

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 14, 2022**

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, February 14, 2022, at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center located at 3743 Moon Lake Drive, Phenix City, Alabama 36867. 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 Hunter, City Attorney Jimmy Graham, and City Clerk Melony Lee. Department Heads in attendance: Building Official Gil Griffith, Deputy Building Official Ray Rogers, City Engineer Angel Moore, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Economic Development Planning Director Tracie Hadaway, Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, IT Director Mike Barber, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Golf Manager Mike Barber, Library Director Michele Kilday, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain, Chief of Police Ray Smith, Assistant Chief of Police George Staudinger, Graduate Engineer John Spraggins, and Utilities Director Charles Woody.

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

Mayor Lowe led the invocation.

Mayor Lowe called upon Dr. Kendyl Sumbry Tarver to address Council, as listed on the agenda. Dr. Kendyl Sumbry Tarver came forward to address Council. Dr. Tarver stated that she is the owner of Kreative Learning Academy, a childcare center, located at 1713 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phenix City, Alabama. Dr. Tarver also stated that the center is near reaching its maximum capacity and she would like to purchase the adjacent property located at 1709 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Dr. Tarver asked Mayor and Council to consider rezoning the property from residential to commercial. Mayor Lowe stated that unfortunately the current childcare center is nonconforming Zoned R-2, Medium Density, and cannot be enlarged or increased. Gil Griffith, Building Official, stated that under the previous zoning ordinance, the childcare center was allowed to be in its present location. Mr. Griffith also stated that in the current zoning ordinance childcare centers are not allowed in an R-2 Zone. Mr. Griffith further stated that rezoning would require a minimum of 3 acres for a C-3 Neighborhood Commercial. Councilmember Day asked if the present location of the childcare center was grandfathered in before the current ordinance came into effect. Mr. Griffith stated that was correct. Councilmember Bailey asked if the childcare center could remain in its current location but with no opportunity for growth or expansion unless the area was large enough to rezone to C-3. Mr. Griffith stated that was correct. Councilmember Johnson congratulated Dr. Tarver on the need for growth at the childcare center. Councilmember Johnson stated that Dr. Tarver listed on the Request to Address City Council at a Work Session form, issues and concerns of neighboring pets near the childcare center. Dr. Tarver stated that the current location has a chain fence and the 1709 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue has a picket fence, which is a safer barrier for the children from neighboring pets. Councilmember Day asked, approximately how many children are allowed to be enrolled at the childcare center. Dr. Tarver stated that the center was licensed to have a maximum of 43 children in the building at one time. Councilmember Bailey asked if the current location of the center was a rental property which would allow for it to be relocated. Dr. Tarver stated that she and her husband own the property. Councilmember Bailey stated that he could relate to Dr. Tarver because the location of his business is nonconforming and has also been grandfathered in. Mayor Lowe stated that unfortunately the center is in an R-2 Zone and cannot be expanded under the current zoning ordinance. Mayor Lowe thanked Dr. Tarver for coming to speak with Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Traci Hadaway, Economic Development Planning Director, to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their February 8, 2022 meeting.

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

1. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on February 15, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
2. Informed Council that the Redistricting Public Hearing for District Two will be held on February 16, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Phenix City – Russell County Library.
3. Informed Council that City Offices will be closed on February 21, 2022 in observance of Presidents Day Holiday.
4. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet February 22, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
5. Informed Council that the Redistricting Public Hearing for District Three will be held on February 23, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Spencer Recreation Center.
6. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on February 28, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
7. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on March 1, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
8. Advised Council that Councilmember Day's Elected Official Luncheon will be held on March 4, 2022 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
9. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet March 8, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
10. Informed Council that the Fountain City Mardi Gras Parade will be held on March 12, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.
11. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on March 14, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
12. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on March 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
13. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet March 22, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.

City Clerk Melony Lee informed Council that the Alabama League of Municipalities 2022 Convention will be held May 11, 2022 through May 14, 2022 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Ms. Lee asked Council if they would like to attend the convention, to please notify the City Clerk's Office. Ms. Lee stated that registration is now open for the convention.

Councilmember Johnson inquired about the Women Leading Government 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference. City Clerk Melony Lee stated that the City Clerk's Office would email her the information.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham reviewed agenda claims with Council.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, February 28, 2022.