

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
JANUARY 19, 2021 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on January 19, 2021, in regular session, 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. Mayor Guyton, Heath Williamson, and Lee Roberts were also present.

The invocation was given by President Toles.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on January 12, 2021, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of January 8-14, 2021, were ratified by unanimous vote.

#205278-205422	General	\$1,981,182.96
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Deborah Gaither, Emergency Management Agency Director, provided an update on local Covid-19 statistics and reporting sites, as well as vaccinations. She noted pharmacies were pre-approved to administer vaccines and advised she did not have a list of them.

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-03-21

AUTHORIZING SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR T-MOBILE

(Authorizing Special Use Permit - T-Mobile - To modify equipment at existing wireless telecommunication facility at 909 Bellevue Drive in District 7)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-04-21

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF LEASE AGREEMENT
WITH GADSDEN WAREHOUSING, INC.

(Amending Lease Agreement - Gadsden Warehousing, Inc. - Regarding Building T-4, Sections A, B, and C at Air Depot - Extending term for additional 60 days, beginning February 1, 2021)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-05-21

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH MLFLW, LLC

(Authorizing Agreement - MLFLW, LLC - \$1,500.00 - To sponsor Phoenix Bass Fishing League Bama Division Tournament at Coosa Landing on June 26, 2021)

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

NEW BUSINESS

(1) Councilwoman Toles introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-06-21

AUTHORIZING TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT
WITH KOCH FOODS OF GADSDEN, LLC

(Authorizing Tax Abatement Agreement - Koch Foods of Gadsden, LLC - Abatement of state and local noneducational property taxes, and construction related transaction taxes, except those levied for educational purposes or capital improvements for education - For period of 10 years - For expansion of existing facility with capital investment of \$15,866,107.00)

David Hooks, Industrial Development Authority Director, noted the expansion will provide 135 additional jobs over the next three years and cited projected revenues for the city, as well as city, county and state school boards.

President Toles received unanimous consent to immediately consider the resolution as an item of new business. Councilwoman Toles 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-07-21

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH LEXIPOL, LLC

(Authorizing Agreement - Lexipol, LLC - To provide professional services relating to updating and certification of Gadsden Police Department Policies and Procedures - \$30,832.94 for first year and \$25,219.92 per year thereafter)

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 AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Cannon noted the Fresh Market grocery store will open on February 1.

Councilman Reed complimented the Etowah County Health Department and described his personal experience with receiving the Covid-19 vaccine.

Councilman Back thanked EMA director and staff, as well as emergency responders for their continuing work through the very real pandemic.

Mayor Guyton said he is glad to see the Koch Foods expansion and the new grocery store.

Councilman Williams expressed appreciation to Koch Foods, noting this project is a good example for people to understand the process for industrial recruitment and expansion. He complimented the police department's initiative in retaining a professional firm to review its policies.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (1-19-21)
