

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
MAY 30, 2023 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on May 30, 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, Smith, Avery, Back, Wilson, Minatra and Robinson. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business. Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts and Chief Jaggears were also present.

The invocation was given by Councilwoman Latham.

The minutes of the Work Sessions and Council meeting held on May 23, 2023, and the Public Works Committee meeting held on May 24, 2023, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of May 19-25 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#224637-224778	General	\$545,479.95
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On behalf of Mayor Ford, Brett Johnson read a proclamation proclaiming June 2, 2023, as “Cancer Survivors’ Day” and presented it to a representative of Gadsden Regional Medical Center.

RESOLUTION PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-294-23

ADOPTING TITLE VI PLAN UPDATE

(Updating City’s Title VI Plan - To ensure compliance with Civil Rights Act due to receiving financial assistance from Federal Transit Administration - Note: Purpose is to prohibit discrimination in Transportation Department programs and activities)

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

PUBLIC

Heidi Darbo (Regional Director, American Heart Association) presented a CPR training kit to the Parks and Recreation Department. She stressed the need to be prepared to help people who experience a cardiac arrest and noted Riverview Regional Medical Center sponsored the donation. Jen Weathington (Parks & Recreation Director) expressed appreciation for the kit.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Brett Johnson (Mayor’s Chief of Staff) introduced Caleb Smith, who will be serving as an intern in the Mayor’s office this Summer. Caleb expressed excitement to be working with the city.

Council members Latham, Smith, and Avery joined in congratulating graduates and made encouraging remarks to them.

Councilwoman Minatra announced upcoming performances of *Misery* at the Ritz Theater this weekend, by the Theater of Gadsden, in conjunction with the Actor's Community Playhouse of Anniston. She also announced a District 6 meeting to be held at 6 p.m. on June 6, at the Alabama City Library.

Councilman Wilson summarized the many activities going on in Gadsden and applauded large investments being made in tourism, encouraging local citizens to take advantage of our wonderful resources and events.

Councilman Avery read communications regarding Jeremiah, who is suffering from cancer, and encouraged prayers and support for him. He announced a District 3 clean-up event on June 25 and encouraged volunteers to meet at the North Gadsden Park.

Councilman Smith reiterated thanks to everyone responsible for good work underway in the city, especially in addressing drainage issues. He stated the need for playground equipment at the East Gadsden Community Center.

Councilwoman Latham expressed thanks to God for cancer survivors and commented on a good day of government.

President Back announced changes in the garbage collection schedule due to yesterday's Memorial Day holiday. He thanked everyone who prepared for the Mayor's Bash at the amphitheater, noting investments are being made to ensure long-term use of this facility. President Back complimented the recent concerts and encouraged the public to attend the upcoming Summer concerts. He thanked the Patriots Association for the Memorial Day service and urged motorists to refrain from speeding, especially when children are out of school.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (5-30-23)
