

**MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2020**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the 5th Street South Youth Center located at 1601 5th Street South, 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.

Councilmember Bailey delivered the invocation.

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

Mayor Lowe presented a proclamation recognizing Family Week.

PROCLAMATION

The proclamation was read by City Clerk Melony Lee. Mayor Lowe stated that the official proclamation was delivered to the designated representative of the Alabama Family Rights Association.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the August 31, 2020 Work Session and the September 1, 2020 Council Meeting 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 presented the meeting minutes of the September 1, 2020 Canvass Municipal Election Results 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. 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 2019-2020 Fiscal Year.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-230

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 providing Tier I Benefits to Tier II Plan Members.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-231

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 seven (7) resolutions in reference to awarding bids for the demolition and removal of structures on the following properties:

1. 1900 2nd Avenue – J & J Land Development, Inc. - \$4,950.00

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-232

2. 2013 2nd Avenue – J & J Land Development, Inc. - \$3,800.00

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-233

3. 1701 12th Place South – J & J Land Development, Inc. - \$7,500.00

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-234

4. 311 South Seale Road – J & J Land Development, Inc. - \$4,400.00

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-235

5. 323 South Seale Road – J & J Land Development, Inc. - \$4,200.00

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-236

6. 1114 20th Street – Great Southern Furniture - \$3,750.00

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-237

7. 1015 4th Street South – J & J Land Development, Inc. - \$3,500.00

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-238

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolutions, 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, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-239

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 rescinding Resolution No. 2020-198 in reference to an agreement with Provision Contracting Services, LLC.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-240

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 authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement with JHC Corporation for structural repairs and reconstruction of the Riverwalk in an amount not to exceed \$318,000.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-241

Councilmember Bailey 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 a resolution in reference to renewing the contract with Columbus Quarry for Bid Number E18-03 Aggregates at the current unit prices until October 1, 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-242

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 declaring personal property as surplus and disposing of for the nominal sum of \$1.00 and other valuable considerations to Battalion Chief / Fire Marshal Marc Wells in recognition of his 16 years of public service.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-243

Councilmember Gordy 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 a resolution in reference to declaring personal property as surplus and disposing of for the nominal sum of \$1.00 and other valuable considerations to Marc Wells in recognition of his 16 years of public service.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-244

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

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to awarding a bid to RYCARS Construction, LLC to replace the roof on Building "B" at the Water Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$150,857.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-245

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 for first reading an Ordinance authorizing the Issuance of the City's \$1,240,000 Subordinated Water and Sewer Revenue Warrant Series 2020-CWSRF-DL.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-09

Councilmember Day moved to suspend the rules, 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. Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the ordinance, 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 an On Premise Beer License, On Premise Whiskey/Wine License, Billiards/Pool License, and Dancing with a Live band and Juke Box License submitted by Dhaval Patel for Khamlai 1981 Lodging, LLC dba Phenix Flames Sports Bar and Grill located at 1700 Highway 280 Bypass, Phenix City, Alabama. Councilmember Day 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.

Mayor Lowe presented an application for an Off Premise Beer License, Off Premise Wine License and Off Premise Whiskey/Wine License submitted by Jim Hurston and Virginia Lyn Stephens for Convenience Management, Inc. dba Stagecoach Package 1 located at 98 Stagecoach Drive, Phenix City, 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.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham presented a claim against the City of Phenix City, Alabama filed by Norris Randall. Mr. Graham stated that on August 7, 2020 Mr. Randall notice that the front glass of his parked vehicle had been broken. Mr. Graham also stated that upon investigation a

City worker had been in that area cutting grass a couple of days prior to the discovery date. Mr. Graham recommended paying the claim in the lowest estimate of \$300.00. Councilmember Day moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to pay the claim in the lowest estimate of \$300.00, 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, Alabama filed by David Newsome. Mr. Graham stated that Mr. Newsome contacted the Utilities Department about a water leak. Mr. Graham also stated that the leak appeared to be on Mr. Newsome's side. Mr. Graham further stated that upon further investigation after Mr. Newsome had paid a plumber, the leak was on the service line on the City's side. Mr. Graham recommended paying the claim in the amount of \$188.10, which was the amount paid to the plumber. Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to pay the claim in the amount of \$188.10, 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 Manager Wallace Hunter encouraged everyone that has not completed the 2020 Census to do so before the end of this month. Mr. Hunter stated that the state of Alabama is in last place compared to all fifty states in Census participation. Mr. Hunter also stated that the Census only counts once every ten years and that it is vitally important that everyone is counted. Mr. Hunter further stated that the data collected from the Census will be used for Education, Housing, and Federal and State grant funding programs. Shaun Culligan, Economic Development Manager, stated that Russell County is participating in a contest with ADECA (Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs) to help increase the completion rate. Mr. Culligan also stated that the contest involve thirty two counties in Alabama with the lowest numbers. Mr. Culligan further stated that winning the contest would help the Phenix City and Russell County School systems but overall it would be for the betterment of our City. Mr. Culligan stated that the Census consist of ten questions and takes only about six minutes to complete online. Mr. Culligan asked everyone to encourage someone else or help someone else complete the Census. Mr. Culligan stated that the Census could be completed online at www.my2020census.gov. Mr. Culligan also stated that citizens could call in at 1-800-923-8282 for English or 1-844-468-2020 for Spanish. Mr. Culligan further stated that the paper questionnaire could be mailed to the U. S. Census Bureau / National Processing Center 1201 E 10th Street, Jeffersonville, IN 47132. Councilmember Bailey stated that the Census has an impact on the growth of the City. Councilmember Bailey also stated that the people may shy away from completing the Census because they don't understand. Councilmember Bailey further stated that the questions are basic and straight forward and simple to understand.

Councilmember Day thanked the citizens of District Three for coming out to support the City and the City Council.

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 October 6, 2020.