

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 11, 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 Roger Eoff, Scott Thomas, Leslie Evans, Guy Roden, Shawn Ellis, and Stephen Ford were present. Councilor Kevin Meythaler was absent. 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 Roden made a motion to amend and accept the agenda as follows: change (d.) under New Business to be Adoption of 2024 Budget; add (e.) Resolution for Purchase of Airport Property and (f.) Commission Appointments under New Business. Motion seconded by Ford. Motion approved unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

None.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mayor Dotson asked if it was the wish of the Council to appoint Chrystal Lacey to the vacant position of Ward I, Position II. Councilor Ellis made a motion to approve the appointment, seconded by Ford. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Lacey swore an oath of office, administered by Mayor Dotson, and was seated with Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Roden made a motion to approve the minutes of November 13 as presented, seconded by Ellis. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Written departmental reports were provided to councilors in their emailed agenda packets. No action was taken during the reports.

COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS PROVIDED

- Water and Sewer Commission – November 16
- Economic Development – November 21
- Planning Commission – September 25 and November 27

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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 third reading by title only, seconded by Ellis. Motion approved 7 to 0. Attorney Fritts read the ordinance title. Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Eoff. Motion carried by roll call: 7 yeas and 0 nays. Ordinance numbered 2023-7.

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 third reading by title

only, seconded by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously. Attorney Fritts read the ordinance title. Councilor Roden made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Eoff. Motion carried by roll call: 7 yeas and 0 nays. Ordinance numbered 2023-8.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Dotson presented the 2024 proposed budget. Councilor Eoff made a motion to accept the 2024 budget, seconded by Evans. Roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Councilor Thomas made a motion to approve A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS, FOR THE TWELVE (12) MONTHS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR EACH ITEM OF EXPENDITURE THEREIN PROVIDED FOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Motion seconded by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously. Resolution numbered 17-2023.

Mayor Dotson presented AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 6 OF THE ANIMALS AND FOWL CODES OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS. Councilor Thomas made a motion to commence with the first reading of the ordinance, seconded by Eoff. Fritts read the ordinance. Councilor Thomas made a motion to suspend the rules of reading the ordinance on three separate days and proceed with the second reading by title only. Motion seconded by Eoff. Fritts read the title. Councilor Thomas made a motion to place the ordinance on its third reading by title only, seconded by Eoff. Fritts read the title. Mayor Dotson opened the floor for further discussion. After no discussion, Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Roden. Roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Councilor Thomas made a motion to accept the emergency clause, seconded by Eoff. Motion carried unanimously. Ordinance numbered 2023-9.

Mayor Dotson presented AN ORDINANCE REDISTRICTING CITY WARDS. Councilor Eoff made a motion to commence with the first reading of the ordinance, seconded by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously. Fritts read the ordinance.

Mayor Dotson presented A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE PURCHASE AGREEMENT OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE to purchase the airport and park land from Charles Coger. Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Ford. Roll call vote: 7 yeas, 0 nays. Resolution numbered 18-2023.

Mayor Dotson presented appointments to the following commissions: Mackenzie Elsy and Janice Smith to the Park Commission, and reappointment of Sumner Brashears to Water and Sewer Commission. Councilor Roden made a motion to confirm the appointments, seconded by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND OTHER

Upcoming meetings and activities were announced.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Ellis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Eoff. Meeting adjourned 7:19 p.m.

KLB

Mayor Travis Dotson

City Clerk Joetta Smith