

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
October 19, 2020**

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, October 19 , 2020, by the way of Zoom Video Conferencing. Upon roll call, the following members were present by the way of Zoom Video Conferencing: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey Carter Johnson, Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present by the way of Zoom Video Conferencing were City Manager Wallace Hunter, City Clerk Office Manager Shannon Davis, and City Attorney Jimmy Graham. City Clerk Melony Lee was not present. Department Heads in attendance by Zoom Video Conferencing were: Building Official Gil Griffith, City Engineer Angel Moore, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Utilities Director Steve Smith, Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Golf Manager Mike Barber, Library Director Michele Kilday, Municipal Court Clerk Ruby White, Parks & Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Director of Human Resources Stephanie Chastain, Chief of Police Ray Smith, Graduate Engineer John Spraggins and Waste Water Treatment Plan Superintendent Charles Woody.

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

Councilmember Day led the invocation.

Mayor Lowe advised there were no Requests to Address Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Angel Moore, City Engineer, to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their October 13, 2020 meeting.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Office Manager Shannon Davis who discussed the following with Mayor and Council:

1. Advised Council that the Alabama League of Municipalities Official Orientation / MLI Training will be held on October 27, 2020 through October 29, 2020.
2. Advised Council that the Oath of Office Ceremony will be held on November 2, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
3. Advised Council that the Organizational Meeting will be held on November 2, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.
4. Reminded Council that the regular scheduled Work Session will be held on November 2, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.
5. Reminded Council that the City Council Meeting will be held on November 3, 2020 at 9:00a.m.
6. Advised Council that the Newly Elected School Board Swearing in Ceremony will be held on November 5, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
7. Advised Council that City Offices will be closed on November 11, 2020 in observance of Veterans Day.
8. Reminded Council that the regular scheduled Work Session will be held on November 16, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.
9. Reminded Council that the City Council Meeting will be held on November 17, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
10. Reminded Council that the National League of Cities Convention Virtual Summit will be held November 18, 2020 through November 21, 2020.

11. Advised Council that City offices will be closed November 26, 2020 and November 27, 2020 in observance of Thanksgiving Day Holiday.
12. Reminded Council that the regular scheduled Work Session will be held on November 30, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.
13. Reviewed upcoming board appointments.

Councilmember Bailey inquired about the details of the Oath of Office Ceremony. Councilmember Bailey asked if a decision on the Judge and location would be made at today's Work Session. Mayor Lowe stated with the agreeance of Council, Judge Patrick Loftin and Judge Michael Bellamy will be present for the swearing in ceremony. Mayor Lowe also stated that for spacing, the ceremony will be held at the Central Activity Center.

Mayor Lowe thanked Council for being a great team to work with and for the growth of Phenix City in the last four years. Mayor Lowe stated that he is grateful that the team will be together for four more years. Mayor Lowe also stated that it has been suggested to rotate Councilmembers on City Boards to give everyone a chance to serve. Mayor Lowe further stated that a recommendation for appointing Councilmember Gordy as Mayor Pro Tem will be executed at the upcoming Organizational Meeting.

Mayor Lowe congratulated City Manager Wallace Hunter for over thirty-five years serving the City of Phenix City. Mayor Lowe stated that Mr. Hunter has been mentioned in the International Management magazine for his faithful years of service. Mayor Lowe also stated that he and Council are very proud of Mr. Hunter's accomplishments. Mr. Hunter thanked Mayor and Council.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham reviewed agenda claims with Council.

Councilmember Day congratulated City Manager Wallace Hunter on his achievements. Mr. Hunter stated that he tries to remain humble and he is thankful for Mark Anthony, Mr. John Franklin, Chief Jerry Prater and the ones who supported him early in his career with the City. Mr. Hunter also stated that Phenix City has truly grown in a positive way during his time working for the City.

City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that the nation's economy has not recovered from the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Mr. Hunter also stated that there are many people who are unemployed, forced into early retirement or had to shut the business down all together. Mr. Hunter further stated that in the month of September there were over six and a half people that were unable to pay their mortgage or rent. Mr. Hunter stated that adjustments have to be made for survival. Mr. Hunter stated that he is proud to report that Phenix City is financially weathering the storm of the Pandemic well because of its structure. City Manager Wallace Hunter asked that everyone please remain safe.

Mayor Lowe stated that everyone has been or will be affected some type of way by the Pandemic. Mayor Lowe also stated that Council always has the City's best interest in mind when making decisions. Councilmember Bailey stated that Phenix City has a good City Manager to run and oversee the daily operations of the City.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, November 2, 2020.