

## CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

JULY 27, 2021 WORKSHOP

Members of the City Council met in a **workshop** session on **Tuesday, July 27, 2021** at 5 pm at Trussville City Hall to review the proposed agenda for its regular session. Council President Alan Taylor presided over the meeting and City Clerk Dan Weinrib acted as recording secretary. Those members present were as follows:

### City Council

Councilor Perry Cook  
Councilor Lisa Bright  
Council President Alan Taylor  
Councilor Jaime Anderson  
Councilor Ben Short

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

The order of consideration for the agenda was determined. Afterwards, Councilor Cook wanted to know about the City's handling of a driveway expansion. The 300 Rockridge Avenue property owner widened the "skirt" aka the entrance/exit, which would lead to some concrete getting poured onto the roots. Since the tree is in the right of way, the City has an interest in it. Mayor Choat answered that he asked arborist Eric Frederick to look at the tree. Frederick determined the roots had not been damaged. The rest of the Council did not ask questions or comment.

Subsequently, President Amy Peterson O'Brien (303 Brentwood Ave) of the Cahaba Homestead Heritage Foundation (CHHF) addressed the Council about the idea of a 120-day demolition moratorium for Cahaba project residential properties, except for public safety reasons. She and her group did not have a proposed set of regulations. Instead CHHF wants to have a workshop with the City Council and the affected property owners prior to drafting any proposals. Cathy Freeman (410 Rockridge Avenue) showed her support for CHHF's efforts.

The following residents indicated their opposition to this effort:

- Leo Russo, 131 Fairlane Drive
- Jane Anderson, 301 Brentwood Ave
- Nick Romano, 203 Oak Street
- Joel Nix, 121 Meadow Lane
- Chip Ormond, 108 Pine Street
- Ann Walls, 303 Lake Street
- Jayce Walls, 246 York Street
- Bret Rogers, 100 Red Maple Lane
- Matt Galloway, 504 Rockridge Avenue, who stated he does not oppose the group's goal(s) only the rushed way this has been done

In her concluding remarks, O'Brien assured the Council and audience that their efforts are not the same as the unsuccessful one from a few years ago. She stated CHHF wants to manage change, not eliminate it, as well as protect property values.

The City Councilors took turns speaking. All of them spoke in favor of a workshop. Only Cook would consider a temporary moratorium. The agenda workshop adjourned at 5:55 pm.

JULY 27, 2021 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in **regular session** on **Tuesday, July 27, 2021** at 6 pm at Trussville City Hall, with Council President Alan Taylor presiding over the meeting and City Clerk Dan Weinrib serving as recording secretary.

President Taylor called the meeting to order. Councilor Anderson led the prayer. Councilor Short led the pledge to the flag.

Those persons answering present to roll call were as follows:

Council President Alan Taylor  
Councilor Lisa Bright  
Councilor Perry Cook  
Councilor Jaime Melton Anderson  
Councilor Ben Short

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

After reviewing the minutes from the July 8th workshop and July 13th regular session, Councilor Short moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion to approve both as presented. **UNANIMOUS**

Council President Taylor introduced the agenda & consent agenda. Upon his request, Councilor Short moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion to accept the agenda as presented. **UNANIMOUS** Councilor Bright moved and Councilor Anderson seconded the motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. **UNANIMOUS**

The Consent Agenda is as follows:

- Section X. Auditing Accounts
- Hire Elizabeth Burden as Court Clerk (Grade 13 – Step 1), effective July 31, 2021
- Hire Mark Lee as part-time Library Circulation Clerk (Grade 12- Step 1), effective July 31, 2021
- Promote Kevin Wheeler to part-time Library Circulation Clerk (Grade 12- Step 1), effective July 31, 2021
- Promote Cristian Vega to part-time Library Circulation Clerk (Grade 12- Step 1), effective July 31, 2021
- Promote Martin Horst to Fitness Instructor (Grade 15- Step 2), effective July 31, 2021

The following Accounts Payable report was also part of the approved consent agenda:

ADMINISTRATION (6011)	\$ 349.23
INSPECTIONS (6012)	\$ 1,613.88
MUNICIPAL COURT (6015)	\$ 517.16
FINANCE (6017)	\$ 2,474.24
IT (6018)	\$ 158.00
HUMAN RESOURCES (6019)	\$ 663.25
POLICE DEPARTMENT (6121)	\$ 16,092.77
FIRE DEPARTMENT (6122)	\$ 35,653.74
PUBLIC WORKS (6231)	\$ 15,776.17
PARKS & RECREATION (6341)	\$ 23,968.97
PARKS MAINTENANCE (6342)	\$ 7,451.77
LIBRARY (6451)	\$ 14,499.30
CAPITAL OUTLAY (6700)	\$ 10,873.71
DEBT SERVICE (6800)	\$ 15,018.70
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 146,809.54</b>
CIVIC CENTER DIVISION (08)	\$ 2,059.28

CONFISCATED (64)	\$ 1,927.25
CORRECTIONS (85)	\$ 3,081.53
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 151,973.89</b>

At the behest of councilor Short, Council President Taylor allowed residents Chloe and Stella Krackenberger to address the entire room. With their parents Melissa and Kenny in attendance, the young girls presented Police Chief Eric Rush with a \$2000 check, which were fundraiser proceeds from them selling \$15 signs showing support for local police. After a brief recess for photographs, the meeting continued.

Councilor Bright introduced a proposed proclamation honoring the local high school club bass fishing team for winning a national championship tournament at Lake Hartwell, South Carolina. She moved and Anderson seconded the motion for its approval. **UNANIMOUS. Proclamation No. 2021-17** After a brief recess for photographs, the meeting continued.

Councilor Cook introduced a proposed ordinance then moved for unanimous consent for immediate consideration. Councilor Short seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUS** Councilor Cook then made the motion for its approval to declare the city-owned undeveloped lot at 1445 Gadsden Highway to be declared surplus for the purpose of putting it up for sale. Councilor Short seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUS. Ordinance No. 2021-017-ADM**

Councilor Cook introduced a proposed resolution declaring various Parks & Recreation gym equipment as surplus. He moved and Councilor Short seconded the motion for its approval. **UNANIMOUS. Resolution No. 2021-39**

Councilor Short introduced a proposed resolution admitting Clanton and Homewood as members of the Cahaba Solid Waste Disposal Authority. He moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion for its approval. **UNANIMOUS. Resolution No. 2021-40**

The City Council gave their reports on their respective portfolio assignments.

Councilor Anderson acknowledged and thanked Mayor Choat for the City replacing the HVAC at the Historical Museum. It will be open again on August 21<sup>st</sup>. She also acknowledged the City installing the historical marker at Braden’s Corner. Also, regarding ACTA, about 865 people attended the sell-out Sound of Music productions. Forty kids are signed up for junior theater camp. 2021-2022 season tickets are now available. The next major production is Little Shop of Horrors (“*Feed Me, Seymour!*”) in October. Also, on August 6 the Library will host Back To School story time on a bus. Its Tykes & Tales summer reading program proved to be successful as 784 kids read approximately 16,000 books. The Cemetery Rehabilitation Authority walked through both cemeteries to make notes for future projects.

Councilor Bright reported that the Industrial Development Board will have its monthly meeting this Thursday. Public Works crews continues to cut grass whenever it is not raining. After acknowledging school board president Kathy Brown, she announced schools will re-open with orientations on August 11 and 12, then go into full session on August 13. The entire school system is waiting for the county health department to release guidelines about masking, particularly in light of the delta variant COVID outbreaks. The next school board meeting will be on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Councilor Cook reported that Inspections Department remains busy. Also, there are new restaurant construction footings in the entertainment district. Also, the Senior Center is temporarily closed due to COVID. Also, the City Pool will close on August 8<sup>th</sup>, just ahead of schools re-opening. City sports registrations continue to increase.

Councilor Short postponed his entire report.

Council President Taylor reported that the Schools Foundation Gala will be on August 14<sup>th</sup> in the Entertainment District and that Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast will be on August 6<sup>th</sup> at the Civic Center. He postponed reporting on the rest of his assignments.

Mayor Choat reported that AmWaste has landed the City of Hoover’s garbage services contract, via the Cahaba Solid Waste Disposal Authority. He also reported that contractors finished installing brick pavers at Braden’s Corner. Contractors will soon finish installing brick pavers in the entertainment district, now that those were finally delivered. The City will send out its purchase order for new Christmas decorations, to be used at the library and entertainment district.

During public comments, resident Donna Ware (4313 Wind Song Trail) approached the podium and shared her latest pictures of the brown construction-runoff filled private lake behind her home. She then asked the City for a stop-work order on the nearby construction site and other forms of relief, on behalf of her neighbors and herself. The following people in the audience joined her in this petitioning effort:

- Shannon Martin, 4321 Wind Song Trail
- Derek Mobley, 7586 Wind Song Drive
- Angela Wright, 5066 Park Pass
- Dr. David Dobbs, 7923 Wind Song Drive
- David Butler, 2449 Acton Park Circle
- Bob Hodgins, 7952 Wind Song Drive
- Jackie Ward, 7796 Wind Song Drive
- Courtney L. Dollar, 7789 Wind Song Drive
- Michael P. Lawler, 4439 Coach Drive
- Jody Saiia, 3424 Brook Mountain Lane Mountain Brook (owner of the private lake and the subject residential subdivision under construction)

Each city councilor commented. Mayor Choat then spoke, vowing an answer by the next council workshop. He indicated he would keep open all possible options for a swift resolution to the ongoing runoff problem, as he organizes a meeting with various interested parties, including the developer. Donna Ware suggested that the mayor invite her residence group to the meeting with the developer. Without directly saying so, one of those options for Mayor Choat was issuing a stop-work order.

Richard Epstein passed on making any public comment. Shain Armstrong (5299 Stockton Pass) commended the City on its July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. He announced that he had already gotten 593 names on his online petition to prevent any mask mandate in Trussville city schools. He encouraged the city council to go online and support his efforts.

With no further public business, the regular session promptly adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Dan Weinrib  
City Clerk