

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
January 16, 2018

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time for the regularly scheduled work session on Monday, January 16, 2018 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 R. Griff Gordy, Councilmember Vickey Carter Johnson and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter, City Attorney Jimmy Graham, City Clerk Melony Lee and Kelly Newcomb. Department Heads in attendance were: Chief Building Official Gil Griffith, Utilities Director Stephen Smith, Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, Economic Development Planning Specialist Shaun Culligan, City Engineer/Director of Public Works Angel Moore, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Golf Course Manager Julie Taylor, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Assistant Library Director Reanna Ramey, Municipal Court Clerk Pam Jarrell, Chief of Police R. J. Smith, and Utilities Engineer John Spraggins.

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

The invocation was led by Councilman Gordy.

Mayor Lowe called upon Lucas Brown, Dennis Beson, and David White to address council as listed on the agenda. They came forward to update council on the activities of the East Alabama Convention & Visitor's Bureau. Mr. Lucas Brown presented a summary of traffic that visited Phenix City over the past year. Mr. Lucas Brown also advised how the East Alabama Convention & Visitor's Bureau advertises and showcases places to stay for events around the Phenix City area. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised Mayor and Council that the money was allotted from the state to the Chamber of Commerce. These funds were sent to the County for distribution but there was a question of why the funds were not being allotted to the Chamber of Commerce. Dennis Beson introduced himself to Mayor and Council as the new Chamber of Commerce Director. Mr. Beson spoke with Mayor and Council and advised that he was new to the area and he wanted to work with the city in any way so that he could help Phenix City market the city to potential visitors. Mayor Lowe thanked everyone for coming to speak with council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Charlie Welsh to address council as listed on the agenda. Mr. Welsh came forward to present an Eagle Scout project to build two park benches in front of the library. The benches will be placed on each side of the walkway. Chief Building Official Gil Griffith advised that he use different lumber for the benches and he would email Mr. Welsh the specific details. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised Mayor and Council that they could get with Charlie Welsh at a later time to individually donate personally to help the project. Mayor Lowe thanked Mr. Welsh for coming to speak with council.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Engineer Angel Moore to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their January 9, 2018 meeting. Ms. Moore advised of the approving of a rezone of 7.12 acres at 218 Wright Road, Dan and Jean Phillips. This was approved as they will be building a mobile petting zoo. Second, was an administrative re-plat 3.63+/- acres at 89 Whiterock Road, Apex Bank (c/o Steve Isabell). This was approved also as they redistributed family land into two plats. Third, the approval of administrative re-plat of 3.69+/- acres at 19 Strickland Road, Linda and

James Massey & Ashley Dietz. This was approved as they separated two dwellings on two separate plats.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Melony Lee to review the January and February calendars with Council.

City Manager Wallace Hunter asked the Police Chief R.J. Smith for a weather update. Chief Smith advised that weather would be too dangerous for non-essential employees to travel on Wednesday, January 17, 2018.

Mayor and council decided to cancel the January 17, 2018 Council Meeting. The Certificate Awards for the Dual Enrollment Program will be rescheduled to the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018. All items on the January 17, 2018 agenda will be placed on the February 6, 2018 agenda.

City Clerk Melony Lee presented a resolution from the January 17, 2018 agenda that needed to be approved and ratified at the February 6, 2018 council meeting. The resolution was in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to enter into a contract with Thompson Insurance, Inc. for calendar year 2018 in an amount not to exceed \$187,006.00. Mayor and council approved the resolution which will be ratified in the Council Meeting held on February 6, 2018.

City Clerk Melony Lee also advised Mayor and Council of upcoming board appointments. Vickey Carter Johnson will replace Dr. Robinson on the Downtown Redevelopment Board.

Mayor and Council discussed the I-14 resolution. Angel Moore suggested making one correction to the resolution regarding the extension that would run along Highway 80 in Phenix City. This will be corrected and put on the agenda for the February council meeting.

City Manager Wallace Hunter advised Mayor and Council about the petition in regards to the curve on Highway 80. The ALDOT advised that the current barriers are the correct height and it meets state regulations.

Mayor Lowe advised that the State of the Union packet will be completed and sent out by five today.

Councilmember Gordy asked City Engineer Angel Moore if ADA had made any changes to the Illicit Discharge regulations. Mayor Lowe advised that there was only one city department that had not complied with the ordinance. City Engineer Angel Moore discussed the cities plan on finalizing the city departments to be in compliance. Golf Course Manager Julie Taylor advised on the golf course procedures. City Manager Wallace Hunter reminded Mayor and Council that the deadline of January 31st was near and they would be fined and business license would not be renewed. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised City Engineer Angel Moore to make sure that the Russell County Sheriff's Department was on the list for compliance.

City Manager Wallace Hunter advised Mayor and Council about the Chamber of Commerce issue. The City has an Economic Development department to handle businesses and they are doing a great job at promoting new businesses.

Council took a 10 minute break.

When they convened after the break, they conducted a Personnel Review Board interview.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until Monday, February 5, 2018 at 3 p.m.