

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

The City Council met on October 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, Worthy, Back, and Wilson. Councilmen Williams, Cannon, and Reed were absent. 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 Brian Harbison.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on October 18, 2022, were approved by unanimous vote.

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

#219769-219867	General	\$1,254,723.58
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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 in opposition to or in favor of an ordinance approving the rezoning of five parcels of property on Malone Street and Mountain Street from R-2, Multiple-Family Residence District, and I-1, Light Industry District, to B-2, General Business District. (The Planning Commission recommended approval.) Lacey Crosson-Cornelius (applicant) described the proposed activity for two businesses, which will include a wholesale gift line, in partnership with two artists, and a store. A sample art print was displayed. In response to Councilman Wilson's inquiry, it was noted that special event alcohol sales would be permissible. The following ordinance was introduced in writing for consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. O-41-22

REZONING 1225 & 1229 MALONE STREET,
LOT SIXTEEN ON MALONE STREET,
AND 213 MOUNTAIN STREET

(Approving Rezoning - Five parcels or property in Block 2 of W.A. Crocheron's First Addition - 1225 & 1229 Malone Street, Lot 16 on Malone Street, and 213 Mountain Street - From R-2, Multiple-Family Residence District and I-1, Light Industry District, to B-2, General Business District - Requested by Coosa Station Property, LLC - For use as antique and furniture store)

Councilman Worthy moved to suspend the rules to immediately consider the ordinance at its first reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Back and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Toles, Worthy, Back, Wilson

NAYS: None

Councilman Worthy moved to adopt the ordinance, 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 1812 Emanuel Avenue, Danny E. Fendley being the last known owner. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made in this trash and debris case since procedures began in August 2022. He noted the items are coming from a neighbor and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-294-22

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - Trash and debris case - 1812 Emanuel Avenue - District 5 - Danny E. Fendley)

Councilman Wilson 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 ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 3411 Georgia Avenue, John Collins and Anne Patterson being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in July 2021, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-295-22

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 3411 Georgia Avenue - District 6 - John Collins; Anne Patterson)

Councilman Wilson 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 ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 1109 Wilson Drive, the State of Alabama, subject to the rights of redemption of W.T. Shaneyfelt and Myrtle Shaneyfelt, or their heirs if deceased, being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in February 2021, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-296-22

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 1109 Wilson Drive - District 7 - State of Alabama, subject to the rights of redemption of W.T. Shaneyfelt and wife Myrtle Shaneyfelt, or their heirs if deceased)

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

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

The following ordinance was introduced in writing and read by President Toles:

ORDINANCE - AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET (Reflecting receipt of \$26,219.00 JAG Grant)

Since no action was taken in this meeting, the ordinance will be placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting for consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-297-22

JOINT RESOLUTION RENAMING CARVER SQUARE

(Renaming Carver Square, which is located on Tuscaloosa Avenue and owned by the Gadsden City Board of Education, as “Jalania Harris Memorial Square - Recognizing community work of Mrs. Harris, including Carver Community Revitalization Committee, First Saturdays, Tuscaloosa Avenue Christmas Parade, Adopt-A-Christmas Tree, and Southern Hill Cemetery)

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

(2) Councilman Back introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-298-22

APPROVING ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL EVENT
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

(City of Gadsden - Special Event Retail License - For Kansas City Barbeque World Invitational Banquet on November 11, 2022, at 210 Locust Street)

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

(3) Councilman Back introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-299-22

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT
FROM ALABAMA TOURISM DEPARTMENT

(Authorizing Acceptance of Grant - From Alabama Tourism Department - \$2,600.00 - For Kansas City Barbeque Society World Invitational at Noccalula Falls Park on November 10-13, 2022)

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

(4) Councilman Back introduced the following ordinance in writing for consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. O-42-22

AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET

(Amending FY2023 Budget - Reflecting receipt of \$2,600.00 grant from Alabama Tourism Department - Appropriating for expenses involved with Kansas City Barbeque Society World Invitational on November 10-13 at Noccalula Falls Park)

Councilman Back moved to suspend the rules to immediately consider the ordinance as an item of new business. The motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Toles, Worthy, Back, Wilson

NAYS: None

Councilman Back thanked Representative Gil Isbell for his assistance in obtaining the grant and moved to adopt the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy and unanimously adopted.

(5) Councilman Wilson introduced the following resolution in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-300-22

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH THE
GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

(Authorizing Agreement - Gadsden City Board of Education - \$400,000.00 from American Rescue Plan funds - For salary and benefits of School Resource Officers)

President Toles received unanimous consent to immediately consider the resolution as an item of new business. Councilman Wilson moved to adopt the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilman Back and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Toles, Back, Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Worthy

COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Worthy thanked the council for designating the square in honor of Jalaria Harris. He said a dedication ceremony is being planned on January 15, 2023, which was Mrs. Harris' birthday. Councilman Wilson reiterated details of her community service.

Councilman Back congratulated Gadsden City High School Titans football team, as well as A Team Red, B Team, and C Team, which won region championships, and wished them well as the continue competing.

Councilman Wilson referred to the Personnel Department’s announcement last week regarding changes in handling vacation and holiday pay, noting the provisions were already in the handbook but had not been enforced. He referred to earlier discussions about the amount of the appropriation for SRO officers, pledging to consider any future requests for additional funding if needed. Councilman Wilson praised the Parks & Recreation Department’s work in putting on excellent “Smoke on the Falls” events, which resulted in Gadsden being selected to host the prestigious Kansas City Barbeque Society World Invitational competition.

Councilman Worthy recognized Superintendent Tony Reddick, Gadsden City Schools, who was present.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (10-25-22)
