

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
APRIL 18, 2017 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on April 18, 2017, in regular session.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Council President Williams. On roll call by the City Clerk, Iva Nelson, the following council members answered present: Toles, Williams, Worthy, Echols, Billingsley, Cannon and Reed. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business. Mayor Guyton, Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts and Chief Jagears were also present.

The invocation was given by Antonio Kynard, Youth in Government student.

The minutes of the Community Development Committee, Work Session and Council meeting held on April 11, 2017, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of April 7-12, 2017 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#172908-173272	General	\$524,156.59
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PUBLIC HEARINGS

President Williams stated this was the time and place as advertised to conduct the following public hearings:

(1) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak in opposition to or in favor of an ordinance approving the rezoning of property located along J.R. Countryman Highway (Highway 411) at the intersection of Princeton Avenue and Auburn Avenue from R-1, One-Family Residence District, to B-1, Neighborhood Business District. (The Planning Commission recommended approval.) No one spoke. President Williams stated the ordinance had been presented today for the first reading, and the Council will vote on it next week.

(2) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 1341 Alabama Street, Yvonne Smith Hale, and possible heirs Kizzie Smith and Annette L. Smith being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made to this burned duplex since procedures began in November 2014, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-131-17

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 1341 Alabama Street - District 3 - Yvonne Smith Hale; Kizzie Smith; Annette L. Smith)

Councilman Worthy moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Billingsley and unanimously adopted.

(3) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 423 Lincoln Street in District 6, Ricky Leath being the last known owner. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, recommended a 30-day extension, based upon his conversation with the owner and recent improvements made. Councilman Cannon moved to table the resolution for 30 days, which motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy and unanimously carried.

(4) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1117 Stillman Avenue, the Estate of George Gilley, c/o Gina Diggs, being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-132-17

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,466.40 - 1117 Stillman Avenue - District 2 - Estate of George Gilley, c/o Gina Diggs)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously adopted.

(5) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1221 Stillman Avenue, Larry C. Martin, as trustee of the Martin Grantor Trust, being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-133-17

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$4,241.40 - 1221 Stillman Avenue - District 2 - Larry C. Martin, as trustee of the Martin Grantor Trust)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously adopted.

(6) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 806 Avenue B, the State of Alabama, John Alexander Sr., and CitiFinancial Corporation, LLC being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-134-17

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,166.40 - 806 Avenue B - District 3 - State of Alabama; John Alexander, Sr.; CitiFinancial Corporation, LLC)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously adopted.

(7) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 430 Jacksonville Street, a/k/a 430 Ashley Street, Roosevelt McCain Jr. and Mary E. Wise being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-135-17

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$3,491.40 - 430 Jacksonville Street, a/k/a 430 Ashley Street - District 3 - Roosevelt McCain Jr.; Mary E. Wise)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously adopted.

(8) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 513 Kyle Street, the State of Alabama, John Hawkins, and wife, Willis S. Hawkins being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-136-17

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,266.40 - 513 Kyle Street - District 3 - State of Alabama; John Hawkins; Willis S. Hawkins)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously adopted.

(9) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1032 McDuffie Street, the State of Alabama and The Estate of James Upton, only surviving heir Rosa Upton Dodd, being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-137-17

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,191.40 - 1032 McDuffie Street - District 3 - State of Alabama; The Estate of James Upton; Rosa Upton Dodd)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously adopted.

(10) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution approving the issuance of an alcoholic beverage license for El Patron Mexican Restaurant, LLC, d/b/a El Patron Mexican Restaurant at 940 Gilberts Ferry Road, Suite A1. No one spoke. The following resolution was presented for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-138-17

APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

(El Patron Mexican Restaurant, LLC - El Patron Mexican Restaurant - 940 Gilberts Ferry Road, Suite A1 - Restaurant Retail Liquor License)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Echols and unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION:

(1) The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-139-17

AMENDING RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR COUNCIL BUSINESS

(Amending Rule 1 of rules of procedure for Council business - Changing time of Council meeting to 11 a.m. each Tuesday, beginning May 2017 - Note: The rules affirmed by R-255-14 provided for time of council meetings to rotate between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Toles, Echols, Cannon, Reed

NAYS: Williams, Worthy, Billingsley

(2) The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-140-17

AUTHORIZING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH
WINSOUTH CREDIT UNION

(Authorizing Memorandum of Understanding - WinSouth Credit Union - Regarding promotion of credit union's "Save Our Neighborhood" community revitalization program)

Councilman Worthy moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Echols and unanimously adopted.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Eric Wright (Communications Department) recognized Glenn Ingram of Gadsden Runners Club, who announced “Earth Day Jam” to be held at Noccalula Falls on Saturday, with proceeds to benefit additional improvements for the Black Creek Trail system.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

The Mayor and Council members joined in welcoming Youth In Government students and encouraging them to be involved in their hometown and local government. Councilman Reed stressed the importance of knowing your credit score. President Williams commended Ernestina Cady-Hardrick for her work with the students.

Councilwoman Toles announced a District 1 meeting at 6 p.m. on April 24 at the Antioch Family Life Center.

Councilman Worthy reported on last week’s District 3 meeting and life insurance forum.

Councilman Billingsley complimented last weekend’s Old School reunion and encouraged the public to participate in local events. President Williams complimented Anthony Treadwell and the other organizers.

Councilman Reed expressed appreciation to the Fire Chief and medics for their excellent response to him and other citizens.

President Williams announced the “Day of Prayer” event on May 4 at the Downtown Civic Center, noting tickets are available through the Etowah Baptist Association.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was duly adjourned.

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (4-18-2017)
