

CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
17 March 2008

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, 17 March 2008 at 5:30 p.m., in the City Hall Auditorium, the regular place for such meetings. The meeting was called to order and the following were present: Councilman Eddie Tucker, Council President Horace Patterson, Councilman Donnie Miller, Councilman Lance Grissett, Councilman Jimmy Davis, and Mayor Brian York.

Invocation given by Hugh Morris, Mt. Canaan Baptist Church.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second from Councilman Davis to appoint Beth Cheeks as Acting City Clerk. AYES: All.

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

SUMMARY OF INVOICES & EXPENDITURES

Transfer of Funds	684,421.15
Payroll Deductions, Benefits & Taxes	116,136.80
Refunds	60.00
City Council	1,250.86
Finance Department	1,603.38
City Clerk's Office	786.08
Police Department	36,037.67
Animal Control	3,394.30
Municipal Court Office	42,137.25
Fire Department	19,638.60
Public Works Department	14,069.86
Community Appearance Department	8,832.80
Parks & Recreation Department	49,575.04
City Building Expenditures	4,536.78
Non-Departmental Expenditures	155,991.96
Debt Service	13,911.56
Total Invoices & Expenditures	1,152,870.56

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis to approve the minutes of 3 and 12 March 2008 with corrections. AYES: All.

Resolution #1644 authorizing the purchase of a telemetry unit and solar panel from Revere Control Systems for the Mt. Olive Ground Storage Tank at a cost of \$15,053.00.

Resolution #1645 awarding the contract for a new roof on the concession stand at the Ben E. Bruner Sports Complex to Hurst Roofing Company for a total cost of \$3,246.00.

Resolution #1646 authorizing the purchase of a 27 hp Zero Turn Mower from Talladega International Truck and Tractor for a total cost of \$7,424.25.

Resolution #1647 awarding the contract to Cavanaugh McDonald Consulting LLC to perform the actuarial studies required by GASB 43 and 45 with an estimated cost of \$7,000 to \$10,000.

Resolution #1648 authorizing the purchase and installation of 543 ft of 4 foot-11 ½ gauge chain link fencing and two gates at the Ben E. Bruner Sports Complex to Siberton Fence Sales, Inc. for a total cost of \$4,191.07.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis to adopt Resolutions 1644 through 1648. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Davis with a second by Councilman Grissett to approve invoices and expenditures for the Water Department. AYES: Councilman Davis, Councilman Grissett, Council President Patterson and Councilman Miller. NAY: Councilman Tucker.

Expenditures for March 1-13, 2008

\$ 225,732.74

Mayor Brian York swore in the following board members: Gregory Rice, Elizabeth Messer, and Wallis Elliott to the Cemetery Board, Jean McMillan to the Talladega Heritage Commission, Jimmy Nabors to the Industrial Development Board, and Keela Brown to the Historic Preservation Board .

Motion by Councilman Tucker with a second by Councilman Davis to make Good Friday (March 21, 2008) as an employee holiday. AYES: All.

Councilman Tucker wanted an update on the City Manager search. There was some discussion on the cost, advertisement, and the contract terms. Councilman Tucker stated that he objected to the way the process was done and that he felt his district was left out of the process of selecting the four final candidates. Council President Patterson stressed the point that the final decision as to who will be City Manager lies with the Council and that each member of the Council will have a vote at that time.

Councilman Miller requested information on the Bemiston CDBG contract and a copy of other paperwork concerning the project. Councilman Miller also requested information about sale of alcohol on the Square. Council President Patterson requested that the City Clerk get with the attorney for an answer to Councilman Miller's request.

Councilman Grissett asked that Resolution 1646 be held until the bid documents were verified for Talladega International Truck and Tractor.

Council President Patterson presented a personnel issue after warning all council members to not reveal any names. A copy of the City of Talladega's drug and alcohol policy was handed out to each council member. Council President Patterson asked that a change be made to the discipline component of the drug policy to read as follows: "The City will discipline any employee that attempts to undermine the drug policy on his/her behalf or on the behalf of another employee." Council President Patterson further stated that he had a list of employees who were hired as of June 1, 2007 who had not been tested as per the City's policy. There was further discussion as to the policy of random testing of employees who were hired prior to June 1, 2007. Councilman Tucker stated that he felt the City should test all employees now, and then from this point forward test randomly. Council President Patterson stressed that the City was responsible for the safety of its citizens and this was an extreme liability issue for the City. Council President Patterson requested that starting the next morning all department heads would see to it that any employee in their department who was hired as of June 1, 2007 and had not been tested should be tested immediately.

Another safety issue that was addressed by Council President Patterson is the checking for a valid driver license for each employee who drives a city vehicle. Current policy is twice a year, which Council President Patterson requested be changed to once a month. Councilman Tucker stated that checking driver licenses should go a step further and check for a revoked or suspended license.

Council President Patterson handed out a copy of the county's employee handbook to the council. He stated that the city does not currently have an employee handbook and suggested that the city create such a document and have the employees read and sign that they understand the policies. All council members agreed that it was needed. Public

Works Department Head James Swinford suggested that a video should be produced that will give a consistent presentation of the city's policies, procedures, insurance and other benefits. Councilman Grissett commented that the set of policies needs to be simple enough to understand, needs to be distributed to all employees, and it needs to be enforced.

Councilman Miller requested ruling on the concession stand at the Sports Complex with the opening of baseball season two weeks away. Council President Patterson indicated that Councilman Miller should "do what he had to do" to see that everything is taken care of for this season.

Councilman Grissett motioned for adjournment.

AUTHENTICATION

I, Elizabeth Cheeks, Acting 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, 17 March 2008, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall in the City of Talladega, Alabama.

Elizabeth Cheeks
Acting City Clerk