

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
JUNE 28, 2022 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on June 28, 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, Worthy, Back, Wilson, Cannon and Reed. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business. 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 June 21, 2022, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of June 17-23 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#216841-216957	General	\$867,469.77
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Chief Reed read and presented a Letter of Commendation to police officer Alex Burgess, who provided life-saving measures to a citizen. President Toles commended the officer and thanked Chief Reed for his recognition.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

ORDINANCE NO. O-26-22

AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET

(Amending FY2022 Budget - Transferring \$350,000.00 from 2022 Revenue Overages to Non-Departmental Gas and Oil account - To be used for funding shortages as they occur)

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

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 ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 606 Polk Street, Billy and Gail Wise, subject to a mortgage in favor of Exchange Bank of Alabama, being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in June 2021, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-191-22

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 606 Polk Street - District 2 - Billy and Gail Wise, subject to mortgage in favor of Exchange Bank of Alabama)

Councilman Williams moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Back 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 824 Hillyer Street, Elizabeth Rutledge, Sammie Rutledge, Lula Rutledge, and Elizabeth Winborn being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in May 2021, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-192-22

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 824 Hillyer Street - District 3 - Elizabeth Rutledge; Sammie Rutledge; Lula Rutledge; Elizabeth Winborn)

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

(3) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 2316 Cansler Avenue, William Deangelo Ross, Deangelo William Ross, Shawn and WF Shannon Sims being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated although a permit was obtained in September 2021, no improvements have been made to this burned duplex since procedures began in November 2021. He recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-193-22

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 2316 Cansler Avenue - District 6 -William Deangelo Ross; Deangelo William Ross; Shawn and Shannon Sims)

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

(4) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 1205 Dwight Avenue, James and Carolyn Watkins being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated although a permit was obtained, no improvements have been made since procedures began in June 2021. He recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-194-22

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 1205 Dwight Avenue - District 7 - James and Carolyn Watkins)

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Clerk Iva Nelson noted today's deadline for qualifying of candidates. She encouraged voters to make sure their address is up to date and announced polling locations for the City election on August 23.

Captain Jackson introduced Sergeant Eric Phillips, who provided the definition for elder abuse and discussed response by the police department, as well as the Department of Human Resources. Citizens were encouraged to report suspicious situations to the police department or the Adult Protective Services hotline. Councilman Williams pointed out family members often take advantage of the finances of their elders.

PUBLIC

David Woodard complimented the unity displayed by the council and thanked the members for their service to the city. The Council joined in thanking Mr. Woodard for his kind remarks.

COUNCIL REMARKS

President Toles announced changes in next week's garbage collection schedule due to the July 4 holiday on Monday.

Councilmen Worthy and Back joined in commending Sergeant Phillips.

Councilman Williams encouraged everyone to consider doing acts of kindness for others.

Councilman Worthy noted his absence for the past two weeks due to visiting family and attending a memorial service.

Councilman Cannon stated he is not seeking re-election to the council and described his forty-five years of service to the city in various capacities. He explained council members have no individual powers and encouraged citizens to take action regarding unsightly conditions. Councilman Cannon said candidates should "be their own person" and, in response to a claim that some employees didn't receive a raise in 2018, noted a cost-of-living raise was granted.

Councilman Reed agreed with Councilman Cannon and complimented today's positive meeting, noting he feels people are starting to observe things that are occurring. President Toles offered her affirmation.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (6-28-22)

FOURTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - BID OPENING
JUNE 28, 2022 - 2:00 P.M.

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

Bid No. 3478 - City of Gadsden Landscape Maintenance Bid

Copelandscapes	\$165,948.00
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Copies of the bids will be forwarded to the City Engineer, and a recommendation will be made to the Council.
