

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
PUBLIC HEARING
6 April 2009 5:00 p.m.**

Public Hearing for property owners concerning liens to be assessed against property for weed abatement costs (20 properties). There was no one to speak for or against the proposed resolutions.

Public Hearing for property owners concerning declaring structures as a public nuisance requiring condemnation or repair (7 properties).

Mike Oglesby, owner of trailer park located at 830 Mountain View Road requested an extension to contact owners of the abandoned trailers on his property. Council agreed to allow a thirty (30) day extension.

Mickey and Elaine Noles, owners of the property at 2203 Ashland Highway, stated that only part of the structure had damage and requested for an extension to possibly sell the property to a neighbor. Council requested that the structure be re-evaluated by Code Enforcement and that a report be presented to the Council at the next meeting.

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
6 April 2009 5:30 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, 6 April 2009 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 City Manager Michael Stampfler.

Invocation was presented by Billy Byrd of Word Alive Church.

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

Total Invoices & Expenditures for 3/16/2009 to 4/03/2009	\$ 838,337.39
General Fund	678,028.68
Corrections Fund	39,136.59
Capital Improvement Project	15,915.13
Cash Bond	182.00
Law Enforcement	431.38
Senior Nutrition	837.09
CDBG	32,300.00
\$0.07 Gas Tax	22,312.50
Police Department Grants	25,349.32
Oil Trust	23,844.70

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting of March 9, 2009 and the Council Meeting of March 16, 2009 with corrections. AYES: All.

Mr. Andrew Todd, representing the Central Baptist Church, requested the Council's approval to install a security light on a City street light pole. Motion by Councilman Tucker with a second by Councilman Grissett for approval of the request. AYES: All.

Ms. Judy Williams, 701 Cedar Street, requested that the section of Cedar Street that is one-way only in front of the schools allow for two-way traffic during non-school days and/or hours of the day. City Manager Stampfler indicated that the request would be looked into and a response would be prepared for Council at the second meeting in May.

Mr. Mack Ferguson, Interim Director of the Talladega County Chamber of Commerce, was introduced to the Council and expressed his desire and commitment to work with the City Council to

promote the City of Talladega. Mr. Ferguson's made a brief presentation highlighting the Chamber: currently there are 238 members, job fair scheduled for May 1, coordinating with schools systems on the ambassador and leadership programs, yard of the month awards and the installation of the television weather camera on the roof of the Coleman Ballroom building. Mr. Ferguson also indicated that the Chamber was coordinating efforts to renovate the L&N Caboose in the Chamber's parking lot. Nancy Lutchendorf, Chairperson of the Talladega Historic Preservation Commission, stated that the Commission which had issued a condemnation request on the caboose had granted the Chamber a sixty day extension to show progress on renovating the caboose. Council indicated that the resolution to surplus the caboose will be rescinded at the next meeting.

Resolution #1821 assessing lien against property at 311 Avenue H (Parcel ID 13-06-23-3-016-005.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1822 assessing lien against property at 129 Willowbrook Drive (Parcel ID 18-01-02-2-001-004.002) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1823 assessing lien against property at 2203 Ashland Highway – Parcel #2 (Parcel ID 14-09-31-3-000-069.002) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1824 assessing lien against property at south side Battle Street – third lot from 26th Street (Parcel ID 13-08-28-4-013-006.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1825 assessing lien against property at 707 Elm Street (Parcel ID 13-07-35-2-005-004.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1826 assessing lien against property at 15 E. Sloan (Parcel ID 13-05-22-3-008-001.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1827 assessing lien against property at corner of Hollingsworth & Lide Road (Parcel ID 13-06-23-2-001-041.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1828 assessing lien against property at 1785 Taylors Mill Road (Parcel ID 13-07-35-4-000-034.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1829 assessing lien against property at 220 Wilson Street (Parcel ID 13-07-35-1-000-043.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1830 assessing lien against property at 2203 Ashland Highway (Parcel ID 14-09-31-3-000-069.001) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1831 assessing lien against property at 608 18th Street (Parcel ID 13-05-22-4-001-002.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1832 assessing lien against property at corner Shaw Ave. & 19th Street (Parcel ID 13-05-22-1-000-056.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1833 assessing lien against property at 522 Lawson (Parcel ID 13-05-22-3-004-002.001) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1834 assessing lien against property at 116 Renee Street (Parcel ID 13-06-13-3-002-002.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1835 assessing lien against property at 304 Westwood Circle (Parcel ID 13-05-22-1-000-020.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1836 assessing lien against property at corner of Tinney and Davis Street (Parcel ID 13-05-22-1-000-020.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1837 assessing lien against property at 130 Nolan Street (Parcel ID 13-08-28-4-003-014.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1838 assessing lien against property at corner Cobb & McMillan (Parcel ID 13-07-26-3-013-057.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1839 assessing lien against property at 604 McMillan Street (Parcel ID 13-07-26-3-013-046.000) for weed abatement.

Resolution #1840 assessing lien against property at 908 Coffee Street (Parcel ID 13-07-26-1-007-017.000) for weed abatement.

Motion by Councilman Davis with a second from Councilman Grissett to approve Resolutions #1821 through #1840. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #1841 authorizing demolition of structure at 504 West Coosa Street

Resolution #1842 authorizing demolition of structure at 83 Alice Street.

Resolution #1844 authorizing demolition of structure at 607 McAlpine Street.

Resolution #1845 authorizing demolition of structure at 20 Hollingsworth Street.

Resolution #1847 authorizing demolition of structure at 70 Miller Street.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Miller to approve condemnation Resolutions #1841, #1842, #1844, #1845 and #1847. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #1843 authorizing demolition of structure at 2203 Ashland Highway.

Resolution #1846 authorizing demolition of structure at 830 Mountain View Road.

Resolutions #1843 and #1846 were tabled and the property owners were given a thirty day extension.

Resolution #1848 approving appraisal services contract with Tillman, Allen, and Sizemore, LLC for a cost of \$11,000.

Resolution #1850 to surplus real and personal property owned by the City.

Resolution #1851 approving a contract with Neel-Schaffer Engineering to design a stream restoration of the storm water ditch that runs through Veterans' Park for a total cost of \$50,300.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis to approve Resolutions #1848, #1850 and #1851. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #1849 approving contracts with Gallett & Associates for \$11,000 and Martin Engineering Company for \$10,000 to complete safety evaluations and hydraulic study of spillway capacity for the City's reservoir system.

Resolution #1849 was tabled. Councilman Miller stated the local vendor on this bid was confused on the specifications. Councilman Miller also indicated that he did not feel a safety evaluation and a hydraulic study were needed on all the dams.

Ordinance #1654 granting a franchise to Marcus Cable of Alabama LLC (Charter Communications) to construct, operate and maintain a cable system in the City of Talladega.
This ordinance was tabled from March 16, 2009 meeting.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis for second consideration of Ordinance #1654. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis for the reading of the heading only of Ordinance #1654. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Davis, Councilman Grissett, Council President Patterson, Councilman Miller. NAYS: Councilman Tucker

ORDINANCE NO. 1654. AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE TO MARCUS CABLE OF ALABAMA, L.L.C. I/k/a CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN A CABLE SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF TALLADEGA, ALABAMA SETTING FORTH CONDITIONS ACCOMPANY THE GRANT OF THE FRANCHISE; PROVIDING FOR REGULATION AND USE OF THE SYSTEM AND THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY; AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS HEREIN;

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis for adoption of Ordinance #1654. Roll Call. NAYS: All.

Discussion of the Cable Franchise included whether future annexed areas in the City would be included in the service area and keeping an office inside the City so that payments were promptly posted. It was requested that the City's legal counsel on the franchise agreement and a representative of the cable company be present at the next meeting for discussion.

School Superintendent Dr. Horton had written a response stating that the Edythe Sims Park property had to remain as educational use only and could not be transferred to the City. Council requested that the City Manager start the procedure to obtain a 100 year lease on the property. A twenty year lease was discussed and rejected as it would not provide enough usage to make the investment in field lighting worthwhile. Councilman Davis commented that the field lighting was not in the current budget and would need to be budgeted for next fiscal year.

The revised pavement listing was presented to the Council. It was believed that the estimated cost was on the high or conservative side. The engineering designs services cost was to cover final inspections and monitoring of the paving contractor. A Special Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 9, at 5:00 p.m. to complete the road selection process for the paving project.

City Manager presented the Council with written statements from the Police Department on three incidents that Councilman Tucker had requested: Huddle House incident of March 15, 2009, the Avenue H incident of March 16, 2009 and the Willie Cass warrant dated March 13, 2009.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis to approve the revised Police Department Training Coordinator Position at Grade 19. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Davis with a second by Councilman Grissett approving the Police Department's application for the COPS Hiring Recovery Project Grant. AYES: All.

City Manager Stampfler informed the Council of community promotion endeavors by a partnership with The Veterans' Group, the Talladega Speedway and the April in Talladega Council to provide flags and banners. Another partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and the Talladega Superspeedway will produce numerous promotional spots on TV 33/40 (ABC affiliate in Birmingham) highlighting the Speedway, April in Talladega, Heritage Hall, The Ritz and other community events/attributes.

Councilman Miller requested information on any discussion with Alabama Power Company concerning street lights that were out. Manager Stampfler indicated that he felt the City should be reimbursed for when any street lights were out and would look into it further. Councilman Miller also requested an update on the mosquito fogger truck. Manager Stampfler stated that it would most likely be ready the second week in May.

Councilman Tucker requested an update on playground equipment and was assured that bids would be presented at the next meeting. There was some discussion on the problem of loose dogs in the Ponderosa Subdivision area.

Councilman Tucker thanked the Chamber, the Talladega Merchants Association, the City of Talladega, the Police Department, local businesses, and the Daily Home for their participation in the parade honoring Talladega College Tornadoes national championship.

Councilman Grissett requested that the period for accepting applications for City Boards and Commissions be left open for another 30 days.

Councilman Grissett commented on the workshop he attended at the East Alabama Regional Development Commission concerning the 2010 Census. Hoping to hear from the Census Bureau in the upcoming weeks with information on the hiring of census takers from the local citizenry.

Councilman Grissett also requested that Veterans' Park be checked for safety issues before Sunshine Saturday (May 2, 2009).

An update on the GPS mapping of the City's infrastructure was requested. Manager Stampfler stated that Krebs Engineering was working on that and should be completed within 6 months but an update would be presented at the next meeting.

Councilman Tucker stated that on Avenue H when it rains, raw sewage comes out to the street and bubbles up in the manholes. This also occasionally occurs on Stephen J. White Memorial Blvd.

Councilman Davis announced Amnesty Week at the library in celebration of National Library Week and the Talladega City School Foundation banquet on April 16th. Councilman Davis commended Christ Stone and the staff of the Community Development Department on progress made on condemnations. Councilman Davis also commended the Talladega Health Care facility for scoring “zero deficiencies” for the first time on the state standards.

Councilman Davis stated that after reading through the written statements by the Police Department on the Huddle House incident, he was disturbed by the comments reported made by Councilman Tucker later that night at City Hall and that he was interested in hearing Mr. Tucker’s comments concerning what happened at that time. There was a rather intense discussion as to what was said and not said during this incident. Councilman Tucker stated there was racism and corruption in the Police Department. Council President Patterson asked that the City Manager request a formal investigation into Councilman Tucker’s accusations.

Council President Patterson commended the Community Appearance Department for the cleanup work done after the recent storms (seven large trees were blocking roadways). He also thanked Councilman Tucker for his leadership in organizing the parade for Talladega College Tornadoes and requested that perhaps some monument could be added to the Welcome Signs to commemorate the accomplishment.

Council President Patterson read the following letter from Deputy J. Myers of the Geneva County Sheriff’s Office:

“Thank you so much for your card of comfort. These last few weeks have been very hard. With God’s love and your prayers, I have been able to cope. I have one request for you as a local government. Please remember your police officers and their families. Your officers put themselves in great risk to protect the citizens of Talladega. This puts a big strain on their lives with their families. I don’t know the financial situation in Talladega, but in Geneva County we are poor. Even after these recent tragic events, our commission is forcing us to cut 5% from our budget. Without public safety we have nothing. Please remember at your next budget meeting that public safety is paramount! Again, thank you for your prayers and God Bless you all. Deputy J. Myers” (The City Council had previously sent a sympathy card to Geneva County after a tragic shoot spree took the lives of several citizens include Deputy Myers’ wife and child).

Motion by Councilman Grissett 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, April 6 2009, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall in the City of Talladega, Alabama.

Elizabeth Cheeks
Acting City Clerk