

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

The City Council of the City of Trussville met for a workshop session on Thursday, September 19, 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 Brian Plant
Councilman Zack Steele
Councilman Alan Taylor

Absent: None

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

The workshop was convened and the Council received a preliminary agenda and supporting documentation for the City Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2019.

Ms. Katie Wiswall of the Alabama Forestry Commission addressed the Council about becoming a Tree City. She stated Trussville already meets three of the four requirements since they currently have a Tree Committee and have a tree ordinance. They also already do tree trimming and clean up in the Public Works Department which would go toward the required budget of \$2 per capita for tree planting and maintenance. We would need to adopt an Arbor Day proclamation. In Alabama Arbor Day is celebrated the last full week in February each year. In return, the city will get two Tree City street signs and a flag. The city has to recertify each year. The city will also be added to a mailing list for tree grants. There is no cost to the city for this designation. The city will have from now until December to qualify for 2019.

Mayor Choat stated we will call a special meeting to adopt our city budget. A few last minute tweaks are being made.

Attorney Rick Bearden was recognized to address our Personnel policies. He stated the big issue is due process. Current employees cannot have their status diminished or changed, but future employees will fall under the new guidelines. The group most effected is department heads.

Councilman Taylor stated it was his understanding that this group is currently protected, but in the future, they may not be, and was told this is correct.

Mr. Mike Morman and Ms. Jennifer Sherman were recognized to go over the FY 2018-2019 audit. Mr. Morman stated the city has received a clean opinion. Jennifer Sherman went over the Management Discussion and Analysis, the balance sheet and income statement, the government wide analysis, and the Statement of Net Position. She went over the OPEB liability and Retirement liability, and pointed out the component unit information on the Trussville Redevelopment Board.

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, September 24, 2109 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 September 10, 2019 meeting for approval. Councilman Steele moved they be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

The agenda and consent agenda were presented for approval. Councilman Plant moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Mark Davis was recognized for the commissioning of a Fallen Warrior Bust for Sgt. Jason Stegall. He stated the Alabama Fallen Warrior Project was founded in 2017 with the goal of doing a bust of each fallen warrior. He stated fallen warriors are lost twice - once when they die, and the second time when they are forgotten. He stated he serves on the Hoover Veteran's Committee. Col. Lee Busby, retired Marine, designs and sculpts the busts, and then they are cast by students at the University of Alabama. Widow Ashley Stegall and family have given him several photographs of Sgt. Stegall for reference. He stated Keller Williams Realty and Sheep Dog Firing Range have held fundraisers to offset the costs for this bust, stone pedestal, and bronze plaque.

Councilman Plant stated to the family that thank you does not come close when someone has given their all for our freedom. We owe a debt that cannot be paid back.

The consent agenda was presented as follows.

	Accounts Payable
Liabilities	1,715.00
Non-Departmental	17,087.73
Mayor and Council	5,534.18
Administration	5,586.43
Inspections	1,126.70
Municipal Court	1,033.89
Finance	272.16
Information Technology	7,334.91
Police Department	37,584.97
Fire Department	31,670.13
Public Works	61,305.68
Parks and Recreation	75,812.34
Library	13,091.90
Rental Property	1,278.63
Debt Service	11,032.86
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	271,464.51
CONFISCATED FUND	1,020.00
DRUG CONFISCATED FUND	404.80
CORRECTIONS FUND	12,804.24
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	17,280.00
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	317,486.80

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

Mr. Cody Crier of B & B Bartending was recognized and stated his company enjoyed working with the city on the shrimp boil event in the Spring. They will be doing the Rotary Barbeque event in the Civic Center filed on October 12. They will be serving beer and wine and will check identification.

Council President Freeman asked how they will check and was told they will check with each drink served.

Mr. Crier stated their bartenders are trained to look for fake IDs. They did more than 1,000 events last year company wide.

Council President Freeman asked their training procedure and was told they have their own program that has three levels, basics to advance. The advance level includes liability laws and consequences for improperly serving. Each bartender must pass all three levels before they are allowed to work.

Council President Freeman asked had they ever been cited, and was told no. He stated they have a zero tolerance policy.

Councilman Taylor stated this is the Rotary Barbeque Competition and they will have forty competitors from all over.

Councilman Cook stated he saw this event promoted by former Chamber Director Diane Pool on the noon news.

Council President Freeman stated the Rotary Club will be donating a four-sided clock to be placed on the Braden's corner downtown.

A public hearing was opened, and there being no comment, the hearing was closed. Councilman Plant moved this application be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution 2019-044 to accept the FY 2017-2018 audit was presented. Last Thursday at the workshop, our auditors said that this was a good, clean report of the city's financials. Councilman Taylor moved this audit be accepted, seconded by Councilman Steele. Councilman Plant stated an annual audit is required by State law to be performed by an independent auditor, to assure public funds are handled properly. A copy will be on our website and available to the public. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Cook moved Resolution 2019-046 approving Personnel Policies be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Steele moved Resolution 2019-047 awarding the bid for the installation of landscaping and irrigation in Quad 1, and for an additional one-year maintenance contract, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

Mayor Choat stated the first year of maintenance is included in the base bid, and the additional amount awarded will be for the second year's maintenance.

The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Plant moved Proclamation 2019-022 on the fall carnival be approved, seconded by Councilman Cook and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Cook moved Resolution 2019-047 authorizing Birmingham Water Works Board to cross an unopened alley off of Roper Tunnel Road to serve a new home be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Taylor moved Proclamation 2019-023 on Family Week be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Cook carried his reports over.

Council President Freeman called upon JR Malchus to report on permits issued in the past two weeks. Mr. Malchus stated 190 permits have been issued with 15 of these for new homes. Six projects were approved by Design Review.

Council President Freeman stated that the Hewitt students were commended for picking up trash after the Hoover game. They are great ambassadors for our city.

Councilman Plant reported that our Library was listed in Birmingham Magazine as a runner-up for the best Library in the area. We had a record number of participants in our Summer Reading program.

Councilman Plant stated he knew Public Safety has been busy, because he hears sirens all day long. The Historical museum had a terrific turnout at their last opening.

Historical Board President Jane Alexander stated their turnout was thanks to the Library and their many archives.

Councilman Steele reported that grass cutting in Public Works is winding down. Public Works Director Wayne Sullivan stated we will probably begin running the leaf vacuum the first of November. Councilman Steele reported that ACTA is performing "Clue," and on Friday, October 11, there will be a dinner theater performance at the Library.

Councilman Taylor stated our police department was represented at the funeral for the fallen Tuscaloosa police officer. Chief Rush stated they performed casket watch.

Councilman Taylor stated our Utilities Board says that our water levels are not critical, but they are watching the tank levels during this lengthy period without rain.

For the Chamber of Commerce, Councilman Taylor reported that June Mathews has been named the new Executive Director.

For Finance, Councilman Taylor stated the FY2019-2020 budget is delayed because the Finance Committee was unable to meet because he was out of town. He stated they have now met and the final touches are being incorporated.

Mayor Choat stated Valley Road will open tomorrow. He stated he thought a Veteran's Committee is a good idea for us. He stated he and Wayne Sullivan will meet with ALDOT on Thursday and talk about issues with Mr. Cooper and Mr. Leonard.

We will call a special meeting to consider the FY 2019-2020 budget on Friday, September 27 at 9:00 a.m. There will be a workshop meeting at 8:30 to answer any questions the Council may have. Our general fund budget is \$35 million.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn B. Porter
City Clerk