

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
August 17, 2020 – 5:00 pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, August 17, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Talladega City Hall Council Chambers. 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 Reverend Phoebe Presson.

Public Hearing was opened for anyone who wished to comment and/or object to the placement of weed abatement liens for 22 properties. No one was present to comment and the public hearing was closed.

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

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

Total Invoices & Expenditures for period up to 8/10/2020	\$ 133,202.94
General Fund	80,614.60
Corrections Fund	27,952.39
Cemetery	6,553.78
Library Fund	74.76
Municipal Airport	8,943.67
Oil Trust Fund	9,050.00
Water/Sewer Fund	13.74

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 3, 2020 and the Work Session of August 5, 2020. AYES: All.

Mayor Ragland swears in Marie Player and Robert Mabra to the Planning Commission.

Council President Power deferred to City Manager Cheeks concerning the Summer Food Program. City Manager Cheeks stated that because of the pandemic, the operation of this program was done differently than in years past. It was mentioned that the 2020 program served 25,140 breakfasts and 27,035 lunches during the months of June and July. It was also stated that there was an increase of 12,000 meals over 2019. She also wished to thank the Summer Food Program workers for their hard work.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Spratlin for the approval of Travis Ford to the Civil Service Board. AYES: All.

City Manager Cheeks wished to encourage everyone to complete the 2020 Census.

Council President Power deferred to City Manager Cheeks concerning the temporary closure of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. It was stated that this was a request by Talladega College to close a section of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive between 6pm-6am. Fire Chief Warwick stated that this would cause distress for any calls on that street. Police Chief Busby commented that although it may not directly impact the Police Department it may if they are in need of the Fire Department's services. Talladega College President Dr. Hawkins came before the Council stating that this request was similar to many other universities in the state and that the temporary closure of this street would aid in the safety of the students. Councilman Patterson commented that because of the realities of today, with the Covid-19 and litter issues, the closure of this street would be important for the safety of the students and stated that he would like to honor the request of Dr. Hawkins. It was determined that a meeting be scheduled with Dr. Hawkins, City Manager Cheeks, and Fire Chief Warwick to discuss this issue.

City Manager Cheeks commented that the dedication of Horace Patterson Drive was well attended and an honor deserved by Councilman Patterson. She also mentioned that the ceremony of the Dr. Billy C. Hawkins Student Activity Center had increased her admiration for the College's president and that she had learned a great deal about him.

Council President Power deferred to Rod Skene concerning the Sensory Loss Advisory Panel. Mr. Skene wished to thank Councilman Williams for presenting last month's report and deferred to Mrs. Amber James concerning the August report. Mrs. James stated that the panel has been working on a workshop that would address some common courtesies and barrier issues when dealing with anyone with sensory loss. It was planned that there would be three separate trainings for emergency medical professionals, the Police Department and Fire Department to address things specific to each department. She also stated that once everything is sorted out it will be presented to the Council. City Manager Cheeks wished to offer the use of City Hall to hold the workshop and any recordings to be uploaded to the City website.

Ordinance #1880 to close Piedmont Ave. from intersection with Broadway Ave. to the intersection with Jackson Trace to vehicular traffic

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the Reading of the Heading Only of Ordinance #1880. Roll Call. AYES: All.

AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE PIEDMONT AVENUE FROM THERE INTERSECTION WITH BROADWAY AVENUE TO THE INTERSECTION WITH JACKSON TRACE TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second from Councilman Williams for Immediate Consideration of Ordinance #1880. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the Adoption of Ordinance #1880. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #5064 to assess a weed abatement lien on 312 Jemison St.

Resolution #5065 to assess a weed abatement lien on 11 Sloan Ave. East

Resolution #5066 to assess a weed abatement lien on Vacant lot on Sloan Ave. East

Resolution #5067 to assess a weed abatement lien on 114 Sloan Ave. East

Resolution #5068 to assess a weed abatement lien on 600 Leahy Circle

Resolution #5069 to assess a weed abatement lien on Vacant lot on Coffee St.

Resolution #5070 to assess a weed abatement lien on 505 Oak Circle

Resolution #5071 to assess a weed abatement lien on 733 Pulliam St.

Resolution #5072 to assess a weed abatement lien on 720 Pulliam St.

Resolution #5073 to assess a weed abatement lien on 722 Pulliam St.

Resolution #5074 to assess a weed abatement lien on Vacant lot corner of Pine St. and Lincoln Ave.

Resolution #5075 to assess a weed abatement lien on 416 Dumas Ave.

Resolution #5076 to assess a weed abatement lien on 1205 Lincoln Ave.

Resolution #5077 to assess a weed abatement lien on House on corner of Frazier St. and East Davis St.

Resolution #5078 to assess a weed abatement lien on 122 Lane St.

Resolution #5079 to assess a weed abatement lien on Vacant lot on Cross St. West

Resolution #5080 to assess a weed abatement lien on Vacant lot on 16th St.

Resolution #5081 to assess a weed abatement lien on 716 Coleman Drive

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the approval of Resolution #5064 to Resolution #5081. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #5082 approving a contract with Douglas Contractors of Vincent, AL for repairs to Heritage Hall at a cost not to exceed \$24,900.00 pending compliance with insurance and licensing requirements

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #5082. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Power, Councilman Patterson, Council Member Hall, and Councilman Williams NAY: Council Member Spratlin

Resolution #5083 approving a contract with WCA of Alabama for residential waste collection and disposal at a cost of \$19.00 per customer, per month pending insurance, licensing, and bonding requirements

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5083. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #5084 to assess a weed abatement lien on Vacant lot on Franklin Ave.

Resolution #5085 to assess a weed abatement lien on 301 Dumas Ave.

Resolution #5086 to assess a weed abatement lien on 512 McMillan St.

Resolution #5087 to assess a weed abatement lien on VJS Stop and Shop on Fort Lashley Ave.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5084 to Resolution #5087. Roll Call. AYES: All.

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

Water Department Expenditures for 7/25/2020 to 8/10/2020	\$ 276,684.32
Water/Sewer Fund	276,684.32

Council President Power requested the number of speeding tickets given out and inquired about the ATV's running out on the street. Police Chief Busby stated that it was difficult to arrest those riding on the ATV's as at a certain point chasing them gets to be too dangerous.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Spratlin to nominate Councilman Williams as Council President for the next 9 months. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Power, Councilman Patterson, Council Member Hall, and Council Member Spratlin ABSTAIN: Councilman Williams

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams to nominate Council Member Spratlin as Council President Pro Tem for the next 9 months. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Power, Councilman Patterson, Council Member Hall, and Councilman Williams ABSTAIN: Council Member Spratlin

It was decided that a Budget Work Session be scheduled for Monday, August 24, 2020 at 5pm.

City Manager Cheeks commented that there was a letter received from a citizen complimenting the Water Department and that there was a request from a citizen who wished for the City to participate in Overdose Awareness Day on August 31. Arrangements have been made to light the front door of City Hall purple to honor Overdose Awareness Day.

Mayor Ragland wished to congratulate Councilman Patterson on the naming of a street in his honor. He also informed the Council that he had received a complaint about pot holes on Sloan and asked about the process to repair pot holes. Public Works Director Phillips stated that every month the department goes through a list to patch pot holes and will take requests as they are called in.

Council Member Hall commented that there are still complaints concerning illegal dumps and asked if there was any way to fine the people littering. City Manager Cheeks stated that it was difficult to fine littering as you would have to catch them in the act.

Councilman Patterson stated that the litter issue was horrible and asked City Manager Cheeks if there was an alternative to dealing with littering which currently has to go through City Court. City Manager Cheeks stated that there was an ordinance in place however if the Council feels that it is not strong enough and the fees not high enough it could be changed. She also stated that she would have to confer with City Attorney O'Brien concerning the offense not going through City Court. Councilman Patterson requested that City Manager Cheeks make contact with the City Board of Education Superintendent to organize education concerning littering.

Council Member Spratlin stated that there had been several complaints concerning the grass at Oak Hill Cemetery and asked how many times it is cut and inquired about the historic sign on the Square. It

was stated that the grass was cut twice a month per the contract with the grass cutting company. Public Works Director Phillips stated that the County is working with them on finding a location to install it after the sign has been refurbished.

Councilman Williams requested an update on the GP sewer project. City Manager Cheeks commented that it was almost complete and the punch list is currently being done. He also asked about the status of the Stone Bill Booster Station. Director Fuller commented that it was expecting to start at the end of this week.

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase of real property (real estate) at 6:30pm. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Council returned to Chambers at 6:39pm with no action taken.

Motion by Councilman Patterson 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, August 17, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall in the City of Talladega, Alabama.