

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 9, 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 Clerk Joetta Smith and Councilors Scott Thomas, Leslie Evans, Guy Roden, Kevin Meythaler, Shawn Ellis, and Stephen Ford were present. Councilor Eoff was absent. Boyd called roll and declared a quorum.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Thomas shared the invocation, and Councilor Meythaler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Evans made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Thomas. Motion approved unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

No special guests were introduced.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Greg Wheeler, Madison County Department of Emergency Management Coordinator, presented information to Council regarding the 2024 eclipse and how it may impact our community and state.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Ellis made a motion to approve the minutes of September 11, seconded by Ford. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jason Yates reported a great turnout for the charity Cruz'n the Square charity car show.

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:

- Mayor Dotson stated that Animal Control will now be under Public Works department and Sean Davis will be helping during off-hours.
- Mayor Dotson and Chief Thomas shared the progress of the upgrades to the Basham building. They requested an additional \$7,000.00 for the work needed. Councilor Roden made a motion to allow another \$7,000 for repairs, seconded by Ellis. Roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays.

COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS PROVIDED

- Water and Sewer Commission – September 21
- Airport Commission – April 3 & November 21
- Economic Development – September 19

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Dotson presented AN ORDINANCE ADDING TWO ZONING DISTRICTS TO THE ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS. Councilor Thomas made a motion to place the ordinance on its second reading by title only, seconded by Ellis. Motion approved 6 to 0. Attorney Fritts read the ordinance title. Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Roden. Roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays. Ordinance numbered 2023-5.

John Coger, representing his father Charles Coger, addressed the Council regarding the sale of two (2), one-acre lots at the airport, and a donation of approximately 2.17 adjacent acres on which the city could build four additional hangars in future years, as discussed at the previous meeting. After discussion of the terms of the airport land purchase contract, it was decided to add wording in the contract to include a first right of refusal on the future purchase of a 2.7 +/- acre lot for one hundred-fifty thousand (\$150,000), also owned by Charles Coger, across from Mitchusson Park baseball field, currently used as overflow parking, to which John Coger agreed. The airport land purchase price is to be two hundred thousand (\$200,000), allowing \$100,000 to be paid in 2024 and \$100,000 in 2025. Councilor Ford made a motion to move forward with the purchase of the airport land, totaling approximately 4.17 acres, and to include the first right of refusal on the aforementioned land in the contract. Motion seconded by Councilor Ellis. Roll call vote: 5 yeas, 0 nays, Evans-abstained.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Dotson presented A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE CERTAIN DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH FUNDING ADMINISTERED BY THE ARKANSAS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION. Councilor Thomas made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ford. Motion approved 6 to 0. Resolution numbered 16-2023.

Mayor Dotson presented AN ORDINANCE FIXING RATES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES RENDERED BY THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE. Councilor Thomas made a motion to place the ordinance on its first reading, seconded by Ellis. Motion approved. Attorney Fritts read the ordinance.

Mayor Dotson presented AN ORDINANCE ADDING AIRPORT DISTRICT TO THE ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS. Councilor Thomas made a motion to place the ordinance on its first reading, seconded by Roden. Motion carried. Attorney Fritts read the ordinance.

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 7:48 p.m.

KLB

Mayor Travis Dotson

City Clerk Joetta Smith