

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
JULY 10, 2018 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on July 10, 2018, 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. Mayor Guyton, Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts and Chief Jaggars were also present.

The invocation was given by Heath Williamson.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on July 2, 2018, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of June 29 - July 5, 2018, were ratified by unanimous vote.

#183394 - #183626	General	\$799,462.20
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PUBLIC HEARINGS

President Williams stated this was the time and place as advertised to conduct the following 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 1215 Jupiter Street, Mary Frances Parker being the last known owner. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in January 2018, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-269-18

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 1215 Jupiter Street - District 1 - Mary Frances Parker)

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

(2) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 510 Pioneer Street, Gilbert Hardy, Zelma Humphrey, and heirs of Jessie Mae Hardy, James H. Lett, Robert Lett as heirs of Eliza D. Lett being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-270-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$3,966.40 - 510 Pioneer Street - District 1 - Gilbert Hardy; Zelma Humphrey; Heirs of Jessie Mae Hardy, James H. Lett, Robert Lett as heirs of Eliza D. Lett)

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 assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1210 Stroud Avenue, Juanita Horton, David L. Williams and the Estate of David C. Williams being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-271-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,966.40 - 1210 Stroud Avenue - District 2 -Juanita Horton; David L. Williams; Estate of David C. Williams)

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

(4) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 101 North 4th Street, Billy Hill, LLC, agent Carl Weaver, being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-272-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,241.40 - 101 North 4th Street - District 2 - Billy Hill, LLC, agent Carl Weaver)

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

(5) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 122 E. Walnut Street, Tuscal, LLC, subject to that certain mortgage in favor of Mutual Savings Credit Union to Tuscal, LLC being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-273-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,591.40 - 122 E. Walnut Street - District 4 - Tuscal, LLC, subject to that certain mortgage in favor of Mutual Savings Credit Union to Tuscal, LLC)

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

(6) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 9 Marston Avenue, the State of Alabama, certain rights of redemption of Federal National Mortgage Association being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-274-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$3,291.40 - 9 Marston Avenue - District 6 -State of Alabama; certain rights of redemption of Federal National Mortgage Association)

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

(7) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 316 Albany Avenue, Bruce F. Stephens being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-275-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Grass Cutting - \$196.00 - 316 Albany Avenue - District 1 - Bruce F. Stephens)

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

(8) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 414 Allen Street, Zebedee Burnett, c/o Karr D. Wooley, being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-276-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Grass Cutting - \$136.00 - 414 Allen Street - District 1 - Zebedee Burnett, c/o Karr D. Wooley)

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

(9) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 208 4th Street North (East Gadsden) in District 2, Carolyn Bliss being the last known owner. Carolyn Bliss stated she maintains the property she owns at 206 and received a letter regarding 208, which is a concrete parking lot. She pointed out the 2017 grass cutting bill in question probably relates to 204. Councilman Cannon moved to table the resolution for 30 days, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously carried.

(10) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1516 Alabama Avenue in District 3, Chanister Watson being the last known owner. Chanister Watson stated her garlic plants located on the corner lot had been cut last year. She displayed pictures and explained that garlic grows tall and she placed rope around it this year, only for it to be cut again. Councilman Cannon moved to table the resolution for 30 days, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously carried.

It was noted the Building Department keeps records concerning the properties and Public Works has records relating to the work performed. Mayor Guyton asked Mr. Harbison to coordinate the communication regarding these two properties. Councilman Cannon again stressed the need for pictures to be included in the records.

(11) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 507 South 13th Street, Juarus Rawls being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-277-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Grass Cutting - \$196.00 - 507 South 13th Street - District 5 - Juarus Rawls)

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

(12) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 912 Agricola Avenue, the State of Alabama being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-278-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Grass Cutting - \$136.00 - 912 Agricola Avenue - District 2 - State of Alabama)

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

(13) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 515 Abercrombie Street, the State of Alabama being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-279-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Grass Cutting - \$136.00 - 515 Abercrombie Street - District 3 - State of Alabama)

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

(14) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 606 North 11th Street, the State of Alabama being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-280-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Grass Cutting - \$195.00 - 606 North 11th Street - District 3 - State of Alabama)

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

(15) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1719 Airport Boulevard, the State of Alabama being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-281-18

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Grass Cutting - \$196.00 - 1719 Airport Boulevard - District 5 - State of Alabama)

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Engineer Heath Williamson provided an update on projects underway, including The Venue, East Gadsden Community Center, community center on W. Meighan Boulevard, Kiwanis Pavilion and parking lot, Moragne Park and various paving projects.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Mayor Guyton referred to a real-time news article from al.com naming Gadsden as the 40th best metro area in the U.S. for wage growth and low unemployment and noted 400-600 jobs are now open here. President Williams said he is proud of Gadsden’s ranking and stressed the need to provide qualified, skilled workers.

Several Council members commented on last week’s Carver reunion and complimented Parks and Recreation for the support provided.

Councilman Worthy thanked Bill Avery for the July 4 concert and complimented First Friday, the Summer Concert, and First Saturday events. He and President Williams expressed appreciation to Dre’ Kirkpatrick (21 Kids Foundation) and Blackstone who provided shoes, clothing and lunch to a group of local children. Councilman Worthy noted approximately 1,500 volunteers from Church of the Highlands will be providing acts of service to the community on Saturday.

At the request of President Williams, Shane Ellison (Mayor’s Administrative Assistant) announced a ribbon cutting and free admission to Noccalula Falls Park on Saturday, July 14. He expressed hope that one of the trains will be operating by then.

President Williams pointed out the City performs grass cutting to eliminate nuisances, noting approximately 60% of the vacant lots are owned by the State of Alabama and 35% by inattentive private owners.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (07-10-2018)

FOURTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - BID OPENING
JULY 10, 2018 - 2:00 P.M.

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

Bid No. 3371 - Parking Addition for Kiwanis Pavilion at Noccalula Falls Park

James E. Watts and Sons

\$208,074.50

Bid No. 3386 - Botanical Garden Improvements at Noccoalula Falls Park (Re-Bid)

No bids received

Bid No. 3387 - Fuel Dispensing and Management Service (Fleet Maintenance)

Ira Phillips, Inc.

Unit prices

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