

**CITY COUNCIL OF TALLADEGA
PRE-COUNCIL
July 6, 2015- 5:00 pm**

Mayor Barton presents a proclamation to the Talladega County Alzheimer's Support Organization for "The Longest Day."

Mayor Barton presents to Leta Mae Knight Camp a 90th birthday proclamation.

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
July 6, 2015-5:30 pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, July 6, 2015 at 5:30 p.m., at the Talladega City Hall Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order and the following were present: Councilman Donnie Miller, Councilman Jarvis Elston, Councilman Horace Patterson, Councilman Joe Ballow, Mayor Larry Barton, and Interim City Manager Theresa St. James.

Invocation by Leann Scarborough of the First Presbyterian Church.

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second from Councilman Elston to approve invoices and expenditures. AYES: All.

Total Invoices & Expenditures for 5/26/2015 to 6/12/2015 **\$925,706.74**

General Operating Account	753,896.35
Corrections Fund	50,441.17
CDBG Fund	2,554.22
Cemetery Fund	3,375.00
\$.07 Gas Tax Fund	1,800.00
Capital Improvement Fund	113,640.00

Motion by Councilman Miller with a second from Councilman Elston for approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 15, 2015. AYES: All

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Miller to excuse the absence of Council President Simpson. AYES: All.

Brought before the Council was a request from Rachel Wallace of Munford High School for an ad in the 2015-2016 MHS Yearbook. The request was denied.

Motion by Councilman Elston with a second from Councilman Miller to approve the request from Brittney Harvell to purchase an ad for the football program for \$130.00. AYES: All.

Brought before the Council is a reminder of the upcoming sales tax holiday. The 2015 tax holiday will begin at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, August 7, 2015 and will end at midnight on Sunday, August 9, 2015. A list of eligible items is available on the Alabama Department of Revenue's website and will be posted on the City website.

Interim City Manager St. James deferred to City Planner Buyher concerning "The Square Cup" RBEG project cost estimate. The architect and contractor have been working together to propose making changes in order to bring the project cost closer to the original estimate. Design aspects such as reducing the square footage available to the public, reducing the seating capacity as well as using alternative, less costly materials and fixtures than those on the bid specifications are among the options currently being negotiated. However, any changes must be approved by the USDA prior to beginning construction. Additionally, with the possibility of hazardous materials being present, the City has undertaken a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) with Asbestos Survey of the site. The ESA falls under the City's current EPA Brownfield Grant and will not add any cost to the project.

Interim City Manager St. James presented to the Council an update on the Judicial Correction Services. The City has had a contract with Judicial Correction Services, Inc. (JCS) since June 2004, for

probation services. Council members have recently voiced concerns regarding the utilization of JCS in light of reports of lawsuits against the firm and the fact that neighboring municipalities have discontinued their agreements with JCS. Correspondence has recently been received from the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) regarding the lawsuit filed by SPLC against JCS and asks the City of Talladega to terminate its contract with JCS. JCS has also sent correspondence rebutting the allegations. Regardless of the dispute between the two entities, Municipal Court employees and the Judge have been considering termination of JCS services and the Judge is no longer referring defendants to JCS. Per the contract with JCS, termination requires 30 days written notice. If cutting ties permanently with JCS is given consideration, the Municipal Court office must be prepared with trained staff and procedures to accept payments which are currently being made to JCS. Councilman Patterson stated that he has long opposed the contract and will act on it. Councilman Elston asked that a plan be made to provide services to citizens. Councilman Miller asked Human Resource Director Fuller if there is a need to hire another Court Office employee to handle payments. Director Fuller stated that the new fourth magistrate could do the job and that they would need to purchase another module on the current system to accommodate payments. Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second from Councilman Miller to terminate the contract with JCS. AYES: Councilman Miller, Councilman Ballow, and Councilman Patterson ABSTAIN: Councilman Elston

Interim City Manager St. James brought before the Council an amendment to the Open Meetings Act. On June 4, 2015, Governor Bentley signed SB21, which amends the Open Meetings Act. One main focus of the amendment is to define and prohibit "Serial Meetings," as well as to clarify what does not constitute a serial meeting.

Roger Frazier came before the Council regarding his property at 201 Frazier Street. Mr. Frazier requested the Council address his issues. The first issue being the connection of the water lines, the fence post wires needing to be tightened and the gate swings in the wrong direction, the crossing to his farm/ pasture needs to be constructed, and the ditches need to be re-evaluated as he believes they are hazardous. Public Works Director Phillips stated that gravel was placed on the driveway, the 2 main water lines have been connected, and Mr. Chitwood of CDG had told her that the ditches were safer now than they were before; it is providing drainage. A wooden rail fence is possible and an estimate was requested. However Director Phillips was unable to contact Mr. Waites of Waites Construction regarding the fence post and Mr. Chitwood and Mr. Waites have not been able to get together to discuss the crosswalk to the farm/pasture. Councilman Patterson requested the City Manager coordinate with Director Phillips concerning this issue.

Resolution #3544 approving travel advances for members of the Police Department attending the CALEA Conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Resolution #3545 approving a contract with KHAFRA Engineering for a structural condition evaluation of the Big Springs Monument for a total cost of \$2,400.00.

Councilman Miller stated that there is a club that is wanting to donate to this Monument.

Motion by Councilman Elston with a second from Councilman Ballow to approve Resolutions #3544 and #3545. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3546 approving a contract with Carr, Riggs & Ingram (CRI) for auditing services for FY 2015 for the City and the Water Department at a cost of \$52,000.00

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second from Councilman Elston to approve Resolution #3546. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3547 approving the agreement with East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission for the Section 5311 Rural Transportation Program with a local match of \$47,227.00.

Resolution #3548 authorizing the use of Electronic Vote Counting System per Section 17-7-21 of the Code of Alabama 1975.

Motion by Councilman Miller with a second from Councilman Elston to approve Resolutions #3547 and #3548. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3549 authorizing removal of junk cars and assessing lien for cost of abatement to 722 Pulliam Street.

Resolution #3550 authorizing removal of junk cars and assessing lien for cost of abatement to 117 Brecon Access Road.

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second from Councilman Miller to approve Resolutions #3549 and #3550. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Elston with a second from Councilman Miller to approve the invoices and expenditures for the Water Department. AYES: All.

Water Department Expenditures for 6/17/15 to 6/25/15	\$ 388,169.71
Operations & Maintenance	95,502.79
Revenue	281,096.81
Construction & Improvement	11,570.11

The Council formerly welcomes the new City Manager Patrick Bryant. Councilman Patterson requested that a letter of commendation be put in Interim City Manager St. James personnel record and thanked her for an outstanding job. Motion by Councilman Elston with a second from Councilman Ballow to have a letter of commendation be placed in Theresa St. James' personnel record. AYES: All.

City Manager Bryant thanked Finance Director St. James and staff for providing information and thanked Parks and Recreation Director Ammons and her staff for a wonderful July 4 fireworks display.

Councilman Patterson stated that in the previous Council meeting it was decided that Councilman Ballow and Councilman Elston meet with the City Judge. However Councilman Ballow was unable to do so. Councilman Ballow expressed his dissatisfaction and voiced that he was displeased that Councilman Elston met with the City Judge without him; with Councilman Elston denying that there was a meeting. There was some discussion regarding this matter. Motion by Councilman Ballow and a second from Councilman Miller to honor Councilman Ballow's request that there be a meeting with the City Manager, City Judge, and Councilman Ballow. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Miller, Councilman Ballow, and Councilman Patterson NAY: Councilman Elston

Mayor Barton agreed with City Manager Bryant concerning the 4th of July fireworks display and commended the Police and Fire Department for having the event well handled. He also mentioned that the Knoxville Block Party was a success.

Councilman Miller also commended the fireworks display. Interim City Manager St. James informed the Council that the new fire truck had arrived and will be available for viewing after the Council meeting.

Councilman Elston also commended the Knoxville Community Block Party. There will also be another cemetery clean-up day on Saturday. Councilman Elston also informed the Council that the Back to School Party at the Edythe Sims Park is scheduled for August 8 at 3 pm.

Motion by Councilman Miller to adjourn the meeting.

AUTHENTICATION

I, Elizabeth Cheeks, 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, July 6, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. at the Talladega City Hall Council Chambers in the City of Talladega, Alabama.