

**MEETING MINUTES  
July 7, 2021**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle-Hour Park Community Center located at 3743 Moon Lake Drive, 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 Steve Pace of Summerville Baptist Church delivered the invocation.

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

City Manager Wallace Hunter and Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain presented employee service recognitions to Jeri Ritter- 5 years, Angela Leslie-Hutchinson - 15 years, and Yancy Evans – 20 years.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the June 14, 2021 Work Session and the June 15, 2021 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 stated there was no unfinished business to address at this time.

Mayor Lowe presented Resolution No. 2021-125 to be ratified in reference to observing July 5, 2021 as the official Independence Day Holiday for 2021 and an additional half day on July 2, 2021 in honor of Freedom Day/Juneteenth Holiday.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-125**

Councilmember Johnson moved to ratify 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 Resolution No. 2021-126 to be ratified in reference to the purchase of six (6) 2021 Ford Explorer CID Vehicles from Stivers Ford Lincoln in the amount of \$192,690.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-126**

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 a resolution and public notice in reference to a public hearing on the 2021-2022 Proposed Fiscal Year Budget.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-127**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the resolution and public notice, 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 abolishing and dissolving the Phenix City Historic Preservation Commission.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-128**

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 authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to sign a Sworn Proof of Loss Statement and Power of Attorney for Hudson Insurance Company for the settlement of a claim in the amount of \$66,340.90.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-129**

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 purchasing (1) one 2021 Ford Explorer from Stivers Ford Lincoln in the total amount of \$32,320.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-130**

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 declaring (1) one 2006 Chevrolet Trail Blazer as surplus to be sold as scrap.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-131**

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 a resolution in reference to declaring (8) eight metal signal heads from Lakewood / South Railroad Street Intersection as surplus to be sold as scrap or disposed of at the City Landfill.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-132**

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 purchasing (2) John Deere Gator TS Utility Vehicles from SunSouth, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$13,400.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-133**

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 authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement with Vacuum Truck Sales and Service, LLC to purchase (1) one CCTV Rapid View / IBAK Equipment in an amount not to exceed \$269,313.60.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-134**

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 letter of request from the Planning Commission, Public Notice and Ordinance to rezone 0.14-acre tract of land located at 219 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, from an R-2 Zone to a C-3 Zone, Sandra L. Anglin, owner.

**LETTER**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**ORDINANCE**

Councilmember Day moved to accept the letter, approve the public notice, and place the ordinance on first reading, 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 to Amend Section 16.04 of the Merit System Rules and Regulations of the City of Phenix City, Alabama. Councilmember Johnson

moved to place the ordinance on first reading, 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.

Mayor Lowe presented an application for an On Premise Beer License, On Premise Wine License, On Premise Whiskey/Wine License, Dancing with Live Band License and Dancing with Juke Box License submitted by Michael Meszaros for Grover's Bar, LLC dba Grover's Bar located at 1004 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phenix City, Alabama. 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 Gordy moved to approve the applications, 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 On Premise Beer License, On Premise Wine License and On Premise Whiskey/Wine License submitted by Dexter Billingsley for The Honeycomb located at 202 Seale Road Suite B and C, Phenix City, Alabama. 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 applications, 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, filed by Shaniqua Bailey. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that the claim alleges that on June 14, 2021, while driving onto 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ms. Bailey ran over a large cut in the asphalt and damaged her vehicle. City Attorney Graham recommended paying the claim in the lowest estimate of \$797.96. City Attorney Graham stated that the Wastewater Collection Crew had previously made a cut on 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue to repair a sewer lateral. City Attorney Graham also stated that Ms. Bailey ran over the cut before it was filled in. Councilmember Day moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to pay the claim in the lowest estimate of \$797.96, 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 stated that the City had filed a claim against Geico Insurance Company and their insured Jason Wilkins. City Attorney Graham stated that Mr. Wilkins lost control of his vehicle and hit a street light that belonged to the City. City Attorney Graham stated that the claim had been settled and payment was sent to his office. City Attorney Graham requested permission to sign a release of payment. Mayor Lowe called for a motion. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve City Attorney's request for permission to sign a release of payment for 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, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe stated that the two greatest attributes that a person could have are true humility and loyalty. Mayor Lowe thanked City Council, Department Heads, City Employees and the Citizens of Phenix City for their loyalty and dedication to the 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 20, 2021.