

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 18, 2018**

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, June 18, 2018, 2018 in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building located at 601 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Phenix City, Alabama. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey Carter Johnson, Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter, City Attorney Jimmy Graham and City Clerk Melony Lee. Department Heads in attendance were: Building Official Gil Griffith, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Engineering Assistant Director Mike Pattillo, Utilities Director Stephen Smith, Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Library Director Michele Kilday, Municipal Court Clerk Ruby White, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Personnel Director Stephanie Chastain, Chief of Police R. J. Smith and Engineer John Spraggins.

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

The invocation was led by Councilmember Gordy.

Councilmember Day thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers while he was not feeling well.

Mayor Lowe called upon Erick Maiden to address council as listed on the agenda. Mr. Maiden was not present.

Mayor Lowe called upon Rebecca Revel to address council as listed on the agenda. Ms. Revel discussed speeding motorists at 29<sup>th</sup> Street and Summerville Road. Mayor Lowe advised the city cannot place speed bumps due to liability. Ms. Revel asked Mayor and Council about installing speed bumps to slow the traffic down. Police Chief Ray Smith advised that a study was done over the weekend and he will have more police to monitor the speed in that area. Ms. Revel asked if Pumpkin Bottom could be closed once the Section 8 housing was in place. Police Chief Ray Smith advised he would check on this. Mayor Lowe thanked Rebecca Revel for coming to speak with Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Susan B. Tipton and Clyde Hopson to address council as listed on the agenda. Ms. Tipton advised that Mr. Hopson could not get off work to come to the work session. Ms. Tipton read over a letter she presented to Mayor and Council. The letter stated that the news of the city purchasing the property located at 2113 Walker Court came as a surprise to the Home Owners Association. Ms. Tipton asked the following concerns and questions to Mayor and Council:

1. Will the leveling of the home structure located at 2113 Walker Court in Saddlebrook Subdivision alleviate both flooding problem for both 2113 and 2201 Walker Court? What plan does the City have preventing a flood situation in this area in the future?
2. If home structure/structures are removed and lot/lots are prepared in such a way that flooding is not an issue, will the city leave the property so it will not have any effect on the property values for those nearby neighbors and our entire subdivision as a whole?
3. Would the city consider construction of a small park or play area with slides, swings, etc. for the children in Saddlebrook to use? If so, would the city be willing to give that land back to

Saddlebrook with the understanding that our Home Owners Association will be responsible for maintaining the grass and above ground upkeep of the lot? Would the city assure the residents of Walker Court that during the time of construction, they would have full access to the intersection, street, and their homes?

4. Would the project be completed before winter of this year?
5. What other resolutions for this property have been considered?
6. When was this flooding problem first brought to the attention of the city council?
7. Saddlebrook Home Owners Association would like these items answered in writing within the next 60 days.

City Manager Wallace Hunter answered the questions that Ms. Tipton had. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised that he could not guarantee no flooding from the locations but it would handle the normal rainfall. City Manager Wallace Hunter further stated that once the project is complete the city could hand the property over to the Saddlebrook Home Owners Association. City Manager Wallace Hunter further stated the city will start the project immediately and should be finished in a timely manner. The problem was reported over the last several years during the high rainfalls periods. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised that he would get with Billy Simms, President of the Saddlebrook Home Owners Association, and the other members of the Saddlebrook Home Owners Association. Assistant Engineering Director Mike Pattillo discussed what the project would look like once completed. Ms. Tipton advised that Billy Simms had not told the Home Owners Association of any information regarding this project. Councilmember Steve Bailey advised Ms. Tipton that he was her representative in District One. Councilmember Bailey advised Ms. Tipton that the city held a public hearing on this property and it was advertised in the newspaper. Ms. Tipton advised that not all people receive the newspaper. Ms. Tipton advised that she only knew about the meeting today because she saw her name in the newspaper. Ms. Tipton stated that when she filled out her paperwork on Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, she was told she would get a phone call back verifying the date and time approved for the work session. City Clerk Melony Lee apologized for the error on miscommunication with the City Clerk's office. Ms. Tipton inquired why Councilmember Bailey had not phoned the Home Owners Association before his vote that approved this project. Councilmember Bailey advised that he did not because he was doing the best for the city and fixing the flooding problem. Ms. Tipton advised that the Home Owners Association had not met since April 2018. Mayor Lowe thanked Susan Tipton for coming to speak with Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Engineering Assistant Director Mike Pattillo to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their June 12, 2018 meeting. Engineering Assistant Director Mike Pattillo advised the meeting was cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Melony Lee who advised Mayor and Council of the following:

1. Council meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the 5<sup>th</sup> Street South Youth Center.
2. Budget Work Session Meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
3. Check for the Mayor's Ball on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. City has placed an ad and has eight tickets.

4. One name (Ira Kendrick) has been turned in for the Abatement Board.
5. No names have been turned in for the Zoning Adjustment and Appeals Board.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham advised there are no claims to be presented this meeting.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham advised Mayor and Council there needs to be an Executive Session for Pending Litigation for 30 minutes; Councilmember Johnson moved to go into Executive Session, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. All were in favor.

Council took a 5 minute break.

Council went into Executive Session at 4:05 p.m.

Council came out of Executive Session at 4:35 p.m.

Utilities Director Stephen Smith spoke on water lines in the area of Glenwood Schools.

Mayor Eddie Lowe reminded everyone about the Mayor's Ball on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, July 3, 2018.