

CITY OF PELHAM
Council Regular Work Session
Pelham City Hall – Council Conference Room
November 21, 2011 – 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Proper notice of the regular scheduled Pelham City Council Work Session was given at least 72 hours in advance of such public meeting and the notice remained posted through the scheduled meeting.

Members of the Pelham City Council met on November 21, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. The regular work session was held in the Council Conference Room of Pelham City Hall and was open to the public. The work session was called to order by the Dr. Nichols at 6:00 p.m.

The following elected officials were present:

Mayor Don Murphy
Council President Teresa Nichols
Councilmember Mike Dickens
Councilmember Bill Meadows
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.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Meadows to approve the November 7, 2011 regular work session minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dickens and by voice vote the motion was passed unanimously by those members present.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Murphy elected to hold his comments until council meeting.

Review of Council Agenda

Dr. Nichols reviewed the council agenda for November 21, 2011.

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 are 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 November 21, 2011 City Council Agenda.
2. Approval of the November 7, 2011 regular City Council meeting minutes.
3. Approval of the following non-budgeted expenses from restricted fund accounts.

a. 911 Fund – Current Balance: \$ 44,067.99

1. Request to purchase five VXA – 320 tapes for the back-up recording system in the amount of \$ 424.65 plus shipping and handling charges.
(Police Department)

F. Public Hearing – None

G. Mayor's Comments

H. Proclamations

1. Proclaiming the week of November 27 – December 3, 2011 as Civil Air Patrol Week in the City of Pelham. Major Ladde Mayer is scheduled to be present to accept the Proclamation.

I. Requests to Address the Council

1. Edward Brasher, 2647 Chandalar Lane, Pelham, regarding the frequency of water main breaks in the Chandalar sub-division.
2. Greg Darnell, Pelham Civic and Ice Complex Advisory Council (PC&ICAC), updating the Council on the activities of the group.

J. Old Business - None

K. New Business

1. Resolution 2011-11-21-01 for consideration to accept the low bid from Continental Utility Solutions, Inc. (CUSI) for the purpose of purchasing a utility and billing management software system in the amount of \$ 195,185.00. (The expenditure was approved in the FY2012 Water Department budget.) Mr. Powell asked about the bid process, the bid certification statement and number of bidders. City Clerk Tom Seale said he would provide Mr. Powell a copy of the bid certification statement. Mr. Meadows asked if there were any cities in Alabama using CUSI. Public Works Director Eddy Jowers said there are several cities in Alabama currently using CUSI. He further stated Water Department employees took a site visit to review the software. Discussion followed about the recently approved utility billing and mailing outsourcing bid. Mr. Jowers said he is confident these expenditures will provide savings in the future. Several council members had questions regarding the additional expenditure for the utility billing and management software system. Mr. Powell inquired about the life expectancy of the software. Mr. Jowers said he did not know. Mr. Jowers stated there will be no significant increase in annual software maintenance expenses. Mrs. Rice asked about the cost of software upgrades. Mr. Meadows said he was considering making a secondary motion to freeze hiring in the Water Department's office staff. Mr. Dickens asked if there were any openings the Water Department at this time. Mr. Jowers said there were no openings. Mr. Meadows said he would like the council to consider imposing a hiring freeze by resolution in the Water and Sewer Department's office staff.
2. Resolution 2011-11-21-02 for consideration to amend the Engineering Department's FY2012 budget for transmission repairs to a 2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer by increasing expense line item "Repair and Maintenance – Vehicle", 410010, in the amount of \$1,600.00, expenses year-to-date \$ 0.00, from \$ 1,000.00 to \$ 2,600.00 and increasing the "Unencumbered Fund" balance transfer in the amount of \$ 1,600.00 to \$ 721,143.00. (1st Reading) Council recommended suspending the rule to allow for immediate consideration of Resolution 2011-11-21-02.

L. Council and Public Comments

M. Public Announcements

1. Rescheduling of the January 2, 2012 council meeting (New Years Day) to January 9, 2012.
2. Rescheduling of the January 16, 2012 council meeting (Martin Luther King Day) to January 23, 2012.

Old Business – AS TIME PERMITS

Eddy Jowers, Public Works Director and Chris Cousins, Municipal Consultants, Inc. explained the recently completed Water Main Break Report. Mr. Cousins explained the problems associated with lowering the water pressure which could cause hydraulic problems in other parts of the system. He further explained the average cost of repairing each leak in the City of Pelham was approximately \$ 1,400.00. Replacing all plastic pipes in the Chandalar area with ductile iron would cost about \$ 1.6 million. Several hybrid solutions were proposed with a price of approximately \$ 250,000. Mr. Powell thanked Mr. Cousins for the concise and easily understood presentation. Mr. Powell asked about replacing the pipe in sections as it fails. Mr. Cousins explained in practical terms that would leave a lot of “holes” in the system. Mr. Powell inquired as to other options. Mr. Cousins explained other possible solutions to the leak problem, including ductile iron. Mr. Cousins explained it is much easier to repair ductile iron than plastic. Mr. Dickens asked additional questions about the hybrid option of pipe replacement. He stated the hybrid option maybe the answer to the problem. Instead of the \$ 1.6 million cost the possibility exists the problem could be solved through the hybrid solution in the amount of \$ 250,000. Mr. Cousins said replacing the problem spots and reducing the pressure in other areas is probably the most prudent solution. (Phase 1). Phase 2 would be the complete replacement of all the water mains at a cost of \$ 1.6 million. The council indicated their desire in moving forward with the hybrid solution. Dr. Nichols asked the city clerk to prepare a resolution supporting the hybrid option (Phase 1). Mayor Murphy said he lives in Chandalar and has not had any problems with water breaks but was sympathetic with those experiencing water problems. Mayor Murphy further stated he has concerns with potential problems the fix may cause. Mayor Murphy said he agrees with the council’s desire to move forward with Phase 1. Mayor Murphy said the city needs to set aside funds to assist water customers with water breaks and damages occurring on their property.

Tom Seale, Finance Director / City Clerk, presented the council a draft of the ice rink management Request for Proposal (RFP) for review. The council asked the city clerk to place the RFP on the Work Session agenda on December 5, 2011.

New Business – AS TIME PERMITS

None

Announcements

Rescheduling of the January 2, 2012 council work session (New Years Day) to January 9, 2012.

Rescheduling of the January 16, 2012 council work session (Martin Luther King Day) to January 23, 2012.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted this 21st day of November, 2011.



Tom Seale, CMC, City Clerk