

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 AGENDA WORKSHOP

Members of the City Council met in a **workshop session** on **Thursday, September 7, 2023**, at 5 pm at the City Hall Annex, to review the proposed agenda for its next regular session. Council President Lisa Bright presided over the meeting and Dan Weinrib served as recording secretary.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Lisa Bright
Councilor Jaime Anderson
Councilor Perry Cook

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat
City Clerk Dan Weinrib

Those absent: Councilor Alan Taylor
Councilor Ben Short

The City Council then determined the order of consideration for its upcoming agenda. Subsequently, City Human Resources Director Mandy reported that a few new city employees, still in their probationary period, have contracted the latest version of COVID-19, reflecting a rising trend, locally and nationally. Currently, the City Employee Handbook requires the City Council to approve unpaid sick leave on each case, via resolution. To assist her and to save time, the councilors indicated they were willing to consider a resolution offering blanket approval of unpaid leave covering all pandemic-related sick cases for probationary employees.

Subsequently, Mayor Choat shared copies of a draft Release & Waiver Agreement with the Council. Upon his request, they agreed to add a related resolution requiring such an agreement, whenever somebody applies for a residential construction permit involving undeveloped property, that the Fire Department determines has suboptimal water pressure for fire services. With no further business to discuss, the workshop adjourned at approximately 5:25 pm.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in regular session on Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 6 pm at the City Hall Annex, with Council President Lisa Bright presiding over the meeting and Dan Weinrib serving as recording secretary.

President Bright called the meeting to order. She led the prayer and Councilor Anderson led the pledge.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Lisa Bright
Councilor Perry Cook
Councilor Jaime Anderson

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat
City Clerk Dan Weinrib
City Attorney Rick Stotser

Those absent: Councilor Alan Taylor
Councilor Ben Short

They reviewed the minutes from the August 17 agenda workshop and August 22 regular session. Councilor Cook moved and Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for approval. **UNANIMOUS**

President Bright then introduced the regular & consent agendas. Councilor Cook moved and Councilor Anderson seconded the motion to approve both agendas. **UNANIMOUS**

Under public comments, Amy Peterson O'Brien (303 Brentwood Avenue) & Tommy Trimm (204 Magnolia Street) updated the City Council on their fundraising efforts to construct three Cahaba Project Monument signs at key perimeter locations. With generous support from local families & businesses, as well as grants from Jefferson County and State Rep. Danny Garrett, the Cahaba Heritage Homestead Foundation has secured over \$51,000 in funding. They plan to start building in October and finish sometime in November. They will use masonry that is either identical to or compatible with other stone monuments nearby. When asked, Mayor Choat answered that the City would commit its financial support as part of the

upcoming FY2024 budget. The City's intends to subsidize the dollar difference between moneys raised and final costs so that CHHF can finish out the project on time and on budget.

Under the regular agenda, President Bright then convened a public hearing to solicit feedback on a proposed floodplain management ordinance. Councilor Cook summarized its purpose. Since nobody stood up to speak, President Bright promptly closed the public hearing.

Councilor Cook then made a motion for unanimous consent to suspend the rules in order to bring up an ordinance for immediate consideration. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. **Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS** Councilor Cook then moved and Councilor Anderson seconded the motion to approve the new floodplain ordinance, replacing the previous one. **Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2023-017-ADM**

President Bright then convened a public hearing to solicit feedback on a proposed zoning ordinance amendment. Since nobody stood up to speak, President Bright promptly closed the public hearing.

Councilor Anderson then introduced the proposed zoning ordinance amendment. With her prompting, Mayor Choat explained the purpose behind altering the boundaries of the Highway 11 Transition Overlay and Downtown Overlay districts. Councilor Anderson then made a motion for unanimous consent to suspend the rules in order to bring up an ordinance for immediate consideration. Councilor Cook seconded the motion. **Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS** Councilor Anderson then moved and Councilor Cook seconded the motion to approve the proposed zoning ordinance amendment. **Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2023-018-PZ**

President Bright then convened a public hearing to solicit feedback on a prospective massage therapy business license application. Business owner & applicant Jill Copeland Henderson introduced herself and summarized her background. She hopes to open her new location at 145 North Chalkville Road after the landlord completes renovations. She asked whether the City Ordinance would allow couples massages in the same room. Yes, Inspections chief J.R. Malchus confirmed. He recommended barn door-style moveable walls to preserve privacy for individuals. Since nobody stood up to speak, President Bright promptly closed the public hearing.

Councilor Cook then introduced a proposed resolution to authorize the issuance of a massage therapy business license to Mockingbird Day Spa, Inc. He moved and Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for approval. **UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2023-58**

Councilor Cook then introduced a proposed resolution to approve unpaid leave for a City Public Works employee, who is ineligible to use any paid time off since (s)he is in probationary status. He moved and Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for approval. **UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2023-59**

Councilor Anderson then introduced a proposed resolution to elect Implementation Option B, as offered by the Jefferson County Personnel Board, raising the pay grades of certain Fire and Police Department positions in order to maintain the City's competitive market value with other municipalities. She moved and Councilor Cook seconded the motion for approval. **UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2023-60**

Councilor Cook then introduced a proposed resolution to approve a 3% COLA for all classified and non-classified employees on the regular city salary schedule. He moved and Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for approval. **UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2023-61**

Councilor Anderson then introduced a proposed resolution authorizing Mayor Choat to renew the City's insurance policy through insurance broker Petra Risk Management Services. She moved and Councilor Cook seconded the motion for approval. **UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2023-62**

Councilor Cook then introduced a proposed resolution to require a release and waiver from residential construction contractors prior to pulling permits on undeveloped property where the Fire Department determines has low water pressure, in conflict with the International Fire Code. He moved and Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for approval. **UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2023-63**

Councilor Anderson then introduced a proposed resolution adopting the Cahaba Solid Waste Disposal Authority's fuel cost savings rebate and 5% pricing adjustments. She moved and Councilor Cook seconded the motion for approval. **UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2023-64**

Under committee reports, Councilor Anderson reported that Veterans will have a booth at the Dog Daze Festival on the Mall. She deferred her Library report to Library chief Jason Baker, who announced that Sewing for Charity fundraiser will occur on September 21 and the 5K Friends of the Library Fun Run will occur on October 14. Also, Anderson reported that ACTA's production *The Play That Goes Wrong*

runs September 15-24. Meanwhile it has resumed its children's acting classes. Also, the Historical Society will have a booth at Dog Daze. Also, the Beautification Board has set its next contest date for June 3, 2024.

Councilor Cook reported that the next Parks & Recreation Board meeting occurs on September 19. Enrollment in all fall sports remains strong. The Seniors Citizens Advisory Board will next meet on September 20. Inspections remain busy. The Tree Commission will review an arborist's proposal for saving old trees on various city properties at its September 13 business meeting.

President Bright acknowledged school board member Sherrye Tolbert. The school board will meet on September 18. She encouraged the community to come out, support the Huskies football team and see the new Jumbotron video board. Also, Prestige Alarm hosted an enjoyable IDA luncheon social for industrial park businesses. Also, Public Works will have its heavy equipment & trucks available for kids to climb into during the Dog Daze Festival. After the event, Public Works employees will clean up the Mall area. The department remains busy with replacing signs, mowing grass and clearing rights-of-way. She expressed her appreciation for them.

Mayor Choat reported that he and Finance Director Mike Hinson will have a proposed budget ready for the September 21 agenda workshop. Also, the second Leadership Trussville class will have its overnight retreat in Talladega County later this month. Also, the City razed the former Best Insurance building as part of the eventual Loop Road construction project. He hopes to have utilities relocated this fall before bidding out this public works job sometime prior to December 31. Also, he and others met with Sain Associates representatives earlier in the day to discuss their vision for Glendale Farms, now that the public gave its input at the Civic Center on August 29. Also, the City's year-long advertising campaign on Channel 42 starts on September 14. Lastly, the new Starbucks on Chalkville Mountain Road opens to the public on September 15, without public fanfare.

There were no audience comments.

With no further business to discuss, President Bright adjourned the meeting around 6:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Dan Weinrib CMC
City Clerk