

**MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2019**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the 5th Street South Youth Center. 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 Hunter, City Clerk Melony Lee, and City Attorney Jimmy Graham.

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

Reverend James A. Platt, of Allen Temple AME Church, delivered the invocation.

Councilmember Day led the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag.

Mayor Lowe presented a proclamation recognizing Adult Literacy Week.

PROCLAMATION

Laodecia Seay along with Chattahoochee Valley Community College President Jacqueline Screws and Faculty came forward to accept the proclamation.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the September 3, 2019 work session and the September 4, 2019 council meeting minutes 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. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe stated there was no unfinished business to address at this time.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-236

Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the 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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement with Tuskegee University for the Sixth Annual Whitewater Classic Football Game at Garrett-Harrison Stadium against Lane College on October 26, 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-237

Councilmember Day moved to approve the 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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement with Wright Engineering, LLC to perform structural engineering and documentation for a portion of the Riverwalk in an amount not to exceed \$23,500.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-238

Councilmember Day moved to approve the 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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement with Highland Technical Services, Inc. to provide a Ground Penetrating Radar Survey at the intersection of US Highway 280 and Colin Powell Parkway in an amount not to exceed \$2,725.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-239

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: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to awarding a bid for HDPE Drainage Pipe to Ferguson Waterworks, located in Columbus, Georgia.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-240

Councilmember Day 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: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to renewing Bid Number E17-05 for Traffic Striping and Markings with Ozark Striping Company, Inc. at the current contract unit prices until September 1, 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-241

Councilmember Gordy 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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to declaring a 2017 Chevrolet Tahoe as surplus and transfer it to the City of Phenix City, Economic Development Department.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-242

Councilmember Day moved to approve the 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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to purchasing one 2019 F150 Crew Cab 4x4 Pickup from Stivers Ford Lincoln in an amount not to exceed \$26,235.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-243

Councilmember Gordy 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: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to purchasing one 2019 F250 Crew Cab 4x4 Pickup from Stivers Ford Lincoln in an amount not to exceed \$29,281.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-244

Councilmember Day moved to approve the 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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to purchasing one 2019 F250 Super Cab 4x2 Pickup from Stivers Ford Lincoln in an amount not to exceed \$32,815.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-245

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: Councilmembers Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented for first reading an Ordinance authorizing the Issuance of DHR Bonds, Series 2019A. Councilmember Johnson moved to place the ordinance 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, and Gordy. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Mayor Lowe. The motion thus passed

Mayor Lowe presented two (2) Itemized Statements of Expense from Ben Cochran (Fire Department) in the amount of \$40.43 and \$27.93. Mayor Lowe called for a vote approving the Itemized Statements of Expense. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the Itemized Statements of Expense, 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 passed.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham presented a claim against the City of Phenix City, filed by Mr. Kent Felten. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that Mr. Felton contacted the Utilities Department about an unusually high water bill in June 2019. City Attorney Graham also stated that after research it was discovered that the wrong kind of register had been installed on the meter causing high bills. City Attorney Graham recommended paying the claim in the amount of the lowest estimate of \$85.00. Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to approve the claim in the amount of \$85.00, 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 passed.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham presented a claim against the City of Phenix City, filed by Ms. Gloria Mahogany. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that while driving on 6th Place South on September 10, 2019, a city worker was cutting grass and a rock flew from a weed eater and hit the rear window of Ms. Mahogany's car. City Attorney Graham also stated that upon investigation there was a crew in the area and the City is responsible for the damages. City Attorney Graham recommended paying the claim in the amount of the lowest estimate of \$469.58. Councilmember Day moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to approve the claim in the amount of \$469.58, 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 passed.

Steve Smith, Utilities Director, addressed the rumors going around the City about the euthanasian of the cats and the drowning of geese at the Idle Hour Park. Mr. Smith stated that the rumors are not true. Mr. Smith also stated that he spoke with local news media to explain the steps and process the City is taking to address the issues at the park.

City Manager Wallace Hunter addressed the rumors of an alligator being seen at the lake at Idle Hour Park. City Manager Hunter stated that the rumor was not true and no alligator has been spotted at the lake.

Mayor Lowe stated that he, City Council and City Manager has always been open to the citizens about decisions that are made and have always been consistent in treating people right. Mayor Lowe also stated that if they stumble or make a mistake they apologize for it and learn from it and move on.

Councilmember Day thanked the citizens of District 3 that came out to the City Council Meeting tonight and showed their support and concerns for the City.

Councilmember Day encouraged the citizens of Phenix City to have pride in our City help keep our City safe and clean by not throwing trash along the streets and highways.

Councilmember Johnson spoke on the unveiling of the new Art Park. Councilmember Johnson stated that the art and creativeness was amazing. Councilmember Johnson thanked City's Economic Development Department and all of the donors and sponsors that contributed to the success of the Art Park Grand Opening.

Councilmember Johnson advised citizens that there are several road improvement projects in the city and please be mindful of speeding throughout those areas and the entire city.

Councilmember Bailey thanked the City's Department Heads for the excellent job that they do in working well together.

Councilmember Bailey asked the Citizens to be mindful when visiting the Parks including the new Art Park and Idle Hour Park concerning bringing dogs to the parks and feeding wild animals. Councilmember Bailey stated that the Parks were created for all citizens to enjoy and for the safety of all do not feed the animals.

Mayor Lowe informed everyone that he and Council are listening to the concerns of the citizens concerning all the animals. Mayor Lowe stated that the City is in the beginning stages of creating a dog park and it is in the embryotic state of development.

Mayor Lowe thanked the Citizens, Department Heads, and CTV-Beam for providing the citizens of Phenix City, Alabama with information.

Mayor Lowe encouraged everyone to continue to have compassion towards people and lift each other up.

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until October 1, 2019.