

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2020 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met in regular session on April 21, 2020, via teleconference.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Council President Toles. On roll call by the City Clerk, Iva Nelson, the following council members answered present: Toles, Williams, Worthy, Back, Wilson, Cannon and Reed. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business.

The invocation was given by Councilman Williams.

At President Toles' request, Emergency Management Agency Director Deborah Gaither provided an update on local COVID-19 conditions. She said there are 100 confirmed cases, with eight to ten deaths and seventeen that are fully recovered. Ms. Gaither referred to guidance available concerning a future three-phase reopening plan and stressed the need for adequate personal protective equipment for first responders. The importance of social distancing in work environments was discussed.

The minutes of the last council meeting held on April 14, 2020, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of April 10-16, 2020, were ratified by unanimous vote.

#199594-199781	General	\$964,803.33
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NEW BUSINESS

(1) Councilman Reed introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-107-20

SUPPORTING THE ETOWAH COUNTY PROCLAMATION
OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

(Proclaiming local public health emergency - Supporting proclamation adopted by Etowah County Commission - Regarding severe weather events on April 12 and April 13, 2020)

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Craig Scott, representing the 2020 Census Committee, presented statistics on response to the 2020 Census and comparison information from the 2010 Census. He noted community meetings were placed on hold due to COVID-19 and Etowah County's response rate stands at 52%. Councilman Back commended the committee's efforts and requested specific data regarding Gadsden, if possible.

Katrina Herring, Gadsden Career Center Director, described the center's services that are being provided, noting employees are working remotely from home. She also provided information on applying for unemployment, as well as telephone and internet resources, noting the system has been overwhelmed by thousands of applicants.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (4-21-2020)
