

CITY OF TRUSSVILLE MINUTES

DECEMBER 19, 2024 AGENDA WORKSHOP

The City Council met in an **agenda workshop session** on **Thursday, December 19, 2024**, just after 5 pm to review the proposed agenda for its next regular session. Council President Ben Short presided over the meeting and Dan Weinrib served as recording secretary.

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

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

The City Council then determined the order of consideration. Parks & Recreation Director David Vinson summarized the grant from Jefferson County to upgrade the restroom facilities in the Seniors Center. The Councilors agreed to keep the grant hearing on the agenda, since it had already been in public notices. City attorney Seth Cohen briefly explained the proposed property sales in the city industrial park. Mayor Choat updated the city council on a prospective economic development agreement. When asked, the city clerk confirmed that the legal notice will run in the December 28 issue of *The Alabama Messenger*, thus complying with State Amendment No. 772. The proposal should be on the January 14 city council agenda. With nothing left to review, President Short adjourned the workshop at 5:16 pm.

DECEMBER 19, 2024 REGULAR SESSION

The City Council of the City of Trussville met in **regular session** on **Thursday, December 19, 2024**, at 5:16 pm at the City Hall Annex, with Council President Ben Short presiding and Dan Weinrib serving as recording secretary.

President Short called the meeting to order. Refresh Family Church Bishop & Center Point Fire District officer Stephen Davis led the prayer; CPFD Battalion Chief Chris Horn led the pledge.

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Councilor Jaime Anderson
Councilor Lisa Bright
Councilor Perry Cook
Councilor Alan Taylor

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

They reviewed the minutes from the December 5 agenda workshop & December 10 regular session. Councilor Bright moved & Councilor Anderson seconded the motion to approve the minutes, as submitted. **UNANIMOUS**

President Short then introduced the consent & regular agenda. Councilor Taylor moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion to approve the one-item consent agenda. **UNANIMOUS** Councilor Taylor moved & Councilor Bright seconded the motion to approve the regular agenda. **UNANIMOUS**

During public comments, Nikki Crocker (307 Edgeview Avenue) requested that the City install speed bumps, install stop signs, and/or otherwise do something to make her block safer for children and residents. She has observed frequent speeding and in one instance, a driver passing a stopped bus. Councilor Taylor publicly committed to taking her request with the Public Safety Committee in January.

Under the regular agenda, Leaders from the Trussville-Clay American Legion Post No. 205 presented Fire Battalion Chief Albert Tinney its Firefighter of the Year Award. Numerous City Fire Department & CPFD colleagues, as well as Tinney's sweet mother, were in attendance. Tinney also serves as a CPFD battalion chief. After group photos, Tinney gave brief remarks, filled with humble appreciation.

President Short then opened a public hearing by recognizing Parks & Recreation Director David Vinson, who briefly summarized a Jefferson County grant, earmarked for updating restrooms in the Seniors Center. There were no questions from the audience or councilors, prompting Short to close it out.

Councilor Bright then made a motion for unanimous consent to bring up a proposed ordinance up for immediate consideration. Councilor Taylor seconded the motion. **Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS** Councilor Bright then introduced an ordinance to declare certain city-owned property in the industrial park as surplus, then sell it to Diversified Nonferrous Technologies, Inc. **She moved and Councilor Taylor seconded the motion for approval. Upon roll call vote, UNANIMOUS Ordinance No. 2024-026-ADM**

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Councilor Taylor then introduced a proposed resolution to purchase property located at 431 Pineview Road from Mount Joy Baptist Church. **He moved and Councilor Anderson seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2024-68**

Councilor Cook then introduced a proposed resolution to declare as surplus certain desks, cabinets, furniture and fixtures abandoned by the Inspections Department upon its relocation to Trussville-Clay Road. **He moved and Councilor Bright seconded the motion for approval. UNANIMOUS Resolution No. 2024-69**

President Short then opened a public hearing for the proposed rezoning of 75 undeveloped acres, located at 6287 Service Road. In May 2023, the City purchased it from Guy Martin to prevent him from developing a 500+ unit apartment complex. The City subsequently annexed the property, then rezoned it to A-1 (Agricultural). Residential developer Harris Doyle was seeking rezoning to PUD (Planned Unit Development), which was the purpose of this public hearing.

Neither Brooks Harris nor anybody else representing Harris Doyle attended this council meeting. After Short gave cursory summary of the proposal, he then recognized citizens who wanted to address the Council and audience.

Lawrence Key (4516 Martin Wilson Road) voiced his opposition, based on his own prior experiences with Harris Doyle regarding Longmeadow. His backyard pond has repeatedly endured silt runoff from nearby residential construction.

Jim Miller (517 Ryding Circle) also spoke out in opposition, citing negative traffic and school system impact.

Clinton Powell (address unknown) wanted to know how much buffering would exist between the proposed residential development and his relatives' properties, located at 6275-6281 (odd numbers only) Service Road. President Short committed to getting back to him with that answer quickly. *The city clerk emailed him the next day.*

Dan Hatch (5223 Solitude Lane) seconded neighbor Lawrence Key's comments, expressing his own opposition.

At 5:52 pm, President Short closed the public hearing. Councilor Taylor then made a motion for unanimous consent to bring up a proposed ordinance up for immediate consideration. Councilor Bright seconded the motion. **UNANIMOUS Councilor Taylor then made a motion to approve the proposed ordinance to rezone 6287 Service Road to PUD (Planned Unit Development) from A-1 (Agricultural) Councilor Anderson seconded the motion.** They deliberated openly. Each councilor took a turn to address the audience about the proposal. Councilor Bright informed the public that per her employer's board of directors' advice, she no longer has a professional conflict of interests. **Upon roll call vote, the City Council voted 4-1 (Cook dissenting) for rezoning. Ordinance No. 2024-028-PZ**

During committee reports, Councilor Anderson informed ACTA still has tickets available for *A Charlie Brown Christmas*; however, *White Christmas* tickets have sold out.

Councilor Bright commended Public Works for its post-Christmas parade candy litter cleanup. Also, at its December 16 meeting, the school board announced its annual Teacher of the Year honorees. She mentioned that the girls middle school bowling team are region champions. She acknowledged school board member Dr. Steve Ward in the audience.

Councilor Cook thanked David Vinson and Drew Peterson for their ongoing public updates about renovations in the Sports Complex. He also thanked Vinson for his grants work, benefitting the Seniors Center. He updated the public about the Inspections Department move to Trussville-Clay Road. Also, Tree

Commission is preparing for tree planting activities, occurring January 21-23. They secured enough funding for planting 40 new trees.

Councilor Taylor announced that the Utilities Board met on December 19, and that ADEM made a surprise inspections visit to test the water and subsequently issued TUB a passing grade. Also, the Chamber's annual Christmas parade was a success. Also, the Leadership Trussville will Government Day on January 9.

Councilor Short postponed his reports.

Mayor Choat congratulated the Fire Department for getting Station No. 4 up and running. Also, the City obtained three quotes for a new playground behind the library. Each quote was roughly \$2 million. Also, the County Commission will provide \$120,000 as a grant for improving the Seniors Center. With Fire vacating the old Cherokee School, its old space is now freed up for Public Works' eventual relocation. He acknowledged Planning & Zoning Chairman Darrell Skipper in the audience, thanking him for his continued community service. He congratulated the IDA Board on its recent successes.

There were no audience comments. With nothing else to review, President Short then adjourned the council meeting, at 6:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Dan Weinrib CMC
City Clerk