

CITY OF PELHAM
Council Work Session
Pelham City Hall - Council Conference Room
February 21, 2011 – 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Members of the Pelham City Council met on February 21, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. 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 Bill Meadows
Councilmember Teresa Nichols
Councilmember Steve Powell
Councilmember Karyl Rice

Media Present: Neal Wagner, Shelby County Reporter

Others present: City department heads, city employees and members of the public.

The council work session was called to order by Council President Mike Dickens at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols to approve the February 7, 2011 work session minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powell and by voice vote the motion passed unanimously by all members present.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Murphy elected to hold his comments until council meeting.

Review of Council Agenda

Mr. Dickens reviewed the council agenda for February 21, 2011.

- A. Call to Order
- B. Invocation
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Roll Call

E. Consent Agenda

(A consent agenda is presented by the Council President at the beginning of a council meeting. Items presented on the consent agenda are considered routine and non-controversial and are organized apart from the rest of the agenda and is adopted by general consent without debate. Items may be removed from the consent agenda on the request of any one member. Removed items may be taken up either immediately after the consent agenda is approved or placed later on the agenda at the discretion of the Council President and City Council.)

1. Approval of February 21, 2011 City Council Agenda.
2. Approval of the February 7, 2011 regular City Council meeting minutes.
3. Approval of the following non-budgeted expenses from restricted fund accounts:
 - a. State Aid (Library) – Current Balance: \$ 8,234.40
 1. \$ 4,041.02 for 2nd quarter FY2011 expenses for the purchase of two computers, copier paper, library supplies, stationery, business cards and to design a logo for the Pelham Library to be used on all printed materials.

F. Public Hearing – None

G. Mayor's Comments

H. Proclamations – None

I. Requests to Address the Council - None

J. Old Business - None

K. New Business - None

There were no comments from the council regarding the agenda.

Old Business – AS TIME PERMITS

Proposed revision of Ordinance 247-4 (Retiree Health Insurance)

Mr. Powell mentioned the review of the ordinance he had distributed to the council several weeks earlier. Mr. Powell noted the revision removes the earnings cap in the ordinance and stated Mayor Murphy and the Human Resources Department support removing the cap. The revision clarifies the retirement age to receive health insurance and the percentage cost to the employee. Employees hired after a certain date in the future will receive 50% of monthly health care premium benefits paid at retirement. Also, retirement benefits are scaled up from 10 years to 25 years based upon years of service. There will be no change to the benefits of current

employees or retirees other than the earnings cap being removed. Dr. Nichols stated she was not for changing benefits of current retirees. Dr. Nichols requested the council look at reviewing health care benefits in the FY2012 budget. Mr. Dickens asked the city clerk to have a representative from the State Employees Insurance Board attend a work session to discuss health care with the council and make recommendations to reduce our costs.

Dr. Nichols moved to add Ordinance 247-5 to the February 21, 2011 council agenda. Said motion was seconded by Mr. Meadows and by voice vote the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote of those members present.

Tobacco Tax Resolution

Mr. Dickens and Mr. Powell requested the council move forward with Resolution 2011-02-21-01 giving the city the opportunity to establish a tobacco tax. Mr. Powell stated he would vote for the resolution. Mr. Meadows said he was against a tobacco tax and urged the council to be innovative and reduce expenditures. Mrs. Rice concurred to allow the legislature to decide if Pelham could establish a tobacco tax. Mr. Powell moved to add Resolution 2011-02-21-01 to the February 21, 2011 council agenda. Mrs. Rice seconded the motion and by voice vote the motion passed by a vote of 4-1 with Mr. Meadows voting no.

Dr. Nichols requested the city clerk draft a resolution supporting the passage of a statewide bill regarding island annexations. Mr. Dickens asked the city clerk to draft a letter to the Alabama League of Municipalities supporting the legislation.

Mr. Powell reported on the park sewer project. Contractor Chris Ramsey stated to Mr. Powell the sewer project has been completed and the bathrooms are open. Dr. Nichols asked if any problems were incurred during the project. Public Works Director Eddy Jowers reported rock was encountered by the contractor and the city had inspected the sewer line. Mr. Powell stated the sewer manhole was relocated and put inside a small fence which offered additional safety and security at the park.

New Business – AS TIME PERMITS - None

Announcements - None

Adjournment

Mr. Powell moved to adjourn the work session and said motion was seconded by Dr. Nichols. The motion passed unanimously by those present and the work session was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tom Seale, Finance Director/City Clerk