The City Council of the City of Trussville met for a workshop session on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 5:00 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 Brian Plant
Councilman Zack Steele
Councilman Alan Taylor

Absent: None

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

The workshop was convened and the Council received a preliminary agenda and supporting documentation for the City Council meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 19, 2019. The Council reviewed the agenda and determined the order for consideration at the Council meeting.

Mayor Choat submitted the name of Ed Smith for consideration for appointment to the Utilities Board. He is retired from the natural gas industry. The Council agreed to add this to the Consent Agenda.

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned.

The Council went into an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at approximately 5:45 to be concluded before the Council meeting that began at 6:00 p.m. Upon advice of Counsel, no motion was made and no vote was taken.

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in regular session on Tuesday, June 18, 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 stated the Council had just come out of an Executive Session where the Mayor brought the Council up to speed on some personnel matters.

Council President Freeman asked Councilman Cook 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 May 28, 2019 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. Fire Chief Shotts questioned the timing of the merit increase for Jeff Fore. This item was removed until the date can be verified. Chief Shotts stated firefighter Matthew Fredrick finished recruit school and asked that his increase to Grade 17, Step 2. Be added. Mayor Choat stated Park and Recreation wants to hire Daniel Cosby part-time for the rest of the summer season. These items will be added to the Consent Agenda. Councilman Steele moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor and the vote was unanimous.

The Consent Agenda was presented as follows:

Accounts Payable

Liabilities 11,444.69
Non-Departmental 58,028.76
Mayor and Council 3,245.63
Administration 6,174.01
Inspections 4,675.03
Municipal Court 1,556.42
Finance 266.09
Information Technology 6,959.45
Police Department 59,945.90
Fire Department 46,165.26
Public Works 47,388.20
Parks and Recreation 125,987.71
Library 19,585.41
Rental Property 1,005.93
GENERAL FUND TOTAL 573,742.02
CORRECTIONS FUND 6,596.69
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND 13,830.00 TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 595,908.55

Workmen’s Comp audit billing - $46,100.00
Criminal Patrol/Drug Interdiction - Martin - Irondale - Aug 15-16 - $250.00
ASCE-APWA Conference - Sullivan - Gulf Shores - July 16-18 - $325 plus lodging
Merit increases effective June 22, 2019
Zykeisha Randle - Court - Grade 19, Step 3
Brian Nabers - Park & Rec - Grade 7, Step 7
Stephen Nabors - Fire - Grade 17, Step 3, plus 5%
Dalton King - Fire - Grade 17, Step 3, plus 5%
Latoya Thomas - Police Dispatch - Grade 16, Step 2
Approve 5% educational incentive for Jordan Thomas, police
Hire Matt Taylor Thigpen - Public Works - Grade 7, Step 2
Hire Ryan Curran - Police Dept - Grade 17, Step 1 effective June 22
End temporary part-time appointment Fire Dept 7-9-19 & reappoint temporary part-time (6 months), Grade 17, Step 2
Micah Black
Billy Brodie
Accept resignation Tyler Rollins - Fire Department - effective June 21
Appoint Ed Smith to fill Utilities Board vacancy through 12-1-2022

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

Mr. Zachary Gentile, 3289 Cahaba Manor Drive, addressed the Council on traffic in Cahaba Manor subdivision. He stated he has enjoyed living in Trussville these last five years, and the great
schools. He stated he is concerned about speed and reckless driving in his neighborhood. He stated they were turned down for speed humps before, and they did get a stop sign at Poston Road, but people run the stop sign and speed coming down the hill. He stated there are thirty-five elementary students that board the bus each morning, and he fears something tragic will happen. He said if speed humps are not the solution, maybe some alternative can be found. He stated he recognized that the police cannot sit there all day long.

Police Chief Rush stated this is a subdivision with a cul-de-sac and a dead end and about forty-five houses. There is not enough traffic volume to warrant the speed hump.

Councilman Plant asked if a traffic study had been done, and Chief Rush replied no, but there are less than 500 cars per day.

Mr. Gentile stated they need assistance and a long-standing deterrent. He stated they are willing to pay for the humps.

Chief Rush stated he was willing to do a traffic study. That way we can tell the speeds and the times of day they occur.

Mayor Choat stated we have done some of these in large neighborhoods. He stated he thought the speed study would give us a better idea.

A request to rezone property belonging to Trussville Church of Christ at 7750 Gadsden Highway from C-2 to Institutional 1 was presented.

Council President Freeman stated this is next to Faith Fellowship on Highway 11. About a year ago the church asked for this property to be rezoned for a pending sale. The sale fell through, and now they have a buyer for their current church property, and wish to zone the property back to Institutional to build a new church building.

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

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

Nays: None

Councilman Plant moved Ordinance 2019-025-P&Z approving this zoning change be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

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

Nays: None

A request to rezone that portion of the property addressed as 521 Simmons Drive lying south of Hawkridge Road from C-2 to RG was presented by Mr. Jerry Tortorigi, 304 Lake Street. Mr. Tortorigi stated they are working on a garden home subdivision and this is the last piece.

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

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

Nays: None
Councilman Plant moved Ordinance 2019-026-P&Z approving this zoning change be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele. Councilman Cook asked was this the same as the prior request, and Jean Thrasher responded yes, but better builder. Upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

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

Nays: None

A hearing on an alcohol sales violation at Circle K at 199 Main Street was called. There have been two occasions where alcohol was sold to an underage person in the past six months, and three in the past eighteen months.

Ms. Brenda Lomas, stated she has worked at this location for twenty-six years. They do a lot of employee training on alcohol sales, there is a module on the computer, and they must sign in every day. They are strict about alcohol sales, and while they do not want to, it sometimes happens.

Council President Freeman asked their procedures, and was told the employee is supposed to scan the driver’s license. The sale with then either go through or be kicked out if the person is underage or if the license is expired. Council President Freeman asked was this procedure in place at the time of the incidents, and was told yes.

Ms. Lomas stated the employee just did not check the ID. The employee was terminated and will not be rehired.

Councilman Taylor asked if this was three different people, and was told yes. All were terminated and will not be re-employed.

Councilman Plant confirmed that the driver’s licenses were not scanned each time. He stated he did notice that the events occurred at 6:50 p.m., 7:28 p.m., and 8:18 p.m.. He asked Ms. Lomas if she was there at those times, and she replied no. She stated she is usually gone by 5:00 or 5:30 p.m. .

Council President Freeman asked what happens if the license of someone underage is scanned, and was told it will not let the sale go through.

Councilman Taylor asked what ages are asked for identification, and was told anyone under forty.

Mr. Brad Hannah, Ider, AL, Circle K Market Manager for this area, stated their new registers will actually have a video clip of the transaction. These employees did not follow policy each time. We do training when we hire on alcohol and tobacco sales through the Responsible Vendor Program, we train them on the computer that will kick out sales to underage persons, and we do semiannual retraining.

Councilman Plant verified that their employee policy was one and done on alcohol violations, and was told yes.

Councilman Cook asked was there ever only one employee in the store, and was told yes, sometimes. It depends on how busy they are.

Council President Freeman stated we appreciate our merchants here, but we also consider the seriousness of alcohol sales.

Councilman Plant stated he was satisfied with the response received and satisfied that they are trying to control this, and that they take it seriously.

Councilman Taylor asked them to tell the employees that the police are coming back. He stated he appreciated their honest and work to do better.
Proclamation 2019-014 on Scleroderma Month was presented. Councilman Steele read the document and moved it be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant and the vote was unanimous.

Ms. Angelique Lagat, Lakewood Drive, stated she has lived in Trussville for three years, coming from Mozambique. She stated she suffers from Scleroderma, and appreciates her city supporting this cause.

An ordinance to amend the solicitation ordinance to set a solicitation permit fee was presented. Councilman Taylor moved for unanimous consent to suspend the rules of procedure to allow for the immediate consideration of this ordinance, seconded by Councilman Steele, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

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

Nays: None

Councilman Taylor then moved Ordinance 2019-026-ADM approving this change be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele. Councilman Cook asked was this the same as the prior request, and Jean Thrasher responded yes, but better builder. Upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

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

Nays: None

A resolution to approve a permanent easement and temporary construction easement on property owned by Donovan E. and Barbara F. Parker at 300 Main Street in conjunction with our downtown project and the installation of a traffic signal at Glenn Avenue and Cedar Street. Councilman Cook moved this be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Cook reported that his committees have not met.

Council President Freeman asked J. R. Malchus for a report on inspections, and he stated 132 permits have been sold in the past two weeks. Seven of these were for new homes and two new commercial.

Councilman Plant stated the Library Summer Reading Program is in full swing.

Councilman Steele stated the IDB discussed an issue with a building that was not permitted and did not meet park covenants. He stated ACTA will perform “Brigadoon” in July.

Councilman Taylor stated the Public Safety Committee will meet in August. The Chamber is working on a search for a new executive director.

Mayor Choat stated Valley Road will be right in and right out, but for a period of time during construction and installation of the traffic signal at Green Drive and Pineview Road, left hand turns only Valley Road will be permitted. The soil testing is complete on the Vann Road signal project. Sandra Bonner of ALDOT has alerted us that the DOT environmental report is not complete and we cannot move forward until this is completed.

Representative Danny Garrett thanked the Council for what they do. He stated a lot of things are happening in Trussville and other members of the Legislature mention Trussville in a positive light. This year there will be a supplemental appropriation for schools based on the number of students. Trussville schools will receive $1.1 million. Our schools are well operated and our facilities are good. He stated he would touch base with ALDOT

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

Lynn B. Porter
City Clerk