

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 6, 2018**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met at 1:30 p.m. Eastern Time for the regularly scheduled work session on Monday, August 6, 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 and City Attorney Jim McKoon. City Clerk Melony Lee and City Attorney Jimmy Graham were not present. Department Heads in attendance were: Building Official Gil Griffith, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Engineering Director Angel Moore, Utilities Director Stephen Smith, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Golf Manager Julie Taylor, Library Director Michele Kilday, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Benefits Coordinator Cathy Murray, Chief of Police R. J. Smith and Graduate Engineer John Spraggins and Engineering Office Manager Kathy Jo Davis, sitting in for City Clerk Melony Lee.

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

The invocation was led by Councilmember Day.

City Manager Wallace Hunter presented Mayor and Council with a 2018 Progress Update. This presentation is an overall 10 year improvement plan slideshow. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised Mayor and Council on how the City of Phenix City has moved forward and how the city needs to look into the future to make improvements and progress.

Mayor Lowe called for a 10 minute break. City Clerk Melony Lee arrived during the break.

Upon reconvening the meeting, Mayor Lowe called upon Dr. David M. White to address council as listed on the agenda. Dr. White discussed the "Making Alabama: A Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit" coming to Fort Mitchell. The Phenix City/Russell County Bicentennial Committee had a grand opening ribbon cutting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, with no cost to the public. Dr. White advised the exhibit will run locally through August 16<sup>th</sup> then will be on tour for the next 19 months to all 67 Alabama counties. Dr. White discussed other projects and events coming in the future from the Phenix City/Russell County Bicentennial Committee and the Russell County Historical Commission. Mayor Lowe thanked Dr. David M. White for coming to speak with Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Donald Ivy to address council as listed on the agenda. Mr. Ivy presented a plaque to Mayor, Council, City Manager and the City for their support and kindness shown to the Retirees of the City of Phenix City. Mayor Lowe read the plaque and accepted it on behalf of the City of Phenix City. Mayor Lowe thanked Donald Ivy for coming to speak with Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Veronica M. Walker to address council as listed on the agenda. Ms. Walker was not present.

Mayor Lowe called upon Latonya R. Conway to address council as listed on the agenda. Ms. Conway discussed having her home at 30 Misty Forest Drive to be annexed into the city due to her daughter's school bus situation. On September 5, 2017, Ms. Conway addressed Mayor and Council with a similar situation. Councilmember Day advised Mayor and Council that he had already spoken

with the School Superintendent Randy Wilkes. Councilmember Day advised that Mr. Wilkes asked that Ms. Conway see him to discuss her situation. Engineering Director Angel Moore advised Mayor and Council that the City of Phenix City was still under a moratorium on annexations. Mayor Lowe thanked Latonya R. Conway for coming to speak with Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Engineering Director Angel Moore to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their July 24, 2018 meeting. Engineering Director Angel Moore 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 various dates on the August and September 2018 calendars. Ms. Lee also advised Mayor and Council of two upcoming board appointments for the Personnel Review Board and Phenix City Planning Commission. Council asked the Clerk's Office to contact the board members and ask if they would like to serve again.

Councilmember Johnson questioned the Board of Education Referendum election. Mayor Lowe, Council and City Manager Wallace Hunter discussed the reason for having the election.

Councilmember Johnson asked Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes for an update of the Central Activities Center. Building Official Gil Griffith advised of the updates. Mayor and Council discussed the September 18<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting to be held at the Library instead of the Central Activities Center.

Councilmember Day asked the following:

1. Opening date of the Spenser Recreation Splash Pad. Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes advised hopefully by the end of this month.
2. The dead trees marked at the Sumbry Park. Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes advised that they were marking the trees so Public Works could come in and trim up trees.
3. Paving could be done at Horseshoe Drive. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised that project would be put into the Planning Schedule.
4. 5<sup>th</sup> Street South widening. Engineer Director Angel Moore advised that it may be around November 2018.

Councilmember Bailey thanked Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes for the great job done at the Cal Ripken event. Councilmember Bailey stated a group of citizens and businesses came together to purchase shoes for the Chinese ballplayers to have cleats for the game. Councilmember Bailey also added that the City of Phenix City needed to advertise better for the next future event.

Councilmember Bailey discussed the petition from the residents of Riverchase, 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Mr. Ben Adams gave Councilmember Bailey the petition. Utilities Director Stephen Smith advised that the odor is coming from the pump stations pushing air through the pipes. Utilities Director Stephen Smith and the city have put backflow preventers and manholes with carbon filters in place.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, August 20, 2018.