

MEETING MINUTES
June 16, 2020

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. by the way of Zoom Video Conferencing. Upon roll call, the following members of Council were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey Carter Johnson, Councilmember Steve Bailey, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe by the way of Zoom Video Conferencing. Councilmember R. Griff Gordy was not present. Also present were: City Manager Wallace Hunter, City Clerk Melony Lee, and City Attorney Jimmy Graham by the way of Zoom Video Conferencing

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

Councilmember Bailey delivered the invocation.

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

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the June 1, 2020 Work Session and June 2, 2020 Council Meeting 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: None. The motion thus passed.

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

Mayor Lowe presented Resolution No. 2020-150 to be ratified in reference to a one - time essential worker and hazardous duty compensation for permanent full time employees.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-150

Councilmember Bailey 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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to appointing Russell County Probate Judge Alford M. Harden, Jr. as an Election Consultant.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-151

Councilmember Bailey 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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to appointing Mark Hightower as Elections Custodian.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-152

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, 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 sign documentation and accept an offer from Timothy Ambro Alexander and Lakisha N. Alexander to purchase property located at 2401 7th Street in the amount of \$9,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-153

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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to rescinding Resolution No. 2019-304 in reference to awarding a bid for demolition of structure located at 1304 17th Court.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-154

Councilmember Bailey 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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to awarding a bid to J&J Land Development, Inc. for the demolition of a structure located at 1304 17th Court in an amount not to exceed \$6,000.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-155

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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented three (3) 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. 932 13th Avenue

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-156
PUBLIC NOTICE

2. 308 16th Avenue South

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-157
PUBLIC NOTICE

3. 707 8th Street

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-158
PUBLIC NOTICE

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolutions and public notices, 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: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to accepting a proposal from AECOM Technical Services, Inc. for Supplemental Construction Engineering and Inspection Services in an amount not to exceed \$43,035.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-159

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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing representatives of the U.S. Post Office Development to perform work on City right-of-way east of and adjacent to the development located at 1411 14th Street.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-160

Councilmember Bailey 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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to declaring four (4) Black Office Chairs and one (1) Tan Office Chair as surplus to be sold as scrap or disposed of at the City Landfill.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-161

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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to declaring items as surplus which are no longer serviceable to be sold as scrap or disposed of at the City Landfill.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-162

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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to approving the purchase of two (2) Grasshopper Lawnmowers from Moridge Manufacturing, Inc. in a total amount not to exceed \$15,840.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-163

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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-164

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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor, City Manager and Chief of Police to sign an agreement with Alabama Power Company for a License Plate Reader (LPR) Camera system for the Police Department.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-165

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, 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 Anthony B. Adams, Jr. City Attorney Graham stated that the claim alleges that on May 31, 2020, while driving on Evans Road, the claimant ran over a pothole and damaged his front passenger tire. City Attorney Graham recommended denying the claim due to Evans Road is maintained by Russell County and not Phenix City. City Attorney Graham stated that he would contact Mr. Adams. Councilmember Day moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to deny the claim, 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, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Councilmember Day thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for the work completed on the pavilion at Arthur Sumbry Park. Councilmember Day encouraged the citizens and patrons of the park to keep it clean. Councilmember Day asked if surveillance cameras can

be placed at the City Parks to reduce vandalism. Police Chief Ray Smith stated that security cameras will be placed throughout the City.

Councilmember Johnson encouraged everyone to complete the 2020 Census. Councilmember Johnson stated that our area is below the National average on completion rate. Councilmember Johnson also stated that the data collected from the Census is used for education, housing and infrastructure programs. Councilmember Johnson further stated that the 2020 Census team will be contacting citizens with non-response follow ups. Councilmember Johnson stated that it is very important that everyone is counted.

Councilmember Bailey wished all fathers a Happy Father's Day coming up on Sunday June 21, 2020. Councilmember Bailey stated that it is time for Christian fathers to step up as leaders in the homes and communities by setting good examples of love and not bigotry and hate. Councilmember Bailey also stated that the role a father plays a very important part in a child's life and it builds their foundation.

Councilmember Day asked if Renfro's Market Grand Opening on June 24, 2020 was opened to the public. Shaun Culligan, Economic Development Manager, stated that the Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony starts at 9:00 a.m. and the store will officially open to the public at 9:30 a.m. Councilmember Day stated that he is excited about the opening of Renfro's Market and the great things that are happening in District Three.

City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that the COVID-19 Pandemic is not over. Mr. Hunter also stated that the number of people testing positive are rising daily. Mr. Hunter encouraged everyone to practice social distancing and take all necessary precautions when out in public for their safety and the safety of others.

City Manager Wallace Hunter wished all fathers a Happy Father's Day. Mr. Hunter stated that fathers have to reach beyond their household and help the children that do not have active or positive fathers in their life.

City Manager Wallace Hunter encouraged everyone to stay safe during demonstrations that are going on due to recent social injustice. Mr. Hunter stated that he and Chief of Police Ray Smith recently met with local leaders to address public concerns. Mr. Hunter also stated that one of the topics discussed was ways to gain or re-gain citizens trust in our law enforcement.

City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that the City Parks are opening back up in phases. Mr. Hunter encouraged everyone to be safe and maintain social distancing.

Mayor Lowe stated that he is thankful for being a part of a great team in a great community.

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

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until July 7, 2020.