

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

MAY 24, 2016

The City Council of the City of Trussville met for a workshop session on Thursday, May 10, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at Trussville City Hall, with Council President 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, May 24, 2016. The Council reviewed the agenda and determined the order for consideration at the Council meeting.

RAM Lighting made a proposal for the replacement of lighting at the Police Training Building and the gym and track at the Civic Center with LED lighting.

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned.

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in regular session on Tuesday, May 24, 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 Choat led the pledge to the flag.

Those persons answering present to roll call were as follows:

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

Absent: Councilman Perry Cook

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

Council President Montalto introduced the minutes of the May 10, 2016 meeting for approval. Councilman Taylor moved they be approved, seconded by Councilman Choat, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Taylor asked that Councilman Cook be remembered tonight, as he lost his mother this week.

The agenda, consent agenda, and agenda addendum were presented for approval. Items B & C were removed from the agenda as these properties have been cleaned up. Councilman Taylor stated we send a proclamation congratulating the Husky Baseball team in winning the 7-A State Championship to the Board of Education, and had a copy for each team member. Mayor Melton

asked that three items be added to the agenda. The first is for a sewer lateral replacement on Dogwood Lane. The low bid was submitted by Ricky Campbell in the amount of \$1800.00. The next two items are hearings on underage alcohol sales made to minors at the Shell station near I-59 and at the Shell station at 199 Beechnut Street. Councilman Plant moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Councilman Choat and the vote was unanimous.

The consent agenda was presented as follows:

	Accounts Payable	
	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Addendum</u>
Non-Departmental	97,649.50	
Liabilities		109,635.96
Mayor and Council	593.66	803.81
Administration	20,153.44	341.77
Engineering and Inspections	175.56	929.38
Municipal Court	229.00	60.00
Police Department	11,407.99	4,977.91
Fire Department	16,553.94	10,671.28
Public Works Department	4,259.65	6,465.07
Parks and Recreation	10,196.52	24,354.23
Library	3,200.14	5,133.86
Heritage Hall		25.00
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	164,419.40	186,433.67
CORRECTIONS FUND	15,995.19	331.19
 TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	 180,414.59	 186,764.86

- National League of Cities dues- \$1,489.00
- Merit increases effective May 28, 2016
 - Fire- Jesse Clifton- Grade 17, Step 6
 - Police- Joshua Payne- Grade 17, Step 7
 - Library - Brittany Roberts - Grade 12, Step 4
- Upgrade Josh Taylor to Event Set-up Supervisor-Grade 15, Step 1, effective May 28, 2016
- Authorize Mayor to sign Crescent Shopping Center ROW agreement Roebuck Industrial Drive
- Hire Renee A. Bagley- Public Works- Grade 7, Step 2
- Approve Sub lessor's Waiver and Consent- 24e Fitness, LLC
- Approve sewer lateral replacement Dogwood Lane, low bid Ricky Campbell of \$1800.00
- Hearing Alcohol sales to minor at the Shell station near I-59
- Hearing Alcohol sales to minor at the Shell station at 199 Beechnut Street

Councilman Plant moved these items be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

A police sting operation was conducted recently and at two service stations the clerk failed to properly identify the customer and sold alcohol to a minor.

Mr. Mike Gunter was recognized and stated four of their stores were checked that day, and at the store near I-59, the lady keyed the identification into the machine wrong. He stated this employee has been with him for four years and performs approximately 700 transactions a day, with 100 to 150 per day being alcohol or tobacco. He stated he felt this was truly a mistake. The employee has been an excellent employee, and was being considered for management prior to this event. She has been suspended for one week, and put on probation. The last time there was an incident at this store was in 2004, and that was a different employee.

Councilman Plant asked if the same system was used for alcohol and tobacco, and was told yes. The birth date from the identification is keyed into the register and it will approve or disapprove the sale based upon the age. Councilman Plant stated it looks like there are around 124,000 of these transactions per year. He stated Mr. Gunter has a lot of stores here and has been a good corporate citizen. We believe that you take the selling of alcohol as seriously as we do.

Mr. Mohammed was recognized to address the underage sale at the Shell station at 199 Beechnut Street. He apologized on behalf of the store. He stated he has operated this store for six years and has had no problems. Since the incident on May 6, all employees have retaken the Responsible Vendor Training. He stated a gentleman was sent in that has been in the store many times. He had purchased alcohol products in the past with an ID that said that he was twenty-one. He stated he knew this, as he had made sales to him himself after checking the ID and entering the information from it. When the young man came in this time, the clerk knew him and did not check his ID that day. It turned out that the young man was only nineteen. He stated typically, if an employee sells to a minor, the employee is terminated. Mr. Mohammed stated in this case, since he had sold to this individual as well, he suspended the employee.

Councilman Plant asked was there a potential to circumvent the system?

Mr. Mohammed stated his system was the same as Mr. Gunter's system. The clerk enters the date of birth into the register, or there is an override button that can be used for people who are over the age to be checked.

Councilman Taylor stated he thought this was a great lesson. In the banking business, we pride ourselves on recognizing our customers when they come back. Knowing your customer sometimes comes back to bite you.

Mayor Melton stated the only conflict he saw was we were told that they check all IDs, but then I hear tonight that this can be bypassed. He stated he did not recall too many saying that you could pick and choose who to card. He stated his concern is the ability to bypass.

Mr. Gunter confirmed that the system has an override that can be used when someone is clearly of age.

Councilman Plant suggested that Mr. Mohammed get with the Mayor or the Chief of Police to work out exactly how this will be handled. He suggested this establishment be placed on probation.

Councilman Taylor stated he thought both proprietors should understand how seriously we take this. He stated he is satisfied that mistakes were made.

A resolution authorizing ALDOT funding for the Edwards Lake Parkway/Roebuck Industrial Drive road extension. ALDOT has committed an additional \$560,000 bringing their total participation to \$710,000 for this project. Councilman Choat moved Resolution 2016-025 authorizing this additional funding be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Plant moved Resolution 2016-026 declaring the 1994 fire truck as surplus be approved, seconded by Councilman Choat. Councilman Taylor asked Chief Ledbetter what he planned to do with it, and was told it will be sold. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Plant moved Resolution 2016-027 agreeing to assume the maintenance on the Interstate lighting from I-459 to Chalkville Road be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

A resolution to declare a nuisance at 114 Watterson Parkway was presented. A letter was sent to the property owner, and he said that he would cut the area, but has not, and we have not heard back from him. Councilman Taylor moved Resolution 2016-028 be approved declaring this nuisance, seconded by Councilman Choat, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Choat stated our Park and Recreation Department hosted the State Track and Field meet last weekend. There were between 300 and 350 students participating. This was a good event.

The Library Board has been working to reduce the cost of the library expansion. We have had assistance from Powers and Associates to find ways to cut the cost without affecting the overall scope of the project. We have taken suggestions for savings in many areas, but kept some items that were important to the staff. Hopefully this will keep us in budget this time.

Councilman Plant stated he appreciated the follow up on the underage sales. He stated last night the Board of Education honored students receiving scholarships and achieving athletic awards.

Councilman Taylor stated graduation is tonight for 368 students. He stated it is an honor to have our Baseball team as State Champions. The community turned out in incredible numbers to support them at the games. We also have several individual state champions in track and in wrestling.

Councilman Taylor stated Mr. Bill Roberts had asked not to be reelected as Board of Education President. He would like to stay on the Board. The Board elected Mr. Sid McNeal as President, and Gayle Glenn as vice-president. The two new schools are coming along. We have a good school system and it is something to be proud of.

Councilman President Montalto reported that Design Review approved a flag pole at Kidron. They approved a sign for Courtyard Oyster Bar and Grill. Serra Kia had asked for a pole sign, but were only allowed a monument sign. A sign was approved for Grace School of Theology on Norrell Drive. Plans for 8170 Gadsden Highway were approved, as were additions at 120 Meadow Lane and on Pine Street. The Regions Bank renovation was approved. The two Belk stores at the Pinnacle will be combined, and At Home will take over the space vacated by the men's store.

Mayor Melton stated the Utilities Board water and gas line replacement downtown is winding down. By next meeting we should be ready to go out to bid on Railroad Avenue.

Councilman Choat asked were we back on schedule with our ATRIPS project, and was told yes.

Public Works Director Wayne Sullivan stated one week from today Trussville Clay Road will be closed. It should be open by the time school starts.

Laura Reichert, 116 North Mall, was recognized and stated cars block the handicap ramp to the sidewalks on the mall, and asked can this be striped to keep this from happening.

Council President Montalto stated he felt this could be done.

Ms. Hogan, 121 Lake Street, asked consideration of a health issue with the Zika virus affecting seniors and children. Nothing is being done about the problem, although the Jefferson County Health Department says it should be addressed. She asked what legal action she could take and what ordinances are there. She asked if there was consideration of cleaning out the ditch behind her house? She asked when the construction downtown will be completed. She stated the turn lane to Chalkville Road from Main Street only lets about three cars through per cycle.

Mayor Melton stated he would have the signal checked.

Ms. Hogan asked the City's plan for the Zika virus, and was told we have no specific plan for the virus, however, he talked to the Park and Recreation Department in the spring, and asked them to put out the larvacide doughnuts in any areas where there was standing water.

Mr. Jef Freeman stated he would like to compliment the Civic Center staff on the great job they did on Saturday when Republicans met and where U. S. Senator candidates were present.

Municipal candidates were recognized - Jef Freeman, Anthony Irwin, Zac Steele, David Blount, and Martha Driggers.

Council President Montalto stated the June 9 workshop will be moved to Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. prior to the City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn B. Porter
City Clerk