

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
JULY 16, 2019 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on July 16, 2019, in regular session.

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. Mayor Guyton, Lee Roberts and Chief Jaggars were also present.

The invocation was given by Councilman Back.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on July 9, 2019, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of July 5 - 11, 2019 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#192776-193052	General	\$4,419,692.42
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By consent of the Council, the order of business was changed as follows.

NEW BUSINESS

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-270-19

AUTHORIZING TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT
WITH MOTUS ALABAMA, LLC

(Authorizing Agreement - Motus Alabama, LLC - Abating non-educational taxes for a period of 10 years - Capital investment of \$16,225,000.00 and creation of 100 jobs by year 3 - For construction of new facility for manufacture and assembly of automotive interiors and components, to be located at 1306 Airport Industrial Road)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-271-19

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GADSDEN
AND MOTUS ALABAMA, INC.

(Authorizing Agreement - City of Gadsden, Gadsden-Etowah Industrial Development Authority and Motus Alabama, LLC - Regarding construction of industrial plant for manufacturing and assembling automotive interiors and components - City will convey 12.86 acre site and pay annual financial incentive of \$20,000.00 in years 6 through 10, if employment level of 90 or greater is maintained by Motus)

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

Mayor Guyton expressed excitement for Gadsden and the Etowah County area and announced the recruitment of Motus Integrated Technologies, which will invest \$16,225,000 in a new facility and create over 90 high-paying jobs. He thanked Governor Ivey and the Alabama Department of Commerce, and commended Frankie Davis (Director of Economic and Governmental Affairs), as well as David Hooks and Bill Green, Gadsden-Etowah Industrial Development Authority for their work.

Frankie Davis thanked Motus for choosing Gadsden and thanked the Mayor and City Council for their continued investment in the IDA, education, infrastructure and quality of life issues that enabled our area to compete. He recognized Alabama House Members Becky Nordgren, Gil Isbell, and Craig Lipscomb, who were present, and commended their votes to strengthen Alabama's business friendly tax code and support of the Etowah County Mayor's Association in the recent legislative session. Mr. Davis complimented the work of City employees Eric Wright and Heath Williamson, the Public Works Department, the IDA, the Etowah County Mayor's Association, the Alabama Technology Network, and the Alabama Department of Commerce.

Brent Turner of Motus Integrated Technologies expressed excitement at moving to Gadsden and being an active part of the community.

The Council joined in welcoming Motus and commending everyone who participated in the recruitment process and development of our local workforce.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

President Toles 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 509 Davis Street, David Gray and Sherry Godsey being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in October 2018, and recommended abatement. He added a demolition permit was issued last week and any activity will be monitored. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-272-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 509 Davis Street - District 1 - David Gray; Sherry Godsey)

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

(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 318 Nunnally Avenue, AmSouth, the State of Alabama, and rights of redemption of Shirley T. Jennings being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in November 2018, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-273-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 318 Nunnally Avenue - District 1 - AmSouth; State of Alabama; rights of redemption of Shirley T. Jennings)

Councilman Toles moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Back 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 301 Overlook Drive, PMB 174 Parker Investments, LLC, being the last known owner. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated this case, which began in March 2019, involves abandoned vehicles. He recommended abatement, noting the tenant has failed to remove the one remaining vehicle. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-274-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 301 Overlook Drive - District 3 - PMB 174 Parker Investments, LLC)

Councilman Worthy moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Back 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 706 Sharp Street, the State of Alabama, rights of redemption Mary Loucindy Hollis, and certain mortgage in favor of Yvonne Tidwell Ross being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made on this abandoned house and vehicle since procedures began in November 2018, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-275-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 706 Sharp Street - District 6 - State of Alabama; rights of redemption Mary Loucindy Hollis; certain mortgage in favor of Yvonne Tidwell Ross)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed 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 property at 2517 Lookout Avenue, the State of Alabama and rights of Christopher Croft and Lisa Croft being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made to this accessory building and garage apartment since procedures began in August 2018, and recommended abatement. He noted the house was demolished eight years ago. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-276-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 2517 Lookout Avenue (accessory building and garage apartment) - District 7 - State of Alabama; Christopher Croft and Lisa Croft)

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

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-277-19

REAPPOINTING MEMBERS TO
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

(Reappointing Tim McCartney and Bob Minyard for terms expiring on May 18, 2022)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-278-19

APPOINTING MEMBER TO
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

(Appointing Charles Trotter to replace John Freeman for term expiring on May 18, 2020)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-279-19

AUTHORIZING SERVICE MAINTENANCE
AGREEMENT WITH STRYKER

(Authorizing Agreement - Stryker - For service and maintenance on Fire Department AED units - Term of three years - \$3,340 per year for total cost of \$10,020.60 - First payment will be budgeted in FY2020)

Councilman Wilson moved to adopt the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilman Back and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Toles, Worthy, Back, Wilson, Cannon, Reed

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Williams

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-280-19

AUTHORIZING SERVICE MAINTENANCE
AGREEMENT WITH STRYKER

(Authorizing Agreement - Stryker - For service and maintenance on Fire Department Lifepak 15 Units - Term of three years - \$10,260.00 per year, for total of \$30,780.00 - First payment will be budgeted in FY2020)

Councilman Back moved to adopt the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Toles, Worthy, Back, Wilson, Cannon, Reed

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Williams

PUBLIC

By unanimous consent of the Council, Representative Ginny Shaver (District 39) provided a legislative update, describing herself as a “bonus member” for Gadsden. She explained the area benefits and grant funds that will result from the Rebuild Alabama Act (gas tax bill). Representative Shaver noted Governor Ivey had appointed her to an oversight committee and expressed excitement that completion of the Highway 411 four-laning will be a first year project. President Toles and Councilman Wilson expressed appreciation for her support in the past legislative session.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Worthy announced the upcoming Job Fair has been changed from August 20 to August 27.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (7-16-2019)
