

MEETING MINUTES
March 5, 2024

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers located within the Public Safety Building at 1111 Broad Street, Phenix City, Alabama 36867. Upon roll call, the following members of Council were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey F. Carter, Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace Hunter, Assistant City Manager Chan Gamble, City Attorney Jimmy Graham, and City Clerk Shannon Davis.

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

Mayor Lowe delivered the invocation.

Mayor Lowe led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

City Manager Wallace Hunter and Human Resources Generalist Eliza Phillips-Wyatt presented employee service recognitions to Shaterika Ross – 5 years, Carl Farrar – 5 years, Michael Barber– 15 years, Paul Chastain – 20 years. Ms. Phillips-Wyatt stated that Lieutenant Robert Isabel with 15 years, was not in attendance.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the February 20, 2024 Work Session Meeting, and February 21, 2024 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, Carter, 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. 2024-50 to be ratified in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to accept a quote from Brown and Son, LLC to get the Holland Creek Lift Station bar screen back in operation for the estimated cost of \$33,920.67.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-50

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

Mayor Lowe presented Resolution No. 2024-51 to be ratified in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to accept a quote from Warr Grading Contractor, Inc. to repair/reroute sanitary sewer main crossing Mill Creek just downstream of 20th Avenue in an amount not to exceed \$79,323.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-51

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, Carter, 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 approve Change Order Number 1 with Landmark Grading Company for the installation of water and sanitary services in the amount of \$1,116.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-52

Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Carter. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, 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 a lease agreement with Quadiant Leasing for one DS-6KPS presser sealer for a monthly fee of \$209.52.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-53

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolutions, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, 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 and enter into a contract agreement with Reliant Talent Agency, LLC for Samantha Fish to perform at the Phenix City Amphitheater on April 19, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$18,000.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-54

Councilmember Carter 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, Carter, 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 accept a quote from A. N. Smith, Inc., for replacing and programming four (4) HMI Trac-Vac System Controls in an amount not to exceed \$7,720.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-55

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, Carter, 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. 2022-01 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 Day 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, Carter, 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 Amanda Frazier. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that the claim alleges that on February 3, 2024 Ms. Frazier while driving in front of the construction on South Railroad Street hit a cut in the road and damaged her splash guard on her vehicle. City Attorney Jimmy Graham also stated that this is not the City's liability and Ms. Frazier should contact the contractor regarding the claim. City Attorney Jimmy Graham recommended to deny the claim and he stated he will contact Ms. Frazier and inform her that she should discuss the claim with Bowden Contractors. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to deny 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, Carter, 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 Charles Turnage. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that the claim alleges that the City of Phenix City is responsible for damages to Mr. Turnage's property as a result of a tree that fell on his fence on or around January 26, 2024. City Attorney Jimmy Graham also stated that in the memorandum from Parks and Recreation it stated that they have no record of any notice or concern that the tree in question was diseased or damaged. City Attorney Jimmy Graham recommended to deny the claim. Councilmember Carter moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to deny the claim, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to purchasing two (2) 2023 Ford F-150 Supercrew 4x4 Pick-Up Trucks purchased under State Contract T191L from Stivers Ford Lincoln, Montgomery, Alabama in the total amount of \$85,188.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-56

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

Councilmember Day thanked the employee's that were recognized for their 50 years of combined service with the City. Councilmember Day stated that they have all done a fantastic job and that they will have a good retirement to look forward to with the City.

Councilmember Bailey stated that they were still recovering from the large amount of rain from a couple of weeks ago and there is a lot of work going on in the City. Councilmember Bailey also stated that he realizes that many citizens in the city had issues in their yards and creeks behind their homes and that fortunately those kinds of events only happen so many years apart and not an everyday occurrences. Councilmember Bailey further stated that ity employees are

working diligently throughout the city to fix the issues so that when citizens see the barricades and the equipment to please try to avoid and go around those areas for everyone's safety. Councilmember Bailey encouraged everyone to please be careful and remember that the city employees are working as hard as they can to get all of the issues corrected and he hopes that the citizens will have patience.

City Manager Wallace Hunter thanked the Council and all employees for the great job they are doing for the City. Mr. Hunter stated that Russell County Administrator Paulette Colbert has retired and with her retirement they have lost many years of experience and dedication. Mr. Hunter also stated that the Russell County Revenue Commissioner Naomi Elliott has also retired from many years of dedicated services. Mr. Hunter further stated that Russell County Commissioner District 5 Cattie Epps is also retiring and with all of these individuals, they have represented the city very well through their combined years with Russell County. Mr. Hunter stated that he has worked with each of the individuals and that he knows that the county will miss them as their representation was very important to the city.

City Manager Wallace Hunter encouraged the citizens to look at what the city has to offer and take advantage of it all and experience all that we have here in Phenix City.

Mayor Lowe stated that they have a lot to be grateful for and that he is truly thankful for God that he ordained before the foundation of this world and this council to be right where they are today. Mayor Lowe also stated that they do not take it lightly but very serious and they put their hearts in the work and are grateful to be a part of something that is great and bigger than all of them. Mayor Lowe further stated that it's not an easy job but they were called to do it and that it's their calling that they don't take lightly and they will continue to persevere under the leadership of God. Mayor Lowe stated that he hopes everyone will continue to always show more empathy towards one another and they will continue to do what is right because the only way to have an outstanding city is to be exalted to God and that is what they are going to continue to do.

Mayor Lowe thanked CTV-Beam for bringing the council meeting to the citizens of Phenix City, Alabama. Mayor Lowe stated that to all of the citizens, if they cannot be at the meeting in person to watch the recording on TV because they are transparent which is the best policy and he thanked everyone.

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until March 19, 2024.