

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

JANUARY 8, 2019

The City Council of the City of Trussville met for a workshop session on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Trussville City Hall. Council President Jef Freeman presiding.

Those members present were as follows:

Council President Jef Freeman
Councilman Perry Cook
Councilman Zack Steele
Councilman Alan Taylor

Absent: Councilman Brian Plant

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, January 8, 2019. The Council confirmed that they did not intend to participate in the Severe Weather Awareness tax holiday, and this information will be returned to the Department of Revenue. The proposed tuition reimbursement policy was reviewed and added to the agenda. The Council reviewed the agenda and determined the order for consideration at the Council meeting.

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned.

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in regular session on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Trussville City Hall. Council President Freeman presided over the meeting and City Clerk Lynn Porter served as recording secretary.

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

Those persons answering present to roll call were as follows:

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

Absent: None

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

Council President Freeman introduced the minutes of the December 20, 2018 meeting for approval. Councilman Cook moved they be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele, and the vote was unanimous.

The agenda and consent agenda and agenda addendum were presented for approval. Mayor Choat asked that a catering bill for Jim & Nicks be added to the accounts payable, in the amount of \$5,513.67. Council President Freeman stated he would like to see the City go on record as opposing the landfill expansion in the area of I-459 to the railroad, which is behind several of our businesses in the area. This was added to the agenda. Councilman Plant moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele and the vote was unanimous.

The consent agenda was presented with the addition of the Jim and Nicks bill.

Accounts Payable

Liabilities	300.00
Non-Departmental	34,502.55
Mayor and Council	261.97
Administration	1,131.84
Inspections	1,193.66
Municipal Court	1,057.27
Finance	332.28
Information Technology	2,191.71
Police Department	14,014.64
Fire Department	18,995.59
Public Works	4,147.05
Parks and Recreation	55,406.48
Library	1,998.26
Rental Property	824.08
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	136,357.48
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	1,274.61
CORRECTIONS FUND	1,281.03
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	138,913.12

Hire in police department effective January 19, 2019 subject to PBJC approval

Michael Pressley, Jr. - Grade 17, Step 3

Anthony Martin, Jr. - Grade 17, Step 3

Merit increases effective February 2, 2019

Lynn Porter, City Clerk - Grade 31, Step 8

Jacob Sartain - Library - Grade 13, Step 3

Teasa Thigpen - Library - Grade 12, Step 2

Timothy Shotts - Fire - Grade 34, Step 7, plus 5%

Jacob Turner - Fire - Grade 17, Step 4

Thomas Sizemore - Fire - Grade 17, Step 4, plus 5%

Viridiana Herrera - Library - Grade 16, Step 8

Upgrade Martin Horst, Civic Center to full time laborer eff. Jan 5, 2019

Hire two temporary part-time firefighters to work an employee medical leave

Accept resignation of Jean P. Robert, Fire Department, effective January 20, 2019

Jim & Nicks catering bill for December, 2018 - \$5,513.67

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

Ms. Jo Ellen Ives was recognized and stated this will be the tenth year that the Blow Away event has raised money for cystic fibrosis research in the Birmingham area. This year they had 400 runners. They have been asked to add a 10K race to the 5K race they have traditionally done. They have an 85% retention rate on the runners, who seem to love the course. Their course record is 14 minutes and 49 seconds for the 5K race. She introduced members of their group including President Jonathan Reyers. They asked to be allowed to hold this even again in the fall.

Councilman Taylor thanked the group, stating that this event is well done. They have music and food and it is well organized.

Mr. Richard Epstein, Boulder Drive, asked if there were any plans to widen Chalkville Road? He asked about a generator at the Civic Center, about the traffic signal at Brooks Crossing, and about the Braden building.

Mayor Choat stated he met with Mr. Cooper of ALDOT and Darrell Skipper. Fiber will be run from the Pinnacle to Tutwiler Farms to tie the light controls together. The downtown project

construction began on January 2. Demolishing the buildings is the first thing that will take place, but the Braden's building will be the last one to come down.

A public hearing on the vacation of three rights-of-way in Quad 1 was presented by Mr. J. T. Murphy of CCI. This includes a 10-foot alley between Golden Rule Barbeque and Ferus Brewery; the portion of Morrow Road lying south of Beech Street, which will be the location of the stage, pavilion, and gathering area; and a small portion of Cedar Street lying south of the Beech Street extension, which will be a part of the parking lot.

The public hearing was opened, and there being no comment, the hearing was closed. Councilman Taylor moved for unanimous consent to suspend the rules of procedure to allow for the immediate consideration of this resolution of a permanent nature, seconded by Councilman Steele, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Freeman, Cook, Plant, Steele, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Taylor then moved Resolution 2019-001 vacating these rights-of way be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Freeman, Cook, Plant, Steele, and Taylor

Nays: None

A request to rezone property at 407 Cherokee Drive from P to R-1 was presented by Mr. Mike Strength, General Manager of Trussville Utilities. This is the former site of the water tank that was decommissioned last year and removed. The portion of the property to be rezoned is the Cherokee Drive frontage extending back to a line from the rear corner of the subdivision lot on the west to the rear corner of the subdivision lot on the east of this property. This property will be offered for sale as a residential lot.

Councilman Cook 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: Councilmembers Freeman, Cook, Plant, Steele, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Cook then moved Ordinance 2019-001-P&Z rezoning this property be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Freeman, Cook, Plant, Steele, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Plant moved Proclamation 2019-001 on the Blow Away 5K and 10K be approved, seconded by Councilman Cook, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Steele moved Proclamation 2019-002 on School Board Member Recognition Month be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor. Council President Freeman stated these Board members put in untold hours, and their efforts have been shown in our recent ranking as the number two school in the state.

Councilman Taylor moved Resolution 2019-002 authorizing a budget amendment for funds in the amount of 56,313.34 received that were not budgeted that must be spent on fire department capital expenses be approved. This was seconded by Councilman Plant and the vote was unanimous.

An ordinance to amend the flood damage prevention ordinance was presented.. Buildings Inspections Supervisor David Arnett stated these changes required by ADEM are not changes in the regulations, but are more of a clarification of the ordinance.

Councilman Cook 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: Councilmembers Freeman, Cook, Plant, Steele, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Cook then moved Ordinance 2019-002-ADM be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Freeman, Cook, Plant, Steele, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Steele moved Resolution 2019-003 authorizing a tuition reimbursement policy be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

Council President Freeman stated the City of Birmingham has filed an application with ADEM to expand the Eastern Area Landfill to the railroad behind the Chevron Station on Highway 11 in Trussville. The public comment period will close on Friday. He stated he feels the City needs to go on record as opposing this. We do not want this on our city's front porch.

Councilman Plant stated he felt it was appropriate for the Mayor to voice our concerns on behalf of the Council. Possibly he and the City Attorney will be able to draft something, and point out our concerns about water quality. Councilman Plant stated we try to work with all of the surrounding cities. About a year ago we met with representatives from the City of Birmingham and from the engineering firm.

Mayor Choat stated there are also concerns about air quality.

Councilman Plant moved the Mayor be instructed, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to prepare a letter to ADEM in opposition to the Birmingham Eastern Area Landfill expansion. This was seconded by Councilman Cook, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Cook reported the Beautification Board did not meet due to lack of a quorum. The IDB will have a workshop with our economic development consultant on Thursday. He stated Mr. Gordon Flynn who served on our Utilities Board for forty years passed away this weekend.

Councilman Plant stated the Library meeting has been moved to January 28. For finance he reported that the tuition reimbursement policy was brought to them first. He stated hopefully this will show our investment in our employees and how we appreciate them. He stated Mr. Flynn was also on the city council and was a Navy aviator.

Councilman Steele stated the Public Works department is busy picking up leaves and debris.

Councilman Taylor stated the RDA has a lot going on. There will be a ribbon cutting at Salon Blonde on Gadsden Highway. The speaker at the Chamber luncheon on January 17 will be Darren Mott of the FBI speaking on cyber security. There will be a Business After Hours at Peach Tree Assisted Living on January 14. He welcomed new Chamber Board members and thanked those who are rolling off.

Council President Freeman stated the recent report card for Alabama schools showed Trussville at the number two school system in the state. He stated Design Reveiw approved the new

Dollar General site next to O'Reilly's Auto Parts. Planning and Zoning will not meet in January. Inspections is doing a good job.

Mayor Choat stated he attended an ALDOT bridge closing meeting. These bridges in downtown Birmingham will close between January 15 and the end of the month. There is a \$250,000 per day incentive for every day the project is completed early and the same penalty for finishing late. This is a fourteen month project. It is estimated that there will be an additional 50,000 cars per day on I-459.

The City's contract with Russo Corporation for work in the downtown area commenced on January 2, 2019. The buildings on Cedar Lane will be taken down and then the Braden's building. Ferus Brewery and Restaurant are coming along and will be completed in advance of other work in that area.

Mayor Choat stated he has received many compliments on the Park and Recreation department's decorations of the Christmas tree.

Councilman Taylor asked was 31st Street the last exit that would remain open heading toward downtown Birmingham, and was told yes.

Mayor Choat stated we will hold a special meeting next Tuesday, January 22, to get project updates.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn B. Porter
City Clerk

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