

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 29, 2016

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled work session at 3:00 pm, Monday, February 29, 2016 in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building located at 601 12th Street, Phenix City, Alabama. Upon roll call the following members were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Councilmember Gail N. Head, Councilmember Jim Cannon, Councilmember Johnny Barfield, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter and City Attorney James P. Graham, Jr. City Clerk Charlotte L. Sierra was not present. Department Heads in attendance were: Chief Building Official Gil Griffith, City Engineer Angel Moore, Finance Director Stephen Smith, Lakewood Golf Course Manager Lenard Patrick, Library Assistant Reanna Ramey, Municipal Court Clerk Pam Jarrell, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain, Assistant Chief of Police Gail Greene, Utilities Director Roger Conner and Utilities Engineer John Spraggins. Also present was City Attorney Jim McKoon.

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

The invocation was led by Councilmember Day.

Mayor Lowe called upon Sierra Eastridge to address council as listed on the agenda. Ms. Sierra Eastridge came forward to address council as listed on the agenda. She spoke with council in reference to making one day in March a Citywide Music Appreciation Day. Ms. Eastridge stated church and school bands could play for elementary schools, nursing homes, and hospitals. She requested a Proclamation. Mayor Lowe advised Ms. Eastridge to contact the City Clerk's office for the Proclamation. Mayor Lowe thanked Ms. Sierra Eastridge for coming to speak with council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Jennifer Davidson of Russell County Extension Office to address council as listed on the agenda. Ms. Davidson spoke to council about the possibility of having a Farmer's Market at a second location by Summerville Rd and Stadium Drive. Ms. Davidson explained that it would start the last week of May through September from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Councilmember Jim Cannon asked if she was talking about outside of the stadium and she stated yes it would be in the parking lot. Todd Hughes stated that it would be located at the North end of the parking lot where they don't allow parking and the customers can just walk up to the market vendors. Mayor Lowe asked City Manager Wallace Hunter and Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes about how it would affect the school football games on Thursdays. Todd Hughes explained that he had already spoken to Ms. Davidson about a schedule; therefore avoiding the football games. Councilmember Day inquired about the safety and the traffic. Councilmember Head thanked Jennifer for what she does with the Tree Commission and Arbor Day. Councilmember Cannon asked if she was going to be selling crafts and she stated that they would not be selling crafts. Mayor Lowe advised Jennifer to get with Todd after today's meeting. Mayor Lowe thanked Jennifer Davidson for coming and speaking with council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Ms. June Baldwin to address council as listed on the agenda. Ms. June Baldwin stated she and her husband bought their home located at 1600 Melanie Lane in 1989. She stated they could not sell their home so they decided to rent it. Her tenant called her a week ago and said someone had stolen the trash can. Upon investigation she found out that she was not annexed into the city; therefore Advanced Disposal picked up the trash can. She stated every house in her subdivision has been annexed into the city except for her rental property. Mayor Lowe asked Utilities Director Roger Conner to speak on the situation. Roger stated that he called Ms. Baldwin and informed her any property that is not annexed into the city has the capability of contacting Advanced Disposal to contract with them for Garbage disposal. Roger Conner also stated that Advanced Disposal has been audited and found there has been some residences that have been getting garbage and not been paying for it. Ms. Baldwin stated a lot of the citizens are unaware that they have not been billed for this service. Mayor Lowe advised that there is a moratorium on annexations. Councilmember Cannon and Councilmember Head stated that it should be feasible for Ms. Baldwin to get garbage because she already has city services. City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that if they are not annexed in then they don't have to pay city taxes. City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that they don't have block annexation; they have sporadic annexation throughout Phenix City. City Manager Hunter stated that there will be an audit and someone will get with Ms. June Baldwin regarding the annexation. Councilmember Cannon stated to Ms. Baldwin that she will have to pay City taxes if she wants to be annexed in and Ms. Baldwin stated she would like to be annexed in. Angel Moore stated that it would be a sixty day process and it starts with the Planning Commission. Mayor Lowe thanked Ms. Baldwin for coming before council and told her that she can go through Advanced Disposal directly for garbage pickup.

Mayor Lowe called upon John Huff of Huff & Associates Construction Company, Inc. Mr. John Huff came forward to address Council as listed on the agenda. Also present to speak for Mr. Huff was George Musselman. George Musselman asked Council if the City would allow Sterling Ridge Apartments to tap into the City sewer and water even though they are not annexed in the city. City Manager Wallace Hunter called upon Utilities Director Roger Conner. Mr. Roger Conner explained the property is 1100 feet away from the sanitary main line; the line has to be run under Highway 280 at a cost of \$150,000 - \$200,000. Mr. Conner also stated that the latest resolution stipulates single family residential; not commercial and this does not meet this particular situation because it is an apartment complex. George Musselman stated that he understands that they would have to incur all of the cost. City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that if you look at the units then look at the economic side of things it would be difficult. Councilmember Head asked how apartments receive water and sewage if it is not available. George Musselman stated that there are some that are septic. Mayor Lowe stated his only concern is that he wants to be careful of not setting precedence and the legal aspects of it. Mayor Lowe advised George Musselman and Mr. Huff that they will look into it and get back with them. Mayor Lowe thanked them for coming.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Engineer Angel Moore to review the actions taken by the Planning Commission during the February 23, 2016 meeting.

Mayor Lowe with Council's permission called upon Carol Mitchell and Melissa Howard with Sound Choice Pregnancy Clinic to address council regarding a mobile clinic. Carol Mitchell stated that they have been in existence for 35 years and a ministry of Edgewood Baptist Church. They just purchased a mobile clinic and would like to serve the Greater Valley with free pregnancy tests, free ultrasounds and life concerning messages through the gospel. She stated she wants the girls to know they are cared for. She requested permission to be able to park at the Central Activity Center. Councilmember Day asked how they are advertised. Ms. Carol Mitchell stated that they are on the web and Facebook. They also have a billboard on their mobile truck. Councilmember Day asked how they are funded. Ms. Mitchell stated they are fully funded by private donations. Ms. Mitchell also stated that they have a Gala every October which helps with the funding. Councilmember Head stated she appreciates the work that they do. Ms. Mitchell left literature on their business. Council advised Ms. Mitchell to get with Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes. Mayor Lowe thanked them for coming.

Mayor Lowe asked Council if there was anything specific that they wanted to discuss regarding the calendar. Councilmember Head asked if there was anything going on at the Lakewood Elementary School. She stated she will be going to Lakewood Primary. Shannon Davis announced that the March 15, 2016 Council meeting will be held at the Idle Hour Park Community Center. Mayor Lowe announced that the Mayor's Unity Prayer Breakfast will be at 7:00 am on March 10, 2016 at Idle Hour Park Community Center.

Mayor Lowe next presented the Monthly Department Reports. The following issues were discussed by Council with the City Manager and Department Heads:

- 1.) Commercial Development on Retail Drive, Riverwalk and FEMA – waiting on environmental clearance and may take up to six weeks
- 2.) Library (Bag sale, activities and Yoga class)
- 3.) Tennis Court located at Idle Hour Park – under construction
- 4.) Asphalt Road on 13th and 14th street – under construction and will be mid August before 13th street is open
- 5.) Subdivision Regulations
- 6.) Tennis Court located at Southside Park – fence replacement only
- 7.) Roof located at Sumbry Park – will look into how much it will cost to redo the roof
- 8.) Playground equipment located at Lakewood Park – has already been torn down
- 9.) Freddie Hart signs being replaced – in the process of redoing signs

Mayor Lowe called on the Director Steve Smith to discuss the makeup of the Finance Department, direction of finance, and the services of the Finance Department.

Mayor Lowe asked if there were any other Items for discussion. City Manager Wallace Hunter called upon City Attorney Jim McKoon. Mr. McKoon commented on a lawsuit regarding

a property owner who lives in Silver Terrace Subdivision; and how things would be different if the Indemnity Agreement had been in place.

Mayor Lowe advised there would be a 10 minute break.

Upon reconvening after the 10 minute break, Mayor Lowe discussed the agenda items with council.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, March 14, 2016.