

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

OCTOBER 3, 2024 AGENDA WORKSHOP

The City Council met in an **agenda workshop session** on **Thursday, October 3, 2024**, at 5 pm to review the proposed agenda for its next regular session. Council President Jaime Anderson presided over the meeting and Stacy Frazier served as recording secretary.

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

Others present in their official capacity: Mayor Buddy Choat
Stacy Frazier

Those absent: Councilor Alan Taylor
City Clerk Dan Weinrib

The City Council then determined the order of consideration. They added three consent agenda items regarding committee appointments. They then discussed a Tree Ordinance compliance issue at Councilor Cook's request, then ultimately decided to bring in the landscaping contractor at a subsequent meeting. They then discussed the current 6% lodging tax, paid by licensed hotels and similar hospitality businesses. They mutually agreed to add an ordinance, which would raise the rate to 12%, effective January 1, 2025, to the regular agenda. With nothing else left to discuss, at Mayor Choat's prompting, Councilor Bright moved and Councilor Short seconded the motion to go into executive session to talk about a potential trade and commerce matter. They recessed briefly, then met behind closed doors at 5:38 pm. By 6 pm, they concluded discussions and promptly adjourned their workshop.

OCTOBER 8, 2024 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in **regular session** on **Tuesday, October 8, 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 Bright led the prayer and Councilor Short 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 September 19 agenda workshop, September 24 regular session & September 30 special session. Councilor Bright moved & Councilor Short seconded the motion to approve the minutes, as submitted. **UNANIMOUS**

President Anderson introduced the three-item consent agenda. Councilor Short moved and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda, contingent upon passage of the related ordinance proposals. **UNANIMOUS** President Anderson introduced the regular agenda. Councilor Short moved and Councilor Cook seconded the motion to approve the amended regular agenda, with the Tree Ordinance discussion removed. **UNANIMOUS**

During public comments, Tree Commission chairman Ralph Mitchell lamented the lack of advanced notice about the city council's plans to discuss a Tree Ordinance matter. Fellow Tree Commission members were in attendance.

Under the regular agenda, Councilor Bright introduced a proposed proclamation recognizing October 16 as **Turn Trussville Pink Day**, to honor her mother Bess Lide, of blessed memory. **She moved and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2024-28.**

Councilor Bright then introduced a proposed proclamation honoring Hewitt-Trussville High School head baseball coach Jeff Mauldin on his upcoming induction into the Alabama Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame. **She moved and Councilor Short seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Proclamation No. 2024-29** Coach Mauldin thanked the city for its generous support of his teams since 2013. During the 2024 season, he became the youngest high school baseball coach in state history to reach 700 career wins. His Huskies teams account for almost half of those victories. After a brief recess for group pictures, President Anderson resumed the meeting.

Councilor Short then moved, and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion, for unanimous consent to suspend the rules and bring up a proposed ordinance for immediate consideration. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Short then introduced a proposed ordinance that would add a member to the Design Review Committee and re-establish the terms of volunteer service by citizens. **He moved and Councilors Cook & Taylor jointly seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2024-017-ADM**

Councilor Short then moved, and Councilor Bright seconded the motion, for unanimous consent to suspend the rules and bring up a proposed ordinance for immediate consideration. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Short then introduced a proposed ordinance that would renumerate Chapter 2 Article V. Sections of the *Code of Ordinances*. By doing this, the City could formally add additional citizen committees to its *Code*. **He moved and Councilor Cook seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2024-018-ADM**

Councilor Taylor then moved, and Councilor Bright seconded the motion, for unanimous consent to suspend the rules and bring up a proposed ordinance for immediate consideration. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Taylor then introduced a proposed ordinance that would establish the Active Transportation Committee, composed of five members serving staggered terms. **He moved and Councilor Short seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2024-019-ADM**

Councilor Short then moved, and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion, for unanimous consent to suspend the rules and bring up a proposed ordinance for immediate consideration. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Short then introduced a proposed ordinance that would annex the property located at 430 Glen Cross Way. **He moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2024-020-ANX**

Councilor Taylor then moved, and Councilor Bright seconded the motion, for unanimous consent to suspend the rules and bring up a proposed ordinance for immediate consideration. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Taylor then introduced a proposed ordinance that would raise the lodging tax to 12% from 6%, effective January 1, 2025, paid by guests at hotels, motels and other short-term places. **He moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2024-021-ADM**

President Anderson then opened a public hearing on a proposed rezoning. Tower Homes Vice President for Development Bobby Riis summarized his company's proposal for the 18.6 acres adjacent to Deerfoot Baptist Church. Tower Homes wanted to develop a 45-lot subdivision (dubbed "Hillbrook") with public accesses to Husky Parkway and Mount Olive Church Road. During question time, he stated that their 1700- to 2400-square foot homes would range from upper \$300s to upper \$400s in today's market (Taylor), all homes would have brick accents, including an all-brick model home (Short), that there would be a governing homeowners association and recorded covenants. Hillbrook's covenants would prohibit long- & short-term rentals (Cook) Since nobody in the audience spoke up, President Anderson promptly closed the public hearing.

Councilor Short then moved, and Councilor Cook seconded the motion, for unanimous consent to suspend the rules and bring up a proposed ordinance for immediate consideration. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Councilor Short then introduced a proposed ordinance to rezone the five undeveloped properties sandwiched between Husky Parkway & Mount Olive Church Road to R-G (Garden Residential) from C-1 (Preferred Commercial) & R-T (Townhouse Residential) **He moved and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, PASSED 3-2 (FOR: Anderson, Short, Taylor; AGAINST: Bright, Cook) Ordinance No. 2024-022-PZ**

Councilor Taylor then introduced a proposed resolution authorizing the City to apply for a SEEDS infrastructure grant for the City's Glendale Farms project. **He moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval, UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2024-54**

Councilor Cook introduced a proposed resolution granting unpaid leave to a city employee. **He moved and Councilor Short seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2024-55**

During Committee reports, Councilor Bright summarized Public Works' seasonal activities. Deputy Director Justin Ferguson stated that city leaf trucks will start vacuuming on October 21. She acknowledged school board member Dr. Steven Ward, then bragged on the middle and high schools earning A+ College Ready's school of achievement and school of distinction honors, respectively. She promoted the HTHS stage production *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, the annual homecoming parade and football game.

Councilor Cook reported that the Tree Commission is planning for Arbor Week in February, including its Arbor Day Walk event.

Councilor Short carried over his reports.

Councilor Taylor reported that the City now has a budget for the new fiscal year. Also, the public enjoyed the Dog Daze Festival – Take Two last weekend. He promoted Mayor Choat's State of the City address on October 17. Also, Leadership Trussville will tour the Civic Center, ACTA, Senior Center and History Museum on October 12.

Councilor Anderson promoted the Library 5K run on October 12 and book author Mary Kay Andrews' appearance on November 14. Also, she promoted ACTA productions *Magic City Magic Club* on October 11 and *White Christmas* (December 5-15) She praised Dog Daze Festival – Take Two organizers.

Mayor Choat congratulated Amy O'Brien and Cahaba Homestead Heritage Foundation on the successful lamp lighting at Cahaba Elementary School. He explained to the public the benefits of the raised lodging tax. Next summer, the city will host travel softball and baseball tournaments. He also summarized his latest meeting with ALDOT regarding road and bridge improvements to Glendale Farms and Carrington Drive.

During audience comments, Ralph Mitchell thanked city leaders for continuing to fund the Tree Commission for the new fiscal year. Another (*unidentified*) citizen promoted the upcoming Gateway Art Festival in the Entertainment District, organized by the new city art council.

With nothing left on the agenda, President Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Dan Weinrib CMC
City Clerk