

**CITY OF TALLADEGA  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
June 21, 2021 – 5:00 pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, June 21, 2021 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 Trae Williams, Councilman Joseph K. Power, Jr., and City Manager Hill.

Invocation by Reverend Hugh Morris.

The invoices and expenditures for the City were not available for June 7-June 14, 2021.

Motion by Council Member Hall with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of the Regular Meeting of June 7, 2021. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of a temporary road closure of College Street from MLK to Church St. on June 25, 2021 from 6pm to 10pm. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of the July meetings to be set for July 8 and July 19 due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Council President Spratlin announced the need for applicants for several vacancies on City Boards.

Council President Spratlin presented a proclamation to Beatrice Dates, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gaither, and Kelvin Cunningham in recognition of their community leadership. Mary Louise Farior White from the Willie and Betty Farior Family Foundation came before the Council to also recognize Ms. Dates, Mr. and Mrs. Gaither, and Mr. Cunningham as outstanding leaders in the Talladega community. Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams to contribute \$1000 to the Willie and Betty Farior Family Foundation and to the United Way Back to School Youth Rally. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Brought before Council was a representative from CrimeStoppers. Mr. Tony Garrett wished to introduce himself and elaborate on the services offered by CrimeStoppers. He also mentioned that they would be back the next day to instruct other investigators.

Valerie Burrage came before the Council concerning United Way's Back to School Youth Rally. Ms. Burrage stated that along with other organizations, United Way has donated 700 backpacks with school supplies and this year has increased to 1500 backpacks with an event at Veterans Park. She also gave mention of several dates for the United Way food drive.

There was discussion concerning Resolution #5256. Council President Spratlin deferred to City Clerk Medlen concerning this issue. City Clerk Medlen stated that municipalities could not enter into a contract for more than 3 years therefore the monthly cost of the machine has increased for both quotes received from Quadient and Pitney Bowes.

**Resolution #5256** approving the Quadient agreement for the postage machine at City Hall in the amount of \$237.98/month.

Motion by Councilman Power with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #5256. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Council President Spratlin deferred to Director Bast concerning the Christmas on the Square event and budget. It is hoped that there would be more vendors at this year's event. There was some discussion concerning the rental of the lighted Christmas tree. It was stated that this would be the final year of the lease on the lighted tree. There was also discussion concerning the budget of previous Christmas on the Square events.

**Resolution #5257** approving Christmas on the Square budget

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council President Spratlin for the approval of Resolution #5257. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Spratlin, Councilman Patterson, Council Member Hall, and Councilman Williams NAY: Councilman Power

**Resolution #5258** approving the hazardous pay for all City Departments except for Police Department and Fire Department using CARES funding

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the approval of Resolution #5258. Roll Call. AYES: All.

**Resolution #5259** approving contract with First Net for cell phone service per the attached service rates

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5259. Roll Call. AYES: All.

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

<b>Water Department Expenditures for 6/7/2021 to 6/14/2021</b>	<b>\$ 167,293.75</b>
Water/Sewer Fund	167,293.75

Councilman Williams commented that he had requested updates in the monthly reports concerning trash complaints and wished to thank Director Fuller for including them and requested that it be continued with.

Councilman Power commented that the sales tax revenue had increased over the prior year again and inquired from Finance Director Sweat where the budget stood whether it was above or below and where the highlights of the budget were and what could be improved upon.

City Manager Hill wished everyone a happy belated Father's Day and thanked the Council for approving the Christmas on the Square budget and relayed his commitment to raising \$93,000 to cover the cost of the event. He also wished to thank the Council for approving the Hazard pay for all City departments. He next expressed his appreciation to CrimeStoppers. Also stated was that he had had a meeting with Lathem Group two weeks ago concerning economic development and also informed the Council he had attended a meeting concerning the airport and wished to introduce Mr. McGhee.

Mr. McGhee wished to introduce his company, H2, which is an app for interceding traffic. He also mentioned that the company was headquartered at the Talladega Municipal Airport and would be hiring 150 employees over the next 6 months. Also mentioned was a program for high school students interested in an aviation career.

City Manager Hill informed the Council that had the opportunity to travel to Huntsville and was able to convince a winery to look into a possible location for its next facility. Also mentioned was a meeting with District Attorney Giddens to discuss a united front with CrimeStoppers. He also stated that he had met with Dr. Patterson and Congressman Rogers' office to discuss the American Rescue Plan act along with two other acts available. Other activities mentioned was a meeting with CMP to discuss attracting visitors to the City and a possible hotel construction. He also mentioned an economic development team would be coming to the City and that he had begun meetings with various City employees to discuss topics important to them and for inquiries.

Council Member Hall wished to remind citizens from Ward 2 to attend the Town Hall meeting concerning the blight removal grant.

Councilman Patterson inquired about strengthening litter laws. City Manager Hill commented that he had plans to peruse the City with Community Appearance, Public Works, and Code Enforcement on Wednesday and would have an update available thereafter. Councilman Patterson also asked about the limit of sick days an employee could utilize and if there was a procedure in place that require the use of FMLA. City Manager Hill commented that the City's policy does not speak of a policy but the City is currently looking into putting something in place.

Council President Spratlin announced that Heritage Hall's Art Camp had begun and informed the Council of an invite to see the activities. She also mentioned of some complaints received concerning damage done to headstones at Oak Hill Cemetery due to the grass cutting done and requested that this be looked into. She also asked when all the City parks would be open to the public. Parks and Recreation Director Ammons stated that all parks are open except for Jemison Park due to a FEMA issue. Council President Spratlin next informed Director Ammons of possible broken glass at Veterans Park under the ladders and inquired about pressure washing the Spring Street Recreation building. Director Ammons stated that the cost was being looked into and also mentioned that there would be fireworks for the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday from 6pm-9pm at Veterans Park.

Motion by Councilman Patterson 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 21, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. in the City of Talladega, Alabama City Hall Council Chambers.