

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
January 19, 2021

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 Tuesday, January 19, 2021, 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, Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Assistant Fire Chief Tommy Cox, 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.

Mayor Lowe led the invocation.

Mayor Lowe advised Steve Franklin was not present to address Council as listed on the agenda. Mayor Lowe stated that he had spoken to Mr. Franklin prior to the meeting to address Mr. Franklin's concerns. Councilmember Bailey stated that he spoke to Mr. Franklin as well and agreed with the Mayor in stating that the City has no plans to purchase the old brick school or the Patterson House. Councilmember Bailey also stated that Mr. Franklin understood the process.

Mayor Lowe called upon Angel Moore, City Engineer, to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their January 12, 2021 meeting.

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

1. Reminded Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on January 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center. This meeting will be held on a Wednesday morning due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.
2. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet January 26, 2021 at 5:15 p.m.
3. Advised Council that the State of the City Address will be held on January 28, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
4. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on February 1, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. over the platform ZOOM.
5. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on February 2, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. over the platform ZOOM.
6. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet February 9, 2021 at 5:15 p.m.
7. Advised Council that City offices will be closed on February 15, 2021 in observance of President's Day.
8. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held February 16, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. over the platform ZOOM. This meeting will be held on a Tuesday afternoon due to the President's Day Holiday.

9. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on February 17, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. over the platform ZOOM. This meeting will be held on a Wednesday morning due to the President's Day Holiday.
10. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet February 23, 2021 at 5:15 p.m.
11. Reviewed upcoming board appointments.

Councilmember Johnson asked if the Alabama League of Municipalities was still hosting the Legislation Advocacy Day in Montgomery on February 9, 2021. Melony Lee, City Clerk, stated that to her understanding, there has been no changes in the meeting location or date. Mrs. Lee also stated that she would verify the information with the Alabama League of Municipalities and follow up with Council. Councilmember Johnson stated that if Legislation Advocacy Day is still scheduled as planned, she would be unable to attend the Planning Commission meeting on the same day.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham stated that there were no agenda claims to review with Council.

Councilmember Bailey stated that he has received several phone calls from citizens concerning the Covid-19 vaccination. Councilmember Bailey asked if the information concerning the Covid-19 vaccine and test sites could be added to the City's Electronic Marque signs or the City's Website. City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that he would reach out to the Russell County Health department and coordinate with the City's IT and Police Departments to publish Vaccine information for the citizens. Councilmember Johnson stated that she has received phone calls as well concerning the location and qualifications to receive the vaccination. Mr. Hunter stated that the Health Department is in the City but is governed by the State of Alabama and they are overwhelmed with questions, callers and visitors. Mayor Lowe asked that everyone be patient and stay safe while we go through this process.

City Manager Wallace Hunter asked that everyone be safe as the nation prepares for the Presidential Inauguration on January 20, 2021. Mr. Hunter stated that security will be tightened around the nation and everyone needs to be aware of their surroundings, pray and look out for each other. Mayor Lowe stated that Phenix City even though small in size, should come together as one and be an example for the rest of the country.

City Manager Wallace Hunter asked for an Executive Session to discuss Good Name and Character for 45 minutes, from which the meeting would adjourn.

Councilmember Johnson moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Good Name and Character for 45 minutes, from which the meeting would adjourn. Councilmember Gordy seconded said motion. All were in favor.

Council went into Executive Session at 4:09 p.m.

Council came out of Executive Session at 4:36 p.m.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, February 1, 2021.