

**CITY COUNCIL OF TALLADEGA
PRE-COUNCIL
February 20, 2014 – 5:00 pm**

Public Hearing on four (4) properties that are set for placement of abatement of public nuisance (junk cars). There were no citizens or property owners present to comment or complain.

Boy Scout Troop 5032 came before the Council with a presentation and request to place Eastern Bluebird houses on City properties and recognition of the City of Talladega as a Bird Sanctuary and Tree City USA with signs near the city limits. Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Ballow to approve the request of the Boy Scout Troop 5032 to place Bluebird houses on City properties. AYES: All.

Sheriff Kilgore presented to Police Chief Busby with a check of \$5000.00 for the K-9 Unit stating that a good solid K9 program is an important tool to help secure the community and greatly enhances the services we provide for our citizens.

Ann Spell from the Harvest Group came before the Council when an update of their activities and graduates. Since the last update, students are preparing to graduate, which will be February 28, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. to be held at the Mabra Center. Ms. Spell mentioned that the Center received a \$5000.00 grant and another grant is pending.

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
February 20, 2014 – 5:30 pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at 5:30 p.m., at the Talladega City Hall Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order and the following were present: Council President Miller, Councilman Joe Ballow, Councilman Rick Simpson, Councilman Horace Patterson, Councilman Jarvis Elston, Mayor Larry Barton and City Manager Brian Muenger.

Invocation by TeeJay Juvar Wilson of Truth Recovery Ministries.

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

Total Invoices & Expenditures for 02/03/2014 to 02/14/2014	\$ 1,285,961.88
General Operating Account	993,732.59
Senior Nutrition	75,310.17
Municipal Court	5,333.30
Corrections	39,266.65
Brownfield Fund	10,478.75
Capital Improvement Fund	161,840.42

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Ballow for approval of minutes of the regular meeting of February 03, 2014. AYES: All.

Attorney Greg Morgan came before the Council with two petitions filed on behalf of Talladega College. These petitions request consideration of the vacation of portions of two streets, College Street and Gertrude Street, both which border the College campus. There was some discussion as to how many students are enrolled and whether this petition was for the sole purpose of pedestrian safety or the purpose of enlarging the campus. Councilman Patterson suggested that the College rally the support of the community. A public hearing was set for March 24, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at the Mabra Center.

Human Resources Director Fuller came before the Council with an update on the advertisement of the vacant position of Municipal Court Judge. As set forth in previous correspondence, Judge Hank Fannin has indicated he will retire effective March 31, 2014. Letters of interest in the position are being taken through February 28, 2014. A selection of three or four applicants will be determined at a later date during a work session.

A Court Clerk job description was presented to the Council for consideration. The current description had not been revised since October 1991. The alterations include specifying desired

experience and altering the supervisory authority of the position. The revised description has been approved by the Employee Committee, and is slated for consideration by the Civil Service Board. Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Elston to approve the revised Court Clerk Job Description. AYES: All.

A Meet and Greet with Senator Jeff Sessions will be held at the home of Bill and Evelyn McGehee on February 20, 2014 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. All elected officials have been invited to attend.

Parks and Recreation Director Jones came before the Council a report of the increase in basketball participation during this season. Through partnerships that Director Jones forged with the surrounding communities of Stemley and Winterboro, the number of direct enrollees increased from 138 to 185. Enrollment in this program has been in the range of 135-139 each of the previous three seasons, this increase represents a spike of over 34%. Director Jones also mentioned that with this increase there is also difficulty in finding practice space.

For Council consideration is an updated Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Talladega County Emergency Management Agency (TCEMA). This agreement was initially put in place in early 2013 when the City completed renovations to the Bemiston Recreation Center that allowed it to be used as a short-term storm shelter. This MOU is necessary for TCEMA to coordinate emergency efforts as it relates to the building. The MOU is effective retroactively to January 10, 2014 and expires on December 31, 2015. Motion by Councilman Miller with a second from Councilman Ballow to approve the Bemiston MOU renewal. AYES: All.

The Emergency Preparedness Sales Tax holiday will be held between Friday, February 21 and Sunday, February 23, 2014.

The City Clerk's Office has been attempting to coordinate Joint Sessions with the Talladega School Board as requested at the last Council Meeting. The date of March 6, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers was set for this Joint Session pending confirmation with the School Board.

City Manager Muenger presented to the Council a paving update with Neel-Schafer having completed the requisite base samples on all roads. The results show positive levels of base. The exception to this is Crestview Road, where no base was found. It is expected that the plans will be bid-ready by mid-March. Also going is the Insite Engineering assessment of the utilities beneath the roadways. The water portion of the evaluation is complete and substantial replacement is recommended on North Street and Crestview Road, while the remainder of water repairs consists of only service laterals. The sewer evaluation is ongoing and expected to be complete within two weeks. At that time it will be possible to bundle these repairs and let multiple contracts to enable this utility work to be complete before late July or early August.

For Council consideration is a request from the Talladega Mardi Gras Committee. The Committee has requested that the Council approve blockading a portion of Court Street, beginning at the Square and ending at Elwood Staffing, for a period of approximately three hours on March 1st. The closing would last approximately 4 hours, starting at 10:00 a.m. and ending at 2:00 p.m. The group has also asked that the City's open container ordinance be waived for a like period of time. Police Chief Busby came before the Council with details of the event and the expected number of party goers being around 250. Councilman Elston had some concerns concerning the open container ordinance thus there was some discussion regarding this matter; with a request that the two requests be split into two motions.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Ballow to approve the street closure for the prescribed time requested. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Ballow to approve the suspension of the open container ordinance for the request time. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Ballow, Council President Miller, Councilman Simpson, and Councilman Patterson. NAYS: Councilman Elston.

For Council information, Human Resource Director Fuller came before the Council with information regarding the City's health insurance. As requested, Director Fuller obtained claims information from Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) and provided it to a number of companies in an attempt to identify less expensive coverage alternatives. BCBS informed Director Fuller that if the City leaves the Local Government Health Insurance Program they will not provide the City coverage for two calendar years. United Healthcare indicated they were unable to quote a rate that was competitive with

our current coverage. Their quoted rates for single and family coverage were each 16.6% higher than BCBS. Viva Healthcare refused to quote the City due to the lack of detailed claim data and the high cost per member per month. City Manager Muenger also consulted with The Benefit Planning Group (TBPG), a private health and wellness consulting firm and after examining the City's claims experience they noted that our paid loss ratio was over 120% annually which by actuarial standards should necessitate renewal increase of over 35%. TBPG stated further that the City was benefitting financially from our current medical association with BCBS.

Resolution #3096 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Quitclaim Deed for L&N property (Tracts 9c and E) purchased by Jim Preuitt from the City.

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second by Councilman Elston to approve Resolution #3096. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3097 honoring Alabama's February 22, 2014 Arbor Day.

Motion by Councilman Elston with a second by Councilman Ballow to approve Resolution #3097. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3098 authorizing the surplus of one police car.

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second by Councilman Simpson to approve Resolution #3098. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3099 approval of a City Employee/Volunteer Sexual Abuse, Molestation, and Misconduct Policy.

Motion by Councilman Simpson with a second by Councilman Elston to approve Resolution #3099. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3101 approving an application for a \$2,000 grant with a \$500 local match for Historic Preservation Commission Members Training from the Alabama Historical Commission.

Resolution #3102 approving an application for an \$8,500 grant with an \$8,500 local match for Predevelopment Rehabilitation Plans for the Otts Building from the Alabama Historical Commission.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Councilman Ballow to approve Resolution #3101 to #3102. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3103 declaring an inoperable vehicle a public nuisance and authorizing the cost of the abatement to be assessed as a lien against the property at 714 Roosevelt Avenue.

Resolution #3104 declaring an inoperable vehicle a public nuisance and authorizing the cost of the abatement to be assessed as a lien against the property at 208 Isbell Circle.

Resolution #3105 declaring an inoperable vehicle a public nuisance and authorizing the cost of the abatement to be assessed as a lien against the property at 523 Isbell Circle.

Resolution #3106 declaring an inoperable vehicle a public nuisance and authorizing the cost of the abatement to be assessed as a lien against the property at 405 Tinney Street.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Councilman Simpson to approve Resolution #3103 to #3106. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Ordinance #1767 authorizing an amendment to Business License Ordinance No. 1713, Schedule D to start on January 1, 2014 and each subsequent year thereafter.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Councilman Ballow for immediate consideration of Ordinance #1767. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Elston, Council President Miller, Councilman Simpson, Councilman Patterson. NAYS: Councilman Ballow

Motion by Councilman Simpson with a second by Councilman Patterson for reading of the heading only for Ordinance #1767. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Elston, Council President Miller, Councilman Simpson, Councilman Patterson. NAYS: Councilman Ballow

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 1713 THE BUSINESS LICENSE CODE OF THE CITY OF TALLADEGA, ALABAMA, STARTING JANUARY 1, 2014 AND EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR THEREAFTER.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Councilman Simpson for the adoption of Ordinance #1767. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Elston, Council President Miller, Councilman Simpson, Councilman Patters. NAYS: Councilman Ballow

Ordinance #1768 designating three roadways in the Belleview Subdivision (Scenic Drive, Adams Ridge Lane, and Lookout Lane) as public road ways to be maintained by the City of Talladega.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Councilman Ballow for immediate consideration of Ordinance #1768. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Elston, Council President Miller, Councilman Patterson. NAYS: Councilman Ballow ABSTAIN: Councilman Simpson *Tabled to the next meeting.*

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

Water Department Expenditures for 02/06/14 to 02/13/14	\$ 471,132.49
Operations & Maintenance	129,079.53
Revenue	342,052.96

Resolution #3107 approving an emergency purchase of a rate controller for the Water Filter Plant from Primary Flow Signal Inc. of Cranston, Rhode Island for \$20,595.00.

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second by Councilman Elston for approve Resolution #3107. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3108 approving an agreement with the Public Park Authority (TOP Trails) for clearing of undergrowth at various Water & Sewer Department facilities for a cost not to exceed \$4,500.

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second by Councilman Simpson to approve Resolution #3108. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3109 approving a contract with InSite Engineering for Brecon Circle Sewer Design for a total cost of \$72,400.

Motion by Councilman Elston with a second by Councilman Simpson to approve Resolution #3109. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3110 approving a contract with Mark Johnson Construction LLC of Tuscaloosa for rehabilitation of Harmon Park Well for a total cost of \$544,000.00.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Councilman Ballow to approve Resolution #3110. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3111 approving an amendment to the contract with Krebs Engineering for construction administration and engineering that will increase the cost by \$8,086.00.

Motion by Councilman Elston with a second by Councilman Ballow to approve Resolution #3111. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3112 ensuring that the City Manager's contract correctly reflects the currently offered benefits and responsibilities and duties of the office.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Councilman Elston to approve Resolution #3112. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Elston, Councilman Ballow, Council President Miller, Councilman Patterson. ABSTAIN: Councilman Simpson

In other business, the City of Talladega will hold its sixth E-Recycling event from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Battle Street Piggly Wiggly parking lot on March 21, 2014. Technical Knockout Inc. of Birmingham will again be the City's partner in this electronic recycling effort. There has been a tremendous response from the general public and businesses and since February 2011 over 7 tons of electronics have been diverted from the area landfills and responsibly recycled.

Motion by Councilman Miller with a second by Councilman Simpson to appoint Joanna Medlen as Acting City Clerk. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Ballow 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 Thursday, February 20, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall in the City of Talladega, Alabama.