

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
JANUARY 25, 2022 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on January 25, 2022, 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, Back, Cannon and Reed. Councilmen Worthy and Wilson were absent. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business. Mayor Guyton, Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts, and Chief Jaggears were also present.

The invocation was given by Councilman Williams.

Deborah Gaither (Emergency Management Agency Director) reported 249 new Covid cases, noting Etowah County's positivity rate is the highest in the state and third highest in the nation. She reminded the public that free testing kits may be ordered online and the cost of tests purchased can be reimbursed through FSA and HSA plans. Ms. Gaither asked that hospital emergency room visits be reserved for life-threatening situations. She also discussed warming center locations and criteria.

Jason Talton (Fire Marshall) reported that two fire department staff are out due to Covid and "Persons Under Investigation" calls are averaging four to five per 24-hour shift. He asked everyone to remember Michael White at the death of his son, Colby, this morning.

The minutes of the Public Safety Committee, Work Session, and Council meetings held on January 18, 2022, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of January 14-20 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#213375-213446	General	\$735,858.88
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RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-14-22

APPOINTING AND REAPPOINTING MEMBERS TO
GADSDEN CULTURAL ARTS FOUNDATION, INC.

(Appointing Kay Moore for term expiring on January 1, 2023 - Appointing Mamta Mishra and Alie Causey for terms expiring January 1, 2025 - Reappointing Helene Haller for term expiring January 1, 2025)

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-15-22

REAPPOINTING MEMBERS TO
ELECTRICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

(Reappointing Renza Avery and Jeff Phillips for terms expiring June 28, 2025)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-16-22

REAPPOINTING MEMBERS TO
PLUMBER EXAMINING BOARD

(Reappointing Phillip Higginbotham and Ivan Pierce for terms expiring July 19, 2023 - Reappointing Dallas McElroy, Nathan L. Carter, and Glen Walker for terms expiring July 19, 2024)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-17-22

AUTHORIZING SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR DISH WIRELESS

(Authorizing Special Use Permit - Dish Wireless - To install their equipment and modify the existing wireless telecommunication facility located at 1212 Scenic Drive)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-18-22

AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF CORONAVIRUS STATE
AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

(Authorizing Expenditure of American Rescue Plan funds - Appropriating \$50,000.00 to Way of the Cross Ministries - For meal assistance or other services in response to negative economic impacts of Covid-19)

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

PUBLIC

Joseph Cole noted his efforts to increase diversity in police and fire departments and expressed concern that to his understanding, the starting hourly rate for firemen is \$10.38, which is lower than other cities are paying. He said he receives complaints from seniors that Carver Community Center is not available for event rentals and dance classes are not being held. Mr. Cole said inadequate staff was the reason given and questioned why employees from other centers couldn't assist. He requested that the Parks & Recreation Director be made available to answer questions.

Robert Hunter referred to the council's funding authority and asked if city services are being provided to youth. He added that if they are, he wishes to get involved and offer his help.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Back expressed condolences to Colby White's family and encouraged prayers for him and the entire fire department. He urged caution and care during the current Covid surge.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (1-25-22)

FOURTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - BID OPENING
JANUARY 25, 2022 - 2:00 P.M.

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

Bid No. 3469 - Ford Transit 350 Passenger Wagon XLT (2019 or newer)

Buster Miles Chevrolet and Ford \$47,761.50

Copies of the bid will be forwarded to the Assistant Purchasing Agent, and a recommendation will be made to the Council.
