

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
FEBRUARY 20, 2018 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on February 20, 2018, in regular session.

(The beginning of council meeting was delayed, due to a lengthy work session.) The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:15 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 Captain Entrekin were also present.

The invocation was given by President Williams.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on February 13, 2018, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of February 9 - 15, 2018 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#179885 - 180066	General	\$475,854.31
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Mayor Guyton read the following proclamations proclaiming:

- (1) February 23-25, 2018, as “National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend” - Presented to Amiee Canterbury and approximately eleven Girl Scouts who were present
- (2) February 18-23, 2018, as “Severe Weather Preparedness Week” - Presented to Deborah Gaither (EMA Director) and Denise Coeey - Upcoming events were announced, including the tax free holiday weekend and training opportunities

(Mayor Guyton left the meeting at this time.)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Williams announced no Council action would be necessary regarding 1401 Cansler Avenue in District 3, as the nuisances have been abated by the owner.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

(1) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 3217 Forrest Avenue, State of Alabama and Crystal Whitmore being the last known owners. Crystal Whitmore expressed interest in making repairs, stating she hadn't been aware the property was assessed to her. (She stopped making payments a couple of years ago and moved in with her sick grandmother.) Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in August 2017, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-66-18

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 3217 Forrest Avenue - District 6 - State of Alabama; Crystal Whitmore)

Councilman Cannon advised Ms. Whitmore that liens may exist against the property, which has also suffered vandalism and use by vagrants. He suggested that she speak with Mr. Harbison after the meeting.

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

(Councilman Cannon left the meeting at this time.)

(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 316 Howell Circle, Donald and Mamie Danford, c/o Sherry J. Danford being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in July 2017, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-67-18

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 316 Howell Circle - District 6 - Donald and Mamie Danford, c/o Sherry J. Danford)

Councilwoman Toles 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 104 N. 24th Street, The Way of The Cross Ministries being the last known owner. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in July 2017, and recommended abatement. He explained the property was deeded to the current owner, which doesn't have the means to maintain it and will pay the cost of abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-68-18

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 104 N. 24th Street - District 6 - The Way of The Cross Ministries)

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

(4) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 408 N. 33rd Street, the State of Alabama and possible rights of redemption of Robert Autwell being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in July 2017, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-69-18

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 408 N. 33rd Street - District 6 - State of Alabama; Possible rights of redemption of Robert Autwell)

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

(5) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on the following properties: (1) 2501 Sansom Avenue, Sunroc Properties (has color of title) and Lalih B. Davidson (certain rights of redemption) being the last known owners; (2) 2507 Sansom Avenue, Five One Eight Properties, LLC (registered agent Forrest Frost) and George Cummans being the last known owners; (3) 2509 Sansom Avenue, State of Alabama, Five One Eight Properties, LLC (registered agent Forrest Frost) and George Cummans being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated these three cases involve abandoned vehicles, trash and debris, tires, etc. that have accumulated from a business located at 2500 W. Meighan Boulevard. The properties are zoned for business but are not included in the business license, and a number of residential dwellings remain in the block. He noted no improvements have been made since procedures began in August 2017, and recommended abatement. The following resolutions were introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-70-18

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 2501 Sansom Avenue - District 6 - Sunroc Properties, color of title; Certain rights of redemption of Lalih B. Davidson)

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-71-18

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 2507 Sansom Avenue - District 6 - Five One Eight Properties, LLC, registered agent Forrest Frost; George Cummans)

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-72-18

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 2509 Sansom Avenue - District 6 - State of Alabama, Five One Eight Properties, LLC, registered agent Forrest Frost; George Cummans)

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

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-73-18

APPOINTING MEMBERS TO GADSDEN
CULTURAL ARTS FOUNDATION, INC.

(Appointing Julie Smith for term expiring 1-1-19 - Appointing Lisa Thacker and reappointing William Haller, III and Elisabeth Hardin for terms expiring 1-1-20 - Appointing Portia Foster and reappointing Shane Ellison and Christie Knowles for terms expiring 1-1-21)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-74-18

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH EE GROUP, INC.

(Authorizing Agreement - EE Group, Inc. - \$35,000.00 - For electrical engineering services to install sports lighting at Gadsden Soccer Complex, on campus of Gadsden State Community College)

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

NEW BUSINESS

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-75-18

AUTHORIZING LEASE AGREEMENT WITH
DESTIN MINCE OF FRIOS GOURMET POPS

(Authorizing Lease - Destin Mince of Frios Gourmet Pops - \$285.00 per month - Term of one year, beginning 3-1-18 and ending 2-28-19 - For Concession Stand building at Noccalula Falls Park)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-76-18

APPROVING ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL EVENT
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

(United Way of Etowah County, Inc. - Special Events License - Girlfriend Gala event at Convention Hall on March 22, 2018)

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

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

ORDINANCE NO. O-03-18

AUTHORIZING CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY
AT 1820 EISENHOWER STREET

(Authorizing conveyance of house and property at 1820 Eisenhower Street - Lots 6 & 7, Block 1, W. E. Owens First Addition to Gadsden - Accepting \$15,150.00 bid from Harvey R. Gowens, Price Buster, LLC)

Councilman Billingsley moved to suspend the rules to immediately consider the ordinance as an item of new business. The motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Toles, Williams, Worthy, Echols, Billingsley, Reed

NAYS: None

Councilman Billingsley moved to adopt the ordinance, which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Toles and unanimously adopted.

(4) Councilman Billingsley introduced the following ordinance in writing for consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. O-04-18

AUTHORIZING CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY
AT 1824 EISENHOWER STREET

(Authorizing conveyance of vacant lot at 1824 Eisenhower Street - Lot 8, Block 1, W. E. Owens First Addition to Gadsden - Accepting \$505.00 bid from Harvey R. Gowens, Price Buster, LLC)

Councilman Billingsley moved to suspend the rules to immediately consider the ordinance as an item of new business. The motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Toles, Williams, Worthy, Echols, Billingsley, Reed

NAYS: None

Councilman Billingsley moved to adopt the ordinance, which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Toles and unanimously adopted.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

President Williams and Councilwoman Toles joined in commending the Emergency Management Agency and encouraging citizens to volunteer.

Councilwoman Worthy expressed appreciation to Rev. Trammell and Victory Missionary Baptist Church for inviting him to speak at their black history program and announced two other events for tonight.

President Williams recognized former educators Janie and Richard Smith and Marcia Kendrick, who were in attendance today. He encouraged community support for the Mega Sports Complex effort and noted the City's role has not yet been determined and is being studied.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (2-20-2018)

FOURTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - BID OPENING
FEBRUARY 20, 2018 - 2:00 P.M.

The City Clerk received bid proposals as advertised for the following bids:

Bid No. 3369 - Hasting Park Area Drainage Outfall Improvements

	<u>Base Bid</u>	<u>Add/Deduct Alternate</u>
James E. Watts and Sons	\$132,086.00	(-\$3,380.00)
Carcel and G Construction	\$259,341.03	+\$26,000.00

Bid No. 3375 - Furniture for The Venue at Coosa Landing

Interior Elements	\$383,902.10
Office Environments	\$393,194.53
“	\$387,901.46 (alternate)
AI Corporate Interiors, LLC	\$411,201.92

Copies of the bids will be forwarded to the City Engineer, and a recommendation will be made to the Council.
