City Attorney Jimmy Graham was not present.

Upon a quorum being established, Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order.

Reverend Tommy Poole with North Phenix City Baptist Church delivered the invocation.

Mayor Lowe led the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag.

Mayor Lowe presented the called meeting minutes of the June 25, 2018 Budget Work Session, the June 28, 2018 Budget Work Session, and the August 9, 2018 Budget Hearing for approval. Councilmember Day moved to approve the minutes, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordy. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the August 6, 2018 Work Session and the August 7, 2018 Council Meeting for approval. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the minutes, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Johnson. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. The motion thus carried.

Under the unfinished business, Mayor Lowe advised that Utilities Director Stephen Smith would be clarifying the process of the project on Highway 431 and Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain clarifying the Merit System.

Utilities Director Stephen Smith advised the Mayor, Council and citizens that cities across Alabama use the public private partnership. Mr. Smith stated that several projects have used this method around Phenix City and the project on Highway 431 is needed for retail development and facilities for the neighborhoods around the site. Mr. Smith further stated that the revenue will profit from the city and this project will kick start development in that area now that a grocery market will be in place. Mr. Smith informed everyone that currently, the city receives about 62% of its revenue from sales tax which is needed to have services such as a Fire Department and Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Smith state that this project is under the Amendment 772. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised that the city started utilizing Amendment 772 in 2006 because the city was stagnant and people were spending money in other cities and not locally.

Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain went over the City of Phenix City's Merit System. Ms. Chastain stated that the City of Phenix City currently has three different types of pay scales, a minimum and cap of each position and has a pay study adjustment every three years. Ms. Chastain further stated that many of the Department Heads are handling more than

one job so the pay grade would be actually for multiple positions and has to be adjusted accordingly. Ms. Chastain informed the citizens that the City of Phenix City continues to improve the competitive salaries across the state in City government field. Councilmember Gordy thanked the citizens for coming and listening to the explanation and taking time to hear the reasons for how the City of Phenix City conducts business to make the city better for its citizens.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into a contract with the Russell County Sheriff for payment to Sheriff's employee(s) to tabulate and/or calculate the election results for elections in an amount not to exceed \$125.00 per employee.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2018-215**

Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmember Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution and public notice in reference to making application to the Bureau of Justice for a Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for purchasing equipment for the Police Department.

#### **RESOLUTION**

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the public notice, and place the resolution on first reading, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to approving the Budget for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2018-216**

Councilmember Day moved to approve said resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordy. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement with Tuskegee University for the Fifth Annual Whitewater Classic Football Game at Garrett-Harrison Stadium against Albany State University on September 8, 2018.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2018-217**

Councilmember Day moved to approve said resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordy. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to accepting a proposal for Appraisal, Relocation, Negotiation, and Project Management to Opelika Road Bridge Replacement Project from Wisener, LLC for a fee of \$22,600.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-218**

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Johnson. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement with Retail Strategies, LLC for Professional Consulting Services in Retail Recruitment in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-219**

Councilmember Gordy moved to approve said resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to declaring various fire hoses as surplus to dispose of at the City Landfill.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-220**

Councilmember Johnson moved to approve said resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to declaring firehose couplings as surplus to be sold as scrap.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-221**

Councilmember Gordy moved to approve said resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to declaring various items as surplus to be disposed of at the City Landfill, or as scrap.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-222**

Councilmember Gordy moved to approve said resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Johnson. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to directing and authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into a Lighting Service NESC Lease Agreement with Alabama Power.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2018-223**

Councilmember Day moved to approve said resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Johnson. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus carried.

Mayor Lowe presented for second reading an application for On Premise Beer License, an On Premise Whiskey/Wine License submitted by James G. Dyer III for T Bones, LLC dba T Bones located at 3745 US Hwy 80 West, Phenix City, Alabama. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the applications, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion carried.

Mayor Lowe made a recommendation that the four claims be tabled until the next meeting due to both City Attorneys being absent. Councilmember Day moved to table the claims until the next meeting, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordy. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion carried.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into a settlement agreement with Master Meter to replace defective registers with new registers with a new warranty.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2018-224**

Councilmember Johnson moved to approve said resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion carried.

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until September 5, 2018.