

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
September 30, 2024

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, September 30, 2024 in the Council Chambers located within the Public Safety Building at 1111 Broad Street, Phenix City, Alabama 36867. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Councilmember Vickey F. Carter was not present. Also present were City Manager Wallace Hunter, Assistant City Manager Chan Gamble, City Clerk Shannon Davis, and City Attorney Jimmy Graham. Department Heads in attendance: Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, Engineering Director Angel Moore, Graduate Civil Engineer Chris Casey, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Human Resource Director Stephanie Chastain, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Library Director Tammy Henry, Municipal Court Clerk Ruby White, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Police Chief George Staudinger, Assistant Police Chief Joseph Weierick, and Utilities Director John Spraggins.

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

Mayor Lowe led the invocation.

Mayor Lowe advised there were no Request to Address Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Engineering Director Angel Moore, to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their September 24, 2024 meeting.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Shannon Davis who discussed the following with Mayor and Council:

1. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building.
2. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 5:15 p.m.
3. Informed Council that the East Alabama Chamber of Commerce will hold the Breakfast and Business Meeting on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 7:00 a.m.
4. Informed Council that City Offices will be closed on Monday, October 14, 2024 in observance of Columbus Day Holiday.
5. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building. This meeting will be held on a Tuesday afternoon due to the Columbus Day Holiday.
6. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building. This meeting will be held on a Wednesday morning due to the Columbus Day Holiday.
7. Advised Council that the Downtown Redevelopment Authority will meet on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

8. Advised Council that the Board of Zoning Adjustments and Appeals will meet on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
9. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 5:15 p.m.
10. Informed Council that the East Alabama Chamber of Commerce will hold an After Hours Business Meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
11. Informed Council that the Fall Municipal Law Conference will be held October 24, 2024 through October 26, 2024.
12. Advised Council that the Housing Abatement Board will meet on Thursday, November 1, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.
13. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on Monday, November 4, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.
14. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building.
15. Informed Council that City Offices will be closed on Monday, November 11, 2024 in observance of Veteran's Day.
16. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 5:15 p.m.
17. Advised Council that the NLC Convention is to take place November 13, 2024 through November 16, 2024.
18. Informed Council that the East Alabama Chamber of Commerce will hold the Breakfast and Business Meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 7:00 a.m.
19. Advised Council that the Phenix City Russell County Library Board will meet on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
20. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on Monday, November 18, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.
21. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building.
22. Advised Council that the Board of Zoning Adjustments and Appeals will meet on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
23. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 5:15 p.m.
24. Informed Council that the East Alabama Chamber of Commerce will hold an After Hours Business Meeting on Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
25. Informed Council that City Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 28, 2024 and November 29, 2024 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.
26. Reviewed upcoming Board Appointments.

Councilmember Bailey inquired if cuts in town had been checked for wash outs after the storm that Phenix City just had. City Engineer Angel Moore stated that staff is checking on them and have only found one that is washed out thus far. Ms. Moore also stated that staff is still concerned with the river walk flooding issues.

Councilmember Bailey mentioned an email that Mayor Lowe had received from a concerned patron in regards to certain parts of Phenix City still looking the same as it did years

ago with an emphasis on Seale Road and the lack of businesses located there. Councilmember Bailey stated how much the gentlemen's comments bothered him and that they were just not true as he explained how he drove around Phenix City over the last couple of days and noticed the work taking place all over the City and that it is not just in one concentrated area. City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that too much valuable time is being wasted on complaints from people who do not even reside in Phenix City. Mr. Hunter also stated that the City is broken up into three districts and that staff does their due diligence to make sure there is a project or job taking place in all three of those districts simultaneously.

Councilmember Day inquired if the City has the keys to the building in Austin Sumbry Park or if staff is still working on it. City Manager Wallace Hunter explained that the building is under an agreement that seems to be a part of the separate portion of the park. Mr. Hunter stated that the current contract is good until December, 2024, but plans are in place.

Councilmember Day stated that he had a gentlemen contact him in regards to all the used tires and trash left out by the road near Mother Mary Mission. Engineering Director Angel Moore explained that it is not the City's responsibility to clean up the trash pile at a business and stated that if the City does it for them they will have to do it for everyone else. Ms. Moore explained in detail what the process is to have extra trash picked up.

Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes stated that he and staff are doing their due diligence with the ant problem that they are experiencing at the Lakewood Ball Park and Idle Hour Park and that he was aware of the complaints that were being received.

Assistant City Manager Chan Gamble stated that the worker's at Alatrade are discharging chicken bones in the sewer system and went on to speak about other issues and problems Alatrade has been having. Mr. Gamble also stated that Utilities Director John Spraggins talked with Alatrade in April, 2024 to have them go to the lift stations, drain and clean them out of all the debris. Mr. Spraggins also provided details on what the workers have to go through just to get to the bottom of the lift which is 40 feet down. City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that the City is already short staffed in that department and having to deal with this issue is a lot on the staff.

Mayor Lowe stated that there being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m. on October 15, 2024.