

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 18, 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, March 18, 2019, in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building located at 601 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Phenix City, Alabama. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Councilmember Arthur L. Day, Jr., Councilmember Vickey Carter Johnson, Councilmember Steve Bailey, Councilmember R. Griff Gordy, and Mayor Eddie N. Lowe. Also present were City Manager Wallace B. Hunter, City Clerk Melony Lee, and City Attorney James McKoon. City Attorney Jimmy Graham was not present. 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 Manager 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, Assistant Police Chief Gail Green, and Graduate Engineer John Spraggins.

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

The invocation was led by Councilmember Johnson.

Mayor Lowe called upon Jennifer Davidson with the Russell County Extension Office to address council as listed on the agenda. Ms. Davidson asked for permission to use the Garrett Harrison Stadium for the Russell County Farmer's Market. The Farmer's Market will be two days a week starting the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in May through November. Ms. Davidson stated the times will be 12 noon until 6:00 p.m. on Thursdays, and 8:00 a.m. until noon on Saturdays. Ms. Davidson further stated that additional vendors are welcomed. Ms. Davidson also stated that there is no cost to vendors but they will need a Growers Permit. Ms. Davidson also spoke on the Lunch and Learn series at the Russell County Library is held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Ms. Davidson passed out flyers with detailed information on both events. Mayor Lowe and Council approved the request for the Russell County Farmer's Market. Mayor Lowe thanked Ms. Davidson for coming to speak with Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Gregg Griggs to address council as listed on the agenda. Mr. Griggs came forward to address council. Mr. Griggs asked for a permit that would provide Phenix City with its own Whitewater Outfitter. Mr. Griggs stated that his company consists of zip lining, rafting and tubing. Mr. Griggs also stated that having an Outfitter on the Phenix City side of the river would boost Phenix City's economy. Councilmember Bailey stated that two Outfitters in the area may be needed to produce competition and boost economy. Assistant City Manager/Utilities Director Steve Smith stated that a detailed study has been done and the Whitewater rafting must have at least 40,000 users before a second Outfitter is needed. Stephen Smith also stated that it has been projected that the numbers will be reached by the end of 2019. City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that the Chattahoochee River belongs to Georgia and that there is already an outfitter in place. Mr. Hunter also stated that the City of Phenix City must go through the proper protocol with Uptown Columbus before any decisions are made in order to not breach any contracts with Columbus. Mr. Hunter asked Mr. Griggs if he had spoken with Uptown Columbus concerning the second outfitter. Mr. Griggs stated he spoke

with Uptown Columbus years ago but has not followed up. Mayor Lowe stated that it is not the right timing for a second outfitter but maybe sometime in the future. Mayor Lowe thanked Mr. Griggs 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 March 12, 2019 meeting.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Melony Lee to review the March and April calendars with Council. Ms. Lee reminded the Mayor and City Council that the City Council meeting will be held tomorrow night, March 19, 2019, at the Max Wilkes Idle Hour Park Community Center at 6:00pm. Ms. Lee also reminded the Mayor and City Council that the CMO 61 Legislative Advocacy Day 2019 will be held tomorrow, March 19, 2019 in Montgomery Alabama. Ms. Lee informed Councilmember Day, Johnson, and Bailey that the city vehicle has been reserved.

City Clerk Melony Lee also advised Mayor and Council that Councilmember Day was dismissed from Jury Duty for the rest of the week.

City Clerk Melony Lee reviewed the upcoming board appointments with Mayor and Council.

City Attorney James McKoon stated that a Dothan, Alabama Judge ruled in the City's favor in the Russell County vs The City of Phenix City Case. Mr. McKoon also complimented the Department Heads for their hard work and dedication.

Mayor Lowe called upon Municipal Court Clerk Department Head, Ruby White, to give the departmental review. Ms. White reviewed the Municipal court's Make up, Direction, and Services.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

Councilmember Gordy stated that the minutes for the Work Session on March 18, 2019 need to be amended. Councilmember Gordy stated he was not present.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, April 1, 2019.