

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
JUNE 1, 2021 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on June 1, 2021 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, Worthy, Back, Cannon and Reed. Councilmen Williams 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 Captain Jackson were also present.

The invocation was given by Brian Harbison.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on May 25, 2021, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of May 21-27 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#208250-208380	General	\$328,778.75
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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(1) The following ordinance, which was introduced for first reading at last week's meeting, was presented for consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. O-04-21

ADOPTING 2021 FISCAL YEAR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND BUDGET

(Adopting City of Gadsden 2021 CDBG Annual Action Plan - Adopting FY2021 CDBG Budget - \$1,067,570.00 - For program year beginning June 1, 2021, and ending May 31, 2022)

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

(2) A resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 560 Tyler Street in District 3, which was tabled for 30 days on April 27, 2021, was presented in writing for consideration. President Toles advised the Building Official has recommended an indefinite table because the owner is making payments. Councilman Worthy moved to table the resolution indefinitely, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously carried.

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 216 Ewing Avenue, Angelika Carter, subject to a mortgage in favor of Regions Bank, being the last known owner. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in June 2020, and recommended abatement. John Williams was present and raised his hand to indicate he favored abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-123-21

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 216 Ewing Avenue - District 3 - Angelika Carter, subject to that certain mortgage in favor of Regions Bank)

Councilman Worthy moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Cannon 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 3600 Stonewall Avenue, Jennifer L. Dover and Betty M. Phillips being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made to the house and mobile home since procedures began in August 2020, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-124-21

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 3600 Stonewall Avenue - District 6 - Jennifer L. Dover; Betty M. Phillips)

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

(3) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1400 Springfield Avenue, the State of Alabama and Heirs of Emma Frazier being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-125-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,616.40 - 1400 Springfield Avenue - District 1 - State of Alabama; Heirs of Emma Frazier)

Councilman Cannon 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 assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1351 Forrest Avenue (accessory building), Ann Harris and Michael Taliaferro being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-126-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,591.40 - 1351 Forrest Avenue (accessory building) - District 3 - Ann Harris; Michael Taliaferro)

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

(5) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1406 Pierce Avenue, the State of Alabama, subject to rights of redemption of Gregory N. Stephens, being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-127-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$3,216.40 - 1406 Pierce Avenue - District 5 - State of Alabama, subject to the rights of redemption of Gregory N. Stephens)

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

(6) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution rescinding a nuisance abatement order on property at 101 Hillside Circle. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-128-21

RESCINDING RESOLUTION NUMBER R-140-15
REGARDING NUISANCES AT 101 HILLSIDE CIRCLE

(Rescinding Resolution No. R-140-15, which ordered abatement of nuisance at 101 Hillside Circle - Hillside Circle Apartments, LLC desires to purchase and rehabilitate existing structures - Existing nuisance order prevents obtaining clear title and financing - Note: Purchaser has agreed to construct fencing around the property within 3 weeks of closing and to obtain construction permits with 90 days of closing)

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Kay Moore, Director of Downtown Gadsden Inc. announced that community events will resume, including Musical Mondays (second Monday of June, July, August, and September), First Friday, and Parks & Recreation's Summer Concert Series at the Amphitheater.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Back thanked Councilman Reed and the Gadsden-Etowah Patriots Association for yesterday's memorial ceremony at the War Memorial, located at Noccalula Falls Park. He noted attending Gadsden City High School's graduation and expressed pride for the students. He urged motorists to refrain from speeding in residential neighborhoods.

Councilman Reed highlighted events planned for the 600 block of Broad Street during First Friday and recognized Buster Porch and Curlie DeRamus, who were present. He referred to yesterday's memorial and said, "Not one shall be forgotten."

Councilman Worthy urged citizens to be aware of their surroundings and exercise personal caution. He encouraged first responders who gave aid in a recent terrible wreck.

Mayor Guyton also complimented the Memorial Day ceremony and expressed hope that Covid will soon be gone.

President Toles expressed concern for Councilman Williams, care giver for his parents, who are both hospitalized.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (6-1-2021)
