

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
August 16, 2021 – 5:00 pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, August 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Talladega City Hall Chambers. The meeting was called to order and the following were present: Council President Betty Spratlin, Councilman Horace Patterson, Council Member Vickey R. Hall, Councilman Trae Williams, Councilman Joseph K. Power, Jr., Mayor Timothy Ragland, and City Manager Seddrick Hill.

Invocation by Councilman Patterson.

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

Total Invoices & Expenditures from 7/23/2021-8/9/2021	\$36,850.78
General Fund	36,850.78

Motion by Council Member Hall with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of the Regular Meeting of August 2, 2021 with a correction concerning the Best Inn. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Council President Spratlin commented that this year's Summer Food program served 31,665 meals to the community's children during the month of June and July.

The Holiday Schedule was brought forth before the Council. It was mentioned that Juneteenth had been included as a paid holiday. Councilman Power stated that the handbook lays out 13 paid holidays per fiscal year and inquired if that would be changing the benefit program for employees. City Attorney O'Brien stated that if the Council wishes to amend the vacation schedule for employees to add a holiday, it would require an ordinance to amend the personnel rules. Councilman Patterson wished to go on record supporting Juneteenth. The Holiday Schedule was recommended to be tabled.

Brought before the Council was an outline of operation for the faith-based outreach program helmed by Reverend Presson operates. It was mentioned by Reverend Presson that the program has garnered several programs helping the community with Sunday School classes, tutoring, and science labs. She also wished to thank the Council and City Partners for their support.

Council President Spratlin deferred to District Attorney Steve Giddens presenting a report of the Drug Task Force. He also requested an appropriation of \$96,000 for the Drug Task Force. Councilman Patterson commented that the Drug Task Force has done an amazing job. Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams to approve the appropriation request of the Drug Task Force in the amount of \$96,000 for the fiscal year 2022. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Citizen Brenda Curry came before the Council concerning the violence in her neighborhood and requested help in this matter by increasing police presence. City Manager Hill commented that after meeting with Interim Police Chief McCoy last week, roadblocks would be moved forward upon, however when roadblocks are done, people start letting others know where they are set up. A resident on Short Street commented that the police is welcome to park at his home. There was further discussion about having officers walking the neighborhood instead of setting up roadblocks, so they can get to know the community's youth and form a relationship with them. There was some discussion concerning the shooting at the Housing Authority and the security for the Housing Authority. Interim Police Chief McCoy stated that the security guard at the Housing Authority is not full time and is assigned to a particular area by the Housing Authority. Mayor Ragland inquired about the gun shot intelligence technology recently purchased and asked how many shootings there were prior and after. Interim Police Chief McCoy stated that the reported shootings of what we have versus what we had before had increased because the difference is we didn't get a report if no one calls in. There was further discussion upon the matter.

Resolution #5270 approving Municipal Court Judge monthly salary

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5270. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #5271 requesting the drafting and adoption of legislation to amend Alabama Code 1975, Chapter 11, Article 3

Council President Spratlin deferred to Municipal Court Clerk Sparks concerning Resolution #5271. Court Clerks Sparks stated the purpose of this request is mandatory sentencing of someone without a permit in Alabama, this would not include those whose permit had lapsed, but would be for continual criminal element within the City who constantly is caught. It is requested the Council sign requesting Representative Hurst to consider passing this onto the Legal Department.

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the approval of Resolution #5271. Roll Call. AYES: Council President Spratlin, Councilman Patterson, Council Member Hall, and Councilman Williams NAY: Councilman Power

Resolution #5272 approving a contract with Merchant McIntyre Associates for developing funding strategies and implementation at a cost of \$7,500//month for 3 months

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the approval of Resolution #5272. Roll Call. AYES: All.

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

Water Department Expenditures for 7/23/2021 to 8/9/2021	\$28,540.66
Water/Sewer Fund	28,540.66

Ordinance #1890 authorizing the issuance of the Water and Sewer Revenue Warrants, Series 2021-A and Series 2021-B

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the Reading of the Heading Only of Ordinance #1890. Roll Call. AYES: All.

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE CITY'S \$28,130,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF WATER AND SEWER REVENUE WARRANTS, SERIES 2021-A, AND \$5,240,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF WATER AND SEWER REVENUE WARRANTS, TAXABE SERIES 2021-B

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for the Waiver of the First Reading and Immediate Consideration of Ordinance #1890. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Councilman Williams for the Adoption of Ordinance #1890. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Councilman Power commented that the financial report shows the overall revenue being way over where we should be and noted that although we've spent a lot more, we also earned a lot more than normally during this time of year. He requested that a detailed report be done. City Manager Hill agreed and commented that the report would be ready sometime next week.

City Manager Hill commented that he hears everything citizens have said concerning violence and remarked that the City is currently working on those types of things to resolve the gun violence. It was noted that a camera system was being worked on. He also commented that he would meet with businesses to see what their input is, met with the Civil Service Board, the recreation center had been cleaned and pressure washed, noting the desire to revitalize the parks, great things with Career Life and the wish to build internship programs, met with CSX concerning the cutting of the Railroad crossings.

Council Member Hall stated that there were several positive events held in Talladega. Dr. Winfrey had a parade in Knoxville with 25-30 cars and Mr. Duncan held a back-to-school party in Knoxville Park which was very well attended. She also mentioned the great work done by the Community Appearance Department at Tinney St. and also wished to thank Public Works Director Phillips.

Councilman Patterson commented that he would revisit the situation with the grass with the City Manager.

Council President Spratlin stated that she had heard that the Welcome the City Manager event had a great turn out and lamented her absence. She also commented that the United Way event held on August 7 was successful and that the Shrimp Boil was sold out. She also cautioned all to be careful of the speeding on South St. while going to school and AIDB. It was also mentioned that the next meeting would be held on September 9 and September 20.

Councilman Williams commented that November would be two years that this current Council has been voted in and over the last week have heard complaints to give to supervisors, however the Council needed to own up to some of the problems. He also commented that to this point the accomplishments of the Council had not been realized and when it comes to voting and CIP, they would need to vote for residents as well as the supervisors. He also wished to reach out further to the City School system.

Councilman Power commented that he had received a phone call this week about a resident's internet being down for 8 hours. It was further stated that the resident uses the internet for work and his grandchildren who have special needs, utilizes the internet to sooth and calm them. He also noted that the newspaper mentioned the cause of the outage as a pole being knocked down and suggested that maybe the City needs to monitor this important service. He also mentioned the interest rate of the bond issue stating that it was reasonable.

Mayor Ragland wished to echo Council President Spratlin's comments and also mentioned touring all six schools with Superintendent Lee. He was also at Salter's first day of school and wished all students at AIDB a successful school year. Mayor Ragland also congratulated Talladega's archery team for wining the ARPA tournament title. He also mentioned receiving a message of speeding on 19th St. and a request for a speed breaker to cut down the speeding. He also asked each Councilmember to identify areas in their ward that needs tending to, and he would get a group of folks one Saturday to beautify the area.

Motion by Councilman Williams with a second from Councilman Patterson for adjournment.
AYES: All.

AUTHENTICATION

I, Joanna Medlen, 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, August 16, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. in the City of Talladega, Alabama City Hall Council Chambers.