

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
May 16, 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, May 16, 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: Deputy Building Official Ray Rogers, Assistant Director of Engineering Mike Pattillo, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Economic Development Planning Director Tracie Hadaway, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Library Director Tammy Henry, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain, Assistant Chief of Police George Staudinger and Utilities Director Charles Woody.

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

Councilmember Gordy led the invocation.

Mayor Lowe advised there were no Requests to Address Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Tracie Hadaway, Economic Development Planning Director, to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their May 10, 2022 meeting. Ms. Hadaway stated that the meeting was canceled due to no Agenda items.

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 May 17, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
2. Informed Council that the Wendy's on 280 By-Pass Grand Opening was originally scheduled on May 16, 2022 and has been rescheduled to May 18, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
3. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet May 24, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
4. Reminded Council that City Offices will be closed on May 30, 2022 in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday.
5. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on June 6, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
6. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on June 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
7. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet June 14, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
8. Reminded Council that City Offices will be closed on June 20, 2022 in observance of the Juneteenth / Freedom Day Holiday.
9. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on June 21, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center. This meeting will be held on a Tuesday afternoon due to the Juneteenth / Freedom Day Holiday.
10. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Phenix City/Russell County Library.
11. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet June 28, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
12. Reviewed upcoming board appointments.

Councilmember Johnson inquired about the Public Hearing for a Conditional Use to be held at the May 24, 2022 Planning Commission. City Clerk Melony Lee stated that the Conditional Use request is for 1805 Knowles Road. Ms. Lee also stated that the City owns adjacent property. Ms. Lee further stated that a recommendation will be decided by the Planning Commission and will be presented before Council at the June 7, 2022 Council Meeting. Economic Development Planning Director Tracie Hadaway stated that the apartment complex located on Knowles Road would like to expand their number of units.

City Manager Wallace Hunter reviewed subdivision maps with Mayor and Council. Mr. Hunter stated that there are 145 subdivisions in City limits. Mr. Hunter also stated the subdivisions on the maps are represented as northern, central and southern parts of the City and not necessarily by districts. Mr. Hunter further stated that the Paving Maintenance Plan Project will be presented to Mayor and Council in the next couple of weeks to outline which areas will be resurfaced first.

City Manager Wallace Hunter reviewed upcoming Storm Water Drainage Project. Mr. Hunter stated that over time pipes deteriorate. Mr. Hunter stated that this is another cost that the City may be facing. Mr. Hunter also stated that concrete pipes last longer. Mr. Hunter also stated that it is very important for the City to be involved when builders build subdivisions in the City to make sure that they use pipes that are going to last.

City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that the time capsule that was originally housed in front of the Public Safety Building has been placed closer to the Utilities Department. Mr. Hunter also stated that Chief of Police Ray Smith will give an update of the time capsule's content at a later Work Session Meeting. Mr. Hunter further stated that the summer months are going to be busy months for the City.

City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that he was invited to attend the Russell County Commissioner's meeting. Mr. Hunter also stated that he attended the meeting along with Utilities Director Charles Woody and Utilities Engineer John Spraggins. Mr. Hunter further stated that the topic for discussion was sewage for the County. Mr. Hunter stated that the City and the County should all be on one accord because Phenix City is in Russell County. Economic Development Planning Director Tracie Hadaway stated the Department of Defense (DOD) has a grant for Community Betterment for communities surrounding Military Bases. Ms. Hadaway also stated that the DOD was very interested in the sewer project for the Ft. Mitchell area because some lots were not sufficient to support septic tanks.

City Manager Wallace Hunter thanked Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Economic Development Planning Director Tracie Hadaway, Planning Specialist Jennifer Lowman, and all who played a part in the Daechang Seat Corp., USA ground breaking ceremony. Mr. Hunter stated that he has received several phone calls from people expressing how great the ceremony was. Mr. Hunter also stated that Phenix City should be proud that Governor Kay Ivey was able to attend.

Councilmember Johnson stated that in the past, she has held a Meet your Council Representative of District Two meeting at the Central Activities Center prior to the scheduled Council Meeting. Councilmember Johnson also stated that this year's Council Meeting will be held at the Phenix City/Russell County Library on June 22, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Johnson further stated that she will be at the Library at 5:15 on June 22, 2022 to highlight the projects and events that are happening in District Two and answer any questions or concerns from the Citizens of District Two.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

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

City Manager Wallace Hunter encouraged everyone who is in need of employment to consider working for the City. Mr. Hunter stated that the City is a great place to work with a great retirement system. Mr. Hunter also stated that a Citizen made a post on social media that stated that the City's pools may not be opening due to lack of employees. Mr. Hunter further stated that the Citizen encouraged parents to start encouraging their children to be proactive this summer and work at Parks and Recreation for the summer. Mr. Hunter stated that the Citizen's plea was heard and several applications were turned in for the recreation centers.

Councilmember Day thanked City Manager Wallace Hunter and the Economic Department for the excellent Daechang Seat Corp. USA, ground breaking ceremony. City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that it is good to see the Industrial Park thrive and grow. Mr. Hunter also stated that over the past several years Phenix City has grown and it is something to be proud of. Mayor Lowe stated that Phenix City is too big to be small and he is excited for the growth and the new businesses that have come to Phenix City.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, June 6, 2022.