

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
July 5, 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 Tuesday, July 5, 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, and 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: Code Enforcement Officer Ricky Carlson, City Engineer Angel Moore, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Economic Development Planning Director Tracie Hadaway, Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Golf Manager Mike Barber, Library Director Tammy Henry, Municipal Court Clerk Ruby White, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Kristi Goggans, Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain, 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.

Councilmember Day 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 June 28, 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 July 6, 2022 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 Independence Day Holiday.
2. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet July 12, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
3. Informed Council that the Proposed Budget Public Hearing will be held on July 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
4. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on July 18, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
5. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on July 19, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
6. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet July 26, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
7. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on August 1, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
8. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on August 2, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
9. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet August 9, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
10. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on August 15, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
11. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on August 16, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
12. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet August 23, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
13. Reviewed upcoming board appointments.

Councilmember Day inquired about an update on the renovation of the Public Safety Building. Assistant Chief of Police George Staudinger stated that the project is coming along but some building materials are on back order which may slow down the process. Angel Moore, City Engineer, stated that on the engineering aspect of the project, some delays are expected.

Councilmember Day inquired about the number of applications that have been turned into the Human Resources Department that were hired by the City. Stephanie Chastain, Human Resource Director stated that 41 applications were received and 20 applicants were interviewed. Ms. Chastain also stated that the number of applications received varies from week to week.

Councilmember Day stated that he has received a phone call concerning a water leak on 27th Avenue. Councilmember Day also stated that he explained to the caller that the City is short of work staff. Councilmember Day asked the caller to be patient if it takes a little longer for the City to respond. Councilmember Day stated that the service request had been turned in.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham reviewed agenda claims with Council.

City Manager Wallace Hunter called upon Human Resource Director Stephanie Chastain to review Russell County's Covid-19 numbers and explained the mask mandate. Ms. Chastain passed out information from the Alabama's Covid-19 Data and Surveillance Dashboard. Ms. Chastain stated that on Thursday's around 10:00 p.m., the CDC updates their Covid-19 Data Tracker. Ms. Chastain also stated that Russell County is currently in the high risk Community Transmission Level. Ms. Chastain further stated with the increase in cases, the mask mandate has been re-instated for the safety of employees as well as citizens who visit city offices. Ms. Chastain stated that Russell County is currently at a 34% positive rate which is considered high. Ms. Chastain also stated that the CDC Covid-19 dashboard is updated weekly and she will check the numbers again next Thursday. Ms. Chastain further stated if Russell County is no longer in the high risk Community Transmission Level, the mask mandate will be lifted. Ms. Chastain stated that City Clerk Melony Lee will keep Council informed on updates.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, July 18, 2022.