

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
AUGUST 9, 2016 - 5:00 P.M.

The City Council met on August 9, 2016, in regular session.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.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 Captain Cody were also present.

The invocation was given by Shane Ellison.

The minutes of the Public Safety Committee, Work Session, and Council meetings held on August 2, 2016, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of July 29 - August 4, 2016 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#167311-167504	General	\$860,636.82
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RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-313-16

AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE
FROM ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

(Authorizing Grant Application and Acceptance - ADEM Recycling Program for 10-1-16 through 9-30-17- \$20,940.00 - For purchase of trailers for recycling center at 306 Henry Street)

Councilman Cannon noted approximately twenty trailers will be purchased and Mayor Guyton reported a substantial increase in recycling activity over the past two years.

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

NEW BUSINESS

(1) Councilwoman Toles introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-314-16

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH
GADSDEN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

(Authorizing Lease Agreement - Gadsden State Community College - For City's use of area on east side of roadway leading to Dub Parker Park and fenced area on west side, including track and soccer fields, south of Aquaculture area and across roadway from presently existing softball complex, the Gadsden State Baseball Facility/Field, and the grass area (soccer fields) located at the corner of George Wallace Drive and College Drive, concession stand and field lighting structures/system - For term of 10 years, from 1-1-2016 to 12-31-2025 - \$1.00 per year)

President Williams received unanimous consent to immediately consider the resolution as an item of new business. Mayor Guyton noted this lease adds approximately six acres. Councilwoman Toles moved to adopt the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilman Cannon and unanimously adopted.

(2) Councilwoman Toles introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-315-16

AUTHORIZING TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT WITH
FEHRER AUTOMOTIVE NORTH AMERICA, LLC

(Authorizing Tax Abatement Agreement - Fehrer South Carolina, LLC - Abatement of state and local noneducational property taxes and construction related taxes for a period of ten years - Relating to capital investment of \$12,100,000.00 for major addition to existing facility)

Mayor Guyton read a press release from Fehrer Automotive, announcing the addition of a \$12 million hot cure foaming technology line, which will add 150 jobs to the current level of 325 employees. He introduced Jeff Barksdale, Plant Manager, who expressed excitement in adding this new technology.

President Williams received unanimous consent to immediately consider the resolution as an item of new business. Councilwoman Toles moved to adopt the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy and unanimously adopted.

(3) Councilman Billingsley introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-316-16

APPOINTING MEMBER TO BOARD OF EDUCATION

(Appointing Wayne Watts to replace Ralph Lane on Gadsden City Board of Education - For term expiring June 1, 2018)

Wayne Watts was recognized and provided information concerning his educational and business experience.

President Williams received unanimous consent to immediately consider the resolution as an item of new business. Councilman Billingsley moved to adopt the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilman Cannon and unanimously adopted.

(4) Councilman Worthy introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-317-16

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH
ALABAMA STATE FIRE COLLEGE

(Authorizing Agreement - Alabama State Fire College - For continuance of recruit schools at the City of Gadsden Fire Department training facility)

President Williams received unanimous consent to immediately consider the resolution as an item of new business. Councilman Worthy moved to adopt the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilman Cannon and unanimously adopted.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

The Mayor and Council joined in expressing excitement over Fehrer's expansion and the jobs that will be created. The importance of skilled labor and participation in career tech opportunities was stressed.

Councilman Billingsley expressed confidence that Wayne Watts will be a good member on the Board of Education. Councilmen Reed and Williams joined in commending Mr. Watts.

Councilman Worthy announced Thursday's Job Fair and Employability Skills Seminar, noting 76 employers have confirmed their participation.

President Williams referred to the latest financial report, noting that revenues are trending in right direction. He complimented the work of the Mayor and his staff in increasing industrial space. President Williams encouraged the public to attend upcoming lectures and events, noting speakers include Chari Bostick, Author Bryan Stevenson, Hank Sanders, and Tim Wise.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (8-9-2016)
