

**MEETING MINUTES
June 15, 2021**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Phenix City Russell County Library at 1501 17th Avenue, Phenix City, Alabama 36867. 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 Attorney Jimmy Graham, and City Clerk Melony Lee.

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

Reverend Donald Abrams of Trinity United Methodist Church was not present to deliver the invocation as listed on the agenda. 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 June 1, 2021 Work Session and the June 2, 2021 Council Meeting for approval. Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the minutes, 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 stated there was no unfinished business to address at this time.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to the satisfaction of a UDAG mortgage executed by Bryan L. Alft in the amount of \$10,000.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-111

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 satisfaction of a Special Assessment on property located at 2013 2nd Avenue, Faithful Missionary Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor Ernest Snead IV, owner.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-112

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 the satisfaction of a Special Assessment on property located at 711 24th Avenue, Ebenezer Baptist Church, C/O Reverend Samuel Shortz, owner.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-113

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 accepting the rights-of-way and easements of an Administrative Replat of 0.92 acres on 1205 9th Street South Jose Ramirez Morales & Argelio Ramirez Vasquez, owners.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-114

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 a resolution in reference to making application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance for the 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for financial assistance.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-115

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 the Mayor and City Manager to sign an Agreement with Architectural Innovations Design Group, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$5,300.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-116

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 rescinding Resolution 2021-86 in reference to the purchase of one (1) Caterpillar 420 Cab Backhoe from Thompson Cat in the amount of \$105,215.66.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-117

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 the purchase of one (1) Caterpillar 420 Cab Backhoe from Thompson CAT in an amount not to exceed \$108,440.80.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-118

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 rescinding Resolution 2021-87 in reference to the purchase of one (1) 926M Wheel Front End Loader from Thompson CAT in the amount of \$207,174.92.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-119

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 the purchase of one (1) 926M Wheel Front End Loader from Thompson CAT in the amount of \$211,103.73.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-120

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 declaring personal property as surplus and disposing of for the nominal sum of \$1.00 and other valuable considerations to Battalion Chief Robert J. Bowden in recognition of his 25 years of public service.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-121

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 declaring various items as surplus to be disposed of at the City Landfill.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-122

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 and directing the Mayor and City Manager to sign Change Order No. 2 with CityBase, Inc. for a scope change to add the end of day file to post back integration payments made at the CityBase Kiosk to Munis (no additional cost).

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-123

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 accepting a proposal from Thompson Power Systems to replace the main emergency generator's fuel day tank on the WWTP in the amount of \$12,348.00 (plus any applicable taxes).

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-124

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 declared that now was the time and place for a public hearing regarding the rezoning of 1.24 acre of land located at 3501 Summerville Road from a C-3 Zone to a R-1 Zone, Norman W. Davis, owner. Mayor Lowe stated that anyone wishing to address Council concerning this ordinance should come forward and do so at this time. Mayor Lowe also stated that the phone lines were open for anyone wishing to address Council. Mayor Lowe further stated that interested parties could dial (334)448-2719 and speak with Council. Neither hearing nor seeing anyone come forward, either by phone or in person, Mayor Lowe declared the hearing closed.

Mayor Lowe presented for second reading an ordinance to rezone a 1.24 acre of land located at 3501 Summerville Road from a C-3 Zone to a R-1 Zone, Norman W. Davis, owner.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-09

Councilmember Day moved to approve the ordinance, 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 carried.

Councilmember Johnson wished all the fathers a Happy Father's Day on Sunday June 20, 2021.

Councilmember Johnson thanked the Citizens of District Two who took time to attend today's City Council meeting. Councilmember Johnson stated that it shows that they are concerned about what is going on in Phenix City. Councilmember Johnson also stated that the Mayor, City Manager and City Council are always thinking of ways and ideas to make the quality of life better for the Citizens of Phenix City.

Councilmember Bailey stated that there is a lot of senseless crime going on not just in our community but in the nation as well. Councilmember Bailey also stated that unfortunately there are some angry people, mostly young people in the world who don't have love in their heart and have no compassion towards each other. Councilmember Bailey also stated that guns are not the problem but the people who choose to commit crime with the guns are the problem. Councilmember Bailey encouraged everyone to pray for our City and our Nation. Councilmember Bailey stated that prayer changes things. Councilmember Bailey also stated that the Police Department and Sherriff Department cannot be in all places at one time. Councilmember Bailey further stated that it's going to take parents knowing where their children are, who they are with, and what they are doing. Councilmember Bailey further stated that it is going to take the entire community to get involved and if they see something, say something to law enforcement.

Councilmember Day encouraged everyone to love and support each other and follow the example set my Jesus Christ. Councilmember Day also encouraged everyone to pray for our community. Councilmember Day stated that it is going to take parents, churches and the entire community to get involved and take pride in themselves and the City.

Councilmember Day stated that he had the opportunity to attend Troy University's Commencement Ceremony on June 4, 2021. Councilmember Day congratulated all of the graduates. Councilmember Day also stated staying on course during a pandemic is a great accomplishment.

Councilmember Day thanked all of the organizations that participated in the community clean up event in District Three a couple of weeks ago. Councilmember Day stated that they collected about twenty nine bags of trash off the streets. Councilmember Day also stated that it is going to take the entire community to keep the streets of Phenix City clean.

City Manager Wallace Hunter thanked the Department Heads, City Employees and City Council for keeping Phenix City clean and safe.

City Manager Wallace Hunter encouraged everyone to be aware and pay attention to their surroundings. Mr. Hunter stated that the world is starting to open back up and there are more people out in public since the beginning of the pandemic. Mr. Hunter also stated that we are living in dangerous times and we all must continue to pray and be cautious when out in public.

Mayor Lowe stated that in challenging times it may seem hard to make the right decisions. Mayor Lowe also stated that we all are here for a reason. Mayor Lowe challenged everyone to believe in himself or herself and believe that they are worthy to live in a safe City.

Mayor Lowe thanked CTV-Beam for bringing the council meeting to the citizens of Phenix City.

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until July 7 , 2021.