# CITY OF PELHAM – WORK SESSION

**Pelham City Hall – Conference Room**
**April 4, 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 April 4, 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 Maurice Mercer
Councilmember Karyl Rice
Mayor Gary Waters

Absent: Councilmember Beth McMillan

Media Present: Jessa Pease, Shelby County Reporter, and Rachel Crisson, Pelham City News
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 Rice to approve the March 21, 2016 regular council work session minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Scott and passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present.

Mayor Waters' Comments

The mayor commented on the good turnout for the Philip Davis Memorial motorbike ride and the UAB hockey game, both held this past weekend.

Review of Council Agenda

Council President Hayes reviewed the April 4, 2016 council agenda.

J. New Business

1. **Resolution 2016-04-04-01** for consideration to authorize the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Pelham Board of Education in regard to the Architecture and Design of the Recreation and Community Center

The agreement had been discussed in previous council meetings and there were no questions tonight.

2. **Resolution 2016-04-04-02** for consideration to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with Meridian Graphics related to three editions of the Pelham City News

President Hayes stated this was a short-term agreement for three editions – May, July, and September. Councilmember Mercer asked if the meetings previously discussed had occurred to review options in this area. Hayes confirmed that multiple meetings had been held to review integrated strategies including both online and print media, including a more detailed social media strategy. It was agreed that this issue needed to be thoroughly analyzed over the next few months so that an appropriate strategy can be put in place. This process will also allow any newly elected officials time to provide input before a new long-term contract is signed. Mayor Waters added there are many options available, one being purchasing space in the Shelby County Reporter similar to the Columbiana newsletter. Councilmember Rice advised against going with a totally digital format because some residents don't use digital media sources and prefer a paper copy.

3. **Resolution 2016-04-04-03** for consideration to accept the City of Pelham FY2015 audits prepared by the city's independent auditors

There were no questions or discussion since the audit presentation was to follow later in the meeting.

4. **Resolution 2016-04-04-04** for consideration to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with RiverTree Systems, Inc.

Finance Director Tom Seale recommended the city approve the three-year agreement. RiverTree has recovered substantial revenue for the city, and for each $1.00 recovered by RiverTree, the city pays $0.16. If the city employed an auditor, the cost would be about $0.41 for each $1.00 recovered.

5. **Resolution 2016-04-04-05** for consideration to accept the lowest bid of $617,300.00 from Goldman Contractors, LLC for the Highlands Community Booster Pumping Station and to authorize the Mayor to sign a Notice of Award

Public Works Director Eddy Jowers and Chris Cousins, Municipal Consultants, answered questions from the council and recommended the low bid be approved.

6. **Ordinance #247-6** (First Reading) for consideration to amend Ordinance #247-5 establishing Health Insurance Benefits for Retired Employees and their Surviving Spouses

President Hayes stated this amendment addressed some time-sensitive issues that had been previously discussed related to the nine retirees who previously had benefits removed after their retirement. The additional issues needing to be addressed will be presented as Ordinance #247-7 probably within a few months. Section 2F should be clarified, the caps for family and individual coverage should be reviewed, and the issue of having other insurance through another employment after retirement needs to be evaluated. HR Director Janis Parks stated she used an estimated 7% increase for her calculations for how this will affect the budget next year, and she thinks this is a conservative estimate. Mayor Waters stated he had researched and compared our benefits with other municipalities and found we do some things better and some not so much.

*(End of April 4, 2016 Agenda Review)*

Old Business

1. Engineering for Greenway/Trails Project Update

President Hayes reported the letter to request permission to engage an engineer has been submitted to the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). The Regional Planning Commission has recommended that we formally break the project up which could help move it along faster.

2. Addendum to Firearms Ordinance

Police Chief Larry Palmer told the council he is reviewing our current firearms ordinance and will bring options back to the council for consideration as they discuss updating the ordinance. Mayor Waters reported he had looked at Alabaster's firearms ordinance. He also said we should address archery when it is updated. Councilmember Rice warned that the council must be very conservative when rewriting the ordinance to avoid any chance of bullets or other ammunition coming down in a residential or commercial area.

3. Renaming Ball Park Road

The council agreed that "Boulevard" would be part of the new name. They did not settle on a complete name but "Pelham Park Boulevard" is still being considered.

New Business

1. Presentation of FY2015 financial statements by Jenny Gray, Barfield, Murphy, Shank & Smith, LLC, Certified Public Accountants

Mr. Patrick Bowman and Mr. Don Murphy accompanied Mrs. Jenny Gray to present the FY2015 financial statements and audit report to the mayor and council. Because the city received over $500,000 in federal funds, the audit was divided into two statements. The independent audit showed the city was in good financial standing with a Statement of Net Position of $43,030,367.00.

Announcements

1. The American Legion Matthew Blount Post 555 will meet this Thursday at the Pelham Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.

2. The primary run-off election is Tuesday, April 12th. We encourage everyone to exercise their right to vote.

3. The Pelham Public Library will host a Shred Event from 9:00 a.m. until noon Saturday, April 16th.

4. The Pelham Business Council will hold their quarterly meeting from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena on Tuesday, April 19th.

5. The City of Pelham will host a Parrot and Fin Party at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena on Tuesday, April 19th to kick off the 2016 Concert Series. The party is from 4:00 until 11:00 p.m. and is open to the public. Admission is free.

6. Pelham High School will host an Alumni Football Game on May 17, 2016. More details will be announced closer to game day.

7. The Pelham City Council will be taking applications for the Pelham Board of Education through April 8, 2016. Interested individuals should forward a resume with a cover letter to the Pelham City Clerk.

8. The Pelham City Council is currently taking applications for the Pelham Storm Water Regulations Board. Interested individuals should forward a resume with a cover letter to the Pelham City Clerk.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the work session was made by Councilmember Rice and seconded by Councilmember Mercer. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the work session was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 4th day of April 2016,

Marsha Yates, MMC, City Clerk

Rick Hayes, President of the Council

[SEAL]