

THE CITY OF
PELHAM, ALABAMA

WORK SESSION
Pelham Senior Center
July 19, 2021 – 4:00 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 on Monday, July 19, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. The regular work session was held in the Pelham Senior Center and was open to the public.

Call to Order

The work session was called to order by Council President Mercer at 4:00 p.m.

Record of Attendance

The following elected officials were present:

Council President Maurice Mercer
Councilmember Larry Palmer
Councilmember Rick Wash
Councilmember Mildred Lanier

The following elected officials were not present:

Mayor Gary Waters
Councilmember David Coram

The city clerk/treasurer recorded all elected officials, with the exception of Mayor Waters and Councilmember Coram, were in attendance and a quorum was present. City Manager Gretchen DiFante and City Attorney Josh Arnold were also in attendance.

Media Present: None

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember Wash to approve the July 6, 2021 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. Presentation – Storm Water Board Purposes and Responsibilities

Director of Development Services & Public Works Andre' Bittas and Chris Cousins, Municipal Consultants, Inc., provided an overview of the duties, purpose and responsibilities of the Pelham Storm Water Board. The city council asked several questions about the Storm Water Board and inquired about specific qualifications members should have to serve.

Executive Session

Council President Mercer stated for the record the purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss the consideration the governmental body is willing to offer or accept when considering the purchase, sale, exchange, lease, or market value of real property.

City Attorney Josh Arnold stated the purpose of tonight's Executive Session was appropriate under Section 36-25A-7(6) Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

A motion was made by Councilmember Lanier to enter into an Executive Session of the city council for the stated purpose. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Palmer. Council President Mercer asked the city clerk/treasurer for a roll call vote. The vote to adopt said motion was recorded as follows:

Maurice Mercer, Council President	<u>Yes</u>
David Coram, Council Member	<u>Not Present</u>
Larry Palmer, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Rick Wash, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>
Mildred Lanier, Council Member	<u>Yes</u>

Council President Mercer asked the members of the city council, City Manager Gretchen DiFante, City Attorney Josh Arnold, Director of Development Services & Public Works Andre' Bittas and City Clerk/Treasurer Tom Seale to attend the Executive Session. Council President Mercer stated he expected the city council to return from the Executive Session in approximately 45 minutes. The city council went into Executive Session at 4:22 p.m.

Councilmember Wash moved to adjourn the Executive Session. Said motion was seconded by Councilmember Palmer. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the Executive Session was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Council President Mercer called the work session back to order at 4:54 p.m.

Old Business

1. Presentation – BIG Communications, Inc.

BIG Communications, Inc. presented the rebranding proposal to the city council. Representing BIG Communications, Inc. was Hannah Dow, Senior Account Executive; Shannon Harris, Creative Director;

Katie Erickson, Art Director and John Kennedy, Copywriter. The city council provided positive feedback to the BIG Communications team. Ms. Dow and Communications Director Ainsley Allison explained the next steps in the rebranding process.

Review of July 19, 2021 Council Agenda

Council President Mercer reviewed the July 19, 2021 city council agenda.

F. Public Hearing(s)

1. To consider a proposed vacation of a portion of the public right of way (ROW) located along Amphitheater Road, Pelham, Alabama, 35124

G. Mayor's Comments – None

H. Proclamation(s) by the Mayor – None

I. Report of the City Manager

J. Report of the City Attorney

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

L. Old Business

1. **Ordinance No. 135-240** repealing Ordinance No. 135-200 for noncompliance with applicable requirements of Article XX, Section 7 of the Pelham Zoning Ordinance for properties located along Huntley Parkway. First Reading was on July 6, 2021.

Council President Mercer explained the purpose of repealing Ordinance No. 135-200.

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

1. **Resolution 2021-07-19-01** for consideration to renew the Line of Credit for the City of Pelham Commercial Development Authority

There were no questions or comments from the city council.

2. **Resolution 2021-07-19-02** for consideration to approve an agreement to participate in the Intra-County Program for Mutual Aid and Assistance for utility systems

Mr. Cousins explained the resolution was the culmination of a meeting between all Shelby County water systems in 2019. He stated the Alabama Legislature recently passed a local bill allowing for the mutual aid and assistance among Shelby County utilities. Mr. Cousins recommended approval of Resolution 2021-07-19-02 by the city council.

3. **Resolution 2021-07-19-03** for consideration to approve a request by Dish Wireless for a special use permit to install equipment on an existing facility located at 1391 McCain Parkway

Renee Bass, with the Center for Municipal Solutions (CMS), the city's telecommunications consultants stated Dish Wireless has made application to co-locate their equipment on the existing tower located at 1391 McCain Parkway. She said the existing tower is a 109 foot monopole and Dish Wireless is not currently providing service at this facility. Ms. Bass stated Dish Wireless proposes to add three (3) new antennas at a height of 64 feet. They also propose to add one (1) feed line mounted inside the monopoles shaft. The new feed line will not be visible. Ms. Bass said Dish Wireless is a new carrier and will provide new service to the surrounding area. She further stated the additional antennas should not have a negative effect on the aesthetics of the facility. Ms. Bass said CMS recommends approval of the request.

4. **Resolution 2021-07-19-04** for consideration to authorize the drafting of an internal policy and procedures for the purpose of reimbursement by the City of Pelham to another law enforcement agency for training expenses by the city for new hires in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 pursuant to Section 36-21-7, Code of Alabama (1975), as amended.

Police Chief Pat Cheatwood spoke to the need to pass the resolution due to the extreme shortage and challenges in finding qualified law enforcement officers. He noted state law requires a two year reimbursement contract with the employee. Chief Cheatwood said the Pelham Police Department continues to recruit on an ongoing basis. Councilmember Palmer suggested including City Attorney Josh Arnold in the recruitment process and discussions. Councilmember Wash spoke in support of Resolution 2021-07-19-04. Additional discussion followed between the city council, city manager and police chief.

5. **Resolution 2021-07-19-05** for consideration to approve ABC applications (No Alcohol Outside of Licensed Area and No to Go Sales) for applicant Margarita Grill, LLC located at 234 Cahaba Valley Road, Pelham, Alabama 35124 operating under various trade names for events to be held in 2021

Chief Cheatwood stated there was a change in the date from a previously approved event and another concert date has been added.

6. **Resolution 2021-07-19-06** for consideration to approve admitting two new voting members to the Cahaba Solid Waste Disposal Authority Board of Directors

City Manager DiFante explained the purpose of the resolution is to add the cities of Homewood and Clanton as voting members to the Board of Directors. She stated approval of additional voting members is required by the Authority's By-Laws.

7. **Ordinance No. 508** for consideration to vacate a portion of the public right-of-way (ROW) located along Amphitheater Road and more particularly described in the legal description of said ROW.

Mr. Cousins stated the request is a part of The Canopy Development Agreement and will not adversely impact the city's future infrastructure needs.

City Council Work Session - Continued

Introduction

City Manager DiFante introduced Michael Simon, the city's new Director of Economic Development.

The city council welcomed Mr. Simon to Pelham. Mr. Simon will begin his employment with the city on July 26, 2021.

City Hall Update

Mr. Bittas reviewed flooring options for the council chambers in the renovated City Hall. Various options, including the pros and cons of carpet verses tile was discussed. It was noted the additional cost of tile is approximately \$46,000.00. Concerns regarding sound quality was discussed.

(End of July 19, 2021 Agenda Review)

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the work session was made by Councilmember Wash and seconded by Councilmember Palmer. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the work session was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of July 2021.



Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

