



WORK SESSION
Pelham Police & Court Building
October 5, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Proper notice of the regularly scheduled work session of the Pelham City Council was given in advance of such public meeting and the notice remained posted throughout the scheduled meeting.

Members of the Pelham City Council met October 5, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The regular work session was held in the Pelham Police & Court Building and was open to the public.

Call to Order

The work session was called to order by Council President Hayes at 5:00 p.m.

Record of Attendance

The following elected officials were present:

Council President Rick Hayes
Councilmember Ron Scott
Councilmember Beth McMillan
Councilmember Maurice Mercer
Councilmember Mildred Lanier
Mayor Gary Waters

Media Present: None

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember McMillan to approve the September 21, 2020 Regular Council Work Session Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lanier and passed by unanimous voice vote of those members present.

New Business

1. Commercial Development Authority Board Interviews

The Pelham City Council interviewed the following candidates to complete the unexpired term of Place No. 3 on the Pelham Commercial Development Authority.

a. Becky Beall

b. David Clement

c. Darius Foster

Commercial Development Authority candidate interviews began at 5:01 p.m. and concluded at 6:00 p.m.

2. Retiree Health Benefits

The city council agreed to call a special work session on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 4:30 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Pelham Police & Court Building to discuss retiree healthcare benefits.

3. Birmingham Bulls

City Manager DiFante spoke to the pending Birmingham Bulls season and their request to revise the current contract with the City of Pelham. She explained the request to the city council is based on the limited capacity of the arena due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Governor Kay Ivey's health orders. Randy Brown, Christopher Early, Dale Tenner, John Higgins and Kurt Dinga representing the Birmingham Bulls ownership were present. Councilmember Scott spoke to the need to keep the Bulls viable in our community and noted their benefit and asset to Pelham. Mr. Brown stated it is unknown whether the public will attend the Bulls game with reduced capacity due to COVID-19. Council President Hayes spoke to the partnership between the Bulls and the city. He further suggested a review of the current contract. Councilmember Mercer and Councilmember Lanier stated their agreement with the comments made by Councilmember Scott and Council President Hayes. Mr. Brown said a decision would be made tomorrow by the Bulls ownership group as to whether the team will play this year. Council President Hayes again expressed the support of the city for the Birmingham Bulls.

Old Business

1. Review and Discussion – FY2021 City Budgets

Council President Hayes stated Accounting Manager Jenny Gray had provided the city council will information regarding both the revised FY2020 budget and the proposed FY2021 budget. She further explained the minimal changes which were made in the budgets. Council President Hayes commented on several items in the Administrative budget, including the mayor's salary as water superintendent, the Highway 31/33 connector road, the salary of the city manager, the related relocation expenses and reducing the Palooza event planner by \$5,000. Director of Development Services & Public Works spoke to the opportunity to apply for grant funding for the Highway 31/33 connector road. He said typically grants are more likely when projects are "shovel ready." City Manager DiFante spoke to the need to designate someone to function as the water superintendent. She said the salary of this position is set by ordinance. Councilmember Scott stated he was not in favor of removing the mayor from this position. He further stated providing \$5,000 in the FY2021 for relocation expenses for a city manager was not a sufficient amount to ask someone to move. Councilmember McMillan spoke to the budget suggestions of Council President Hayes. Councilmember Mercer spoke against the proposed changes, especially the Highway 31/33 connector road. Councilmember Lanier stated the need to put funding in the FY2021 budget for the connector road. She further stated she was not in favor of including \$25,000 in the budget for the mayor's salary as the water superintendent. Council President Hayes asked for a motion to approve his suggested changes. Councilmember McMillan moved to remove the salary for the water superintendent and add \$25,000 for the Highway 31/31 connector road. Councilmember Lanier seconded the motion. Councilmember Scott suggested a resolution outlining the proposed changes prior to a vote. There being no further discussion, the motion to adopt the proposed changes in the FY2021

budget passed by a majority voice vote of those members attendance with Councilmember Scott dissenting.

Discussion continued regarding the best practices in accounting for the budget changes adopted by the city council. Councilmember Lanier spoke about a non-profit sponsoring the 2021 Palooza. Councilmember McMillan spoke in favor of a non-profit taking over the Palooza. Councilmember Lanier moved to reduce the funding for the event planner from \$10,000 to \$5,000. Council President Hayes passed the gavel to Councilmember Lanier and seconded the motion. Councilmember Lanier called for the vote. Said motion failed by a vote of 2-3 with Councilmember Scott, Councilmember McMillan and Councilmember Mercer dissenting.

Review of Council Agenda

Council President Hayes reviewed the October 5, 2020 city council agenda.

F. Public Hearing – None

G. Mayor's Comments

H. Proclamation(s) by the Mayor – None

I. Report of the City Manager

J. Request(s) to Address the Council – None

K. Old Business / Resolutions / Ordinances / Orders and Other Business – None

L. New Business / Resolutions / Ordinances / Orders and Other Business

1. **Resolution 2020-10-05-01** for consideration to adopt the City of Pelham's revised Fiscal Year 2020 Budgets

There were no city council comments.

2. **Resolution 2020-10-05-02** for consideration to adopt the City of Pelham's Fiscal Year 2021 Budgets

There were no city council comments.

3. **Resolution 2020-10-05-03** for consideration to approve the Mayor's appointment of a fire chief

There were no city council comments.

4. **Resolution 2020-10-05-04** for consideration to support the Constitutional Amendment on the November 3, 2020 ballot authorizing Shelby County, its cities and various utilities in the county to enter into mutual aid agreements to restore utility service in the event of natural disasters or other emergencies

Chris Cousins, Municipal Consultants, Inc., stated if passed, would allow public utilities in Shelby County to enter into mutual aid agreements with one another.

5. **Resolution 2020-10-05-05** for consideration to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bid from Nixon's Electric, Inc. for Sewer Lift Station "M" Emergency Generator

Mr. Cousins stated this is for an emergency generator for Lift Station M located in the City Park. He recommended approval of the bid. Mr. Bittas stated the funding is in the FY2020 budget and a request is being made to amend the FY2021 budget.

6. **Ordinance No. 501** for consideration to declare that certain described real property of the City of Pelham, Alabama, is no longer needed for public or municipal purposes located along Welborn Street in the corporate limits of the City of Pelham. (FIRST READING)

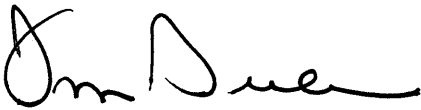
Mr. Bittas stated Process Barron has requested to purchase two acres of the property in order to expand their business in Pelham. He further stated a new survey has been completed.

(End of October 5, 2020 Agenda Review)

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted this 5th day of October 2020,



Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Rick Hayes, Council President

