

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 23, 2016

The City Council of the City of Trussville met for a workshop session on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at Trussville City Hall, with Council President Anthony Montalto presiding.

Those members present were as follows:

Council President Anthony Montalto
Councilman Buddy Choat
Councilman Perry Cook
Councilman Brian Plant
Councilman Alan Taylor

Absent: None

Others present in Official Capacity: Mayor Eugene Melton

The workshop was convened and the Council received a preliminary agenda and supporting documentation for the City Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2016. The Council reviewed the agenda and determined the order for consideration at the Council meeting.

The letter of intent to purchase the city's property at 1465 Gadsden Highway was discussed. This is 1.25 acres at a price of \$30 per foot. No tenant has been named by the buyer, however, the city has the right to back away from the sale, if they do not approve the tenant.

David Vinson, Parks and Recreation, presented quotations to replace exterior lighting at the Senior Citizens' Center, replacing breakers at the senior boys' baseball fields, and roof repairs at the Senior Citizens' Center. After review these items were added to the consent agenda.

Judge Carl Chamblee presented a proposal for courtroom security to the Council. He asked that four police officers be present during court settings, two to search belongings and man scanners and wands, and two in the courtroom. He stated he discussed this with the Mayor, and he suggested that paying overtime for existing officers for the remainder of the budget year would allow us to put this in place more quickly. The needed scanning equipment is estimated between \$3,500 and \$5,000 and signage, cameras, and funding for the overtime could be paid from his Judicial Administrative Fund that currently has \$190,000 and can be expended as recommended by the Judge of Chief Court Clerk. The Council agreed that we should take the necessary steps to enact this plan.

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned.

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in regular session on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Trussville City Hall. Council President Montalto presided over the meeting and Lynn Porter, City Clerk, served as recording secretary.

Council President Montalto called the meeting to order and asked Councilman Taylor to lead in prayer. Councilman Plant led the pledge to the flag.

Those persons answering present to roll call were as follows:

Council President Anthony Montalto
Councilman Buddy Choat
Councilman Perry Cook
Councilman Brian Plant
Councilman Alan Taylor

Absent: None

Others present in official capacity: Mayor Eugene Melton
Attorney Carl Johnson

Council President Montalto introduced the minutes of the February 9, 2016 meeting for approval. Councilman Plant asked that they be carried over.

The agenda, consent agenda, and agenda addendum were presented for approval. Council President Montalto stated items from the workshop to replace exterior lighting at the Senior Citizens' Center, replace breakers at the older youth baseball fields, approving repairs to the Senior Citizens' Center roof, authorizing the Mayor to approve purchase orders for court security items, and authorizing overtime for police officers during court to be paid from the Judicial Administration line item were added to the Consent agenda. Councilman Cook moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Councilman Choat and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Jef Freeman, 318 Woodward Road, stated he presented the RDA plan for downtown last week at the Chamber luncheon. He stated he understood budgetary constraints, but funding for a survey for the southwest quadrant is not an expense, but is an investment in our city. If we can change how downtown looks, we can get momentum going. He stated this cost is minimal. He stated he intends to run for a city council seat.

Mayor Melton stated there is \$1 million left in the line of credit that will be needed to meet contractual obligations on current projects. He stated he did not say that this would not be funded. He only said that it cannot be funded from the line of credit, and that the City Council will have to identify a source for the expenditure. Mayor Melton stated he met with RDA Chairman Keith Crumpton and Vice-Chairman Eddie Seal and explained this to them. He stated the company the RDA selected to do this survey, HatchMott McDonald, already has a great deal of city data, and can most likely do this as cost effectively as anyone can. The city has an open account with this company. He stated we have received a bid of more than \$8,000 for the opportunity to remove the metal building at 101 Morrow Avenue. This money can be used to offset the survey costs, but we need to add this to the city account rather than cutting a check to RDA at this time. The City Council must look at unbudgeted expenditures and determine where they need to be charged.

Mayor Melton stated the library expansion bids came in last Thursday over budget. He stated he met at 3:00 today to see if there was any room for negotiation without changing the scope of work. The low bid was \$4.5 million. The budget was \$3.5 million. He stated his job is to keep the Council aware of the budget and available funds and it is the Council's job to approve expenditures and to determine where the funding will come from.

Council President Montalto stated he did not think \$11,000 was unreasonable, since we will be receiving money from the sale of the building.

Councilman Taylor stated the funding for downtown was used for other items that he did not think it would be used for. To stop projects is not acceptable. We need to sit down and look at this in a finance meeting. It can't be done in this meeting.

Mayor Melton stated he, as Mayor, cannot spend a dime without Council approval. Money was set aside to support city projects and RDA. All items and projects were approved unanimously by the Council to spend the funds from the line of credit. Several downtown items have been paid from other funds.

Councilman Taylor stated the fire truck was approved to be ordered last year, knowing that it would arrive this fiscal year. The problem is, we should have financed it. This year we did not fund it in the budget. He stated he did not recall that it would be paid from the line of credit.

Council President Montalto stated we discussed paying for it from the line of credit during budget discussions, and financing it was discussed also, but he did not remember the decision.

Councilman Plant suggested this discussion continue at a workshop or a finance committee meeting. He suggested funding for the survey be approved tonight.

Councilman Taylor moved this survey be added to the agenda for HatchMott McDonald for \$11,000 or whatever the exact quote is. Mayor Melton suggested this be added, not to exceed \$12,000, since we do not have the exact amount in front of us. This was seconded by Councilman Cook, and the vote was unanimous to add to the agenda.

The consent agenda was presented as follows:

Accounts Payable

Liabilities	96,776.64
Non-Departmental	114,490.80
Mayor and Council	7,370.91
Administration	7,240.77
Engineering and Inspections	640.04
Municipal Court	1,208.00
Police Department	10,547.52
Fire Department	44,703.39
Public Works	3,936.64
Garbage	106.24
Parks and Recreation	34,525.26
Library	6,962.63
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	325,508.84
STREET IMPROVEMENT FUND	80,000.00
STATE GASOLINE FUND-4 CENT	16,795.00
EDUCATION FUND	1,308,395.32
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	27,464.70
CORRECTIONS FUND	59,345.66
2014 WARRANT FUND	11,422.88
LOC-TUB	2,155.79
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	1,834,088.19

IALEFI (Police) Training Conference - Morris - May 1-6 - Mobile - \$550, plus lodging
 Jefferson County Emergency Management - \$26,511
 travel reimbursement two training sessions - Tim Shotts - \$538.97
 Family & Domestic Violence - Robinson - April 11-12 - Birmingham - \$295
 FBI Firearms Instructor Course - Lovell - May 9-20 - Gadsden - No costs

Councilman Choat moved these items be approved, seconded by Councilman Cook, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Taylor presented Proclamation 2016-003 on the Trussville City School and Athletic Foundation fund raiser known as the Cahaba River Shrimp Boil, and moved it be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Choat moved Proclamation 2016-004 acknowledging Autoimmune Awareness Month be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Cook moved Resolution 2016-006 awarding the bid for two commercial mowers for the public works department to Service Star at a cost of \$19,200.00. This was seconded by Councilman Choat, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Plant moved Resolution 2016-007 authorizing a credit card account for the city with Regions Bank be approved, seconded by Councilman Choat. Mayor Melton stated this will be used within our established purchase order system and in emergency situations after hours. This was seconded by Councilman Choat and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Taylor moved HatchMott McDonald be authorized to perform a survey in the southwest quadrant of downtown at a cost not to exceed \$12,000, seconded by Councilman Cook, and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Ken Merriweather, Wimberly Drive, was recognized and thanked the Council for approving the proclamation for autoimmune awareness month. He stated it is the mission of their group to promote research and support those affected by autoimmune disease.

Councilman Choat reported for Parks and Recreation that a baseball tournament was held in the sports complex last weekend. Opening day for baseball and softball will be in March. He thanked the Council for approving the maintenance items in the recreation department. The Senior Citizens' Committee will meet in March.

Councilman Choat expressed his appreciation to Megan Patterson who has served as our Events Manager at the Civic Center for the past two and one-half years. She is moving with her husband out of state. Bernard Lockhart has been her assistant, holds a master's degree in management, and will be able to step into this position.

For the Library, Councilman Choat reported bids on the expansion were opened last week, and came in \$1 million over budget. We are working with the low bidders to see if there can be any savings without changing the bid to get this within our budget.

Councilman Cook reported the IDB discussed clearing the timber from part of their land in January so that the land can be better shown for potential sale. Their property in the Pinson/Tarrant area has been sold. The last quarterly luncheon for industrial park tenants was sponsored by Prestige Alarms and Chief Don Sivley was the speaker. They will meet again next Thursday.

For Public Works he reported the department is picking up leaves, and cleaning ditches and gutters.

Councilman Cook reported that Jef Freeman presented the RDA plan at the Chamber luncheon.

Council President Montalto reported that Design Review met and approved a renovation at 200 Parkway Drive, and signs for the Blount Law Firm at 2030 Gadsden Highway, Express Lube, Results Physiotherapy, approved renovations at NAPA, and an expansion for Panos Automotive.

Councilman Plant gave a comparative Fire Department report between 2014 and 2015.

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Residential Fires	6	9
Structure Fires	9	12
Total Fires	54	58
False Alarms	233	273
Medical Calls	1915	2048
HazMat Calls	24	35
Other	393	507
Mutual Aid Given	39	54
Total Responses	2058	2975

He gave the police investigative report saying of 123 assigned cases, 58 have been closed, and 65 are pending.

Councilman Taylor reported the School Board met and approved the school calendar for next year. The Hewitt girls' basketball team made the Elite 8, but lost to Buckhorn today. He stated 120 were in attendance at the Chamber luncheon when Jef Freeman spoke. The Chamber banquet was held last Saturday. The Gatekeeper Award has been renamed the Ned and Goldie Paine Gatekeeper Award. School Board Chairman Bill Roberts was awarded the citizen award. Jefferson Memorial was awarded the business award for their many years of community support.

Mayor Melton passed on his report.

Mr. William Young, 3323 Chase Court, Brooks Crossing, stated he came here for the school system. He stated he is thrilled with Trussville, and attended tonight to see how the city is run. He stated he moved here from Tuscaloosa.

No other business coming before the Council, a motion was made to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn B. Porter
City Clerk