

CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
18 August 2008

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, 18 August 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: Council President Horace Patterson, Councilman Eddie Tucker, Councilman Donnie Miller, Councilman Lance Grissett, Councilman Jimmy Davis, Mayor Brian York and City Manager Michael Stampfler.

Invocation was given by Council President Rev. Patterson.

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

SUMMARY OF INVOICES & EXPENDITURES

Transfer of Funds	7,109.00
Payroll Deductions, Benefits & Taxes	276,226.30
Refunds	30.00
City Council	6,225.00
City Manager's Office	1,445.86
Finance Department	6,115.00
City Clerk's Office	1,671.19
Police Department	13,095.98
Animal Control	2,781.03
Municipal Court Office	31,143.38
Fire Department	2,668.48
Public Works Department	18,569.27
Community Appearance Department	12,813.45
Parks & Recreation Department	22,631.27
City Building Expenditures	16,471.15
Non-Departmental Expenditures	59,624.63
Debt Service	2,721.07
Total Invoices & Expenditures	481,342.06

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis to approve the minutes with corrections for the Regular Meetings of July 21 and August 4, 2008.

Resolution #1704 purchase of four (4) water meters from Consolidated Pipe Inc. for a cost of \$15,560.00.

Resolution #1705 to accept the bid of Vellano for 8" PVC pipe at \$4.90 per foot and 3" PVC Pipe for \$0.85 per foot for several water main extension projects.

Resolution #1706 to declare vegetation on several properties as being a public nuisance and authorize the cutting and removal with the cost to be assessed as a lien against the property.

Resolution #1707 surplus property from the Parks & Recreation Department.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second from Councilman Davis to adopt Resolutions #1704 to #1707. AYES: Councilman Grissett, Councilman Davis, Councilman Miller and Council President Patterson, ABSTAIN: Councilman Tucker.

Ordinance #1643 reduces the speed limit on Eastwood / Haywood Avenues to 15 miles per hour.

Motion by Councilman Davis with a second from Councilman Grissett for immediate consideration of Ordinance #1643. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second from Councilman Davis for reading of the heading only of Ordinance #1643. Roll Call. AYES: All.

An ordinance to regulate and restrict the speed at which any person shall operate a motor vehicle on Haywood Avenue and Eastwood Avenue from the intersection of the north side of Cherry Street and Haywood Avenue northerly along Haywood Avenue and Eastwood Avenue to the intersection of the south boundary of Bowie Street and Eastwood Avenue within the City of Talladega, Alabama, and to provide punishment for the violation thereof.

Motion by Councilman Davis with a second by Councilman Grissett for adoption of Ordinance #1643. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Ordinance #1644 adopts the City of Talladega's Purchasing Policy.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second from Councilman Davis for immediate consideration of Ordinance #1644. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second from Councilman Davis for reading of the heading only of Ordinance #1644. Roll Call. AYES: All.

An ordinance establishing purchasing policy and procedure for the City of Talladega, Alabama.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second by Councilman Davis for adoption of Ordinance #1644. Roll Call. AYES: All.

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

Expenditures for August 1-14, 2008

\$ 310,697.63

Councilman Miller indicated that he wanted the travel policy to be re-addressed especially the question of the per diem which he believes is too high.

The City Manager presented the proposed budget. He stated that the budget addressed issues put forth by citizens in the town meeting. The budget would be discussed in greater detail during the budget work sessions but the key points were commercial redevelopment, marketing of the city, downtown revitalization, quality of life (Veterans' Park, etc), partnership with the school system, infrastructure improvements of which there are many, contractual services, and safety and protection issues to help Talladega progress and move forward. The Manager stated that because he was new, he may be in an overreaction stage, but it was a critical time for the public and the council to take measure and move forward together as a community. The issuance of a bond would help the community to make significant changes. The Manager suggested that the 175th anniversary of the City would be a good time to show off improvements in the community. The water and sewer increase, which has already been mentioned in the newspaper, will be used to make the City more attractive to business and rehabilitating the infrastructure is essential to the everyday part of our lives. Hopefully the citizens will be able to see around this rate raise to understand how this is necessary to moving forward.

Budget work sessions were scheduled for Monday, August 25th and Monday, September 8th, if necessary. The next regular Council meeting was moved to Thursday, September 4th, due to the Labor Day holiday.

Manager Stampfler indicated that the water meter installation at the Federal Corrections Institute had been completed.

An update on the in-kind services to the School Board was presented to the Council. There was some discussion on having the School Board present to the Council a request with something that will directly affect student services such as academic programs linked to

improvement achievement levels. Councilman Davis announced that a joint Board of Education meeting will be held on September 23rd at 5:30 pm with the location to be announced later. The ALDOT agreements for the school signals on Highway 77 and South Street had been signed and sent back to ALDOT.

The Council was informed that the painting contract on the interior of the Bemiston Recreation Center was completed. Councilman Grissett commented on the improvement inside and outside which gave a more consumer-friendly appearance.

Councilman Miller commented on the numerous break-ins to the Community Appearance building and recommended that the City look into the old Wehadekee building as a possible location for City vehicles. Manager Stampfler indicated that he believed other options such as security cameras at all the City's facilities was an appropriate option and that the buildings along the downtown should be preserved for commercial development. Councilman Tucker also recommended security cameras for park areas and areas of high crime and littering.

Councilman Miller asked for an update on the Crossings of Talladega project. The Manager stated that he had a meeting with Ms. Gray about two weeks ago. He indicated that the City needs information on how much sales tax and water sales the development may bring in order to justify the cost of the line. The Manager indicating that the cost of the line coming from the hotel is about \$25,000 and then the boring under the highway will have a large price tag. The Manager also indicated that the city policy is that the developer must pay for such costs. Councilman Miller stated that the City needs to have in writing for new business a checklist so that they know what they need to do to start business in the City. The Manager agreed and stated that the proposed Community Development Department would be able to do that.

Councilman Tucker commented on the drug problem in Knoxville. He also addressed the issue of noise pollution from boom boxes and requested help from patrols in the area at night. Council President Patterson suggested unmarked cars and stronger enforcement of the existing noise ordinance.

Councilman Tucker also addressed the issue of the railroad crossings and asked the City Manager's help. The Manager indicated that he had sent a certified letter to the railroads and that he would also be looking into the use of rubberized crossings. Councilman Miller commented on the train blocking the roadway for at least an hour from 12:30 to 1:30 which was a major interruption of traffic.

Councilman Tucker requested lights at Edythe Sims Park. Councilman Tucker also requested more speed breakers. The Manager indicated that there was money in the budget for some breakers, though perhaps not for all breakers requested. Councilman Tucker indicated that some progress had been made on dilapidated houses and high grass and that it was encouraging with the passing of the new ordinance but the grass is growing taller faster than can be tolerated. Councilman Tucker also requested sidewalks to the Six Points area and indicated that this issue was critical. Council President Patterson asked that Councilman Tucker discuss this issue at the budget work session.

Councilman Grissett commented that there was a better follow-up mentality on the part of the City. He was pleased to see the budget proposal and purchasing policy. Councilman Grissett also stated that there are some lingering issues that are moving forward such as Veterans' Park. Councilman Grissett stated that he believes the citizens like the changes that they see happening as the City moves forward with planning, direction and some caution.

Councilman Davis announced the Presbyterian Oaks III grand opening at noon on Friday, and described how a \$10,000 donation turned into a 1.9 million dollar facility for the elderly. He further emphasized that for funding one should first go to the community and then as a resort to the Council. Councilman Davis indicated that he was pleased with the budget packets that the Council received and that he realized the City had a long way to go but felt we were heading in the right direction. Councilman Davis also stated that we must look seriously at our agencies to see if they are doing what the City needs them to do.

Councilman Miller commented on the Public Meeting with the Charter Communication representative who was very responsive to questions asked. The check for the past franchise fees was received at this meeting.

Councilman Davis requested an update on the sidewalks for South Street. City Manager stated he would have an update as soon as possible.

Councilman Davis 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, 4 August 2008, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall in the City of Talladega, Alabama.

Elizabeth Cheeks
Acting City Clerk