

**CITY OF TALLADEGA  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
February 28, 2022 – 5:00 pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the Talladega City Hall Chambers. The meeting was called to order and the following were present: Council President Betty Spratlin, Councilman Horace Patterson, Council Member Vickey R. Hall, Councilman Joe Power, Councilman Trae Williams, Mayor Timothy Ragland, and City Manager Seddrick Hill.

Invocation by Council President Spratlin.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams to approve invoices and expenditures. Roll Call. AYES: All.

<b>Total Invoices &amp; Expenditures from 1/15/2022-1/27/2022</b>	<b>\$749,498.97</b>
General Fund	643,166.18
Corrections Fund	9,221.38
Cemetery	3,504.66
Library Fund	127.13
Municipal Airport	2,175.82
Capital Projects Trust Fund	91,303.80

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson to approve invoices and expenditures. Roll Call. AYES: All.

<b>Total Invoices &amp; Expenditures from 1/28/2022-2/22/2022</b>	<b>\$362,572.08</b>
General Fund	288,850.04
Corrections Fund	23,877.38
Cemetery	9,100.00
Municipal Airport	35,595.72
Capital Projects Trust Fund	5,148.94

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Power for the approval of the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2022. AYES: All.

Council President Spratlin relayed the information received that the spelling of “Hillandale Drive” had been spelled inconsistently for years and will now be spelled at its earliest spelling of with an “a.” It was mentioned that the street signs would be changed to reflect this change.

Rob Clardy came before the Council with an issue with the City’s garbage contractor. He informed the Council that as a business owner of 25 years in the City; he had never encountered such issues with the garbage company, stating that the driver of the garbage truck has refused to pick up the curb debris at his properties and at the properties he is working at. Council President Spratlin suggested that Mr. Clardy meet with Water Department Director Fuller concerning this issue.

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson to approve the applications of Nicola Lawler and Korey Burel to the Library Board. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson to nominate Council President Spratlin as the City’s voting delegate for the ALM Annual Conference. Roll Call. AYES: All.

**Resolution #5442** approving the acceptance of the gift of real property at River Terrace Estates

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5442. Roll Call. AYES: All.

**Resolution #5443** approving the transfer of the Senior Van from the Alabama Department of Transportation to the City’s fleet

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #5443. Roll Call. AYES: All.

**Resolution #5444** approving a contract for inspection of asbestos on all buildings for the Blight Removal CDBG Grant

Motion by Council Member Hall with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #5444. Roll Call. AYES: All.

**Ordinance #1903** repealing Ordinance 1901 to prohibit the tethering of animals

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the Reading of the Heading Only of Ordinance #1903. Roll Call. AYES: All.

#### AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NUMBER 1901 IN ITS ENTIREITY

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Council Member Hall for the Waiver of the first reading and Immediate Consideration of Ordinance #1903. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the Adoption of Ordinance #1903. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Council Member Hall to approve invoices and expenditures for the Water Department. Roll Call. AYES: All.

<b>Water Department Expenditures for 1/28/2021 to 2/10/2022</b>	<b>\$97,268.53</b>
Water/Sewer Fund	97,268.53

Motion by Council Member Hall with a second from Councilman Power to nominate Councilman Patterson as the next Council President. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Spratlin, Council Member Hall, Councilman Power, and Councilman Williams ABSTAIN: Councilman Patterson

Motion by Council Member Hall with a second from Councilman Power to nominate Councilman Williams as Council President Pro Tem. Roll Call AYES: Council President Spratlin, Councilman Patterson, Council Member Hall, and Councilman Power ABSTAIN: Councilman Williams

Councilman Power inquired about the amount of trash cans not picked up by the City's trash company. Councilman Williams stated that at the beginning it was noted that the complaints were as many as 105 however the majority of the year it is between 30-40. Director Fuller commented that there had been some issues with substitute drivers due to Covid however everything should be back on track.

Councilman Power also stated he had some questions concerning the finance report, but requested a meeting to address these questions and asked that another Council Member be present. City Manager Hill commented that he would ask for a Work Session to go through not only the budget but also the CIP.

Councilman Williams brought before the Council the top three priorities for City Manager Hill. It was stated that the goals are a fully funded paving project by the end of the calendar year, promoting tourism, and the creation of a pocket park.

City Manager Hill wished to address a topic that had come up multiple times concerning the City's finances. It was stated that a reserve account had been set up with \$1 million dollars transferred from the general fund to the reserve account. He also requested that the City Council amend his contract to allow for travel without having to appeal to the Council. There was some discussion upon this matter and City Attorney O'Brien was asked to draft an amendment to the Manager's contract to include travel without Council permission. Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson to approve the travel of the City Manager this week to Washington. AYES: All.

City Manager Hill asked if sponsorships would have to come before Council. City Attorney O'Brien commented that Section 94 prohibits the Council from making donations or lending its credit to

any private person. However, AIDB would not be prohibited but any other private company or person would be unless it serves a public purpose.

City Manager Hill continued with his comments stating that the City had ordered some Covid rapid tests with the Covid funding, worked hard with staff and went through the CIP's for 2018 to 2021 to compile a list of completed projects, completed the CIP for 2022-2023 which will be submitted to Council in a Work Session, had a great meeting with Representative Boyd, met with the Mayor of Oxford, stated that they City was deep in the application for Main Street Alabama, began the process of the City's comprehensive plan and master plan, mentioned the Opportunity Zone in April for funding like Wehadkee, teamed up with CMP to test out new gun shot spotters with cameras, met with the new owners of Talladega Casting and Machine, had a great meeting with the College to partner with EDA grant to help build business incubators in the City, mentioned that the City was in the final negotiations with the Rock concerning the golf course and hopefully will be back within the next couple weeks, stated that Public Relations is working on a City magazine entitled *Talladega Magazine* and in the CIP a request to send the first magazine for free to residents, with the intention of selling ad space to pay for the magazine, had a great meeting with the Talladega Superspeedway stating that despite not having a parade this year, there will be an induction ceremony to the Davy Allison Park, mentioned that the Coffee Beanery similar to Starbucks is interested in coming to Talladega and mentioned that Roses and T-Mobile are coming as well, had interviews with businesses to promote them to the community, mentioned that Presbyterian Home will have their ground breaking ceremony March 10, joined the digital equity network to apply for 100% broadband in the community, began working on the tank project at Veterans Park, started looking at the Chamber roof, did a walk through of Lee Laundry, and mentioned the upcoming E-Recycle event on March 18.

Mayor Ragland commented that the Talladega 12 and Under defeated Montgomery's 12 and under in a basketball tournament, the Lady Tigers advanced to the regional championships, Lady Tornados and men were also playing for the championships. Also mentioned was a recent trip to Capitol Hill to get support for funding. There was also some discussion concerning the Mayor requesting permission to travel. It was stated by City Attorney O'Brien that if the Mayor was making a private trip and paid for it personally, it was not required. Mayor Ragland also brought up the issue of his presence in an Executive Session. City Attorney confirmed that the Executive Session was for the City Council and does not include the mayor. Councilman Patterson wished to go on the record that he preferred the Mayor's presence in the Executive Session.

Council Member inquired if the interview for the Police Chief had begun. City Manager Hill stated that it had not. Councilman Patterson wished to defer to Reverend Morris concerning an issue. Reverend Morris stated that a situation happened this weekend that startled him and deferred to the Truss family. Mr. Truss informed the Council that an officer in the police department had racially profiled his son, injured his wife, and searched a 12 year old. Councilman Patterson commented that the Citizens Advisory Board was so needed in an instance such as this and suggested to the family to submit as much information to City Manager Hill concerning the matter.

A resident came before the Council inquiring as to when the Police Chief would be hired and commented that with all the violence, this was very much needed. City Manager Hill stated that when he arrived an Interim was in place and that due to background checks which had just recently come, the process has been started.

Councilman Power commented that the Airport Board's 2021 audit came in and was clean. The only issue he had was that the duties of the person who receives invoices and makes purchases is also writing checks. He also requested the City's 2020 audit which City Manager Hill stated he would get to him.

Council President Spratlin asked if the Auburn study had been completed as she saw that the last payment had been made. City Manager Hill stated that the report was not complete and would not be until the end of March.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall to go into Executive Session to discuss a complaint against someone in the City and the matter of acquisition of real property with possible action to be taken at 6:33pm. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Council returned to the Chambers at 6:48pm with action to be taken.

**Resolution #5445** approving the settlement of a claim by Accountemps Salary Professional Service

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5445. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Power for adjournment. AYES: All.

#### **AUTHENTICATION**

I, Joanna Medlen, City Clerk of the City of Talladega, Alabama, do hereby attest that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings of the City Council of Talladega, Alabama, which met in a regular session on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the City of Talladega, Alabama City Hall Council Chambers.