COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

CALL TO ORDER
The regular monthly meeting of the Huntsville City Council was called to order at City Hall by Mayor Darrell Trahan at 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL / QUORUM
City Clerk Joetta Smith and Councilors Guy Roden, Travis Dotson, Leslie Evans, and Stephen Ford were present. Deputy Clerk Boyd called roll and it was established that there were enough members to begin the meeting. If voting was needed, the mayor would be required to vote to establish a quorum of five. Councilors Scott Thomas, Roger Eoff, and Kevin Meythaler were absent. Councilor Grubbs arrived during Public Comments period.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Councilor Dotson shared the invocation and Councilor Evans led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Councilor Dotson made a motion to amend the agenda to add the Polk Street property under Old Business, and it was seconded by Councilor Roden; motion passed 5 to 0 with Mayor Trahan’s vote. Councilor Dotson made a motion to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Councilor Ford. Motion approved 5 to 0 with Mayor Trahan voting.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS
No special guests introduced.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
No special business conducted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
A motion to accept the council meeting minutes of August 9 as submitted was made by Councilor Roden and seconded by Councilor Dotson; motion passed 5 to 0 including Mayor Trahan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Local residents attended the meeting to receive updates on the status of their neighbor’s clean-up efforts. They mentioned that stray animals are also becoming a nuisance in our community.

CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS
- Written departmental reports were provided to the councilors in their emailed agenda packets.
- Police Chief Thomas stated that a new officer had been hired.
- Fire Chief Shinn added that the new brush truck will be ready later than anticipated because of delays in receiving parts, but that we will still be able to receive the USDA grant funds for the purchase. He inquired as to the members of the Emergency Services Committee for the year; Councilors Ford, Roden, and Dotson volunteered to serve on the committee.
- Mayor Trahan reported that he and Brandi Holt had met with Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District and talked about a possible grant to help build a road by Butterball if that becomes a need.
Katie Boyd noted that revenue from sales tax had been consistently higher over the year than expected, and the building permit revenue had also been higher than expected, even having accounted for Cedar Heights subdivision. Boyd stated that she was beginning to work on the budget and would be needing volunteers for a budget committee. Councilors Evans, Ford, and Roden offered to serve on the committee; Boyd stated that she would contact the absent council members to see if any were interested in serving on the committee.

COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Trahan and council members were provided with minutes of the following commission meetings:
- Water and Sewer Commission – August 5
- Planning Commission – August 23
- Airport commission – no meeting
- Econ. Development – August 11
- Park Commission – no meeting

OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Dotson discussed the time and resources that had been provided to the resident on Polk St to clean-up the premises. Councilor Dotson made a motion to allow the building inspector, chief of police, and fire chief the authority to issue a notice of thirty days to bring the property up to city code; motion was seconded by Councilor Roden. Roll call vote passed the motion 6 to 0.

NEW BUSINESS

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING TAX RATE TO THE COUNTY CLERK was presented by Mayor Trahan. Motion was made by Councilor Ford to adopt the resolution; motion seconded by Councilor Dotson. Motion passed 6 to 0.

Mayor Trahan introduced AN ORDINANCE FIXING RATES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES RENDERED BY THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE. Mayor explained that the increased rate was from the supplier. Motion was made by Councilor Dotson to place the ordinance on its first reading, seconded by Councilor Roden. Motion passed 6 to 0. Attorney Cain read the ordinance in its entirety. Attorney Cain noted that the increase was on water rates only, not sewer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND COMMENTS

- Econ. Development meeting – Sept. 15, 10:30 A.M.
- Planning Commission meeting – Sept. 27, 6:00 P.M.
- Water & Sewer Commission – Oct. 7, 4:00 P.M.
- City Council – Oct. 11, 6:00 P.M.

- Jim Dickinson, County Veterans’ Officer, was seeking a volunteer to organize a small Veterans’ Day ceremony.
- Jennifer Thomas asked the council to consider approval of the name of a private drive that will be cut east of Enclave Subdivision on 412 Bypass; owner requested the name Skyfall Way. Councilor Roden made a motion to accept the street name, seconded by Councilor Ford. Motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Ford made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Roden; meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Katie L. Boyd

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City Clerk, Joetta Smith       Mayor Darrell Trahan