

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA  
JANUARY 3, 2023- 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on January 3, 2023, in regular session.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Council President Back. On roll call by the City Clerk, Iva Nelson, the following council members answered present: Latham, Avery, Back, Wilson, Minatra and Robinson. Councilman Smith was absent. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business. Mayor Ford, Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts and Chief Jaggars were also present.

The invocation was given by Josh Tanner.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on December 20, 2022, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the weeks of December 16-22 and December 23-29 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#221017-221164	General	\$1,100,041.23
#221165-221259	General	\$ 598,392.91

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-01-23

AUTHORIZING SATISFACTION OF NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN  
AGAINST PROPERTY AT 1003½ SPRUCE STREET

(Approving Satisfaction of Nuisance Abatement Lien - 1003 ½ Spruce Street - District 5 - Accepting \$500.00 offer from Jeffrey Wright)

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

ORDINANCE - FIRST READING

The following ordinance was introduced in writing and read by President Back:

ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON  
CROCHERON ALLEY

Since no action was taken in this meeting, the ordinance will be placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting for consideration.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Josh Tanner (Emergency Management Agency) provided an update regarding potential severe weather.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Council members joined in expressing excitement to be part of the council and complimented Mayor Ford and his staff for their energy.

Councilmen Wilson and Back stressed the significant impact a Challenger Center would have and expressed hope that Gadsden will be chosen to house the first one in Alabama.

Councilman Avery thanked the Freedom Center for its work in the community and Mr. Cunningham for his interest in purchasing a vacant lot, expressing hope that other vacant lots will be purchased and developed for new housing. He announced a District 3 meeting for January 17, with the location to be determined.

Mayor Ford provided an update, including: introductions of Melcie Guyton and Rod Scott (will join city staff on March 1 after shadowing IDA for a couple of months); the two planning processes introduced today, which will collaborate; addressing of litter problems; meeting on January 5 regarding a Challenger Center; Mayor’s Ball at The Venue on January 7, research of leases and the potential of conveying properties to the occupants and have them assume maintain and insurance responsibilities.

President Back announced changes in the garbage collection schedule, due to yesterday’s holiday.

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

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Iva Nelson, City Clerk (1-3-2023)

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FOURTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - BID OPENING  
JANUARY 3, 2023 - 2:00 P.M.

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

Bid No. 3495 - Cemetery Lawn Maintenance

Larry Powell, DBA Powell Services \$189,900.00

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

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