

**MEETING MINUTES
October 20, 2020**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 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, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace Hunter, City Clerk Office Manager Shannon Davis, and City Attorney Jimmy Graham. City Clerk Melony Lee was not present.

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

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

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

Mayor Lowe stated that City Clerk Melony Lee is not present for the City Council meeting. Mayor Lowe asked for a motion to appoint Shannon Davis as Acting City Clerk. Councilmember Day moved to appoint Shannon Davis as Acting City Clerk, 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 passed.

City Manager Wallace Hunter and Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain presented employee service recognitions by the way of Zoom Video Conferencing to James Cook - 5 years, Brandon Mathis - 5 years, Damon McGilberry – 5 years, Bobby Morgan – 5 years, Jason Arnold – 10 years, Kathy Jo Davis – 10 years, Matthew Wilson – 10 years, Angel Moore – 15 years, Adam Tilley - 15 years and Leroy Williams - 25 years.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the October 5, 2020 Work Session and the October 6, 2020 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 a Resolution No. 2020-266 to be ratified in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement to hold TUC Construction, Inc. harmless in connection with the installation for the 24" sewer line connecting to a 30" line crossing Opelika Road Bridge.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-266

Councilmember Day moved to table 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 accepting the dedication of any land, right-of-ways, or easements dedicated by the Final Plat of "Ladonia Commercial" located in Section 13, T-17-N, R-29-E, Phenix City, Russell County, Alabama "Girard Partners, LP", owners.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-267

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 filing an application with ALDOT for funding assistance from the Alabama Transportation Rehabilitation and Improvement Program – II (ATRIP-II) for Street Lighting and Fiber Installation upgrades along U.S. Highway 280 from South Railroad Street to US-431 S.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-268

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 to Ferguson Waterworks for HDPE Drainage Pipe.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-269

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 authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement with Wright Engineering, LLC to provide structural repairs and reconstruction to the Riverwalk Elevated Wood Boardwalk in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-270

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 the purchase of one (1) 2020 Caterpillar 420 Backhoe from Thompson Cat in an amount not to exceed \$99,811.71.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-271

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 the purchase of one (1) John Deere 5100E Utility Tractor from SunSouth, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$57,287.33.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-272

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 passed.

Mayor Lowe presented one opening on the Improvement District – Brickyard Project. Mayor Lowe called for nominations. Councilmember Day nominated to appoint Bobby Crowe. There were no other nominations. Mayor Lowe called for a motion. Councilmember Gordy moved to appoint Bobby Crowe, 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 second reading an application for an Off Premise Beer License and Off Premise Wine License submitted by Harihare, LLC dba Sunoco Food Market located at 3858 C Highway 80 West, 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 for second an application for a Bonding Company License submitted by Amber Brooke Milner for Queen B. Bail Bonds located at 9063 Lee Road 246 Suite 1, Smiths Station, Alabama. Councilmember Gordy moved to deny the application, 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 an application for an Off Premise Whiskey/Wine License submitted by Harihare, LLC dba Big Cat Package located at 3858 D Highway 80 West, Phenix City, Alabama. Councilmember Day moved to approve the application, 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 a claim against the City of Phenix City, Alabama filed by Demetruis Weaver. Mr. Graham stated that on October 7, 2020 while parked at Circle K on Stadium Drive, a City vehicle with a trailer attached backed into Mr. Weaver's vehicle and caused damage to his front bumper. Mr. Graham recommended paying the claim in the lowest estimate of \$1,138.63. Councilmember Day moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to pay the claim in the lowest estimate of \$1,138.63, 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.

Councilmember Day congratulated City Manager Wallace Hunter for his thirty-five years of public service. Councilmember Day stated that Mr. Hunter was recently featured in the International Management Magazine for his accomplishments. Councilmember Day thanked Mr. Hunter and his staff for all that they do for the City.

Councilmember Day stated that October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. Councilmember Day asked everyone to pray for those affected by the disease.

Councilmember Day asked everyone to continue to pray for the family and friends of the late Roy Greene. Councilmember Day stated that Mr. Greene was a great leader in the community and he is definitely missed.

Councilmember Day congratulated the employees that were recognized for over five years of service. Councilmember Day stated that Phenix City has a great retirement package. Councilmember Day wished Leroy Williams a happy and safe retirement.

Councilmember Johnson thanked the employees for their hard work and dedication to for their five, fifteen or twenty plus years of service to the City. Councilmember Johnson stated that it is good to have employees who care about their community.

Councilmember Johnson thanked Revered James Platt of Allen Temple AME Church for taking the time to deliver the invocation by Zoom Video Conferencing.

Councilmember Bailey thanked Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan and his department for continuing to grow Phenix City in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic. Councilmember Bailey stated that the City has not struggled financially during the pandemic like other cities in the country. Councilmember Bailey also stated that City services have continued as well. Councilmember Bailey encouraged everyone to be safe, wear a mask when possible and practice social distancing.

City Manager Wallace Hunter thanked employees for their years of service to the City. Mr. Hunter stated that there are lessons to learn during the pandemic and it puts life in perspective. Mr. Hunter asked everyone to continue to pray for our Nation.

Mayor Lowe thanked Council and Department Heads for what they do for the City.

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 November 3, 2020.