

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 8, 2023

### CALL TO ORDER

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

### ROLL CALL / QUORUM

City Recorder Joetta Smith and Councilors Roger Eoff, Scott Thomas, Leslie Evans, Guy Roden, Kevin Meythaler, Shawn Ellis, 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 Ellis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Eoff made a motion to accept the agenda as submitted, seconded by Ellis. Motion approved.

### INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Mayor Dotson welcomed the Huntsville Middle School EAST program students and POA members from the Cedar Bluff subdivision.

### SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

No special order of business conducted.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Eoff made a motion to accept the minutes of April 10, seconded by Roden. Motion approved.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Students from the Huntsville EAST program shared project boards they had created to show the need for repairs to damaged crosswalks in town.

Residents from Cedar Bluff subdivision attended the meeting and shared some concerns they have had with the developer that built the homes. The residents are forming a new home-owner's association after being given the choice to continue the agreement with the independent HOA or to terminate and form their own.

Terry Presley, builder of the Highland Park subdivision, addressed councilors asking if the city might partner with him on the property that is platted to be the required green space to build a park. He was advised that it would be best be discussed with the planning commission and park commission, as well. Mayor Dotson asked that City Attorney Fritts examine the plat that had been filed with the county.

### CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Written departmental reports were provided to councilors in their emailed agenda packets. In addition to the written monthly reports the following actions were taken:

- During Chief Thomas' oral report, he noted that he and Attorney Fritts had provided notice of possible condemnation to the owner of 603 Cain Street, by mail, by attaching to residence, and by posting in the local newspaper. The owner was given notice to contact the Mayor or attend the June Council meeting.
- Mayor Dotson updated Council on the state aid paving project at Enclave subdivision. He also stated that he had purchased a used Jeep Latitude as a city vehicle for \$25,124.00.

### COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS PROVIDED

- Economic Development – April 18
- Water and Sewer Commission – April 20
- Planning Commission – April 24

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilor Thomas made a motion to place AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE USE OF ENGINE BRAKES, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES on its third reading by title only, seconded by Roden. Motion approved unanimously. Attorney Fritts read the ordinance title. Councilor Eoff made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Thomas. Motion passed 7 yeas and 0 nays. Ordinance numbered 2023-3.

Councilor Roden made a motion to place AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 9 OF THE STREET & SIDEWALKS CODES OF THE CITY OF HUTSVILLE, ARKANSAS on its second reading by title only, seconded by Ellis. Motion approved unanimously. Attorney Fritts read the ordinance title.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Dotson asked Council if they would like to purchase approximately six (6) acres of Madison County's land on College St. After discussion, Councilors agreed that we offer \$25,000 for the property and that we will pay for the survey.

Mayor Dotson explained to Council that we have had difficulties with mail and packages being returned. He asked Councilors if we could pay for a mailbox to be installed at the City Hall building, at an approximate cost of \$3,500. Eoff made a motion to approve the expense, seconded by Roden. Motion approved unanimously.

Mayor Dotson introduced A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2023 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS. Eoff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ellis. Motion passed unanimously. Resolution numbered 6-2023.

Mayor Dotson introduced A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN CITY RECORDS. Roden made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Eoff. Motion passed unanimously. Resolution numbered 7-2023.

Councilor Eoff asked about the expenditures that were proposed by the Basham building committee for some cleaning and façade work. The proposed work was expected to be about \$10,000 of unallocated funds. Eoff made a motion to approve the expenses, seconded by Ellis. Motion passed 7 yeas and 0 nays.

Finance Director Boyd asked if Councilors approved of using the General Funds that were in the Prisoner Act 1188 fund to pay Madison County for dispatching services.

Attorney Fritts announced that she had received the Order of Designation from the Arkansas Secretary of State's office, designating Huntsville as a City of the First Class, awaiting issuance of a formal public notice by Governor Sanders.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND OTHER

Upcoming meetings and activities were announced.

## ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Ellis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Roden. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

KLB

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Mayor Travis Dotson

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City Recorder Joetta Smith