

**MEETING MINUTES  
July 3, 2023**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Monday, July 3, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers located within the Public Safety Building at 1111 Broad Street, Phenix City, Alabama 36867. Upon roll call, the following members of Council were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey F. Carter, Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace Hunter, City Attorney Jimmy Graham, and City Clerk Melony Lee.

Upon a quorum being established, Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order.

Councilmember Gordy delivered the invocation as listed on the agenda.

Councilmember Gordy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

City Manager Wallace Hunter and Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain presented employee service recognitions to Tinoah Jackson – 5 years, Richard Lingier – 10 years, Pamela Screws – 10 years, Patrick Keith – 20 years, and Melony Lee – 30 years.

Mayor Lowe presented a proclamation recognizing Miss Phenix City's Teen 2023 Allie Grace Broadhead.

**PROCLAMATION**

Allie Grace Broadhead came forward to accept the proclamation.

Mayor Lowe presented a proclamation recognizing Coach Tommie Robinson.

**PROCLAMATION**

Coach Tommie Robinson came forward to accept the proclamation.

Mayor Lowe presented the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the June 20, 2023 Work Session and regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the June 21, 2023 Council Meeting for approval. Councilmember Day moved to approve the minutes, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordy. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe stated there was no unfinished business to address at this time.

Mayor Lowe presented a Resolution and Public Notice in referenced to a public hearing for the proposed 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-125**

Councilmember Carter moved to approve the resolution and public notice, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Bailey. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to rescinding Resolution No. 2022-18 in reference to using the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the demolition of 1808 6th Avenue.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-126**

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordy. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented Four (4) resolutions in reference to rejecting bids received for the demolition of structures located at:

1. 716 Lawrence Court

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-127**

2. 27 Lincolnshire Lane

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-128**

3. 2507 16th Place

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-129**

4. 811 Dillingham Street

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-130**

Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the resolutions, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented Four (4) resolutions in reference to awarding bids for the demolition and removal of structures on the following properties:

1. 1808 6th Avenue – Great Southern Furniture & Home Remodeling - \$2,350.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-131**

2. 1824 1st Avenue – Great Southern Furniture & Home Remodeling - \$6,400.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-132**

3. 2006 4th Avenue – J&J Land Development, Inc. - \$9,998.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-133**

4. 607 7th Place – J&J Land Development, Inc. - \$5,175.00.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-134**

Councilmember Bailey moved to approve the resolutions, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Carter. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Sierra Pacific Industries.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-135**

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordy. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to sign and enter into a contract between John R. Kittrell and Donna C. Ferguson for the purchase of property located on 1105 and 1107 5th Avenue in the amount of \$285,000.00 plus applicable closing costs.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-136**

Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: Councilmember Bailey. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing Alabama Power to install one (1) LED Cobra Head Street Light, 5,200 – 7,200 Lumens – Pole #: 6-018977 and one (1) LED Cobra Head Street Light, 5,200 – 7,200 Lumens – Pole #: 6-018981 on Pierce Pointe Drive.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-137**

Councilmember Carter moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Day. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented for first reading an application for an Off-Premise Beer License and Off Premise Wine License submitted by Family Dollar Stores of Alabama LLC dba Family Dollar Store #30424 located at 1710 Crawford Road, Phenix City, Alabama. Councilmember Day moved to place the applications on first reading, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Gordy. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to dedicating a portion of Dillingham Street extending from Broad Street to 11th Avenue as Harvey Glance Memorial Parkway.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-138**

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Carter. Upon said motion being put to a vote, the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Councilmembers Day, Carter, Bailey, Gordy, and Mayor Lowe. NAYS: None. ABSTAINS: None. The motion thus passed.

Councilmember Day stated that he was very proud of the employees that received service awards and together they have a combined number of 105 years of service to Phenix City.

Councilmember Day stated that he was proud of Coach Tommie Robinson and everything he continues to do for the City.

Councilmember Day stated that he did not know a lot about Harvey Glance until the City Manager Wallace Hunter brought it to their attention. Councilmember Day also stated that a lot of young people may not have known about Harvey Glance if the City had not recognized him and his accomplishments.

Councilmember Day thanked the District 3 Citizens that were in attendance for the Council Meeting.

Councilmember Gordy announce that there are three (3) Phenix City Youth Baseball Teams going to the World Series to represent Phenix City and the State of Alabama. Councilmember Gordy also stated that there will be a send-off to be held on Tuesday, July 10, 2023 at the Idle Hour Park Baseball Fields at 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Gordy further stated that Mayor Lowe will be out of town, however he taped a video that will be shown to the players. Councilmember Gordy stated that they wanted to show the kids how proud they are of them and how excited they are for their trip to the World Series and would like to have all Citizens to be involved and show their support.

Councilmember Carter stated that she wanted to recognize the City's local hero Harvey Glance and that she was humbly proud to have known him. Councilmember Carter also stated she speaks with his sisters and that they wanted to thank the Mayor, City Council and City Manager for acknowledging him in such a big way.

Councilmember Carter stated that one of the things that we should continue to do is to lift up each other and continue to be advocates to what is right and fair in our Community. Councilmember Carter also stated that on July 4, 2023 we mark a very important event in our history in the United States and celebrate our independence. Councilmember Carter further stated that the City has the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event that starts at 9:30 p.m. and asked that everyone be safe and mindful of where they are and be vigilant about their surroundings. Councilmember Carter stated that we live in a very safe community compared to many and that they continue to advocate safety and support the Public Safety Department in their efforts to keep Citizens safe. Councilmember Carter also stated that they invite everyone to come out to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event to help celebrate the City of Phenix City.

Councilmember Day stated that he was proud of the beautiful new Public Safety Building and he can now brag to other cities in Lee County regarding the City's new building.

Councilmember Bailey thanked Allie Grace Broadhead for attending the City Council meeting and for everything she has done for Phenix City's youth and for the youth of America. Councilmember Bailey also stated that Ms. Broadhead was going to grow a lot over the next years and she would make a lot of contacts and important decisions about her life and that she has a great start.

Councilmember Bailey thanked Coach Tommie Robinson for all of the great things he stated about Phenix City. Councilmember Bailey also stated that Phenix City is a passion for him as he has lived in the City all of his life and it is good to have family here because family is the most important thing we can have.

Councilmember Bailey stated that it is very important to live in a country that allows us to make our own choices on a daily basis and where no one has to agree with those choices as we have the right to choice what we want. Councilmember Bailey also stated that we do have to make the moral and right decisions that do not harm other people and the decisions that people can respect you for making. Councilmember Bailey further stated that he wants people to understand why he makes his decisions and that it comes from the heart and from the way he was raised by his parents and that was his foundation. Councilmember Bailey stated that we have to keep the lord and love in our lives as Jesus made us to love each other. Councilmember Bailey also stated that for so long this Country has done well and that he does not want to see us lose control but that sometimes it has headed in the wrong direction and it breaks his heart to see. Councilmember Bailey further stated we must come back together as a Community and family to support each other and look after and help one another. Councilmember Bailey stated that he was recently in San Diego and while our City has some issues with the homeless we do not have the problems with homeless people on the side of roads and bridges as they do. Councilmember Bailey also stated we should do something nice for others to let them know that we care.

Mayor Lowe stated thanked everyone for attending and Allie Grace Broadhead for everything she is doing at a young age for Phenix City. Mayor Lowe thanked Coach Tommie Robinson for continuing to invest in the young people of this City. Mayor Lowe encouraged the Citizens that were in attendance or watching live to attend the sendoff for the 9, 10 and 13 year olds youth Baseball Teams on Tuesday, July 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. and to provide them with encouragement and support and show that we are invested in them so that they can represent Phenix City.

Mayor Lowe stated that this will be Mr. Toygar's last time filming the Council Meetings on behalf of Beam TV and that the City Council appreciates what he has done and may God continue to bless him. Mayor Lowe also stated that they have come to love him and even though he is going on to bigger and better things, they do not want him to forget where he received his start in Phenix City.

Mayor Lowe thanked CTV-Beam for following the Council to different locations and for bringing the council meeting to the Citizens of Phenix City, Alabama.

Mayor Lowe encouraged everyone to support one another and to be a lifter and not a leaner.

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until July 18, 2023.