

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024 AGENDA WORKSHOP

The City Council met in an **agenda workshop session** on **Thursday, September 5, 2024**, at 5 pm to review the proposed agenda for its next regular session. Council President Jaime Anderson presided over the meeting and Dan Weinrib served as recording secretary.

Those members present were as follows: Council President Jaime Anderson
Councilor Ben Short
Councilor Perry Cook
Councilor Alan Taylor

Others present in their official capacity: City Clerk Dan Weinrib
City Attorney Seth Cohen

Those absent: Mayor Buddy Choat
Councilor Lisa Bright

The City Council then determined the order of consideration. There were no additions or deletions. On behalf of the IDA, Cohen gave the City Council a briefing about a speculative real estate development proposal involving the old Goldkist chicken plant property. An out-of-state real estate development company wants to put a 20,000 square foot office &/or warehouse for a speculative tenant on location near the idled chicken plant. The developer wants the property for no or minimal costs. The developer wants the City to upgrade Will Pond Road, which is necessary to facilitate development on the old chicken plant property and neighboring land owned by the IDA. According to the IDA, this real estate development firm has prior experience in developing parts of industrial parks in the Southeast. Councilor Bright is looking into that. The council collectively expressed skepticism, knowing the city still owes over \$1 million on the mortgage note. While acknowledging the City will need to improve Will Pond Road, the councilors stated they are willing to negotiate a tax-incentive deal, with the purchaser putting "skin in the game." With nothing left to review, the agenda workshop adjourned around 5:24 pm.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in **regular session** on **Tuesday, September 10, 2024**, at 6 pm at the City Hall Annex, with Council President Jaime Anderson presiding and City Clerk Dan Weinrib serving as recording secretary.

President Anderson called the meeting to order. Councilor Taylor led the prayer and Councilor Cook led the pledge.

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

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

They reviewed the minutes from the August 22 agenda workshop & regular session, as well as September 3 special session. Councilor Bright moved & Councilor Taylor seconded the motion to approve the minutes, as submitted. **UNANIMOUS**

President Anderson introduced the regular agenda. At Mayor Choat's request, Councilor Short moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion to approve the regular agenda as amended to include an executive session. **UNANIMOUS**

During public comments, Barbara Newman (5318 Magnolia Drive South) promoted the new local Kiwanis Club. They meet on the first and third Monday at the Athletic Center. Local attorney Yashiba Blanchard introduced herself to the elected officials and audience. She is the Democrat running for Probate Judge Place No. 1.

Under the regular agenda, Councilor Bright introduced a proposed proclamation declaring the upcoming high school homecoming parade a citywide event. **She moved and Councilor Short seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2024-23**

Councilor Short introduced a proposed proclamation honoring September 11 as Patriot Day. **He moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2024-24**

Councilor Taylor introduced a proposed proclamation recognizing September 17-23 as Constitution Week. **He moved and Councilor Short seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2024-25**

Councilor Cook then introduced a proposed proclamation declaring September 20 as Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day. **He moved and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2024-26**

Councilor Taylor then introduced a proposed resolution adopting the City's 2024 Storm Water Management Program Plan. **He moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2024-45**

Councilor Cook then introduced a proposed resolution approving the purchase and installation of new baseball and softball scoreboards for the Sports Complex, without formal Public Works bidding. **He moved and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion for approval, UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2024-46**

Councilor Short then introduced a proposed resolution accepting various streets throughout the Peppertree neighborhood. **He moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval, UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2024-47**

Councilor Bright introduced a proposed resolution declaring various Public Works equipment (lawnmowers, chain saws, etc.) surplus. **She moved and Councilor Short seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2024-48**

During Committee reports, Councilor Bright praised Public Works for trimming trees, cleaning up rights-of-way and making trucks available for the upcoming Dog Daze festival. After acknowledging school board member Jason Daniel, she summarized the school board's most recent public recognitions of guidance counselors and Chad Carroll. Its next meeting is October 21.

Councilor Cook thanked the Public Works and Parks & Recreation departments for improving the City Dog Park. He summarized the fall sports activities; enrollment is still robust. Also, the Seniors Center celebrated its silver anniversary on August 30. Mayor Choat and former Mayor Melton gave speeches. Also, the Tree Commission has 18 trees on its replacement list.

Councilor Short summarized the Planning & Zoning Commission's actions from its September 10 meeting. They unanimously recommended a rezoning to the city council and rejected Longmeadow's latest plat.

Councilor Taylor promoted the upcoming Dog Daze festival, including the evening entertainment at the city pavilion. He also announced that the new Leadership Trussville class will have an overnight trip for its first get-together.

Councilor Anderson thanked ACTA for providing complimentary *Mousetrap* tickets to Police & Fire departments, prior to its September 20-29 production. She also promoted the Veterans Committee's Take Back the Day fundraising event on September 11 in the Entertainment District, to cover the cost of an additional Fallen Warriors bust. She also promoted the Library's 5K run on October 12. Also, the City Museum will be open 10 am – 4 pm during the Dog Daze festival. There, the Historical Committee will host rock painting.

Mayor Choat anticipates getting bids on the Loop Road project next month. Wiregrass Construction will mobilize its I-59 lane widening project next month. He will give his annual State of the City address at the October chamber luncheon.

During audience comments, Richard Epstein (4742 Boulder Drive) reminded the audience that November 5 is Election Day. Former councilor Jef Freeman (318 Woodward Drive) gave gracious remarks after President Anderson acknowledged him and his wife Regina.

Councilor Short moved and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss potential or possible litigation. UNANIMOUS After a brief recess, they met behind closed doors until 6:56 pm. Upon its conclusion and with nothing left on the agenda, President Anderson adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Dan Weinrib CMC
City Clerk