

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
4 November 2019**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in an organizational meeting on Monday, 4 November 2019, at 5:00 p.m., in the City Hall Auditorium, the regular place for such meetings. The meeting was called to order by the Acting City Clerk Joanna Medlen. Reverend Hugh Morris was asked to offer the invocation. Then the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Board of Education Members (Sandra Beavers for Ward 1, Mary McGhee for Ward 2, James N. Montgomery for Ward 3, Charles Roberts for Ward 4 and James E. Braswell for Ward 5) were sworn in as a group by The Honorable Chad Woodruff, Circuit Judge.

The City Council Members (Dr. Horace Patterson for Ward 1, Vickey Robinson Hall for Ward 2, Joseph K. Power, Jr. for Ward 3, Betty Spratlin for Ward 4 and Trae Williams for Ward 5) were sworn in as a group by The Honorable Chad Woodruff, Circuit Judge.

Timothy Ragland was sworn in as Mayor for the City of Talladega by The Honorable Chad Woodruff, Circuit Judge.

The City Clerk declared a vacancy in the office of Council President and asked for a motion to nominate a Council Member as Council President. Council Member Spratlin made a motion with a second from Councilman Williams to appoint Councilman Power as Council President for a 9-month rotation period. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Patterson, Council Member Hall, Council Member Spratlin, and Councilman Williams ABSTAIN: Councilman Power

There had been some discussion concerning the term of the Council President and it was decided upon that the term for Council President would be a 9-month rotation. (In practice, if the nominated Council President should choose to not serve his/her term; they may designate another Council member to serve as Council President.)

Council President Power assumed the gavel and requested a motion for the appointment of Council President Pro Tem. Councilman Williams made a motion with a second from Councilman Patterson to appoint Council Member Spratlin as President Pro Tempore. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Patterson, Council Member Hall, Council President Power, and Councilman Williams ABSTAIN: Council Member Spratlin

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams to set the dates and time for the regular Council meetings (first and third Mondays of each month at 5:30 pm) and a Pre-Council Session to start at 5:00pm prior to the regular Council meetings until further notice. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams to adopt the Eleventh Edition of *Roberts' Rules of Order*. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second by Councilman Williams to appoint the law firm of Thornton, Carpenter, O'Brien, Lazenby, and & Lawrence to act as the City's legal representation. AYES: All.

Motion by Council President Power with a second by Councilman Patterson authorizing operation under the 2019-2020 budget as approved by Ordinance No. 1853 adopted 9/23/19. Roll Call. AYES: All.

There was some discussion concerning the delivery date of the Council Packet. It was requested that the packet be delivered to the Council one week in advance of the meeting in order to have adequate time to look over the material. It was also requested that the agenda be public one week in advance for citizens to be able to comment.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall authorizing continued existing duties of personnel including City Manager and City Clerk, city functions and programs and policies until such a time as revised in accordance with all applicable laws.

AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Council Member Spratlin to accept all existing contracts with the City. AYES: All.

Council President Power adjourned the Organizational Meeting and convened the Regular Council Meeting.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Public Hearing was opened for anyone who wished to comment and/or object to the placement of weed abatement liens for 17 properties. No one was present to comment and the public hearing was closed.

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

Total Invoices & Expenditures for 10/21/19 to 11/1/19 **\$493,015.40**

General Fund	370,279.13
Corrections Fund	6,094.05
Cemetery	12,403.23
Library Fund	2,146.47
Capital Projects Trust Fund	102,092.52

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Council Member Hall to approve minutes of the Reconvened Canvass Meeting and the regular meeting of October 17, 2019. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the approval of Jean McMillan's application to the Heritage Hall Commission. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Clark Patterson, Wilby Wallace, and Gray McMillian's application to the Talladega Municipal Airport Board. AYES: All.

Council President Power deferred to City Manager Cheeks concerning volunteers from CACC. City Manager Cheeks stated that the City is partnering with students at the Talladega CACC campus to fulfill their segment of the Alabama Clean Home Initiative. A section of Tinney St. will be closed on Thursday so that the volunteers will be able to do a thorough cleaning of the area.

Council President Power deferred to City Manager Cheeks concerning a change in garbage service companies. It was mentioned that Waste Pro would be sold to BFI Waste Services (dba Republic Services) effective November 15th. It was stated that Republic Services will honor the current garbage contract that the City has with Waste Pro through its completion in September 2020. It was also stated that the garbage containers will be switched over gradually to the Republic Services containers.

Brought before the Council was an update on the Long Street speed hump request. City Manager Cheeks stated that after an analysis of the area a speed hump would not be recommended for this location. It was suggested that the speed be posted to 25 mph and an increase in patrols in the area. Also, for those who have a drive way that opens out onto Long St. with limited visibility a sign will be posted stating either "Slow Down Hidden Driveway" or "Caution Hidden Driveway." The reason for this determination was due to it being a main thoroughfare for first responders which may make it difficult for them to slow down. This issue will be revisited in 6 months to see if it has curtailed the speeding problem. Councilman Patterson questioned if the residents who were present at the previous Council meeting was notified of this ruling. It was stated that Ms. Merritt, the petitioner of the request was contacted

and was explained why this request was not recommended. It was requested that an ordinance for speed limit on this street be put on the next meeting agenda.

Resolution #4938-Resolution #4954 to assess weed abatement liens for 16 properties.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #4938 to Resolution #4954. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #4955 approving application for state matching funds for an airport improvement project for the Talladega Municipal Airport during FY20

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the approval of Resolution #4955. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #4956 approving a contract with CB&A Construction LLC of Birmingham, Alabama for the Gertrude St. improvement project in the amount of \$208,951.00 pending compliance with insurance, bonding, and licensing requirements

There was some discussion concerning Resolution #4956 as to whether or not this project could be completed at a lower cost. It was stated that the money was set aside for this project from the Capital Improvement Project from 2019.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #4956. Roll Call. AYES: Council Member Hall, Councilman Patterson, Council President Power, Council Member Spratlin ABSTAIN: Councilman Williams

Resolution #4957 approving a contract with Alabama Power for the removal and relocation of power poles in the amount of \$23,007.44

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the approval of Resolution #4957. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #4958 approving a contract with Stone and Sons for the replacement of the Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) and modification of power cabinet on the Courthouse Square in the amount of \$18,940

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Spratlin for the approval of Resolution #4958. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #4959 approving a contract with Neel-Schaffer Engineering Inc. for bridge inspection services in the amount of \$8,206

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #4959. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #4960 approving the repeal of surplus of Unit WS 112 – 2007 International Dump Truck, Model 4300 VIN 1HTMMAAR17H465278

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #4960. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #4961 approving sponsorship of professional floats in the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade for a cost of \$800.00

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #4961. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #4962 designating where municipal funds will be deposited per Code of Alabama, 1975, Section 11-43A-31

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Spratlin for the

approval of Resolution #4962. Roll Call. AYES: All.

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

Total Invoices & Expenditures for 10/18/19 to 10/31/19 **\$391,064.63**

Water/Sewer Fund 391,064.63

Resolution #4963 approving a contract with Hurst Construction of Munford, Alabama for the water office renovation project in the amount of \$216,854 pending compliance with insurance, bonding, and licensing requirements

Motion by Council Member Spratlin with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #4963. Roll Call. AYES: All.

For Council information was an article by Ms. Lori Lein concerning Alabama Open Meetings Act.

City Manager Cheeks wished to welcome the new Council and Mayor. It was mentioned that the Westside Drewry Alumni Association has invited the Council to honor Mayor Ragland on November 9th at the Regional Life Center. Also presented to the Council was a tentative schedule for Christmas on the Square. It was also mentioned that the next Council meeting would be scheduled for November 18th and City Hall will be closed Thanksgiving Day and the Friday after.

Mayor Ragland wished to thank everyone who came out today and who've supported him. He also commented that there were some ordinances that he hoped they would revisit.

Council Member Hall wished to thank everyone who came out to support her and commented that she looks forward to working with all the Council.

Councilman Patterson requested to revisit the litter ordinance; stating it needed to be looked at again because it's so easily violated. City Manager Cheeks they will look at it again and look at other similar ordinances in the area. Councilman Patterson also stated he was looking forward to working with Council President.

Councilman Williams wished to thank everyone for showing up.

Council Member Spratlin wished to thank everyone stating it was a great experience. She also stated that she was looking forward to working with all the Council members. She also requested information on how the debris and trash was disposed of for houses who have weed abatements done. City Manager Cheeks commented that as soon as the City is aware of the situation, Community Appearance is sent to clean up the area. She also mentioned that if there is complaint concerning this type of issue to please inform her Office with the address and it will be taken care of.

Councilman Patterson stated that when a citizen makes a request, he hoped that they would not find out about the denial in the news media but from the Council themselves and request that it be put into operation.

Council President Power commented that he would be attending the Westside Drewry Alumni Associations event and encouraged the other Council members to attend as well. It was also mentioned that the changing of the time would allow for transparency and would give citizens time to apply to come before the Council if they wish. He also requested that City Manager Cheeks lead the agenda in giving explanations then the Council would discuss and vote on them. Council president Power also commented that he hoped that the Mayor would be able to incorporate his comments in some of the matters brought forth.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams to adjourn the meeting. AYES: All.

AUTHENTICATION

I, Joanna Medlen, 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 an organizational and regular session on Monday, 4 November 2019, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall in the City of Talladega, Alabama.