

CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
21 May 2009, 5:30 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Thursday, 21 May 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.

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

Total Invoices & Expenditures for 5/04/2009 to 5/15/2009	\$ 672,034.71
General Operating	550,837.05
Capital Improvement Project	1,809.92
Corrections Fund	41,530.31
Senior Nutrition Fund	595.37
Police Department Grants	523.00
Oil Trust Fund	9,239.37

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second from Councilman Miller to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 4, 2009. AYES: All.

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

Motion by Councilman Davis with a second from Councilman Grissett approving Resolution #1846. AYES: All.

Resolution # 1870 rescinds Resolution #1854 and approves the application for financial assistance to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Law Enforcement/Traffic Safety Division and authorizes the City Manager to sign all documents pertaining to this application/grant. (*Resolution #1854 authorized the Chief of Police to sign the application/grant.*)

Resolution # 1871 agrees to enter into a contract with Krebs Engineering for design work on the proposed ADECA stimulus funded CDBG Harmon Park Well Improvements for a total lump sum cost of \$31,750.

Resolution # 1872 agrees to enter into an agreement with GovDeals for selling the City's surplus property via the internet for a fee of 7.5% of the purchase price that can be incorporated into the total purchase price.

Resolution # 1873 to increase the service fee for opening/closing of graves in Oak Hill Cemetery from \$400 to \$450.

Motion by Councilman Davis with a second from Councilman Miller approving Resolutions #1870-#1873. Roll Call. AYES: All.

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

Total Invoices & Expenditures for 5/01/2009 to 5/14/2009 \$ 375,760.97

Lynne Bonner, member of the Talladega Merchants Association (TMA), handed out a letter and flyer to the Council concerning the upcoming July 4th Talladega Market Day and the activities that were planned. Ms. Bonner stated that the TMA wanted the market vendors, free watermelon and face painting to lead right up to the live music and fireworks at Veterans' Park that night.

Councilman Grissett commented on the absence of a memo from the Water Department Director concerning the Harmon Park Well improvements proposal and indicated that he was bothered by the fact that as the liaison to the Water Department he was not personally informed of proposal before it came before the Council. Councilman Grissett added that he understood that there are stimulus funds that were not available earlier and that he had no problem with going after grant money, but indicated he would have liked to have been informed as soon as the project was considered. Assistant Manager Brian Muenger stated that there was a tight deadline on this project (June 3rd) and that there was some previous correspondence about this and other projects, but until the actual guidelines were put forth the administration wasn't sure if the Harmon Park improvements qualified for the grant. Councilman Miller asked if the proposed improvements would clean up the well and eliminate line pressure outside of town. Terry Hanner stated that it would clean up the well and get it operational again, but would not help water pressure only increase the amount of water available. Councilman Grissett stated that the cost of getting the well operational was less than have the additional water run through the water treatment plant. Council President Patterson requested that a system be developed to automatically e-mail or memo to council members when such an item as this comes up again.

Assistant Manager Muenger announced the Brownfield Grant Award. Council President Patterson stated that this puts Talladega on the cutting edge of something important and that the EPA is happy to get this going in this area of Alabama.

Mr. Muenger announced a memorandum of intent with the Allen-Ricky Corporation for dividing the cost with the City to extend the City sewer lines along Highway 77.

Update on the request to make Cedar Street a two-way street during non-school hours and days was presented by Mr. Muenger. The administration's recommendation is that it remain a one-way street at all times to avoid confusion. Councilman Miller indicated that he believed there was a misunderstanding as to what the original request was, which was that the Cedar Street only be two-way during the summer when the schools are not in session. He asked that the request be reconsidered under these terms and that a public hearing should be held. Council President Patterson indicated that a petition of all residents along the street would be needed and that the public hearing could be part of the pre-council meeting.

Assistant Manager Muenger informed the Council that the annexation and civil service bills had passed the legislature and were now waiting on the Governor's signature.

Council President Patterson requested that Department Heads attend the Council meetings. Council President Patterson commented that a 32-year employee, Ms. Patricia Graham, who was working in the Pitter Patter program which has now been discontinued, has asked to stay in the Recreation Department and not be moved to the Library. He further commented that Ms. Graham did sign a document stating that she understood the situation and was willing to move to the Library, but she signed that document because she felt it was her only option to keep a job. Council President Patterson asked that the situation be looked into by the Manager to see what could be done.

Mayor York announced that Condoleezza Rice, former United States Secretary of State, would be the commencement speaker for the Talladega High School graduation and that the ceremony had been moved from Harwell Auditorium to the Mary Dumas stadium to accommodate as many people as possible.

Councilman Miller requested that the Assistant Manager follow up with the Chief of Police concerning areas where people have been dumping trash along the Coosa River Annex section. Councilman Miller also announced that the tickets for the after Christmas Parade reception are on sale now and that there were even bigger plans for Christmas Parade 2010.

Motion by Councilman Grissett with a second from Councilman Tucker to formally invite the representative for the Census Bureau out of Atlanta to the next council meeting. AYES: All.

Councilman Grissett stated that the Municipal Airport Board had received their audit and that there were "no exceptions" which is very good.

Councilman Grissett also indicated that Mr. McBride had reminded him that this was the City's 175th anniversary. Councilman Grissett requested that the Council work with the Chamber to organize a proper celebration before the end of the year. Council President Patterson suggested that the celebration also be part of honoring those who had fallen with flags along the Jimmy Freeman Highway and the Stephen White Memorial Blvd. as suggested by Councilman Tucker. Councilman Grissett also suggested a time capsule. Council President Patterson requested that Councilman Miller take the lead on the project as liaison to the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman Davis indicated he was very excited about the Brownfield grant, indicating that it was the City Manager's project and that it had potential to change the community. Councilman Davis commented on the website indicating that there are still voluntary water restrictions and requested that the City Manager should look into whether those restrictions should still be posted. Councilman Davis also wished to thank the legislature for approving the local bills and Councilman Grissett suggested that an official letter be presented to the legislature thanking them for the passage of the bills.

Council President Patterson indicated that the 175th anniversary celebration could incorporate a time capsule, flags and honoring those who have gone through the local school system and gone on to succeed.

Motion for adjournment.

AUTHENTICATION

I, Elizabeth Cheeks, 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 Thursday, May 21, 2009, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall in the City of Talladega, Alabama.

Elizabeth Cheeks, City Clerk