

# **CITY OF PELHAM – WORK SESSION**

**Pelham City Hall – Council Conference Room  
March 4, 2013 – 5:45 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 March 4, 2013 at 5:45 p.m. The regular work session was held in the Council Conference Room in Pelham City Hall and was open to the public.

### **Call to Order**

The work session was called to order by Council President Rick Hayes at 5:47 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

The City Clerk called the roll and the following elected officials were present:

Mayor Gary W. Waters  
Council President Rick Hayes  
Councilmember Ron Scott  
Councilmember Beth McMillan  
Councilmember Maurice Mercer  
Councilmember Karyl Rice

Media Present: Martin Reed, Birmingham News; 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 Karyl Rice to approve the February 18, 2013 regular work session minutes. The motion was seconded by Ron Scott and was passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present.

### **Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Waters told the council he was in the property acquisition stage with Saddle Run residents regarding the FEMA Hazardous Mitigation Assistance Program (flood plain grant) and hopes to bring a report to the council for the next work session.

Mayor Waters asked for a 2-3 minute executive session at the end of the work session to discuss a real estate issue.

#### New Business

Council President Rick Hayes proceeded ahead to new business to allow Mr. Robert Jolly with Retail Strategies and Mr. Jack Donovan with Donovan Builders, LLC to address the city council.

Councilman Ron Scott introduced Mr. Robert Jolly who presented an overview of his company, Retail Strategies, in a partnership with Mr. Chuck Branch and his son, Mr. Charles Branch. Their company works exclusively with municipalities to research and recruit companies for retail development in client municipalities. Retail Strategies offers to market the City of Pelham to retailers nationwide for a three-year contract agreement, and states they offer this service at a fraction of the cost the city would pay for an economic development staff employee.

Builder Jack Donovan accompanied by Ms. Annette Durrett with Re/Max Real Estate, made it known to the city council his interest in purchasing six city-owned vacant lots in Oaklyn Hills sub-division. The council was given a draft of a real estate contract with contingencies proposed by Mr. Donovan and Ms. Durrett. The sell price for each of the six lots would be determined by a third party appraiser.

#### Review of Council Agenda

Council President Hayes reviewed the council agenda for March 4, 2013.

- 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 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 the March 4, 2013 City Council Agenda.
2. Approval of the February 18, 2013 regular City Council Meeting Minutes.
3. Approval of non-budgeted expenses from restricted fund accounts: None

- F. Public Hearing – None

G. Mayor Gary W. Waters – Comments

H. Proclamations - None

I. Requests to Address the Council – None

J. Old Business - None

K. New Business

1. Resolution 2013-03-04-01 approving Library line item expenditure for the FY 2013 budget in the amount of \$27,000 for books and materials.

Library Director Barbara Roberts emphasized the importance of having new books available for library patrons and said it had been over six months since she purchased any new books. Councilmember Karyl Rice stated the Pelham Library has the highest volume of books and materials checked out of any library in the county.

2. Resolution 2013-03-04-02 approving Library Board Account expenditures for the FY 2013 budget in the amount of \$8,000 for books and materials and \$15,000 for the purchase of a “Library on the Go” van.

Barbara Roberts responded to a question of how the van would be used stating it would service nine daycares, five schools and some outlying communities of the city where it is difficult for the residents to get to the library. She also explained the reason for two resolutions for books was because the money was coming from two separate accounts.

3. Resolution 2013-03-04-03 accepting the proposal for the city newsletter from Meridian Graphics in the amount of \$5,409.27 per issue for the publication of six issues and to authorize the mayor to enter into a contract with Meridian Graphics on behalf of the city for a period of one year.

There was no additional discussion.

4. Resolution 2013-03-04-04 repealing Resolution 2012-08-20-02 which authorized the installation of eight street lights in The Ledges sub-division at a cost of \$11,126.40.

Rick Hayes stated this resolution to repeal the previous council’s resolution was at the advice of the city attorney.

5. Resolution 2013-03-04-05 authorizing a Participation Agreement with Communities of Distinction for the production and distribution of a promotional video for the City of Pelham.

Karyl Rice, Ron Scott and Maurice Mercer voiced positive comments supporting the resolution stating it would be a good investment for the city, give the city wide, even national exposure, be a good economic development tool and a way to promote the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena. Rick Hayes recommended the resolution be revised to name the mayor executor of the contract and to add that the contract would be subject to approval of the city attorney.

6. Resolution 2013-03-04-06 accepting the bid from Jackson Ultima Skates for rental ice skates for the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena.

Interim Director of the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena Danny Tate confirmed to the council the skates to be purchased by accepting the bid presented on the resolution would accommodate his needs at the complex for both figure skates and hockey skates. Mr. Tate stated the skates currently in use are worn and could become a safety issue.

7. Resolution 2013-03-04-07 authorizing the City of Pelham to request a bond credit rating.

There was no additional discussion.

8. Resolution 2013-03-04-08 approving Police line item expenditures for the purchase of nine new police cars.

Police Chief Thomas spoke to the resolution explaining the time factor involved because the purchase is tied to a state bid contract expiring in April. Afterwards there will be a time when vehicles will not be available through the state and can only be purchased through a dealer. Thomas stated the vehicles needing replacement have reached the "break point", when they are unsafe and very costly to maintain. He is requesting \$222,153. to purchase nine 2013 Dodge Chargers and \$83,946.14 for in-car video systems and computers for the vehicles.

Beth McMillan and Rick Hayes voiced concerns with spending money without a budget in place and want to adopt the FY 2013 budget as soon as possible.

Ron Scott stated the council is caught with issues resulting from inaction from the previous administration and have no choice but to move forward. Karyl Rice agreed to move on and approve the resolution.

#### L. Council and Public Comments

#### M. Public Announcements

Tornado Awareness and Preparedness Event with Fox 6 News Storm Tracker Team at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena Wednesday, March 6, 2013 from 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Pelham Resident Town Hall Meeting at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena  
Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

The March 18, 2013 Pelham City Council meeting is rescheduled to March 25, 2013.

#### N. Adjournment

*(end of March 4, 2013 council meeting agenda)*

#### Old Business

##### 1. The Ledges Street Lights Update

Councilmember Maurice Mercer reported: it has been a challenge to form a leadership committee with the homeowners; some residents still have safety concerns and want a heavy police presence in the area; and he is continuing to help the homeowners move forward toward getting this resolved.

##### 2. Proposed Pay Plan

Mayor Waters told the council the city has been advised by legal counsel not to make any changes to our pay structure or benefits at this time due to the on-going firemen lawsuit. He recommended the council proceed with adopting a budget rather than waiting on the proposed new pay plan to be approved.

##### 3. Requests from Pelham Schools

Council President Hayes informed the council of information from the schools requesting donations from the city and said a resolution addressing this would probably be on the next council agenda.

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Karyl Rice made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a real estate issue. The motion was seconded by Beth McMillian and all council members voted to approve the motion. Council President Hayes announced the council would reconvene after approximately 3 or 4 minutes. The council and Mayor Waters went into executive session at 7:00 p.m.

Council President Hayes reconvened the work session at 7:07 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron Scott and seconded by Beth McMillan. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present. The work session adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013.

*Marsha Yates*

Marsha Yates, CMC, City Clerk

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