

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
MAY 15, 2017**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled work session at 3:05 pm, Monday, May 15, 2017 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 Johnnie C. Robinson, Councilmember Steve Bailey, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Councilmember Griff Gordy was not present. Also present were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter, City Attorney Jimmy Graham, and City Clerk Charlotte Goodrich. Department Heads in attendance were: Chief Building Official Gil Griffith, Economic Development Planning Specialist Jennifer Lowman, City Engineer Angel Moore, Utilities Director Stephen Smith, Interim Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Golf Course Manager Julie Taylor, Library Director Michele Kilday, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Human Resource Director Stephanie Chastain, Chief of Police Ray Smith, and Utilities Engineer John Spraggins.

The Work Session started immediately after Council Meeting with the Downtown Development Authority.

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

The invocation was led by Councilmember Robinson.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Engineer Angel Moore to review the actions taken by the Planning Commission during the May 9, 2017 meeting.

City Clerk Charlotte Goodrich reviewed the calendar with council. She reminded council of the following: The League of Municipalities Convention; the Council meeting on June 20, 2017 being held at the Central Activity Center @ 6:00 p.m.; and the Vectorply (Grand Opening) on June 14, 2017.

City Manager Wallace Hunter discussed with council, *Phenix City Forward*, a comprehensive report on a city in crisis, from a 1996 Phenix City Newspaper Special Report. Mr. Hunter asked Council to read the paper and he would like to present some points at the next work session regarding the paper.

City Engineer Angel Moore discussed the 22nd Avenue Service Station project that McBride/McGill brought forth to council along with a letter on the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment explaining that it is a review of the properties to see if there are any environment conditions such as contamination or anything of historical significance. Ms. Moore stated that the city goes by ADEM regulations. The City also operates its own underground storage tank facility underneath the city; and every Thursday the engineering department has to do a leak detection test. Ms. Moore stated with input from council the developers would have to hire certified environmental engineers to certify that there is not going to be any gas leakage. City Engineer Angel Moore asked council if they would be satisfied if the city would receive confirmation from ADEM stating that the tank system for the 22nd Avenue Service Station is installed properly and accurately and that they have received their permit from ADEM. Mayor

and Council agreed with Ms. Moore and stated that it needs to be put in place and also be consistent.

Mayor Lowe discussed Agenda Items with Council.

City Manager Wallace Hunter spoke on two businesses operating without a business license.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham reviewed claims on the agenda with council.

Councilmember Day spoke on the trip Councilmember Robinson and himself took to Montgomery, Alabama. Mr. Day stated that they had the opportunity to speak on the Senate Bill regarding the School Board.

Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes spoke on the Nine and Under Baseball Tournament and requested Mayor Lowe to do the welcome on June 29, 2017. Mr. Hughes stated that he will get with the City Clerk's office regarding the time. Mr. Hughes also stated that there will be two District Tournaments on a smaller scale that will be held on June 13, 2017.

Mayor Lowe commented on the Mayor's Ball that will be held June 10, 2017. Mayor Lower further stated that there have been 96 students over the last three years that have been helped along with several non-profit agencies. Mayor Lowe stated that the Mayor's Ball did not start off as a 501.C.3 but they became a 501.C.3 in 2016 and it is tax deductible. Mayor Lowe stated that the Mayor's Ball will be held in Columbus this year because there is not a building in the Phenix City area to house that capacity.

Economic Development Planning Specialist Jennifer Lowman spoke on having a meeting with Council to make Phenix City and Russell County a work ready community. Ms. Lowman stated that Mobile and Tuskegee, Alabama already started a work ready program in their area.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, June 5, 2017.