

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

OCTOBER 8, 2019

The City Council of the City of Trussville met for a workshop session on Thursday, October 3, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Trussville City Hall. Council President Jef Freeman presiding. Stacy Frazier served as recording secretary.

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, October 8, 2019. The Council discussed nominations for Council President and Council President Pro-Tem to take office in November. The Council discussed the traffic signal preemption system that was presented to the Council at an earlier workshop. This is a five-year contract which is not allowed, rather than a three-year contract. The question was asked could payment be spread over several years? Chief Shotts will check on this. A police security camera system using Alabama Power owned equipment was discussed. This system has two aspects - one is real time surveillance and the other is stored data for investigative purposes. This would be billed monthly by Alabama Power. These three items will be 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 a regular session on Tuesday, October 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 lead in prayer. Councilman 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 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 24, 2019 regular meeting and the September 27 special meeting for approving the budget, for approval. Councilman Steele moved both sets of minutes be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

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

Judge Martha Cook, candidate for District Court handling cases involving sums of less than \$20,000 was recognized. She stated she was appointed by Governor Kay Ivey upon the retirement of Judge John Amari. She will be seeking a full term in November.

Mr. Brian Taylor, 412 Chickasaw Lane, stated they are having speed issues on their street. He stated he would like to see speed humps or tickets written.

Mr. Bill Lundy, 411 Chickasaw Lane, stated there is no adherence to the school zone speeds at Cahaba Elementary.

Mr. Jim Swoager, 415 Chickasaw Lane, stated since traffic is so bad downtown, their street is used to cut across.

Councilman Taylor stated he would get this added to the Public Safety Committee agenda. This committee will meet next on November 7 at 11:30 at City Hall.

The Consent agenda was presented as follows:

Accounts Payable

Non-Departmental	6,832.25
Mayor and Council	14,701.13
Administration	6,944.30
Inspections	1,040.52
Municipal Court	2,582.01
Finance	23.94
Information Technology	197.95
Police Department	19,962.49
Fire Department	27,085.26
Public Works	7,991.55
Garbage	182,643.59
Parks and Recreation	52,738.91
Library	16,194.80
Rental Property	122.57
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	339,061.27
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	10,539.60
CORRECTIONS FUND	3,937.12
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	353,537.99

Regions Purchasing card \$29,301.22

Worker's Compensation Conf - Polk & Jensen - UNA - Florence - Oct 28-30 - \$149.00 ea., plus travel expenses

Alabama Economic Growth Summit- Freeman- Ross Bridge, Al - Oct 24-25- \$275.00

Cellebrite Mobile Forensics Adv Certification - Short - Oct 15-18 - Frankfort, KY - \$2450.00

Hire Public Works, Braylen D. Tuck, Grade 7, Step 2

Merit increases effective October 12, 2019

Rheanna Poe - Admin - Grade 16, Step 7

Maria Bishop - Magistrate - Grade 19, Step 4

Robby Dale Pruitt - Public Works - Grade 15, Step 5

Justin N. Ferguson - Public Works - Grade 17, Step 3

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

A public hearing on a restaurant retail liquor license for Ferus Artisan Ales was presented by Mr. Coby Lake, 5416 Old Leeds Road, Birmingham. Mr. Lake stated they will be opening Ferus

by the end of the month. They will have a restaurant that will serve beer brewed on site and well as wine and spirits that will be brought in.

Council President Freeman reminded Mr. Lake that alcohol sales are a privilege, and the Council takes sales these matters very seriously. He asked what their policy on checking identification would be, and Mr. Lake stated they will check ID on anyone appearing to be under forty. He stated they are aware that the ABC Board does spot checks. He stated they also have a policy to cut off service to anyone who appears to be intoxicated.

Council President Freeman asked what the training procedures were for employees, and was told that they have a handbook for training - especially for bartenders - and, they check with former employers.

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

Mr. Lake stated they hope to open October 24 at 3:00 p.m.

A public hearing on an off premise beer and wine license for T32, LLC, doing business as Plaza Downs Chevron was called. Mr. Dilshad Divani stated he currently operates fourteen similar establishments in Birmingham.

Council President Freeman asked about training for employees. Mr. Divani stated they have cash registers that prompt the employee to ask for identification, then to swipe the identification for confirmation of the age. There is an electronic calendar on the register as well that gives the date for legal sales. The employee is told they will be required to personally pay any fines assessed by the ABC Board against them and against the store.

Council President Freeman asked Mr. Divani if he has ever had any incidents and he replied no.

Councilman Cook asked if all of his businesses were gas stations and was told yes.

Councilman Plant asked how long he had been in business, and was told fifteen years.

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

Councilman Taylor moved Resolution 2019-049 authorizing a 2% across the board pay increase for city employees effective October 12 be approved, seconded by Councilman Steele, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Cook moved Proclamation 2019-024 proclaiming Arbor Day be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant.

Council President Freeman stated this is the last step before making an application to become a Tree City. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Taylor moved Resolution 2019-050 awarding a contract for preemptive traffic signal software and hardware for signal boxes and emergency vehicles to Temple, Inc. at a cost of \$145,461.84, seconded by Councilman Plant. This contract falls under the security exemption of the bid law. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Taylor moved Resolution 2019-051 authorizing a contract with Alabama Power for access to surveillance and investigation information gained from cameras mounted on power poles. This was seconded by Councilman Steele, and the vote was unanimous. The cost will be billed monthly for two years at a cost of \$4,373.65 per month under this contract.

Council President Freeman stated this is a step forward in becoming a smart city, and will aid our police and fire departments. He stated he was glad we can provide this.

The organizational ordinance of this Council provides that a new Council President and Council President Pro Tem be elected to assume office the first Monday in November. Councilman Taylor nominated Councilman Steele for Council President, seconded by Councilman Plant. There being no additional nominations, the vote to elect Councilman Zack Steel as Council President was unanimous.

Councilman Cook nominated Councilman Alan Taylor for Council President Pro Tem, seconded by Councilman Plant. There being no additional nominations, the vote to elect Councilman Alan Taylor as Council President Pro Tem was unanimous.

Councilman Plant thanked Council President Freeman for his services saying he has done an excellent job.

Councilman Cook stated TRA had a short meeting last night and then took a field trip to Ferus Brewery.

Councilman Cook stated the Beautification Board met with the Baptist Church who is providing planters at the former Junior High School. They have also placed planters at the Library and the Racket Club. They are planning for some changes for the 2020 beautification awards. They asked about getting larger Gateway signs.

Council President Freeman carried his report over.

Councilman Plant reported the Historical museum was opened recently and had a good turnout. ACTA just finished their performance of "Clue" and did an incredible job.

Councilman Steele reported the IDB is having an informative meeting for the tenants of the park this month. They will discuss changes to the covenants.

Councilman Steele asked Public Works Director Wayne Sullivan for an update on his department. Mr. Sullivan stated they will start picking up leaves the first of November. He reported that ACTA's next performance will be "A Christmas Story."

Councilman Taylor stated Mayor Choat will be the speaker at the Chamber luncheon this month. He thanked the Council for the public safety approvals earlier tonight. He stated we are committed to a safe Trussville. This will pay benefits for the city.

Mayor Choat gave an update on the downtown project saying paving will be done later this month. The Valley Road project to alleviate traffic on Highway 11 is complete.

Mayor Choat stated public safety is a priority with us. We want safe neighborhoods, shopping centers, and roadways. Another project in the works is a downtown loop road from Vann Circle to Glenn Avenue.

Council President Freeman stated on Saturday there will be a barbeque cook off competition. Funds will be raised for the focal point clock for downtown.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn B. Porter  
City Clerk