

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 19, 2022**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 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 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 Don Abrams of Trinity United Methodist Church delivered the invocation.

Councilmember Day led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the April 4, 2022 Work Session 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 regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the April 5, 2022 Council Meeting for approval. Councilmember Gordy 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, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: Councilmember Johnson. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe stated there was no unfinished business to address at this time.

Mayor Lowe presented a Public Notice setting an Administrative Hearing for Revocation or Suspension of Business License for Interstate National.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Councilmember Day moved to approve the public notice, 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 Resolution no. 2022-72 to be ratified in reference to authorizing the purchase of insurance from the Flowers Insurance Agency through American Zurich Insurance Company.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-72**

Councilmember Gordy moved to ratify 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 accepting the dedication of an easement for Public Utilities on a "Plat of Property Re-division for BFI, LLC & BFL, LLC, located in Sections 4, Township 17 North, Range 30 East, Phenix City, Russell County, Alabama" BFI, LLC & BFL, LLC, owners.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-73**

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 accepting a proposal from Sunbelt Fire for four (4) MSA G1 air packs, four (4) face masks and eight (8) MSA 4500 PSI and forty five (45) minute Carbon Threaded Cylinders in an amount not to exceed \$35,440.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-74**

Councilmember Bailey 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 Best Built Roofing, Inc. to replace roof shingles, the Lakewood Golf Course Clubhouse in an amount not to exceed \$9,606.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-75**

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 declaring personal property as surplus and disposing of for the nominal sum of \$1.00 and other valuable considerations to Gil Griffith in recognition of his 25 years of public service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-76**

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 enter into an agreement with Alabama Power Company for a License Plate Reader

(LPR) Camera system for the Police Department at Austin Park in an amount not to exceed a monthly service amount of \$229.17 under a 24 month service agreement.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-77**

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 Number 2 with Thayer-Bray Construction, LLC in the amount of \$303,056.00 to replace the existing roof on the old section of the Public Safety building.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-78**

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 accepting a quote from C&G Heating and Air, LLC to replace the HVAC unit in the Finance Department in an amount not to exceed \$17,839.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-79**

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 quote from Riley Heating and Air to replace the HVAC unit in the Utilities Department in an amount not to exceed \$9,833.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-80**

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 to de-annex 0.77+/- acre tract of land lying at Section 32, Township 18 North, Range 30 East, Lee County, Alabama, Charles E. Dunn Investments, LLC, Owner. Councilmember Day 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 Day, Johnson, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. The motion thus passed.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham presented a claim against the City of Phenix City, filed by Bence Law Firm on behalf of Nephatearia Frazier. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that on

March 14, 2022, while stopped at a traffic light at the intersection Highway 80 and 280 Bypass, Ms. Frazier's vehicle was struck in the rear by a City owned vehicle. City Attorney Graham also stated that the claim list three estimates for property damage but none listed for personal injuries. City Attorney Graham asked Council to allow him and City Manager Wallace Hunter to negotiate a settlement in this claim. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to negotiate a settlement, 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 thanked the Council for giving of themselves, their time and their talents to serve the Citizens of Phenix City. Mayor Lowe also thanked Department Heads and City Employees for their hard work and dedication to the City. Mayor Lowe encouraged employees to keep their hearts in everything that they do and do it for the right reasons.

Councilmember Day stated that he has been married to his wife for 51 years as of April 19, 2022. Councilmember Day thanked Mrs. Day for always being by his side and especially during his years of service as a Councilmember.

Councilmember Bailey thanked City Employees for their commitment to the City. Councilmember Bailey stated that some employees are working overtime and others have taken on extra duties to make sure the City runs smoothly and all efforts are appreciated. Councilmember Bailey encouraged anyone in need of employment to consider working for the City. Councilmember Bailey stated that the City has several openings in several different departments. Councilmember Bailey also stated that the City has great benefits and a great place to start a new career and end with retirement.

City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that he agrees with Councilmember Bailey and the City is a great place to work. Mr. Hunter also stated that recently, the Governor of Alabama Kay Ivey, approved the largest education budget in state history giving teachers and administrators a well-deserved raise. Mr. Hunter further stated that retaining employees can be challenging and sometimes the employer has to examine the job market and the rate of pay has to be comparative to similar jobs.

City Manager Wallace Hunter asked Shaun Culligan, Economic Development Manager, to inform everyone of an upcoming event with Daechang Seat Corp. that will benefit the entire Chattahoochee Valley and surrounding areas. Mr. Culligan stated that Daechang Seat Corp. opened a facility in Phenix City in 2019. Mr. Culligan also stated that since 2019, they have been growing rapidly and have doubled the amount of employees from 100 to 200 since their opening. Mr. Culligan further stated that Daechang Seat Corp. has outgrown their current location and is moving to a larger space at the Industrial Park. Mr. Culligan stated that Alabama Governor Kay Ivey will be in town on May 12, 2022 for the ground breaking ceremony. Mr. Culligan stated that the expansion would bring another 100 plus jobs to this area. Mr. Culligan also stated that Hyundai is expanding their Montgomery plant as well for the production of electric vehicles which will also have an impact on Deachang Seat Corp.'s growth. Mr. Hunter stated that there are some major manufacturers located at the Industrial Park. Mr. Hunter also stated that Phenix City is steadily growing. Mr. Hunter further stated it is a proud moment to have the Governor visit your City for a ground breaking ceremony. Councilmember Day stated that Daechang Seat Corp. lies in his district, District Three, and he is very proud of their expansion. Councilmember Day thanked Mr. Hunter and the Economic Development Department for the work they have done in bringing industries to Phenix City.

Councilmember Bailey congratulated Librarian Michele Kilday on her retirement. Councilmember Bailey thanked her for her years of service to the City and the Phenix City – Russell County Library.

Mayor Lowe stated that Chief of Police Ray Smith mentioned earlier that Phenix City is too big to be small and is definitely growing in the right direction. Mayor Lowe also stated that there is a lot of positive energy in Phenix City. Mayor Lowe further stated that in order to keep that positive energy, there must be sincerity and compassion towards others. Mayor Lowe stated that in order to get the right person you must be the right person and think about the next generation. Mayor Lowe encouraged everyone to be a lifter and not a leaner.

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 May 3, 2022.