City of Pelham

City Council Work Session
March 15, 2010

MINUTES

Members of the Pelham City Council met on March 15, 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, Roy Lambert, Butch Byrd, Officer Scott Bottchen, Gary Waters, Eddie Cottone, Pete Zekoff, Sgt. Pat Cheatwood, Janis Parks, Brock Beiersdoerfer and other city employees and members of the public.

The council work session was called to order by Council President Mike Dickens at 6:03 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember Teresa Nichols to approve the March 1, 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 commented on the Davis Mortgage Retirement activities and announced the goal of $ 200,000 had been reached and the mortgages paid off. He said a full page advertisement thanking the many contributors to the Davis Fund, compliments of the Shelby County Reporter, would be in the Pelham and Shelby County Reporter this week. A mortgage burning celebration is scheduled for the second Sunday in April and will be held at the Pelham Civic Complex.

Mayor Murphy updated the council on the flooding that occurred on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 in the various parts of the city and stated areas that flooded had never flooded before. He thanked Public Works Director Eddie Jowers and Rick Hayes for their efforts which helped reduce flooding in the Highway 261 area. As a result there was minimal flooding in these areas. The proper disposal of leaves and yard debris was discussed by the Mayor. The Mayor thanked the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments for their efforts in reducing the potential damages due to flooding.

Mr. Meadows thanked the Public Works Department for being proactive in the Cedar Cove sub-division. The Birmingham Urban Mountain Peddlers, through Mr. Meadows, thanked Mr. Jowers and his Public Works Department for their assistance in the Oak Mountain bike trail project.

Review of Council Agenda

Mr. Dickens reviewed the council agenda for March 15, 2010 and noted other council business would be addressed in the work session as time permits.

Resolution 2009-12-07-01 authorizing a 10% education pay incentive for Fire Department employee Firefighter/Paramedic George Ingleright, B.S. degree in Criminal Justice from the University of North Alabama, December 1994. Mr. Powell asked if the proposed budget revision was through the end of the current fiscal year. City Clerk Tom Seale said the revisions were calculated through September 30, 2010. Dr. Nichols mentioned Mr. Ingleright was a member of the Pelham Police Tactical Unit. Mayor Murphy questioned whether the education pay incentive ordinance addressed retroactive pay. Mr. Powell responded the ordinance did not authorize retroactive incentive pay. Mr. Powell stated the incentive can be reevaluated if an employee's position changes and is not job relevant.

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.

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.

There were no additional comments.

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. Mayor Murphy again spoke in opposition to Resolution 2010-03-01-03 authorizing an extension of an agreement between the City and Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP.

Resolution 2010-03-15-01 Authorizing eligibility for a 5% education pay incentive for Fire Department employee Scott Moye upon completion of an associate degree in Applied Science in Fire Science from Columbia Southern University.

There were no additional comments.

Resolution 2010-03-15-02 ABC application for Walgreen Co., doing business as Walgreens Store #04589, located at 9458 Helena Road, Pelham, Alabama.

There were no additional comments.

Resolution 2010-03-15-03 ABC application for Walgreen Co., doing business as Walgreens Store #09427, located at 3340 Pelham Parkway, Pelham, Alabama.

There were no additional comments.

Resolution 2010-03-15-04 ABC application for Club 31, LLC, doing business as Club 31, located at 2969 Pelham Parkway, Pelham, Alabama.

There were no additional comments.

Mr. Meadows informed the council regarding Alabama Senate Bill 532, reducing fees at Alabama State Parks from May 15, 2010 until August 15, 2010. Mr. Meadows stated the fee reduction would result in reduced operating hours, reduced sales tax collections and a reduction in the number of Park employees. He asked the council to oppose Senate Bill 532 by resolution. Mr. Meadows made a motion to add **Resolution 2010-03-15-05** opposing Alabama Senate Bill 532 regarding the reduction of certain rates and fees charged at Alabama State Parks to the March 15, 2010 council agenda. Said motion was seconded by Dr. Nichols and passed by a unanimous vote by all members present. Mr. Powell asked Mr. Meadows why the fees were being reduced when they were already low. Mr. Meadows commented if Bill 532 passed it would hurt Pelham residents.

Mr. Dickens informed the council a new item had been added to the agenda, the Pledge of Allegiance. He mentioned having spoken to the First Baptist Church of Pelham on several occasions about the possibility of their Boy Scout troop "Presenting the Colors" at city council meetings. The council spoke in favor of the added agenda item.

Dr. Nichols commented on having received an e-mail from Mayor Murphy's executive secretary, Paula Sutton. The e-mailed stated the FEMA flood mitigation grant could fall into an incomplete status. Dr. Nichols explained the drainage study regarding the Saddle Run flooding problem. The FEMA grant would provide funding for the purchase of two houses for a detention pond. Discussion regarding a "voluntary participation" form for the grant followed. Mr. Dickens noted there was no guarantee a FEMA grant would be approved. There was additional discussion regarding the purchase of the houses. Dr. Nichols urged the city to obtain the necessary "voluntary participation" forms from the homeowners. Mr. Dickens stated, in his opinion, there was not enough information and clarity to the FEMA request. He asked if it was time sensitive in getting the information to FEMA. Mr. Meadows offered to make the necessary contacts to the homeowners on behalf of the city. Mrs. Rice said she was not interested in purchasing the properties outside the grant.

Janis Parks, Human Resources Department, introduced Brock Beiersdoerfer, regarding a proposal to increase the insurance benefits coverage on fulltime employees to $ 25,000 (Life) and $ 75,000 (Accidental Death and Dismemberment). Mr. Powell discussed with the council the increase in insurance benefits and to look at a possible increase in the FY2011 budget. Mr. Powell thanked everyone for their efforts. Ms. Parks mentioned additional benefits that accompany the increase in insurance coverage's.

Public Works Director Eddy Jowers discussed with the council his intentions to bid the Indian Hills Well #2 project. He further explained construction would probably not begin prior to the end of the FY2010 budget. He was concerned about funding in the FY2011 budget. Mrs. Rice made a motion to include funding for the Indian Hills Well #2 project in the FY2011 budget. The motion was seconded by Dr. Nichols and said motion was approved unanimously by all members of the council present.

Dr. Nichols asked the Mayor for an update on the Royal Chase sewer lift station problem. Mayor Murphy recommended the residents of Royal Chase bring the sewer lift station up to city specifications; provide an easement to the site and the city would consider accepting the sewer lift station. The Mayor stated the city has "safed" the lift station. Mr. Meadows asked if the homeowners association has need notified.

Mr. Dickens asked Mr. Jowers the status of the chemical feed building project. Mr. Jowers stated the project was scheduled to be bid in May 2010.

Old Business

None

Adjournment

Without any further business before the council work session, Mrs. Rice made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Meadows. The motion passed unanimously by all those present and the work session was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Seale
Finance Director / City Clerk

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