

CITY OF PELHAM – WORK SESSION

**Pelham City Hall – Conference Room
February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

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

Members of the Pelham City Council met February 1, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. The regular work session was held in the Conference Room in Pelham City Hall and was open to the public.

Record of Attendance

The following elected officials were present:

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

Media Present: Jessa Pease, Shelby County Reporter

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

Call to Order

The work session was called to order by Council President Hayes at 6:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember McMillan to approve the January 21, 2016 regular council work session minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mercer and passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present.

Mayor Waters' Comments

Mayor Waters asked Executive Assistant Paula Holly to share information regarding the current city newsletter. A spreadsheet was distributed showing a breakdown of specific points of information, covering issues from the spring 2013 through the current issue. Various points were: the number of pages for ads, city articles, school articles and community articles; the dates the newsletter was delivered; the amount of exposure given to the city website and city logo; and the amount paid to the current publisher.

Mrs. Holly stated the city should have more control of the newsletter since the city pays for it. She never sees the final layout or the ads when she proofs an issue. She also stated that often the same article is submitted for proofing several times to be in prior issues before it is actually published. The mayor also discussed articles being published late, sometimes several months after an event.

Mrs. Holly presented alternatives to consider and passed around sample publications of *Shelby Living* and the *Alabaster Connection*. The city could also purchase a widget called Uniflip to install on the city website for an online version of a newsletter.

Mayor Waters reminded the council that the current newsletter contract expires on March 5, 2016 and asked the council to consider the information provided as the city decides the direction of future city newsletters.

Secondly, Mayor Waters mentioned the Windstone deannexation request. Mr. Lee Jordan has requested to be placed on a council agenda. President Hayes stated that the city had requested specific information when the Windstone deannexation was first presented and the same request was provide to Mr. Jordan's attorney, but the council is still waiting on the requested information.

Mayor Waters asked Mr. Eddy Jowers to give an update on the five houses the city owns in the Saddle Run subdivision, and Mr. Jowers said they were making progress. City Engineer Jesse Jowers reported he was working with Public Works Supervisor Mark Keith to remove the fences on the five properties.

Review of Council Agenda

Council President Hayes reviewed the February 1, 2016 council agenda noting there was a public hearing scheduled.

J. Old Business

1. **Ordinance #135-208** for consideration to approve the rezoning of property located on County Road 105 (Bearden Road) across from Pelham High School from R-T Residential Townhouse District to R-G Residential Garden Home District.

President Hayes said the council would hold a public hearing to discuss this request and may vote on the ordinance tonight after the hearing. The ordinance was presented as a first reading at the last council meeting.

K. New Business

1. **Resolution 2016-02-01-01** for consideration to approve a Special Use Permit for Verizon Wireless for co-location on an existing tower facility located at 7700 Helena Road, Pelham, Alabama

Mr. David Aymett, Center for Municipal Solutions, gave a brief description of the scope of work and reported the visual impact would be minimal.

There was no further discussion.

(End of February 1, 2016 Agenda Review)

Old Business

1. Review draft ordinance related to ride-sharing alternatives

Councilmember Scott asked if anyone with the city had discussed an agreement with Uber, and Mayor Waters replied that he anticipated Uber would be contacting the city very soon. Council President Hayes stated that the ordinance will apply to all ride-sharing providers. There were no suggestions to amend the draft of Ordinance #288-11, and it will be on the next city council agenda as a first reading.

2. Discuss alternatives for potentially hiring a city manager

President Hayes stated he thought it would be reasonable to bring in professional management without changing the form of government, similar to what Mountain Brook and Alabaster did when they hired a city manager.

Vestavia Hills, when hiring a city manager, changed their form of government through legislative action but did not divide into districts.

Mayor Waters shared that he had talked with two mayors of municipalities who vote by districts and they had issues with either form of government, with districts or without. District lines must constantly change as the cities demographics change in order to keep the districts as even as possible. Critics of at-large voting (non-districts) say they have no specific council member to represent them.

Mayor Waters suggested having a town hall meeting and placing the topic of city manager on the agenda in order to get public input. Councilmember Mercer checked on the availability of the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena and reported the town hall meeting could be held on Tuesday, February 16th at 7:00 p.m. The council agreed to the tentative date for the town hall meeting.

New Business

1. Discuss salary and benefits for the next mayor and city council (Ord. #267-3)

President Hayes distributed salary comparisons from other municipalities for the position of mayor, council member and council president. Salary and benefit options were discussed but no decision was made.

2. Discuss the qualification fee for candidates in the 2016 municipal election (Ord. #166-1)

The council agreed to leave the qualification fee the same - \$50.00 for mayor and city council candidates.

Announcements

1. The American Legion Matthew Blount Post 555 will meet this Thursday, February 4th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Pelham Senior Center. Everyone is welcome to attend.
2. The University of Alabama Hockey Club and American Legion Matthew Blount Post 555 will host Military Appreciation Night at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena on Saturday, February 6th, at 7:00 p.m. Military personnel will be admitted to the Alabama vs. Navy hockey game at no charge and will be honored during an opening ceremony starting at 6:45 p.m. A valid military ID or proof of service must be presented for free admission.

3. Ballantrae Golf Club will host a Family Night Dinner on Tuesday, February 16th, from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. Reservations must be made no later than Friday, February 12th. Information along with the menu is available in the Ballantrae Section of PelhamOnline.com.

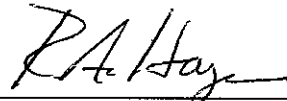
Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the work session was made by Councilmember Scott and seconded by Councilmember Rice. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the work session was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of February 2016,



Marsha Yates, MMC, City Clerk



Rick Hayes, President of the Council

