

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
NOVEMBER 14, 2022 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on November 14, 2022, 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. Mayor Ford, Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts and Chief Jaggars were also present.

The invocation was given by Councilman Smith.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on November 7, 2022, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of November 4-10 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#220163-220304	General	\$982,004.01
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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-44-22

AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET

(Amending FY2023 Budget - Reflecting receipt of and appropriating \$17,624.00 grant from Department of Homeland Security - For enhancing the CERT Program for Undeserved Neighborhoods - Grant period of November 1, 2022 through October 31, 2023)

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

(2) Due to a clerical error, it was announced that the following resolution was tabled for 30 days on September 27; however, it was later determined to have been tabled on November 1. The resolution was presented for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-314-22

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 411 Van Courtland Street - District 6 - Ruby B. Young, c/o Ruby Burgess)

Brian Harbison, Building Official, explained he had recommended an additional 30 days since a little work has been done, but would defer to Councilwoman Minatra, who affirmed she saw no reason to delay.

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Josh Tanner (Deputy Director, Emergency Management Agency) announced winter weather preparedness week, as well as guidelines for opening warming shelters. The only overnight shelter is the Salvation Army and daytime shelters include all library locations. Councilman Avery suggested using Carver Community Center, noting it contains shower facilities. Councilman Back requested the Mayor to review the suggestion.

Fire Chief Reed discussed recent structure fires that were heating-related. He noted a program through the Alabama Fire College that makes free smoke detectors available to homeowners. A discussion followed regarding rental units and landlord responsibilities, as well as inspections. Jason Talton, Fire Marshall, reviewed safety tips for use of space heaters and advised using only UL listed products.

PUBLIC

Craig Scott and Darlene Harcrow announced the upcoming 23rd annual CommUnity Thanksgiving luncheon. They related the history of the event and noted 8,764 meals were served last year, many by delivery. The public was encouraged to volunteer and attend.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Mayor Ford reported on a busy first week, completion of the property sale for the new cancer treatment center, and newly appointed animal task force, which will report back in 30 days. He thanked staff members who are already working and announced when others will begin. The Mayor complimented the Parks & Recreation Department for the Kansas City Barbeque World Invitational event held at Noccalula Falls and noted much interest from potential medical Cannabis businesses. He announced plans to expand programming on Channel 99 to include interviews and public announcements, and thanked department heads and employees for their work.

Councilwoman Latham pledged to “start right” and “end right” and expressed appreciation to former Councilwoman Toles for her eight years of service.

Councilman Smith thanked all veterans for their service and department heads for their introductions in the work session.

Councilman Avery also thanked veterans and EMA for the update. He expressed his desire to see a solution for homelessness and share information with the public regarding fire safety and warming centers. Councilman Avery complimented the CommUnity Thanksgiving team and volunteers, and congratulated the Gadsden City High School Titans football team, as well as Tameeka Franklin and her team that feeds them before games.

Councilman Wilson noted interest from dispensaries, as well as manufacturing facilities for medical Cannabis, which will be industrial development.

Councilwoman Minatra thanked President Back for endeavors the council will undertake and pledged to study the handbook revision issue.

Councilman Robinson thanked the Mayor and department heads and asked for patience as he works to respond to calls for assistance.

Councilman Back complimented today's meeting and last week's Inauguration, and joined with the Mayor in acknowledging the work of the city clerk and staff, as well as The Venue staff. He expressed excitement about the new council and much activity that is underway, including efforts to address homelessness.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (11-14-22)

FOURTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - BID OPENING
NOVEMBER 15, 2022 - 2:00 P.M.

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

Bid No. 3488 - 2022 or Newer 2WD Crew Cab Midsize Pickup Truck

Donohoo Chevrolet	\$23,036.70
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Bid No. 3489 - New Reel Grinder and Bedknife Grinder

Jerry Pate Company	\$55,993.00 (Reel Grinder)
	\$29,403.00 (Bedknife Grinder)

Copies of the bids will be forwarded to the Department and the Assistant Purchasing Agent, and a recommendation will be made to the Council.
