

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 5, 2020 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on May 5, 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 Back.

At the request of President Toles, Emergency Management Agency Director Deborah Gaither provided an update on local COVID-19 conditions. She announced today's drive-through testing event at East Gadsden Methodist Church and thanked everyone who assisted with setup. Ms. Gaither noted work continues on surge planning and applying for a FEMA grant.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on April 28, 2020, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of April 24-30, 2020, were ratified by unanimous vote.

#199915-199992	General	\$515,910.18
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RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-111-20

AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT #2 TO AGREEMENT
WITH CDG ENGINEERS & ASSOCIATES, INC.

(Authorizing Amendment #2 to Agreement - CDG Engineers & Associates, Inc. - Additional \$91,508.00 for assistance with right-of-way acquisition - Relating to 15 tracts of property for reconstruction of South 11th Street, from Black Creek Parkway to the bridge at Black Creek - Adjusting total contract to \$174,812.00)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-112-20

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH
THE STATE OF ALABAMA

(Authorizing Agreement - State of Alabama - For equipment upgrades, operation, and maintenance of roadway lighting on AL-1, AL-25, AL-74, AL-77, AL-211, and AL-759 - To enable Alabama Power Company to upgrade existing roadway lights to LED)

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

NEW BUSINESS

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-113-20

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF 2020 CARES ACT GRANT

(Authorizing Acceptance of 2020 CARES Act Grant - \$30,000.00 for Northeast Regional Airport - To be used for operational and maintenance expenses or debt service payments)

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

(2) Councilman Wilson introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-114-20

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF EQUIPMENT
MASTER LEASE TO REGIONS BANK

(Authorizing Equipment Master Lease - Regions Bank - Approximately \$505,785.00 - Four-year lease-purchase of Pumper Fire Truck)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-115-20

AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1
WITH CB&A CONSTRUCTION, LLC

(Authorizing Change Order #1 - Bid No. 3426 for Amphitheater Drainage Repair Project - Reconciling all additions and deletions to the contract - Additional \$10,468.22, adjusting total contract with CB&A Construction, LLC to \$62,855.69)

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Lisa Rosser, Finance Director, presented the financial review for April 2020, which indicates that March 2020 revenues were \$589,518 less than in March 2019. She pointed out that COVID-19 impacted only twelve days in March and April figures will not be known until late May.

Mike Hilton, Assistant Public Works Director described changes in grass cutting crews, due to approximately furloughed 60 non full-time workers. He pointed out rights-of-ways, medians, and city properties will be maintained and State lots will be cut (and sprayed); however, over 1,000 nuisance lots will not be cut. Mr. Hilton also discussed trash collections, which have substantially increased, and consist of ten routes. He said recycling trailers will be recalled in order to open and staff the recycling center in the near future and affirmed the city's desire to sustain the recycling program.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilmen Wilson, Williams, and Back urged citizens to responsible and submit census information to prevent loss of per capita Federal appropriations. A drive-through event is being conducted this Saturday by the Carver Revitalization Committee. Appreciation was expressed for response data being provided by Craig Scott, Complete Count Committee member.

Councilmen Wilson, Worthy and Back encouraged the public to wear masks as more businesses reopen and observe recommendations to prevent a rise in COVID-19 cases.

Councilmen Reed, Williams, Worthy and Back commended city employees and first responders.

Councilman Cannon pointed out the concern and work of the mayor and council members during the pandemic and encouraged those who criticize city leaders on social media to run for office. Councilman Williams agreed and referred to today's testing event in East Gadsden.

Councilman Williams announced a District 2 town hall meeting via teleconference on Thursday at 6 p.m.

Councilman Worthy announced a District 3 meeting tonight via teleconference at 6 p.m. He expressed concern that nuisance lots are not being cut this year.

Councilman Back announced two food distribution events tomorrow at First Baptist Church: (1) backpack for students at 2:00; (2) 3,000 pounds from Central Food Bank at 4:00, made possible by the generosity of Jeff Bezos, Amazon CEO.

Mayor Guyton referred to being bombarded by negative remarks. He affirmed the city's commitment to provide services and his availability to citizens. He commended the work of Lisa Rosser and other directors, as well as the city council, and described benefits provided for firemen.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (5-5-2020)
