

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
November 30, 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, November 30, 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 Attorney Jimmy Graham, and City Clerk Melony Lee. Department Heads in attendance by Zoom Video Conferencing were: Building Official Gil Griffith, City Engineer Angel Moore, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Acting Utilities Director Charles Woody, 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, and Graduate Engineer John Spraggins.

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

Councilmember Bailey led the invocation.

Mayor Lowe called upon Bryant and Emily Riley to address council, as listed on the agenda. Ms. Emily Riley was present by the way of Zoom Video Conferencing and she came forward to address Council. Ms. Riley advised that her husband was not present. Ms. Riley spoke with council regarding her concerns of speeders in her neighborhood on 13th Street (behind Hardees Restaurant). She asked could speed bumps be placed or could the neighborhood portion of 13th Street be closed from regular traffic. Mayor Lowe advised Ms. Riley that the road cannot be closed and speed bumps could not be placed on a street. Police Chief Ray Smith advised this is not the first complaint that the city has received regarding speeders in the neighborhood. Police Chief Ray Smith further advised that he would increase police presence and cite speeders; he also stated that the speed limit would be looked at to determine if it needs to be lowered. Mayor Lowe thanked Ms. Riley for addressing council.

Mayor Lowe advised that the November 24, 2020 Planning Commission Meeting had been canceled due to the Thanksgiving Holiday and therefore there were no actions taken by the Planning Commission to discuss.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Melony Lee who discussed the following with Mayor and Council:

1. Reminded Council that the City Council Meeting will be held on December 1, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. over the platform ZOOM.
2. Reminded Council of the next scheduled Planning Commission Meeting on December 8, 2020 at 5:15 p.m. over the platform ZOOM.
3. Reminded Council that the next regular scheduled Work Session will be held on December 14, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. over the platform ZOOM.
4. Reminded Council of a regular scheduled City Council Meeting on December 15, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. over the platform ZOOM.
5. Advised Council that City offices will be closed December 24, 2020 and December 25, 2020 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

6. Advised Council that City offices will be closed January 1, 2021 in observance of New Year's Day Holiday.
7. Reminded Council of a regular scheduled Work Session that will be held on January 4, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. over the platform ZOOM.
8. Reminded Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting that will be held on January 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. over the platform ZOOM.
9. Reminded Council of the scheduled date for the State of the City Address on Thursday, January 14, 2021. Mayor Lowe advised it will be conducted over the platform ZOOM.
10. Advised Council that City offices will be closed January 18, 2021 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.
11. Reminded Council of a regular scheduled Work Session that will be held on January 19, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. over the platform ZOOM. This meeting will be held on a Tuesday afternoon due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.
12. Reminded Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting that will be held on January 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. over the platform ZOOM. This meeting will be held on a Wednesday morning due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

Councilmember Day inquired about the bridge project on Old Seale Road. City Engineer Angel Moore advised of an upcoming ZOOM meeting to get proposals.

Councilmember Day inquired about Miracle Park. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised that it is in the planning stage.

Councilmember Bailey inquired about activities at the Old Cobb Hospital location. City Engineer Angel Moore advised that the gas company has a project on 20th Street and there is also activity associated with the Liberty Hill Housing Project.

Councilmember Bailey inquired if Economic Development has slowed down. Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan advised it has slowed down due to timing issues that the developers are experiencing; things are moving – just at a slower pace. Nothing has stopped completely.

Councilmember Bailey inquired when the Old Opelika Road Bridge would be completed. City Engineer Angel Moore advised that rain has hurt the main line road opening. Ms. Moore further advised that if the weather will cooperate, the road could be opened possibly before Christmas this year.

Councilmember Bailey inquired if Police and Fire are experiencing COVID related problems. Fire Chief Kris Kennedy advised no – they are trained for diseases and have implemented every safety precaution. Chief Kennedy further advised that training is still moving forward with classes being held via the platform ZOOM. City Manager Wallace Hunter advised that Public Safety is a hazardous job.

City Manager Wallace Hunter discussed the COVID related deaths of city employees. He also spoke on personal experiences dealing with COVID.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham reviewed agenda claims with Council.

Mayor Lowe reminded everyone to continue to be grateful and thankful for all our blessings. He also expressed his gratefulness for this council.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, December 14, 2020.