

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES August 14, 2017

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time for the regularly scheduled work session on Monday, August 14, 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: Councilmembers Arthur L. Day, Jr., Steve Bailey, Dr. R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter, City Attorney James P. Graham, Jr. and City Clerk Charlotte L. Goodrich. Department Heads in attendance were Chief of Police Ray Smith, City Engineer/Director of Public Works Angel Moore, Finance Director Stephen C. Smith, Interim Finance Director Labrita King-Copeland, Fire Rescue Service Chief Kristin Kennedy, Chief Building Official Gil Griffith, Municipal Court Director Pam Jarrell, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Utilities Engineer John Spraggins, Library Director Michelle Kilday, and Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain. Others present were Lisa Sandt and Taylor Dotson, with the Lee-Russell Council of Governments and well as members of the community and media.

There being a quorum presented, the meeting opened. ¹

Councilmember Gordy provided the invocation.

Mayor Lowe called upon Ms. Veronica Walker to address council as listed on the agenda. Ms. Walker spoke to council regarding holding a fund raising walk and other similar functions for kidney disease awareness and research. Chief Smith provided Ms. Walker with a parade permit for the event and informed her of the process for conducting the walk. Council thanked Ms. Walker for community involvement.

Mayor Lowe advised that Mr. Steve Franklin would not be present to address council as listed on the agenda. Per Mayor Lowe, Mr. Franklin wanted to inquire on the status of the city producing a map with the historic districts from the map he provided. City Engineer Moore stated her department had attempted contacting Mr. Franklin several times regarding the map. She advised the map Mr. Franklin wanted could not be produced from the map he provided to the Engineering department. The parties discussed the restrictions of designating areas as historic areas and the guidelines of the Historic Commission.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Engineer/Public Works Director Angel Moore to review with Council actions taken during the August 8, 2017 Planning Commission Meeting.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Charlotte Goodrich to review the August and September, 2017 calendars with Council and the Board Appointments. Ms. Goodrich reviewed with Council the expired terms of Personnel Review Board Members Barbara Mitchell and Bobby Kilcrease. Ms. Goodrich also informed council of the resignation of a member of the Phenix City Historical Commission. She also advised council that a member of the Housing Code Abatement Board's absence and the need to replace the individual on that board.

City Manager Hunter had nothing to present to council at this time.

Mayor Lowe next began a review of the agenda items with council.

Lisa Sandt and Taylor Dotson with the Lee-Russell Council of Governments addressed Council during the discussion of items B.1.a through B.1.c, three (3) resolutions dealing with the city's application for grants through the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs. Ms. Sandt, Mr. Dotson, and Ms. Moore discussed with council the city's grant team and grant process and the purpose of the grants the city is currently seeking.

Mayor Lowe continued the review of the agenda items. As the review continued the parties discussed the Whitewater Classic Football game. Finance Director Steve Smith discussed the economic impact of the Whitewater Classic Annual football game.

Mayor Lowe resumed the review of the agenda items and upon conclusion, called upon City Attorney Jimmy Graham for a review of the claims. City Attorney Graham first advised council of a claim that was turned in but was not listed on the agenda. The incident occurred in 2016 and the 6 month period for filing a claim had expired. City Attorney Graham stated he had phoned the citizen to inform him the claim would not be considered by council because it was past the filing date and that he would write a letter stating the same. City Attorney Graham reviewed the remaining claims with council as listed on the agenda and had nothing further to present at the conclusion.

The following issues were also discussed with council:

- 1) Flooding in the area of Knowles Road around Canterbury Nursing Home. Issues exist with the property owner's 48 inch pipe not functioning properly with the culvert in the area causing water to back up. When the water backs up it moves the large trash dumpsters on the property to the culvert blocking it from flowing as it should.

- 2) Concert at Phenix City Amphitheater on Saturday, August 12. The facility was rented out by a private promoter for a concert. This was not a City sponsored concert. The promoter didn't have the funds to pay the sound staff or some of the acts and they walked away from the event. Citizens have been complaining. The Parks and Recreation Department are trying to inform the citizens that this was not a city sponsored event.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. until Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

ⁱ Council noted the passing of Dr. Johnnie C. Robinson, Jr., District 2 Councilmember, and August 3rd.