

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
JUNE 8, 2021 - 11:45 A.M.

The City Council met on June 8, 2021 in regular session.

Due to the length of an executive session, the meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by Council President Toles. On roll call by the City Clerk, Iva Nelson, the following council members answered present: Toles, Williams, Worthy, Wilson, Cannon and Reed. 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. Councilman Back joined the meeting shortly after it began.

The invocation was given by Heath Williamson.

(Councilman Back entered at this time.)

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on June 1, 2021, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of May 28-June 3 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#208381-208495	General	\$1,121,881.71
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PUBLIC HEARINGS

President Toles stated this was the time and place as advertised to conduct the following public hearings:

(1) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 909 Rogers Street, the State of Alabama, rights of redemption of FNA NP, LLC, and Calvin L. Nickles being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-129-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$3,291.40 - 909 Rogers Street - District 3 - State of Alabama; Rights of redemption of FNA NP, LLC; Calvin L. Nickles)

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

(2) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 2809 Forrest Avenue, Nichole Jackson Clarke being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-130-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,091.40 - 2809 Forrest Avenue - District 6 - Nichole Jackson Clarke)

Councilman Cannon moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy 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 3328 Madison Avenue, Jerry Lee Phillips and Vicki Dale Phillips, American General Finance of Alabama, Inc., and the State of Alabama being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-131-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$4,066.40 - 3328 Madison Avenue - District 6 - Jerry Lee Phillips and Vicki Dale Phillips; American General Finance of Alabama, Inc.; State of Alabama)

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

(4) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution annulling a portion of an un-named alley in the First Addition of Bellevue Highlands. Benjamin Miller spoke in favor, stating he wishes to construct a fence. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-132-21

AUTHORIZING ANNULMENT OF A PORTION OF AN UN-NAMED ALLEY

(Annulling portion of un-named Alley lying between Lots 7-18 and portion of Lot 19, Block 45, Bellevue Highlands 1st Addition - Requested by Marc and Jana Unterman, Phyllis and Joe Magee, Benjamin J. Miller)

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

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-133-21

APPROVING FINANCING TERMS

(Approving Financing Terms - Truist Bank - For two pumper fire trucks - \$1,003,347.00 - 1.04% annual interest rate - Term of 4 years)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-134-21

APPOINTING AUDITOR

(Authorizing Agreement - Borland Benefield, P.C. of Birmingham - To conduct annual audit - \$72,750.00 for FY2021 - \$77,000.00 for FY2022 - \$79,750.00 for FY2023)

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

NEW BUSINESS

(1) Councilman Reed introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-135-21

AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO APPLICATION FOR
RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT THROUGH
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

(Amending Grant Application - Recreational Trails Program through ADECA - Total project amount of \$372,600.00, with 80% Federal funding of \$255,000.00 and 20% local match of \$117,600.00 - Reducing scope of project to comply with reduced amount of grant offered - Relating to timber steps with landings for pedestrian access into gorge below Noccalula Falls and timber bridge across Cascade Creek - Note: City's match will come from Christmas at the Falls account)

President Toles received unanimous consent to immediately consider the resolution as an item of new business. Councilman Reed moved to adopt the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilman Cannon and unanimously adopted.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Jennifer Weathington (Parks & Recreation Director) highlighted summer activities, including camps at recreation centers, food program at 16 sites, Wheels on the Hill, Farmer's Market, Barbarian Challenge, and upcoming fishing tournaments. She noted registration is open for softball.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Worthy extended condolences to the family of a young man who was killed last weekend. He announced men are going where young people are gathering and invited volunteers to contact him and Pastor Keith Dudley. Councilman Worthy also stressed that lounges and clubs should be closed by 2 a.m.

Councilmen Cannon and Wilson explained some of the items adopted today. Councilman Wilson thanked Steve Swindall for his letter and information.

Councilman Williams thanked those who expressed care and concern during his parents' illness, noting his father came home today and his mother is scheduled to return home as well. He referred to an article ranking counties in regard to education and industrial recruitment and expressed hope that Etowah County citizens will take advantage of available opportunities and increase the percentages.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (6-8-21)
