

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
September 18, 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, September 18, 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, Jr., Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember Griff Gordy and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter, City Attorney Jimmy Graham and City Clerk Charlotte L. Goodrich. Department Heads in attendance were: Chief Building Official Gil Griffith, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, City Engineer/Director of Public Works Angel Moore, Utilities Director Stephen Smith, Interim Finance Director Labrita King-Copeland, Fire Rescue Service Chief Kristin Kennedy, Golf Course Manager Julie Taylor, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Ernest Hansberger, Library Director Michelle Kilday, Municipal Court Clerk Pam Jarrell, Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain, Chief of Police Ray Smith, and Utilities Engineer John Spraggins.

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

The invocation was led by Councilmember Gordy.

Mayor Lowe called upon Reverend Jimmie C. Fryer, Pastor of Pine Hill Missionary Baptist Church to address Council as listed on the agenda. Reverend Fryer came forward to request council vacate a portion of the 5th Street South. Reverend Fryer explained the church owned several of the adjoining parcels and had built a pole barn on one of the parcels across from the church parking lot as a recreational area for the congregation. Pastor Fryer further stated the request to vacate the property was for the safety of the congregation, especially if children were at the barn structure. He also advised the church has made a great effort to beautify the property and closing it from through traffic would prevent it from becoming littered on a regular basis. City Engineer Angel Moore next addressed Council advising it would be a hardship for service vehicles, first responders, and school buses if the road were closed to through traffic. Fire Chief Kris Kennedy stated that in case of an emergency, the Fire Department will need to be able to travel through 5th Street South and 10th Street to have the ability to hook up to the hydrants. Chief of Police Ray Smith recommended lowering the speed limit to 20 mph to help slow down the traffic. Council agreed that enforcing a lower speed limit would help with the speeding and safety in the area. Council thanked Reverend Fryer for coming to address council.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Engineer Angel Moore to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission during its September 12, 2017 meeting. Ms. Moore stated that the Planning Commission's meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather (Hurricane Irma).

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Charlotte Goodrich to review the September and October, 2017 calendars with Council and the Board Appointments. Ms. Goodrich reminded

council of the September 19, 2017 council meeting being held at 5th Street South Youth Center at 6:00 p.m. City Clerk Goodrich reviewed openings on the Housing Code Abatement Board, the Improvement District for the Brickyard Project, the Improvement District for the Grand Reserve Project and the Tree Commission. Councilmember Bailey stated he would be appointing Bronny Brown's as his appointment on the Housing Code Abatement Board. Councilmember Day said he would be nominating Ms. Mary None for one of the two vacant positions on the Tree Commission.

Councilmember Day discussed a request from the family of former Arthur L. Sumbry to rename a portion of 5th Street South in honor of Councilmember Sumbry. City Engineer Moore advised a petition of the residents that would be affected by the name change would be needed as there is a possibility that not all the residents may be in favor of the name change. Ms. Moore stated that it will cause everyone on that road to have to get their mail and their address changed, which will cause them to have to get in contact with their bank, utility providers, 911 services, etc., to change their address. Councilmember Bailey suggested that the family name a building or park in his honor. Mayor Lowe stated the City is in the process of obtaining right of ways for the road expansion and installation of sidewalks and asked if changing the name during this process would hinder the project. City Engineer Moore stated it could cause issues with the project. Councilmember Day stated that he will advise the Sumbry family of the problem with renaming the street at this time.

Councilmember Bailey stated that he spoke with Russell County District 2 Commissioner Carl Currington. Commissioner Currington discussed with Councilmember Bailey the possibility of having ALDOT install a traffic light at the intersection of Evans Road and Highway 80 and requested Councilmember Bailey present the proposal to the Council. Commissioner Currington advised per ALDOT the cost of the light could be split three ways Lee County, Phenix City and Russell County (STATE). City Engineer Angel Moore stated that the City does not have anything in that particular area to maintain.

Mayor Lowe discussed agenda items with council.

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

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m. until Monday, October 3, 2017.