

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

AUGUST 14, 2018

The City Council of the City of Trussville met for a workshop session on Thursday, August 9, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at Trussville City Hall, with Council President Alan Taylor presiding.

Those members present were as follows:

Council President Alan Taylor
Councilman Perry Cook
Councilman Brian Plant
Councilman Zack Steele

Absent: Councilman Jef Freeman

Others present in Official Capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat

The workshop was convened and the Council received a preliminary agenda and supporting documentation for the City Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018. The Council reviewed the agenda and determined the order for consideration at the Council meeting.

Discussion followed on a Historical Preservation Ordinance.

Ms. Brannon Dawkins, 115 Lake Street, stated since the first demolition last year, the neighborhood has organized better. They have not formed a neighborhood association yet. She stated she did not have unrealistic expectations, but they would like to preserve the style and integrity. David Arnett needs written standards for the district. We want owners to follow the steps. We want to have a discussion of an HOA for the district.

Ms. Jimmie King, 102 Pine Street, stated it appears that new families are getting priority over the rest of us. The Cahaba Project is the heart of Trussville, and has great historical value. Some have built beautiful houses in the wrong place.

Ms. Susan Huie, 114 Lake Street, stated she feels passionate about the neighborhood. People are trying to come together to do something. She asked could a moratorium be put into place until this gets done?

Mr. Garrett Scott, 111 Lake Street, stated he appreciated the offer to do something to preserve the historic value. It is a shame that so many modifications have been made. There will be a lot of regrets if it becomes too late.

Mr. Ian Maddox, 112 Oak Street, stated they do not need to be convinced of the value. We will organize the neighborhood. What do you need from us?

Council President Taylor stated they will get our legal counsel to look at the documents we have been given.

Mr. Bryce Faulkner, Rockridge Avenue, asked that any regulations not be heavy handed. Some of these houses should be torn down. He stated he did not think that any rules should be too restrictive.

Mr. Scotty Moates, 602 Parkway Drive, stated he renovated his house 80%. He reused floors, studs and roofing.

Mr. Faulkner stated if the standards are too restrictive, the area will not be attractive to new owners.

Councilman Plant pointed out that any owner in any neighborhood can demolish and rebuild a house - even if it is not dilapidated.

Ms. Dawkins, agreed, but said those homes are not a part of a historic WPA project. If a new owner does not want to save one of these homes, they should not move there. There are many nice subdivisions where other styles of homes can be built.

Ms. Jenny Rogers, 106 Pine Street, stated she likes what is proposed downtown. The identity of Trussville is tied to the Cahaba Project. The school was not razed, but was saved and improved. She stated she wants the historical charm preserved. If the current tear downs and rebuilds are not stopped, you will not recognize it in a few years.

Council President Taylor stated the school was preserved by the city. We own it, and we made a choice. Our dilemma is, can we dictate to others what they can do. There may be a Supreme Court or a State ruling. Many changes have been made since the 1930's. The only difference now is with the changes downtown, many people want to be here. The question is, do we have the right to tell you what you can do with your property.

Mr. Arnold Reichert, 116 North Mall, stated he felt some part of the home needs to be retained. He stated he had no problem building in the same style. He commended the job done on the house on Parkway Drive. We must have preservation. People moving in need to hear from the city that they must retain the character of the home.

Council President Taylor stated we might be able to do something going forward, but he was not sure we can impose anything on the present owner. We will get an answer.

Mr. Reichert stated people want to move in because of the schools mostly, rather than downtown.

Mr. Chase Evans, 150 Rockridge Avenue, stated he agreed with Ms. Dawkins. There need to be more restrictions on what can be done to the houses. He stated he felt we are on the right path to work together. There is a lot of potential. Some can't be saved due to the condition.

Mr. Bo Watkins, 300 Rockridge, stated he agreed with Mr. Faulkner. He does not want to restrict changes so much that you can't fix the homes up. Some have termites or inadequate foundations. When you find problems, you need to be able to rebuild something you want.

Ms. Kinley Nelms, 121 South Mall, stated they are not trying to keep people from coming in, but they want to preserve what they have. As we move forward, we do not want to lose sight of those who want preservation.

Councilman Steele stated we can't do it yet, but we are going to. He stated the Alabama Historical Commission says we can control this as we go forward. He stated he is the last person who wants to demolish something, if it can be saved. If this happens, he would like to see what is rebuilt to look like the homes on the Historic Register. We have a good opportunity here, and he feels positive that we can get it done.

Councilman Plant stated this is the largest WPA project brought to completion - and with a school. It is a value to us as a community. Ms. Roosevelt visited this project, and it is possibly the only one she visited. It is said that she instructed that the rock bridge on Cherokee be built.

Councilman Cook stated the reason the school looks as it does today, is because of the people.

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned.

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in regular session on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Trussville City Hall. Council President Taylor presided over the meeting and Lynn Porter, City Clerk, served as recording secretary.

Council President Taylor called the meeting to order and asked Miss Trussville Outstanding Teen McKinsey Ward to lead in prayer. Councilman Cook led the pledge to the flag.

Those persons answering present to roll call were as follows:

Council President Alan Taylor
Councilman Perry Cook
Councilman Brian Plant
Councilman Zack Steele

Absent: Councilman Jef Freeman

Others present in Official Capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat
Attorney Rick Stotser

Council President Taylor introduced the minutes of the July 24, 2018 meeting for approval. Councilman Steele moved they be approved, seconded by Councilman Cook, and the vote was unanimous.

The agenda and consent agenda were presented for approval. Mayor Choat asked that a resolution to authorize the purchase of 64 Cedar Lane for an alleyway be approved. Councilman Plant moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele and the vote was unanimous.

Council President Taylor stated Miss McKinsey Ward's sister Madison Ward is the reigning Miss Trussville.

Mr. George Harding, 3544 Harrier Street, HOA president, stated they would like to have the decorative street signs installed in their subdivision. They currently have the standard green signs. He stated he appreciated all that the City Council does.

Mayor Choat stated we have a quote for signs. We will have to see if we can keep it in the budget.

Mr. Richard Epstein, Boulder Drive, asked was there an ordinance that dump trucks must be tarped, and was told no.

The consent agenda was presented as follows:

Accounts Payable

Liabilities	18,470.77
Non-Departmental	156,7484.69
Mayor and Council	7,046.11
Administration	8,357.41
Inspections	4,543.10
Municipal Court	1,882.07
Information Technology	2,460.98
Police Department	42,648.71
Fire Department	39,375.51
Public Works	61,875.45
Parks and Recreation	62,834.13
Library	24,987.40
Rental Properties	864.58
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	605,755.29
CORRECTIONS FUND	1,633.61

MUNICIPAL COURT FUND
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

330.00
607,718.90

AMROA Conference - Frazier and Shipp - Tuscaloosa - Oct. 3-5, 2018 - \$225.00 plus lodging
Central AL Police K9 - Holloway - Conference - Fultondale - Oct. 1-5, 2018 - \$250.00
Government Finance Officers conference - Salter - Orange Beach - Aug 15-17 - \$395 plus lodging
(Est \$280) and travel expenses
Merit increases effective August 18, 2018
Fire Department
Matthew Panepento - Grade 17, Step 6, plus 10%
Stephen K. Sanders - Grade 17, Step 5
J. Chris Slaughter - Grade 17, Step 5, plus 10%
Merit increase upon graduation from police academy effective Aug 18, 2018
Johnathan Goodrum, Grade 17, Step 2, plus 10%
Charles Hester, Grade 17, Step 2, plus 5%
Temp. Assignment Acting Police Chief - Eric Rush - Grade 29, Step 7 effective 6-1-18
Correct premium assignment for Richard Golden eff. 8-4-2018 Grade 17, Step 8, plus 5%
Approve purchase of switches and installation, setup and configuration from TSA - \$31,738.00
(equipment on State Bid) for metro-ethernet connections to buildings interiors

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

Councilman Steele read and moved Proclamation 2018-015 declaring Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month in September be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant. This is McKinsey Ward's platform. She will be promoting this cause during her reign. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Councilman Cook moved Resolution 2018-021 authorizing the trustee to disburse up to \$5 million from the Education Trust Fund for the construction of a new central office, seconded by Councilman Steele and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Plant moved Resolution 2018-022 for a budget adjustment to reflect that capital items will now be shown separately in the City's budget in a capital improvements fund, rather than being shown in general fund. This was seconded by Councilman Steele. Mayor Choat explained that funding for these items will still come from the general fund, but funds will be transferred to the Capital Improvements Fund to cover those expenses. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Steele presented an ordinance to authorize the installation of stop signs on Railroad Street at its intersection with Railroad Avenue, and moved for unanimous consent to suspend the rules of procedure to allow for the immediate consideration of this ordinance, seconded by Councilman Plant, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmen Taylor, Cook, Plant, and Steele

Nays: None

Councilman Steele then moved Ordinance 2018-018-PS be adopted authorizing the installation of these stop signs, seconded by Councilman Plant, and upon a roll call vote the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmen Taylor, Cook, Plant, and Steele

Nays: None

Councilman Cook moved Resolution 2018-023 authorizing the purchase of 64 Cedar Lane at a cost of \$375,000 be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele. This property is owned by J & H Rentals and consists of a strip lying behind Slag Heap Brewery, Mike and Mike Automotive, and the florist shop. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Cook reported that TRA met last Tuesday and discussed the Borello property and internal finances. The IDB met three weeks ago and discussed amending the covenants in the industrial park, where additional property might be found, and the progress on their Advantage Site application. Prestige Alarm will host a luncheon for tenants in the park on October 4.

Councilman Cook reported that the Beautification Board met for the first time in several years. They are looking to fill a vacancy on the Board.

Councilman Plant stated the stop sign approved tonight was recommended by the Public Safety Committee. The Historical Committee will have the museum open on August 18. A ground breaking was held for Full Moon Barbeque. Coach Josh Floyd will be the speaker at the Chamber Luncheon. Coach Floyd's teams have twenty regular season wins in a row, and have gone to the state playoffs the past two years.

Councilman Steele stated the Park and Recreation Board met. A report from Trussville United Soccer Club said that there were 800 children in the program. More field space is needed.

For public works he reported they are busy cutting grass and removing trees. ACTA is getting ready to perform the Adams Family Musical.

Council President Taylor stated the Taste of Trussville will be held on September 27. Trussville was named in the top fifty athletic programs in the state. Trussville was named number one overall for the success of all of the athletic programs and the facilities. The ESPN channels will broadcast Hewitt's first game with Cedar Grove, Georgia and the last game with Thompson.

Council President Taylor stated Mayor Choat represented the city well on our bond ratings calls.

Mayor Choat stated the City received a Aa2 rating from Moody's and a AA+ rating from S&P. The issue may go out as soon as next week.

Mayor Choat stated Milam and Company has started clearing on the Valley Road extension project. They have ten months to complete this project. He stated he met with ALDOT last week concerning the widening of Highway 11 in front of City Hall. This will be a part of an ALDOT bid letting in the Spring.

Mayor Choat stated Quad 1 is at 100% plan submittal. Many have expressed an interest in bidding on this project. We hope to go out to bid in September and to award the bid in October. We hope to have this completed in twelve months.

Mayor Choat stated Full Moon will have a local operator. Hometown Sporting Goods has relocated to South Chalkville Road.

Mayor Choat stated the Finance Committee will meet again next week. We hope to have a first draft of our budget by our next meeting. We are working on a financial policy containing goals and parameters.

Council President Taylor stated Urban Air will open on Saturday. Edgar's will open in September.

Mr. George Harding, Harrier Street, asked was there a handout on the beautification plans? He stated his neighborhood would like to participate.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn B. Porter
City Clerk