The City Council of the City of Trussville met for a workshop session on Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Trussville City Hall. Council President Freeman presiding.

Those members present were as follows:

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

Absent: Councilman Zack Steele  

Others present in Official Capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat  

The workshop was convened and the Council received the agenda and supporting documentation for the City Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 25, 2019. 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, June 25, 2019 6:00 p.m. at Trussville City Hall. Council President Freeman presided over the meeting and Andrea Downing served as recording secretary.

Council President Freeman called the meeting to order and asked Councilman Taylor to lead in prayer. Councilman Perry Cook 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 Alan Taylor  

Absent: Councilman Zack Steele  

Others present in official capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat  
Attorney Rick Stotser  

Council President Freeman introduced the minutes of the June 18, 2019 meeting for approval. Councilman Taylor moved they be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant, and the vote was unanimous.

The agenda and consent agenda were presented for approval. Mayor Choat requested to add the hiring of Lauren Beers Stanton as gymnastics director at Park and Recreation. This will be a Council appointed position at a Grade 18, Step 10 with a start date of July 15, 2019. Councilman Plant moved the agenda be approved as amended, seconded by Councilman Taylor and the vote was unanimous.

The consent agenda was presented as follows:

Accounts Payable
Liabilities 310.00
Non-Departmental 500.00
Mayor and Council 3,571.02
Administration 924.63
Inspections 1,604.85
Municipal Court 202.99
Finance 11.80
Information Technology 1,452.83
Police Department 16,569.17
Fire Department 8,758.53
Public Works 14,980.75
Parks and Recreation 10,455.45
Library 10,646.58
Rental Property 37.30
GENERAL FUND TOTAL 70,026.50
CORRECTIONS FUND 40,691.85
CAPITAL PROJECTS 2,566.00
2018 BOND CONSTRUCTION FUND 186.00
DEBT SERVICE 6,500.00
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 119,970.35

Financial Investigation Training - Police - Warmus and Short - Free - plus lodging
Safety and Health - Jensen - October 18, 2019 - Auburn - $150 plus lodging
Merit increase effective June 22, 2019
Jeffrey Grant Fore - Fire - Grade 27, Step 9, plus 15%
Merit increases effective July 6, 2019
Timothy Thomas - Fire - Grade 17, Step 4, plus 5%
Candice Phillips-Warner - Dispatch - Grade 16, Step 9
Evan Paul Massey - Fire - Grade 17, Step 9 plus 10%
Promote Cliff Moore from Fire Lieutenant to Fire Captain, Grade 24, Step 6, plus 15%

Council President Freeman recognized Cliff Moore whose promotion to Fire Lieutenant is on the consent agenda, stating it is well deserved. Cliff introduced his wife and child.

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

Councilman Taylor presented an ordinance to establish guidelines for the receipt, storage, and disposal of abandoned, stolen, or seized property from arrests, and giving the police department the opportunity to dispose of some of this property. Councilman Taylor 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 Freeman, Cook, Plant, and Taylor
Nays: None

Councilman Taylor then moved Ordinance 2019-027-PS be adopted as presented, seconded by Councilman Plant and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmen Freeman, Cook, Plant, and Taylor
Nays: None

Councilman Plant presented an ordinance to annex property at 6209 Shetland Circle owned by Mr. and Mrs. Harris. This was recommended by Planning and Zoning. Councilman Plant moved for unanimous consent to suspend the rules of procedure to allow for the immediate consideration of this ordinance, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:
Yeas: Councilmen Freeman, Cook, Plant, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Plant then moved Ordinance 2019-028-ANX be adopted as presented, seconded by Councilman Taylor and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmen Freeman, Cook, Plant, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Plant welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Harris to Trussville.

Councilman Plant presented an ordinance to annex property at 6588 Memory Lane owned by Rachel Cope, who was not present. This was recommended by Planning and Zoning. Councilman Plant moved for unanimous consent to suspend the rules of procedure to allow for the immediate consideration of this ordinance, seconded by Councilman Cook, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmen Freeman, Cook, Plant, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Plant then moved Ordinance 2019-029-ANX be adopted as presented, seconded by Councilman Cook. Councilman Taylor stated at the workshop there were questions about the zoning, and asked had any contact been made in this regard. Council President Freeman asked if it was the will of the Council to postpone a vote on this until verification of the contact can be made. Councilman Plant stated he felt this would be best. Councilman Plant withdrew his motion, and Councilman Cook withdrew his second.

Councilman Taylor stated he did not want this to appear negative, but we just need to carry this over until our next meeting to get questions answered.

Council President Freeman announced the workshop for July 4 has been cancelled, and has been rescheduled to July 9, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

Councilman Plant moved Lauren Beers Stanton be hired as gymnastics director or Park and Recreation at Grade 18, Step 10, with a start date of July 15, 2019, seconded by Councilman Taylor.

Mayor Choat stated Mrs. Stanton and her husband are present. We have made some changes with the gymnastics program, and Lauren will take over. Our program had grown to about 300 girls and some thirty-five to forty on the competition team over the last five years. We are moving in a different direction this year in hopes to make it bigger and better, and we feel we have found the right person.

Mayor Choat stated he reached out to the University of Alabama and Auburn University coaches who gave us suggestions and help for the direction to go. Both were helpful. Mayor Choat read Lauren's biography - University of Alabama gymnastics team member, graduated with a 4.0 GPA, with two master's degrees, one in Sports Business Management and the other in Business Administration with a concentration in business analytics, seven-time Athletic All American in gymnastics, three time Capital One Academic All American, 2016 Academic All American of the year and four-time SEC Scholastic All American. We are getting a well-rounded individual, not only in gymnastics, but in studies as well. Councilman Choat then read a text from Alabama gymnastics coach Dana Duckworth, stating she is happy for the city. She stated Lauren is an amazing person, and will make an awesome coach. She will help the gymnasts develop character, overcome adversity, and build confidence.

Mayor Choat stated he feels honored and fortunate to find someone like Lauren to lead our program.
Councilman Taylor stated he has been following gymnastics for many years, and can't say enough of what it means to the City to get someone of Lauren's caliber. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Cook reported the Redevelopment Authority will meet next week Park and Rec. is glad to have Lauren. The Utilities Board met yesterday and discussed several ongoing projects. Well usage is good in this moderate drought. Gas sales are good and water levels are good.

Council President Freeman stated school is out, so no Board of Education report. He called on JR Malchus to report on Inspections. He stated Design Review met and approved three major buildings in the Quad 1 area and Jack's at Deerfoot Parkway and Highway 11.

Councilman Plant reported the Summer Reading Program is going strong. There are a lot of involvement and options for kids, teens and adults.

Councilman Taylor had no report.

Mayor Choat stated he has a meeting with Mr. Cooper of ALDOT next Thursday to discuss concerns with interstate lighting. Mayor Choat stated the contractor is working hard in Quad 1. He asked JR if the footings had been dug for the stage. JR said the footings have not been dug yet, but the curb is in for the parking lot. Mayor Choat stated we are on schedule - maybe behind a week or two.

Richard Epstein, 4742 Boulder Drive, asked for an update on the two-story building left standing after Braden's was taken down? Mayor Choat stated the last he heard the owners have put it up for sale due to a separation of business interests, and had about three potential folks who have reached out.

Mr. Epstein stated the new county/city drainage system going up Snake Hill on both sides is clogged with dirt and leaves and needs to be cleaned out before the next rain. Mayor Choat stated he would have it checked out.

Mr. Epstein asked if the traffic light at Brooks Crossing would be ready any time before the first of the year? Wayne Sullivan stated soil testing is complete, and the foundation is under design for the poles. That will then go to ALDOT for approval.

Mr. James Patterson, 129 Parkway Drive, stated he was the parent of one of the competitive gymnasts that was displaced, and he needed to know the time frame for the gymnastics program. Mayor Choat stated we are going to let Lauren handle the program. He stated he knew the competitive season starts in August, and hopefully we will have a chance to reestablish the program.

Mr. Patterson asked should his daughter remain where she is for the next competitive season or will Trussville's program be up and running by then? Park and Recreation Director David Vinson stated they hope to get the program up and running as soon as possible, but we will have to put a whole staff together. Lauren will be starting on July 15, and as soon as they can get it together, we will contact all of you.

Mr. Patterson stated he is glad the City is establishing the program again.

Councilman Cook stated we did get a great person for the program, and he thought she would hit the ground running. He stated we do want his daughter back in the program. Ms. Stanton recommended Mr. Patterson speak with her after the meeting to discuss this further.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Downing
Acting Secretary