

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
June 1, 2020 – 5:00 pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, June 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Talladega Public Library. The meeting was called to order and the following were present: Council President Joseph K. Power, Councilman Horace Patterson, Council Member Vickey R. Hall, Council Member Betty C. Spratlin, Councilman Trae Williams, Mayor Ragland and City Manager Beth Cheeks.

Invocation by Councilman Horace Patterson.

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Council Member Spratlin for the approval of the amended agenda. AYES: AYES: All.

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

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| Total Invoices & Expenditures for 5/13/20120 to 5/26/2020 | \$ 89,621.27 |
| General Fund | 89,030.79 |
| Library Fund | 72.76 |
| Municipal Airport | 517.72 |

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Council Member Spratlin for approval of minutes of the Work Session of April 14, 2020 and the regular meeting of May 18, 2020. AYES: All.

Public Hearing was opened for anyone who wished to comment and/or object to the repeal of Ordinance #1249 concerning the Historic Preservation Commission. Chairperson Josi Whitson of the Historic Preservation Commission came before the Council stating that she was not opposed to repeal of Ordinance #1249 as long as it is replaced with a new ordinance for the new Commission. She also stated that quick response would be needed for Ordinance #1749 amended by #1779 covers public nuisance, but doesn't state this to be enforced by the Commission instead referencing the municipal official. Chairperson Whitson also commented that the Commission wants to help property owners and also wished that the Commission continue and not be gotten rid of.

Citizen Tom Lutchendorf came before the Council stating that Ordinance #1249 and other similar serve as a protection for historic districts and the Commission serves as a HOA of sorts. Also stating that in the time that he has lived in the district, no COA's have been turned down and numerous businesses have ad normal maintenance and major work approved. It was also mentioned that at least 9 buildings have been totally rehabilitated and houses demolished in the district. He also stated that the Ordinance needed to be updated but not eliminated.

Property owner Kevin Smith came before the Council stating that he also agrees with updating the Ordinance. However, there needs to be consistency in the approving of the work being done. Also stated was that money could be better spent in a tourism group to aid in cleaning up the buildings and trying to keep tourism in the Silk Stocking and Courthouse Square District. He also mentioned that the Commission should only give guidance and not dictate what is being done because the property owners are the ones doing the actual work.

Property owner Martha Jordan came before the Council stating that the Historic Preservation Commission should be kept but more attention should be given to seeking out grants and looking for ways to improve the overall look of the City. She also mentioned that the Commission should be more friendly and that training should be provided to the members.

Property owner Becky Crews came before the Council stating that Commission was not formed to take care of the homeowners, but to preserve homes. She also stated that there had been selective enforcements and some homeowners who want to move in the District get their wrist slapped.

Jason Daves from the Chamber of Commerce came before the Council to commend the Commission members for their unpaid service. He also stated that the Commission needs to adapt to the economic change and be aware of the uncomfortable truths and that the point is to ensure the future loosening or amending restrictions for businesses.

Property owner Keela Brown came before the Council stating that revenue producers need to be updated on what's going on.

Citizen Jim Whitson wished to clarify that color is not mandated by state law, but is in the ordinance. It had also been proposed that it be eliminated. It was also stated that adaptive reuse is what should be done for historic preservation.

Jimmy Williams came before the Council stating that there needs to be a change and stated that the Commission pits neighbor against neighbor.

Adia Winfrey came before the Council and stated that there does need to be a change and she has not seen any COA that has not been approved. Also stated was the request to have training for the Commission members.

Council Member Spratlin wished to thank everyone who came to the Public Hearing and commented that she had requested in February and March that this Ordinance and other guidelines be repealed. She expressed her appreciation to those who have volunteered their time on the Commission. Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second from Council Member Hall to repeal Ordinance #1249 and amend any other documents concerning the Historic Preservation Commission and request that the City Manager prepare these documents. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Power, Council Member Hall, Council Member Spratlin, and Councilman Williams ABSTAIN: Councilman Patterson

Brought before the Council was the announcement that the City's Summer Food Program begins June 8th. City Manager Cheeks stated that this will run through July 24th and due to the Covid-19 pandemic, serving of this program will be different from previous years. The USDA requires all meals be consumed on site, however this year the meals are on a to go basis. Breakfast and lunch will be served at all 10 sites and the program is expected to be much bigger.

Council President Power deferred to Talladega Airport Board Chairman Ray Miller concerning the Airport Board's update. It was stated with Honda not working, the purchase of aviation fuel has been slow. It was also stated that the FBO (Fixed Based Operation) has been renovated and a grant for \$300,000 has been signed to upgrade the taxiways. It was also mentioned that a lease was signed from Buford for 20 years.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the approval of Travis Griffin to the Talladega Airport Board. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Spratlin for the approval of out of state travel for a Police Department employee. AYES: All.

David Andrews from the Center for Municipal Solutions came before the Council concerning a Special Permit for Telecommunication Tower. He stated that this resolution had been tabled and that he has been in contact with City Attorney O'Brien to assist in any questions.

Resolution #5017 approving a special use permit for AT&T telecommunication tower located at 565 George Holdridge Lane. (*Tabled from previous meeting*)

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5017. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Power, Councilman Patterson, Council Member Hall, and Councilman Williams ABSTAIN: Council Member Spratlin

Resolution #5023 approving contract with Waites Construction to demolish 13 structures for a cost of \$99,400.00.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the approval of Resolution #5023. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #5024 repealing Resolution No. 4982 that condemns 504 North Street West, and grant a one-year extension for the new owners to bring the building into compliance with building and fire codes.

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #5024. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #5025 approving a contract with Motorola Solutions for 29 radios, software and accessories for the Fire Department for a cost of \$110,457.00 leased over five years at an annual payment of \$24,776.61 starting in 2021

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Spratlin for the approval of Resolution #5025. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #5026 approving a contract with Motorola Solutions for 45 radios, software and accessories for the Police Department for a cost of \$114, 045.00 leased over five years at an annual payment of \$25,581.43 starting in 2021

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5026. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #5027 approving a contract with Pyro Shows of Alabama for the 4th of July fireworks display for a cost of \$12,000.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5027. Roll Call. AYES: All.

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

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| Water Department Expenditures for 5/13/2020 to 5/26/2020 | \$ 227,042.34 |
| Water/Sewer Fund | 227,042.34 |

Resolution #5028 to approve Rate Study contract with Jackson Thornton CPA for a cost of \$40,100.

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #5028. Roll Call. AYES: All.

City Manager Cheeks wished to thank all first responders for all that they do on the front lines. She also mentioned that Airport terminal is much clean and brighter and stated that she was glad to see it updated and encourage everyone to visit. It was also mentioned that traffic had slowed down and paperwork for a \$30,000 grant from the CARES act has started. City Manager Cheeks also stated that there is no inmate labor available yet so City employees are doing twice as much work and she wished to thank them for it. Public Works also has started mosquito spraying; dividing areas in a grid.

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second from Councilman Williams 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, June 1, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall in the City of Talladega, Alabama.