

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 13, 2023

### PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was opened for a rezoning request from R1 to DUZ for a property located on West Street at 6:00 P.M. No comments were made on the request. Hearing closed.

### CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Huntsville City Council was called to order at City Hall by Mayor Travis Dotson at 6:00 P.M.

### ROLL CALL / QUORUM

Recorder Joetta Smith and Councilors Shawn Ellis, Guy Roden, Roger Eoff, 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 Evans led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Dotson requested an amendment to add an item under New Business. Councilor Eoff made a motion to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Councilor Thomas. Motion approved 7 to 0.

### INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

No special guests were introduced.

### SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

No special order of business was conducted.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Roden made a motion to accept the council meeting minutes of January 9 as submitted, seconded by Ford. Motion approved 7 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. In addition to the submitted monthly reports the following actions were taken:

- Mayor Dotson announced that he had appointed Jessica Fritts as the new City Attorney and Prosecutor. Councilor Thomas made a motion to confirm the appointment, seconded by Eoff. Motion passed 7 to 0.
- Mayor Dotson shared with Council the State of the City annual financial and activity report.

### COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS PROVIDED

- Water and Sewer Commission – January 19
- Planning Commission – No minutes were provided for January 23 meeting.
- Economic Development – January 17

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Dotson updated the Council that Martin Property Development wished to be released from their contract to purchase the Basham building. Council discussed options to release the buyer from the contract. Councilor Eoff made the motion to require the buyer to pay \$700 for the release, seconded by Meythaler. Motion passed as follows: Yeas - Eoff, Thomas, Meythaler, and Ellis Nays - Evans, Roden, and Ford

Councilor Ford made a motion for the city to keep the Basham building, seconded by Councilor Roden. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Mayor Dotson updated councilors as to the sale of the Industrial Park land. After discussion, it was agreed without a motion to give notice to the buyers that closing was to occur within 30 days beginning Feb. 14, 2023.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Dotson informed council that Madison County had requested assistance financially for police dispatching services. Chief Thomas explained that in the past the city had paid the county for this service, and that it would be best for the 911 dispatchers to relay all calls for the city. No action was taken at this time.

Mayor Dotson presented a RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2022 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS. Boyd explained the presented amendments. Councilor Eoff made a motion to approve the amendments, seconded by Roden. Amendment approved 7 to 0. Resolution titled 3-2023.

Boyd informed council Dennis Counts with the Farmers' Market requested that the market be permitted to move to the south side of the square instead of north, citing traffic safety concerns. Council had no objections.

Mayor Dotson asked for volunteers to serve on the Wage and Position Committee for the 2023 year. Roden and Ford volunteered, along with Evans as an alternate.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND OTHER

Upcoming meetings and activities were announced.

## ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Eoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ellis. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

KLB

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Mayor Travis Dotson

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City Recorder Joetta Smith