

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
February 4, 2019**

The members of the City Council of the City of Phenix City, Alabama met at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time for the regularly scheduled work session on Monday, February 4, 2019, in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building located at 601 12th Street, Phenix City, Alabama. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey Carter Johnson, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Councilmember Steve Bailey was not present. Also present were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter, City Clerk Melony Lee, and City Attorney Jimmy Graham. Department Heads in attendance were: Building Official Gil Griffith, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, City Engineer Angel Moore, Utilities Director Stephen Smith, Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, IT Director Mike Bauer, Fire Chief Kris Kennedy, Library Director Michele Kilday, Municipal Court Clerk Ruby White, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Human Resources Director Stephanie Chastain, Police Chief Ray Smith, and Graduate Engineer John Spraggins.

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

The invocation was led by Mayor Lowe.

Mayor Lowe called upon Nick Cox to address council as listed on the agenda. Mr. Cox came forward and introduced himself and his wife, Jamie. Mr. Cox also advised his Mother-in-Law and Father-in-Law were present. Mr. Cox advised he and his father-in-law had placed a permanent basketball goal at the end of the cul-de-sac where his house sits. He advised the basketball goal is used by his children and the children of the neighborhood; however, the city came out and cited him for the goal - advising it created a dangerous situation. Mr. Cox stated he does not agree with the city's assessment. He advised he was told (since then) he could place a mobile goal instead; however, Mr. Cox felt that the mobile goal could be more dangerous than a permanent goal. Mr. Cox asked council to allow the basketball goal to stay; he further advised he would be willing to sign off for liability. He even suggested the city could charge a fee for anyone who wanted to have a permanent goal in addition to having them sign off for the liability. Mayor Lowe commended Mr. and Mrs. Cox for getting kids out doors and active; however, there is more to the situation than just the liability issue. Mayor Lowe further stated that the goal is on the city right-of-way and the city has to be consistent with decisions regarding allowing anything on the city right-of-way. Chief Building Official Gil Griffith spoke on what is allowed on the city right-of-way and what is not. City Engineer Angel Moore and City Manager Wallace Hunter advised if anyone hit the basketball goal after the city allowed it to stay on the city right-of-way, the city would be responsible. Councilmember Day advised Mr. Cox that he told constituents in District Three that they could not put a basketball goal on the city right-of-way. Mayor Lowe advised the city has to be consistent when making these decisions. Mrs. Cox asked what difference would there be between a portable and permanent basketball goal in regards to liability? Mayor Lowe advised there is no difference, the liability is the same. Councilmember Johnson suggested placing the goal along their driveway. Mayor and Council advised Mr. and Mrs. Cox that the basketball goal cannot stay on the city right-of-way. Mayor Lowe thanked Mr. and Mrs. Cox and their parents for coming to speak with Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Brian Rutledge of Robinson, Grimes & Company, P.C. to address council as listed on the agenda. Mr. Rutledge came forward and reviewed the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year ended 09/30/2017 with Mayor and Council. Mayor Lowe thanked Mr. Rutledge for coming to speak with Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Engineer Angel Moore to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their January 22, 2019 meeting.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Melony Lee who discussed the following with Mayor and Council:

1. Advised Council of the CMO61 Municipal Legislative Advocacy Day on March 19, 2019 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm CST. Asked Council to advise if they would be attending.
2. Advised Council that Ft. Benning was organizing a Community Appreciation Reception in April or May, 2019 (which includes spouses). Asked Council to check their calendars and advise of any dates they would not be available.
3. Advised Council that Councilmember Bailey would be out of town 02/01/2019 through 02/05/2019.
4. Reminded council of the Chamber of Commerce 2019 Annual Dinner on February 5, 2019 at 6:00 pm.
5. Reminded council of the Elected Official's Luncheon on February 7, 2019 at 11:30 am.
6. Reminded council of the Mother Mary Mission Gala Banquet on February 9, 2019 at 7:00 pm.
7. Reminded council of the Mother and Son Blue Jean Ball on February 9, 2019 at 6:00 pm.
8. Reminded council of President's Day Holiday on February 18, 2019; therefore the Work Session will be Tuesday, February 19th and the Council Meeting will be Wednesday, February 20th.
9. Advised council that the Chamber Leadership Government Day Luncheon will be Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 12:00 Noon in the 3rd Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Building.
10. Advised council that the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will be Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 7:00 am.
11. Reviewed upcoming board appointments.
12. Reminded council of board interview after today's work session.

Mayor Lowe called upon Parks and Recreation Department Head, Todd Hughes, to give the departmental review. Mr. Hughes reviewed the Parks and Recreation Department's Makeup, Direction, and Services. Mr. Hughes also introduced Christy Goggins, the Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation.

Mayor Lowe advised Council that State Representative Chris Blackshear will be bringing over a Government Liaison tomorrow at 3:30 pm.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Engineer Angel Moore to discuss annexing the existing landfill into the city. Ms. Moore advised the city's landfill should be annexed into the city limits. She further advised that the landfill is continuous. City Attorney Jimmy Graham advised he is

okay with the annexation. Mayor and Council gave their consent to Ms. Moore to begin the process of annexing the existing city landfill.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham reviewed agenda claims with Council.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham updated council on the county lawsuit.

City Manager Wallace Hunter thanked Mayor and Council for their support during his absence from work due to a family member's death.

Fire Chief Kris Kennedy advised council that the new fire truck would be available for viewing after the council meeting tomorrow.

Mayor and Council interviewed candidates for the Zoning Adjustment and Appeals Board.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 19, 2019.