

MEETING MINUTES
January 4, 2022

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 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 Vickey Carter Johnson, Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., was not present. 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.

Councilmember Bailey delivered the invocation.

Councilmember Bailey 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 Jay Willoughby – 5 years, Wesley Hurst – 10 years, Michael Bettencourt – 5 years, and Brandon Hampton –15 years.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the December 20, 2021 Work Session 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 Johnson, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: Councilmember Bailey. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the December 21, 2021 Council 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 Johnson, Gordy and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: Councilmember Bailey. 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 authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into a Supplemental Preliminary Agreement No. 2 with ALDOT for the Bridge Replacement on South Seale Road at Cochagalechee Creek, Project No. CRSA-STPPC-5717(252).

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01

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 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, City Manager and Chief of Police Raymond Smith to enter into an agreement with Russell County E-911 for a multi-agency system administration contract for Spillman Computer System for a one-time fee of \$8,650.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02

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 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, City Manager and Chief of Police Raymond Smith to enter into an agreement with Russell County E-911 in the amount of \$32,560.47 for a multi-agency software agreement and support contract for Spillman Computer System.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03

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

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to accepting an easement dedicated by the Crawford Road Family Dollar Replat 4.80 +/- acres at 3926 US Highway 80 W, John Menza Dudley, Jr., owner.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-04

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

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing Alabama Power Company to install two APCO Leased (LED) fixtures at the Phenix City Youth Center parking lot.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-05

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

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to declaring several items as surplus to be disposed of at the landfill or destruction at the Auburn University incinerator facility.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-06

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 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 enter into a contract agreement with Waste Management to extend household garbage collection services for an additional three years.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-07

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

Mayor Lowe presented a Letter of Recommendation from the Planning Commission, Public Notice and Ordinance to rezone 11.00 acre tract of land located at the Westside of Lakewood Drive & South of Holland Creek from an R-1 Zone (Low Density Residential District) to a R-3 Zone (High Density Residential District), GGG Partners, LLC, owner.

LETTER

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE

Councilmember Gordy moved to accept the letter, approve the public notice, and place the ordinance on first reading, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented for first reading an Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 2015-14 of the Code of Ordinances of the City Of Phenix City, Alabama, Chapter 70, Section 22 (FKA Chapter 12, Section 2) Garbage, Trash and Weeds, Relative to Fees for the Collection of Garbage. Councilmember Johnson moved to place the ordinance on first reading, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented for second reading an application for an Off Premise Beer License, Off Premise Wine License and an Off Premise Whiskey/Wine (Retail Package Store License) submitted by Jahid Hassan for Orny, LLC dba Orny Package Store located at 1614 A East 280 Bypass, Phenix City, Alabama. 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 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 Jahid Hassan for Orny, LLC dba Fuel Hub located at 1614 East 280 Bypass, Phenix City, Alabama. Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the applications, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordy. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham presented a Reconsideration of Claim filed by Sally and

John Musulin for property damage to the driveway of the Musulin's home due to repairs made by the City. City Attorney Graham stated that a break in the water line had been repaired by the City but the Musulins were not pleased with the results. City Attorney Graham also stated that Mr. and Mrs. Musulin were requesting that the entire driveway be repaved. City Attorney Graham further stated that the City agreed to pave the portion of the driveway that was affected by the repairs. Attorney Graham stated that the claim was denied at the December 21, 2021 Council Meeting due to no agreement between both parties. City Attorney Graham also stated that after the meeting, Mr. and Mrs. Musulin agreed to the original terms. City Attorney Graham recommended approving the claim. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to approve the claim, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Johnson. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers 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 Larry Major. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that on September 8, 2021, Shenika Murray was operating a vehicle owned by Larry Major, which was struck in the rear by a Phenix City Police Department vehicle causing damage to Mr. Major's vehicle. City Attorney Graham recommended paying the claim in the lowest estimate of \$1,681.42. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to pay the claim in the lowest estimate of \$1,681.42, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Councilmember Johnson wished everyone a Happy New Year. Councilmember Johnson encouraged everyone to do what is right and God will show us favor in these trying times.

Councilmember Johnson congratulated all employees that were recognized at this morning's meeting. Councilmember Johnson thanked the employees for their commitment, hard work and dedication to the City.

Councilmember Johnson stated the Covid-19 Pandemic is far from being over. Councilmember Johnson stated that Greater Peace and Goodwill AME Church in Crawford, Alabama would be hosting a Covid-19 Vaccine and Booster Shot Clinic on January 29, 2022. Councilmember Johnson read the information from a flyer concerning what to bring to the clinic.

Councilmember Bailey wished everyone a Happy New Year. Councilmember Bailey stated that 2021 is behind us and the year has taught us many things to carry or not to carry into 2022. Councilmember Bailey thanked City Employees for working harder than they ever have before and with a smaller work force. Councilmember Bailey encouraged the Citizens of Phenix City to have patience if things are not completed as fast as they were before the pandemic not with just the City but every business has been effected. Councilmember Bailey stated that we are all in this together. Councilmember Bailey also stated that we should help someone without being asked.

Councilmember Bailey encouraged everyone to be aware of their surroundings. Councilmember Bailey stated that if we all care about and love each other it would make the world a better place to live.

City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that the world needs peace and understanding. Mr. Hunter also stated that he agrees with Councilmember Bailey and it is very important that we all take the time to help someone else.

City Manager Wallace Hunter asked everyone to pray for our educators and students as they return to school for the New Year. Mr. Hunter also stated that the educators not only take care of our students but their personal families as well.

Mayor Lowe thanked Council, City Manager Wallace Hunter, City Attorney Jimmy Graham, Department Heads and all City Employees for giving of themselves for the betterment of Phenix City.

Mayor Lowe encouraged everyone to examine themselves and to ask themselves: Why am I still here in 2022. Mayor Lowe stated that our City and Our nation has lost quite a few people over the last two years. Mayor Lowe also stated that we are all here not for the betterment of ourselves, but to help someone else and lift them up.

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

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until January 19, 2022.