COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 14, 2022

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
Recorder Joetta Smith and Councilors Pat Grubbs, Guy Roden, Scott Thomas, Roger Eoff, Travis Dotson, Leslie Evans, Kevin Meythaler, and Stephen Ford were present. Deputy Clerk Boyd called roll and declared a quorum.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Councilor Thomas shared the invocation, and Councilor Eoff led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Councilor Eoff made a motion to accept the agenda as disseminated, seconded by Councilor Roden. Motion approved 8 to 0.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS
No special guests were recognized.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
No special business conducted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Councilor Eoff made a motion to accept the council meeting minutes of October 10 and October 24 as submitted, seconded by Councilor Thomas. Motion approved 8 to 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
No public comments were heard.

CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS
Written departmental reports were provided to the councilors in their emailed agenda packets.
- Fire Chief Shinn stated that Madison County would be installing a new storm siren at Station #2. He talked about the need for volunteers. He also explained that two rural departments were discussing closing. Councilor Eoff asked about the compensatory time that the firemen had accrued during their time at the academy. Boyd explained that they may want to reserve some of the time to allow for time off until May of 2023 when they will receive their vacation time at their one-year anniversary. Councilor Eoff made a motion to allow the firefighters to request all or a portion of their compensatory time to be paid, seconded by Councilor Dotson. Motion passed 8 to 0.
- Mayor Trahan congratulated Councilor Dotson on his election win for the mayor’s position.
- Finance Director Boyd added that the auditor was finishing up and that it went well. She updated the council that the Park Commission had approved a project to upgrade the baseball seating and dugouts. The project bid received was $40,000, allowing for fluctuations in material costs. Councilor Eoff made a motion to approve the renovation, seconded by Councilor Ford. Motion carried 8 to 0.
- Economic Development Director Holt added to her report that she and Mayor-Elect Dotson had attended a meeting held by Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning for a comprehensive safety plan for the city.

COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS
Mayor Trahan and council members were provided with minutes of the following commission meetings:
• Water and Sewer Commission – October 6
• Planning Commission – October 24
• Economic Development – October 18
• Park Commission – March 10

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilor Roden made a motion to place AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FINE AND PENALTY SECTIONS OF THE HUNTSVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY OR FINE PROVISION FOR CODE VIOLATIONS WHERE NONE CURRENTLY EXIST on its third reading, seconded by Councilor Ford. Motion approved 8 to 0. Attorney Cain read the ordinance by title only. Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Dotson. Motion carried 8 to 0.

Councilor Eoff made a motion to place AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GREEN SPACE AREAS FOR ALL SUBDIVISIONS EXISTING WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES its second reading by title only, seconded by Councilor Ford. Motion carried 8 to 0. Attorney Cain read the ordinance title.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Trahan opened the single bid received for the sale of the Basham building, to be sold as-is. The bid was $155,000 from Chris Martin, of Martin Property Development, LLC. Chris Martin was in attendance and explained his plan to offer an exotic car touring business and event center, as well as hoping to designate a portion of the building as a city museum featuring donated memorabilia. Councilor Eoff made a motion to sell the building for the bid price to Mr. Martin, seconded by Councilor Ford. Motion carried 8 to 0.

Mayor Trahan stated that he had recently been contacted by Christian Batteau, who is buying the city’s Industrial Park land. Trahan said that he understood that Mr. Batteau was asking for the city to partner with them. Attorney Cain, who had also spoken with Batteau, added that he understood that his bank was requesting a statement recognizing that the city is permitting him to construct a street at a width of 18 feet and once completed, the Batteau’s would agree to dedicate it to the city and that the city would accept it and maintain it up to the property line. After further discussion, Councilor Ford made a motion to allow them to construct a street at a width of 18 feet with the guidance and approval of the city’s engineer, and upon dedication of the public portion of the road, the city will agree to accept and maintain the public portion of the road. Councilor Eoff seconded the motion. Motion carried 8 to 0.

Mayor Trahan introduced A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 5-2022 TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, explained earlier by Boyd, to add the final dollar amount to the original resolution. Councilor Eoff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Roden. Motion carried 8 to 0.

Mayor Trahan then introduced AN ORDINANCE FIXING RATES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES RENDERED BY THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE. Councilor Ford made the motion to place the ordinance on its first reading, seconded by Councilor Dotson. Motion carried 8 to 0. Cain read the ordinance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND COMMENTS

Upcoming meetings and activities were announced.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Eoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Thomas. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

KLB

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City Recorder, Joetta Smith  Mayor Darrell Trahan