

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
JUNE 21, 2016 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on June 21, 2016, 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. Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts and Chief Jaggars were also present.

The invocation was given by Councilwoman Toles.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on June 14, 2016, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of June 10-16, 2016 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#166173-166338	General	\$490,757.41
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RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-256-16

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH
THE GADSDEN TIMES

(Authorizing Agreement - The Gadsden Times - Annual Bulk Advertising Agreement for classified line advertising - \$5,000 level at current 2016 rate of \$1.85 per line)

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mike Hilton (Assistant Public Works Director) provided an update on grass cutting, which is being performed by approximately 55 employees. He solicited the help of citizens with maintaining alleys and right-of-way adjacent to their property. Several Council members mentioned specific locations that need cutting.

PUBLIC

Joseph Cole requested the Mayor and Council to consider appointing “millennials” to City boards, noting they are willing to become involved. He also requested that the pay scale for police officers be raised. Mr. Cole expressed support for the new Police chief and increased police presence in certain areas to address crime. President Williams thanked Mr. Cole and related his personal experience of being appointed to a board in his late twenties.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Several Council members commended Chief Jaggears. President Williams noted our officers follow a community policing model. Councilman Worthy said some officers have been walking a beat. Councilwoman Toles noted she had requested additional police presence in her district. Councilman Billingsley encouraged working with the civil service system to locate applicants with good skills.

Councilwoman Toles thanked meeting attendees.

Councilman Worthy announced a Job Fair to be held at Convention Hall on August 11.

Councilman Reed commented that the Pledge of Allegiance is included in Council meetings in response to a citizen's request in 1994.

President Williams encouraged informed citizens to become activists. He thanked the Etowah County Legislative Delegation members who attended this morning's meeting of the subcommittee on poverty initiatives. He said three things had been stressed, including the need for (1) financial literacy training for seniors exiting high school, which is now done in the 9th grade; (2) State legislation regarding payday, title and lawsuit loans; and (3) an intensive campaign to address opioid addiction.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (6-21-2016)
