

City of Pelham
City Council Work Session
March 1, 2010

MINUTES

Members of the Pelham City Council met on March 1, 2010. The work session was held in the conference room of Pelham City Hall and was open to the public.

The following elected officials were present:

Mayor Don Murphy
Council President Mike Dickens
Councilmember Teresa Nichols
Councilmember Bill Meadows
Councilmember Steve Powell
Councilmember Karyl Rice

Media Present: None

Others present: Tom Seale, Eddy Jowers, Lt. Pete Folmar, Johnny Busby, Mike Morgan, Roy Lambert, Butch Byrd, Chief Tommy Thomas, Officer Scott Bottchen, Janis Parks, Lynn Waters, Gary Waters, Fire Chief Danny Ray, other city employees and members of the public.

The council work session was called to order by Council President Mike Dickens at 6 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember Teresa Nichols to approve the February 15, 2010 work session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bill Meadows and by voice vote the motion passed unanimously by all members present.

New Business

None

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Murphy requested the Council remove Resolution 2010-03-01-02 from the March 1, 2010 council agenda regarding a professional services agreement with Radius Technology for GPS data collection for the Sewer Department. The Mayor stated due to the \$ 71,760 cost of the project he was confident the city could perform the work in-house.

Mayor Murphy spoken in opposition to Resolution 2010-03-01-03 authorizing an extension of an agreement between the City and Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP to promote and maintain community infrastructure and development and to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of

Pelham, Alabama in the amount of \$ 90,000 plus reimbursable expenses not to exceed \$ 2,500. The Mayor said it was his opinion the expenditure of these funds at this time was not prudent. He quoted a Birmingham News article regarding federal stimulus money which stated the funds had not been distributed as promised. The Mayor referenced his trip to Montgomery to secure funding for the Park sidewalk project. He stated further opposition to the renewal of the contract was due to the lack of results from the consultant and City revenues continuing to decline.

Mayor Murphy provided additional information on Resolution 2010-02-15-02 authorizing a 10% education pay incentive for Police Department employee Amanda McMahon and recommend the resolution be added to the March 1, 2010 council agenda. Resolution 2010-2-15-02 was tabled by council action on February 15, 2010.

Mayor Murphy spoke to a grant agreement received between the City of Pelham and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) in the amount of \$100,000 (ADECA) and the City of Pelham (\$25,000) regarding the Oak Mountain State Park bicycle trail and bridge project. The Mayor stated a resolution was required by ADECA to accept the grant. Mr. Meadows explained the grant and in-kind services to be provided by the city. Mr. Dickens moved to add Resolution 2010-03-01-01 to the March 1, 2010 agenda. Dr. Nichols seconded the motion and by voice vote the motion passed unanimously by all members present and Resolution 2010-03-01-01 was added to the agenda.

Mayor Murphy commented on the Davis Mortgage Retirement activities and announced the goal of \$ 200,000 had been reached. He thanked everyone for their involvement and said a mortgage burning celebration would be held at the Pelham Civic Complex. Money is still being received and the intention is to use funds remaining after paying off the mortgages to establish a countywide foundation in Philip Davis' name to assist police officers and their families. The Mayor thanked the Pelham Police and the entertainers at WorkPlay for their assistance in making the concert and silent auction a tremendous success.

Review of Council Agenda

Mr. Dickens reviewed the council agenda for March 1, 2010 and noted other council business would be addressed in the work session as time permits.

Resolution 2010-03-01-01 accepting and authorizing the Mayor to execute and sign a grant agreement with the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) in the amount of \$100,000 (ADECA) and the City of Pelham (\$25,000) regarding the Oak Mountain State Park bicycle trail and bridge.

There were no additional comments.

Dr. Nichols moved to take from the table **Resolution 2010-02-15-02** authorizing a 10% education pay incentive for Police Department employee Amanda McMahon, B.A. degree in Foreign Languages with a concentration in Spanish, University of Montevallo, December 2009, and place on the March 1, 2010 council agenda following information received from Police Chief Tommy Thomas. Resolution 2010-2-15-02 had been tabled by council action on February

15, 2010. Mrs. Rice seconded the motion and by voice vote the motion passed unanimously by all members present and Resolution 2010-02-15-02 was added to the agenda. Dr. Nichols recommended approval of the resolution. Mr. Powell spoke in support of the resolution following the additional information provided by Chief Thomas that Officer McMahon had received prior approval for the educational incentive. Dr. Nichols commented she hoped that in the future all relevant information regarding presentations to the Education Incentive Committee would be properly documented and in the employee's personnel file. Mr. Powell thanked Officer McMahon for stepping out in obtaining additional education and increasing her level of service to the community.

Resolution 2010-03-01-02 approving the amending of the FY2010 budget for donations received by the Pelham Fire Department in the amount of \$ 900 and authorizing expenditures in the Fire Department budget in the amount of \$ 900.

Mr. Powell spoke to the Council's rules on requiring a first reading on resolutions related to the expenditures of funds or budget revisions. Mr. Powell asked Fire Chief Danny Ray if there was an urgency in approving the resolution tonight. Chief Ray said there was not.

Resolution 2010-03-01-03 authorizing an extension of an agreement between the City and Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP to promote and maintain community infrastructure and development and to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Pelham, Alabama in the amount of \$ 90,000 plus reimbursable expenses not to exceed \$ 2,500 and amending the Administration's FY2010 budget in the amount of \$ 60,000. Mr. Powell asked Mayor Murphy about the original agreement signed in January 2009. Mayor Murphy stated he supported the original agreement based upon information at that time regarding the availability of federal stimulus monies. Mayor Murphy commented he was against a renewal of the agreement as stated earlier in his "Mayor Comments" and if the agreement was approved a budget amendment to the FY2010 budget would be required.

Dr. Nichols questioned Public Works Director Eddy Jowers about the drainage study approved in the FY 2010 budget. Mr. Jowers stated the project was currently on hold. Dr. Nichols said the citizens of the area had been promised in the budget the city would move forward on the drainage problems. Mr. Powell asked if Mayor Murphy and Mr. Dickens would agree to look into the drainage issues and report back to the council.

Mrs. Rice moved to take from the table **Resolution 2010-02-15-03** authorizing the Mayor to sign a statement of work with Ingenuity, Inc. for power and telecommunications expense management services. The motion was seconded by Mr. Meadows and by voice vote the motion passed by members present with Dr. Nichols voting no. Resolution 2010-02-15-03 was placed on the March 1, 2010 council agenda. Resolution 2010-2-15-03 had been tabled by council action on February 15, 2010. The Mayor stated he had no opinion regarding placing the resolution on the agenda. Mrs. Rice spoke in favor of the resolution during these economic times. Mr. Dickens felt the project could be done in-house.

Mr. Dickens took the opportunity to renumber the resolutions for the March 1, 2010 council agenda.

Old Business

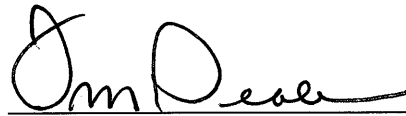
None

Mr. Powell spoke on several issue brought to his attention. He stated he had received e-mails regarding the verification of sewer services from several Pelham residents. He wanted to inform the Council prior to responding to the e-mails. Mr. Powell asked Mayor Murphy about long range plans to build a basketball facility in Pelham. The Mayor commented both he and Parks and Recreation Director Billy Crandall would like to see a multi-purpose facility built in Pelham if funds could be obtained.

Adjournment

Dr. Nichols made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mrs. Rice. The motion passed unanimously by all those present and the work session was adjourned at 6:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Seale", written over a horizontal line.

Tom Seale
Finance Director / City Clerk