



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

Pelham Police & Court Building

July 18, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.

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 18, 2022, at 5:30 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 Mercer at 5:30 p.m.

Record of Attendance

The following elected officials were present:

Council President Maurice Mercer
Councilmember David Coram
Councilmember Larry Palmer
Councilmember Rick Wash
Councilmember Mildred Lanier
Mayor Gary Waters

The city clerk/treasurer recorded the attendance of all elected officials and announced a quorum was present. City Manager Gretchen DiFante and City Attorney Josh Arnold were 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 Coram to approve the July 5, 2022 Regular Work Session Minutes.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lanier.

There being no further discussion the motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present.

Request to Address the City Council – None

Old Business – None

New Business

1. Discussion – New Tourism Marketing Website

Communications Manager Ainsley Allison introduced Corey Nolen, Corey Nolen Photography. He addressed the city council regarding the city's new tourism marketing website. Mr. Nolen stated the content of the website is geared toward Pelham. He said the objective of the website is to be simple and tell the story of Pelham for those not from this area. Mrs. Allison spoke to the advantages in marketing the city through the website. She noted the agreement with Corey Nolen Photography states there is no hosting fee for the first year. The fee structure would be implemented at the time of renewal. Members of the city council spoke in favor of the website content.

2. Discussion – Interviews for the vacancy on the Pelham Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Council President Mercer suggested holding the two applications received until later in the year and combine the interview process with other openings and expiring terms on various city boards. The city council concurred with Council President Mercer's suggestion.

New Employee Introductions

- Myeisha Brown, Police Officer and Matthew Berry, Police Officer – Pelham Police Department were introduced by Police Chief Pat Cheatwood.

Employee Promotions – None

Employee Recognitions – None

Review of July 18, 2022 Council Agenda

Council President Mercer reviewed the July 18, 2022 city council agenda.

E. Consent Agenda

A consent agenda is presented by the presiding officer at the beginning of a council meeting. Items presented on the consent agenda are considered routine and/or non-controversial and are organized apart from the rest of the agenda and are adopted by general consent and vote by the city council 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 presiding officer and City Council.

1. Approval of the July 18, 2022 City Council Agenda
2. Approval of the July 5, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of non-budgeted expenses from restricted fund accounts: None

1. **Resolution 2022-07-18-01** for consideration to authorize a public works project to construct a training room in the Police & Court Building in an amount not to exceed \$49,500.00

Director of Development Services & Public Works Andre` Bittas and Police Chief Pat Cheatwood spoke to the renovation of an area in the Police & Court Building which is currently used for storage. Chief Cheatwood spoke to the need for a training area, which would seat approximately 48 individuals. He further stated the training room would also be used for an Emergency Operations Center and media area. Councilmember Palmer asked about security in the building. Councilmember Wash asked about life safety concerns. Mr. Bittas stated the Building Department and Fire Department have addressed those issues.

2. **Resolution 2022-07-18-02** for consideration to authorize a public works project for the repair of storm water blockage located on Ryecroft Circle in an amount not to exceed \$36,500.00

Director of Development Services & Public Works Andre` Bittas stated there is a blockage on Ryecroft Circle causing a backup during heavy rain events. He stated the blockage cannot be removed without replacing the storm water culvert, which will require excavating the area.

3. **Resolution 2022-07-18-03** for consideration to authorize partnering with the Shelby County Highway Department as administrator for the installation of road striping and rumble strips along Shelby County Highway 11 and the City of Pelham paying 50% of project expenses in the amount of \$15,416.89

Director of Development Services & Public Works Andre` Bittas stated this is a joint venture between the city and the Shelby County Highway Department to improve Highway 11. He further stated the Highway 11 improvements begin at the intersection with Highway 52 East and extend to the railroad tracks at Shelby Highway 36 and Shelby County Highway 11.

4. **Resolution 2022-07-18-04** for consideration to approve Change Order No. 1 to reflect the expense for the realignment of storm water lines from the original design in the Oak Mountain Trail Mass Grading Project which is budgeted in FY2022

Acting City Engineer Chris Cousins stated Shelby County requested the storm water culvert be moved from the right-of-way on Shelby County Highway 35 requiring a change order in the project.

5. **Resolution 2022-07-18-05** for consideration to authorize the purchase of a drone system and associated equipment/accessories from FarrWest in an amount not to exceed \$48,670.00 through the HGAC purchasing cooperative from a donation provided by Kinder Morgan

Police Chief Pat Cheatwood stated they have been researching the purchase of a drone system which could be used by the police and fire departments. He further stated the drone system would be purchased through a grant received from Kinder Morgan. Battalion Chief Chris Carpenter spoke in support of the drone system. He further explained the many features of the drone which would be beneficial to various departments of the city. It was noted there are currently four licensed drone pilots employed by the city. The members of the city council spoke in favor of purchasing the drone system. The city council commended the fire department for their response to the structure fire at Poppa G's Billiards today.

6. **Resolution 2022-07-18-06** for consideration to authorize the City of Pelham to join the State of Alabama and other local governments as participants in current and future opioid settlements

City Clerk/Treasurer Tom Seale and City Attorney Josh Arnold spoke to the opioid settlement with two drug distributors. Mr. Arnold stated the resolution states the city agrees to the settlement as proposed. He further stated the settlement amount has not been finalized by the court.

F. Public Hearing(s)

To consider **Ordinance No. 135-250** an amendment to the zone district boundaries of the City of Pelham changing the present zoning A-1 (Agriculture District) to M-1 (Light Industrial District) for property located adjacent and north of 1980 Huntley Parkway, Pelham, Alabama 35124. Applicant: Ed Monroe, 55 Monroe Drive, Pelham, AL 35124.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Sherri Proctor addressed the city council regarding the rezoning request. She stated when the property was annexed several years ago it was designated as A-1, Agricultural District. The surrounding property is M-2. The property owner, Ed Monroe, is planning an expansion requiring the property to be rezoned. Ms. Proctor provided additional information to the city council regarding the proposed property improvements. Mr. Bittas explained Mr. Monroe will have to comply with the existing Overlay District.

G. Mayor's Comments

H. Proclamation(s) by the Mayor and Others – None

I. Report of the City Manager

J. Report of the City Attorney

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

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

M. New Business / Resolutions / Ordinances / Orders and Other Business – None

(End of July 18, 2022 Agenda Review)

City Manager Gretchen DiFante stated the following:

- Reported on the railroad grant program for a proposed flyover of the CSX tracks along Shelby County Highway 52 West. She stated city staff met with CSX last week to discuss the project. She further stated CSX was supportive of the project, which will require additional information to move forward. She said the project is estimated to cost approximately \$50 million. City Manager DiFante said Director of Development Services & Public Works Andre` Bittas is working with CSX and others on the application process. Mr. Bittas said statewide grant funding in the amount of \$116 million is available and is highly competitive. He stated it is important for CSX to buy into the proposed project. Councilmember Coram thanked the city staff for their efforts with the project. Mr. Bittas said the match is 20% which will require other stakeholders to participate in the project.
- Stated having completed interviews today with finalist for the city's liability insurance brokerage services.

- o Recognized Communications Manager Ainsley Allison, Police Chief Pat Cheatwood (Police Department), Battalion Chief Chris Carpenter (Fire Department), other agencies and the volunteers for the excellent job done in support of the 2022 World Games.

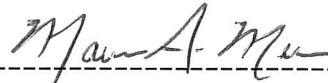
Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the work session was made by Councilmember Coram and seconded by Councilmember Lanier. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote of those members present, and the work session was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of July 2022.



Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Maurice Mercer, President of the Council

