

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

MAY 12, 2020

The City Council of the City of Trussville met for a workshop session on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at via a teleconferenced meeting as allowed under the special COVID-19 public health orders. Council President Zack Steele presiding.

Those members present were as follows:

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

Absent: None

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

The workshop was convened. The Council had previously received a preliminary agenda and supporting documentation for the City Council meeting to be held on at 6:00 this evening.

The Council reviewed the agenda and determined the order for consideration at the Council meeting. The accounts payable and two hires were moved to the consent agenda.

The Council discussed amendments to the food truck ordinance. These included adding special events recommended by the Public Safety Committee, adding a definition of Common Open Space, and reducing the cost of a food truck inspection permit. This does not change other provisions of the existing ordinance, including the requirement to obtain a city business license.

Mayor Choat stated he has received several calls asking that food trucks be allowed in all neighborhoods. Sgt. Chuck Bradford stated food trucks in cul-de-sacs could impede emergency response. It was pointed out that food trucks have been in Stockton for some time, but are not allowed in residential districts under our current ordinance. Councilman Taylor stated they have been used for neighborhood events in his neighborhood, and were set up on the street without problems. There was discussion of closing city streets for such events. Mayor Choat asked if it might be best to consider this a first reading since the Council had questions. Councilman Plant stated it sounded like we need it now. Council President Steele stated he thought it would be alright to go ahead and pass it and we can amend it again if we need to. He encouraged any member of the public to send in the changes they would like to see made.

The Council asked that the Back to School Sales Tax Holiday discussion item be moved to the next meeting. They asked that the discussion item on reinstating meetings of boards and committees that were temporarily suspended due to COVID-19, be placed on the agenda with the provision that social distancing must be observed and with a recommendation that masks or face coverings be used.

Councilman Taylor asked that the family of our Fire Marshall Jeff Fore be kept in your prayers. He leaves behind a wife and two young children.

Councilman Plant stated we need to remember the family of former Police Chief Irving Nash also.

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned.

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in a teleconferenced regular session on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Trussville City Hall. Council President Steele presided over the meeting and City Clerk Lynn Porter served as recording secretary.

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

Those persons answering present to roll call were as follows:

Council President Steele
 Councilman Perry Cook
 Councilman Jef 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 April 14, 2020 and the April 28, 2020 meetings for approval. Councilman Cook asked that a correction be made to the April 14 minutes in the discussion of Ms. Wilks’s work history. The minutes read “Planning and Credentials” and this should be “Planning and Curriculum.” Councilman Cook moved they be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

The agenda and consent agenda were presented for approval. The consent agenda items were as follows:

Accounts Payable

Liabilities	1,200.00
Non-Departmental	19,113.70
Mayor and Council	4,891.00
Administration	13,782.53
Inspections	1,547.25
Municipal Court	1,685.50
Information Technology	342.08
Police Department	25,786.89
Fire Department	10,696.27
Public Works	3,211.38
Garbage	189,489.50
Parks and Recreation	11,539.69
Library	2,091.04
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	285,376.83
CORRECTIONS FUND	25,261.57
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	310,638.40

Upgrade Winifred Payne to Revenue Examiner eff. May 9, 2020

Hire Dawson Allen Findley - Public Works, Grade 7, Step 2, effective on physical

Hire Spencer Austin Sinewe - Fire Dept, Grade 17, Step 2, plus 10% effective 5-18-20

Councilman Plant moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution 2020-032 awarding the bid for the grading, sidewalks and drainage at the Greenway Ballfields to Powers & Associates in the amount of \$104, 722.00 was presented. Mayor Choat stated we received three bids on this project and this was the low bid. This will be paid from the grant funds for the greenway ballfields. Councilman Cook moved this resolution be approved, seconded by Councilman Taylor, and the vote was unanimous.

Resolution 2020-033 on right-of-way acquisition and temporary construction easements for the downtown loop road was presented. Mayor Choat stated this is for 172 John Street and 125 North Chalkville Road. Councilman Plant moved this resolution be approved, seconded by Councilman Freeman, and the motion carried with Councilman Taylor abstaining.

Ordinance 2020-013-ADM amending the food truck ordinance was presented. This is to clean up a few areas and some clarification by adding a type of approval for special events recommended by the Public Safety Committee, adding a definition of Common Open Space, and reducing the cost of a food truck inspection permit. This does not change other provisions of the existing ordinance.

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 Steele, Cook, Freeman, Plant, and Taylor

Nays: None

Councilman Taylor then moved the ordinance be adopted as presented, seconded by Councilman Plant. Council President Steele stated we are willing to revisit this at any point. We have some public safety concerns, but will amend it if we can. The vote was as follows:

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

Nays: None

Resolution 2020-034 a cooperative agreement with Jefferson County on grant funding was presented. Mayor Choat explained we have been a part of this consortium for a number of years, but we must renew every three years. The vote was unanimous.

Resolution 2020-035 on allowing city board and committee meetings to resume was presented. The Council previously suspended the meetings of these municipal bodies whose meetings are not specifically addressed by the Code of Alabama, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Should these meetings resume, social distancing will have to be practiced and masks or face coverings are recommended. Councilman Taylor moved this resolution be approved, seconded by Councilman Plant and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Freeman thanked the Mayor saying that he has done a great job under these circumstances. He also thanked Finance Director Mike Hinson on keeping us updated on the city finances during this period.

Council President Steele encouraged every citizen to wear a mask when going out in public. He stated one study he saw said every person wearing a mask will give the same result as 95% of the people being vaccinated.

Mayor Choat stated Judge Chamblee is looking at how we can begin court sessions again. Beginning on Monday, May 18, City offices will be back at full staff. The lobby and the Council Chambers have been marked for social distancing spacing. He stated a tremendous number of car tags have been renewed on-line. The Civic Center will reopen beginning on Saturday, and the Library is making preparations to open and on how services will be provided.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn B. Porter
City Clerk