

**MEETING MINUTES
January 7, 2020**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 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 Hunter, City Clerk Melony Lee, and City Attorney Jimmy Graham.

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

Mayor Lowe delivered the invocation.

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

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the December 16, 2019 Work Session for approval. Councilmember Day 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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: Councilmember Gordy. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the December 17, 2019 Council Meeting for approval. Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the minutes, 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 stated there was no unfinished business to address at this time.

Mayor Lowe presented Resolution No. 2019-325 to be ratified in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement with Building & Earth Sciences, Inc. to perform soil borings and generate a geotechnical report to ALDOT in an amount not to exceed \$4,200.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-325

Councilmember Day moved to ratify 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 Resolution No. 2019-326 to be ratified in reference to accepting the audited financial statement as presented by Robinson, Grimes and Company, P.C. for Fiscal year ending September 30, 2018.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-326

Councilmember Gordy moved to ratify the 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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to accept a quote and enter into a contract agreement with Budget Blinds & BBCS of River City to replace blinds on the 2nd and 3rd floor of the Phenix City Municipal Building in an amount not to exceed \$6,746.85.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-01

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 authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to sign an Indemnification Agreement with Vectorply Corporation regarding a Sanitary Sewer Main.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-02

Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the 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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented two (2) Resolutions and Public Notices in reference to setting public hearings dates and fixing demolition costs associated with the following properties located in Phenix City:

1. 227 Seale Road

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-03
PUBLIC NOTICE

2. 519 6th Street

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-04
PUBLIC NOTICE

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolutions and public notices, 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 an application for a Bonding Company License submitted by Maurice Ward for Ward's Bail Bond Company located at 231 Huguley Road, Valley, Alabama. Councilmember Gordy moved to place the application 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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented an application for an Off Premise Beer License and Off Premise Whiskey/Wine License (Retail Package Store) submitted by Shahzana M. Merchant for Merchant and Associates, LLC dba Alabama Spirits and Wine located at 3764 C Opelika Road Phenix City, Alabama. Councilmember Gordy moved to place the application on first reading, 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.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham presented a Notice of Claim against the City of Phenix City, filed by Michael P. Carestia, LLC on behalf of Tiffany Lennear. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that the claim alleges that on June 13, 2019 or June 14, 2019, Tiffany Lennear was involved in a high speed chase which resulted in her being injured in a car accident. City Attorney Graham recommended denying the claim due to the fact that the Phenix City Police Department withdrew from the chase once the vehicle entered into Harris County, Georgia and the wreck happened after that point. Councilmember Day moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to deny the claim, 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.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham presented two (2) claims against the City of Phenix City, filed by Jessica Murphy, referenced as claim B, and Brittany Pell, referenced as claim C. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that the claim alleges that on December 22, 2019 the City's sewer system backed up into the home of Ms. Murphy which is being rented by Ms. Pell. City Attorney Graham recommended tabling the claims B and C due to the fact that the Utilities Insurance Company is performing an investigation. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to table the claims, 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.

City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that a business that operates in Phenix City must have a business license but does not necessarily have to have a physical office in the City. City Manager Wallace Hunter also stated that he wanted to clear up the rumors that CTV Beam is the only cable and internet franchise in the area. Mr. Hunter further stated that CTV Beam is the only physical company in the City but there are several businesses such as AT&T and satellite companies that service the area, they just don't have a local location.

Mayor Lowe thanked the Department Heads and encouraged everyone to exceed expectations in the New Year.

Councilmember Johnson wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilmember Day wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mayor Lowe invited everyone to the State of the City Address on January 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Activities Center. Mayor Lowe stated that he will discuss what is taking place in the community.

Mayor Lowe thanked CTV Beam for providing services for the citizens of Phenix City, Alabama.

Mayor Lowe wished everyone a Happy New Year.

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until January 22, 2020.