

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE

CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 25, 2020

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

Those members present were as follows:

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

Absent: Council President 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, February 25, 2020. The Council reviewed the agenda and determined the order for consideration at the Council meeting.

Mr. Matt Phillips of Dix-Hite presented a plan depicting a trail along Pinchgut Creek in the area behind Winn Dixie. This plan would cost \$18,000 with possibly three renderings at a cost of \$3,000 each. He stated this might be an opportunity for a welcome center or similar construction.

Councilman Plant stated this might be an opportunity to build a museum with more display space than there is at the current location.

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned.

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

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

Those persons answering present to roll call were as follows:

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

Absent: None

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

Council President Steele introduced the minutes of the February 11, 2020 meeting for approval. Councilman Freeman, moved they be approved, seconded by Councilman Cook, and the vote was unanimous.

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

Mr. Richard Epstein asked about signage along the fence at Bradens, street signs at the new Valley Road extension, Norell Drive needs a sign, and the Civic Center still needs a pool and a generator.

Police Chief Eric Rush was recognized and stated that we will make two promotions from Sergeant to Lieutenant tonight. These men are Richard Lowell and Todd Posey. Each has been with the department for seventeen years and have held many positions through the ranks.

Councilman Taylor moved Richard Lovell be promoted to the rank of Sergeant, seconded by Councilman Plant, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Taylor moved Todd Posey be promoted to the rank of Sergeant, seconded by Councilman Plant, and the vote was unanimous.

Mayor Choat stated last meeting we promoted Frank Jones to Assistant Public Works Director. He recognized him and said he was proud of him.

Public Works Director Wayne Sullivan said that he was an invaluable employee and invaluable to this city.

An Ordinance to approve a non-exclusive cable franchise for Charter Communications was presented. Councilman Cook 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 Steele, Cook, Freeman, Plant, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Cook then moved Ordinance 2020-008-ADM be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

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

Nays: None

Mr. Ben Moncrief of C-Spire stated they wish to bring fiber optic service to Trussville. They are partnering with Alabama Power to provide this service. 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 Steele, Cook, Freeman, Plant, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Plant then moved Ordinance 2020-009-ADM be approved, seconded by Councilman Cook, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

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

Nays: None

Councilman Cook moved Proclamation 2020-006 on the Leland Dockery Tribute Cruise-In city wide event to be held in the First Baptist Church parking lot on March 14 be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant, and the motion carried with Councilman Taylor abstaining.

Councilman Taylor moved Resolution 2020-012 authorizing three additional surveillance cameras to be installed, the cost of which will be billed monthly by Alabama Power, seconded by Councilman Plant, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Plant moved Resolution 2020-013 authorizing the Mayor to sign for seven additional properties for the downtown loop road be approved, seconded by Councilman Freeman, and the motion carried with Councilman Taylor abstaining.

Councilman Taylor explained his abstentions saying he worked at First Baptist Church and he felt he needed to abstain on matters occurring there, and also the church is one entity that is in negotiations on a portion of their property for the loop road.

Councilman Cook had no report.

Councilman Freeman reported that Design Review met and approved the plans for the new Board of Education.

Councilman Plant gave the library annual report. He then told Historical Board President Jane Alexander that we may have found a place for a new historical museum.

Councilman Taylor stated he was proud of our Police Department and the well deserved promotions made tonight. Our Utility Board had a dump truck overturn on Happy Hollow Road. Fortunately the driver was not seriously injured. The Utilities will be hosting an event at the Civic Center in June for other gas companies. The Utilities does not anticipate rate increases at this time.

Councilman Steele stated a new director Makeda Smith began work at the Senoir Center on February 3. She is starting new programs and has been well received.

Wayne Sullivan stated they plan to stop leaf pick up on March 15.

Councilman Steele stated ACTA has just completed their successful performance of "Frozen, Jr.". They added additional nights and all were sold out.

Mayor Choat stated the next Bicentennial event will be on March 14 at the Senior Center. The Highway 11 property, formerly the Hamilton property has been bought by Realty Link. They have several businesses interested. We are working on an agreement with the shopping center across the street, whereby their center entrance will be included with the traffic signal. The other entrances will become one way in and one way out.

He stated on our Consent Agenda, we authorized Dix-Hite to do a plan on this challenging area with a trail along the creek. He stated to Mr. Epstein that the reason signage has not been put up at the Valley Road intersection is that all three arms are Valley Road. Valley Road begins at Chalkville Road, and extends to Mount Joy Baptist Church, where it then becomes Linden Street. Since some of this property is not in the City, we will have to coordinate with Jefferson County to see if the Linden Street name can be extended to the new intersection. He stated signs were placed on the Braden fence, but may have blown off in recent storms.

Chief Rush was asked how many sworn officers we have now, and he replied sixty-eight.

Councilman Cook stated our police and fire do excellent work, and we appreciate them. He stated Frank Jones is a joy to work with, and he hoped that the city appreciated how much he does.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn B. Porter
City Clerk