

**MEETING MINUTES  
January 3, 2024**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met in a regularly scheduled council meeting on Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 9:00 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, Assistant City Manager Chan Gamble, City Attorney Jimmy Graham, and City Clerk Shannon Davis.

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

Councilmember Gordy delivered the invocation.

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

City Manager Wallace Hunter and Human Resources Generalist Eliza Phillips presented employee service recognition to Freda Nathan - 25 years.

Mayor Lowe stated that Melony Lee has retired from her position as City Clerk. Mayor Lowe asked for a motion to appoint Shannon Davis as Acting City Clerk. Councilmember Day moved to appoint Shannon Davis as Acting City Clerk, 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 the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of the December 18, 2023 Work Session and the December 19, 2023 Council Meeting for approval. Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the minutes, 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 stated there was no unfinished business to address at this time.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to appointing a City Clerk.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01**

Councilmember Carter 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 granting right of way easements to Alabama Power Company to provide electrical power for the Landfill Expansion.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02**

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 accepting the Annual Transportation Plan Report as submitted.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03**

Councilmember Day moved to approve the resolution, 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 declaring HK VP9 pistols as listed on (Exhibit A) as surplus to be sold to Gulf States Distributors, a Federal License Holder for \$325.00 each.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-04**

Councilmember Gordy 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.

Mayor Lowe presented a resolution in reference to authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Manager to sign Change Order No. 20 with P.F. Moon and Company, Inc. for the Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05**

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 for second reading an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Phenix City, Alabama, Chapter 6, Relating to Alcoholic Beverages, Section 6.60. Hours of Business for Alcoholic Beverages Licensees; Sale of Alcoholic Beverages to Minors; etc.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2024-01**

Councilmember Gordy moved to approve the Ordinance, 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.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham presented a Claim against the City of Phenix City, filed by Alphonso Copelin. Mr. Graham stated that on November 8, 2023, Mr. Copelin's vehicle was struck

by a City owned vehicle causing damage to the bumper of the vehicle. Mr. Graham also stated that upon investigation, the officer was at fault in the accident. Mr. Graham further stated that based on the photographs of the accident, police report, and memo from the Police Chief, the estimates submitted do not match the level of severity of the accident. Mr. Graham recommended allowing him to negotiate a settlement. Councilmember Day moved to approve the City Attorney's recommendation to negotiate a settlement, 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 awarding a bid to P.F. Moon and Company, Inc. for the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) for the Primary Clarifier upgrades and improvements in an amount not to exceed \$1,897,500.00.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06**

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.

Mayor Lowe thanked the City Council and City Employees for all that they do for the City. Mayor Lowe also thanked the newly appointed City Clerk Shannon Davis for doing a great job at today's council meeting.

Councilmember Day congratulated Shannon Davis on her new position as City Clerk. Councilmember Day stated that Ms. Davis did a great job at today's meeting and will continue to do a great job as she grows into the City Clerk's position.

Councilmember Day stated that all of the City's Department heads did a fantastic job in 2023 and he hopes that they continue to work together in 2024.

Councilmember Carter encouraged everyone to stay "Phenix City" strong as we start out the new year of 2024. Councilmember Carter stated that we as a City should remain grateful and thankful because we are truly blessed. Councilmember Carter also stated that Phenix City is growing in the right direction and it is a great place to live, worship and play.

Councilmember Carter congratulated Shannon Davis on her new position as City Clerk. Councilmember Carter stated that if her memory serves her correctly, Ms. Davis is the first African American female to serve as City Clerk for the City of Phenix City. City Manager Wallace Hunter confirmed the statement. Councilmember Carter asked God to strengthen Ms. Davis and give her courage and knowledge to succeed in the City Clerk's position.

Councilmember Carter wished everyone a blessed and great new year. Councilmember Carter stated that she looks forward to working with the Council and the Citizens in 2024.

Councilmember Bailey stated that he would also like to congratulate the newly appointed City Clerk Shannon Davis. Councilmember Bailey also stated that Ms. Davis was already a part of the Clerk's office and it is good to see her being promoted to City Clerk and he believes that she will continue to do a great job as she has always done. Councilmember Bailey also stated that one day someone in the community will have to step up to positions on council and it would

be a great challenge and a great opportunity. Councilmember Bailey encouraged everyone to support each other and care about one another.

Councilmember Gordy stated that he is very proud of Ms. Shannon Davis and congratulated her on her new position as City Clerk.

Mayor Lowe stated that he is grateful to see another year. Mayor Lowe thanked Department Heads, City Employees, Citizens and everyone who makes up this community. Mayor Lowe recognized a young man that was attending the council meeting and stated that he and his generation are our future leaders. Mayor Lowe stated that the young man attended a previous council meeting with his class from Glenwood School and thanked him for coming back to attending another meeting. Mayor Lowe also stated that City Manager Wallace Hunter once spoke about starting a mentorship for young people to learn more about the Phenix City government. Mayor Lowe further stated that he believes that it would be a great thing to lead and teach our young people with morals, integrity, character and a love for the City. Mayor Lowe encouraged everyone to show more empathy and be the right person so that they may receive the right person.

City Manager Wallace Hunter congratulated Shannon Davis on her newly appointed position as City Clerk. Mr. Hunter stated that she has received excellent training from former City Clerk Melony Lee and he knows that she will do a great job as well.

Mr. Hunter encouraged everyone to support their City and be a part of the solution and not the problem. Mr. Hunter stated that young people look to older people for guidance and if the older people support their community then the young people will follow.

Mayor Lowe asked God to bless Phenix City individually and collectively.

Councilmember Day stated that he has received several phone calls concerning the Annual Local Elected Officials Luncheon that he normally spear heads. Councilmember Day also stated that the City will not be hosting the luncheon this year and he hopes the County will take over the event this year.

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

There being no further business to address, the meeting thus adjourned until January 17, 2024.