

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 16, 2024**

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 Tuesday, January 16, 2024, in the Council Chambers located within the Public Safety Building at 1111 Broad Street, Phenix City, Alabama 36867. Upon roll call, the following members 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 (arrived after meeting was established), City Clerk Shannon Davis, and City Attorney Jimmy Graham. Department Heads in attendance: Building Official Ray Rogers, Economic Development Manager Shaun Culligan, City Engineer Angel Moore, Graduate Civil Engineer Cristopher Casey, Graduate Civil Engineer Andrew Patterson, Finance Director Labrita King Copeland, Fire Chief Kristen Kennedy, Golf Manager Mike Barber, IT Manager Mike Bauer, Library Director Tammy Henry, Municipal Court Clerk Ruby White, Parks and Recreation Director Todd Hughes, Police Chief George Staudinger, Public Safety Director Ray Smith and Graduate Engineer John Spraggins.

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

Councilmember Bailey led the invocation.

Mayor Lowe advised there were no Request to Address Council.

Mayor Lowe called upon Angel Moore, City Engineer, to discuss the actions taken by the Planning Commission at their January 9, 2024 meeting.

Mayor Lowe called upon City Clerk Shannon Davis who discussed the following with Mayor and Council:

1. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building. This meeting will be held on a Wednesday morning due to the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.
2. Advised Council that the Downtown Redevelopment Authority will meet on Thursday, January 18, 2024 3:00 p.m.
3. Advised Council that the Board of Zoning Adjustment and Appeals will meet on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
4. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 5:15 p.m.
5. Advised Council that the Housing Abatement Board will meet on Thursday, February 1, 2024 9:00 a.m.
6. Informed Council that Ft. Moore's USO Ceremony will be held on Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.
7. Advised Council that the State of the City is scheduled for Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. located at the Public Safety Building.
8. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on Monday, February 5, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.
9. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building.

10. Informed Council that Parks and Recreation Department will hold the Mother-Son Dance on Friday February 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
11. Informed Council that Parks and Recreation Department will hold the Father-Daughter Dance on Saturday February 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Martin Idle Hour Park Community Center.
12. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 5:15 p.m.
13. Advised Council that the Board of Zoning Adjustment and Appeals will meet on Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
14. Informed Council that United Way Emerging Leaders United-Great Chattahoochee will be held on Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
15. Informed Council that City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 19, 2024 in observance of President's Day Holiday.
16. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Work Session to be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building. This meeting will be held on a Tuesday afternoon due to the President's Day Holiday.
17. Advised Council of a regular scheduled Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Safety Building. This meeting will be held on a Wednesday morning due to the President's Day Holiday.
18. Informed Council that a Black History Celebration will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at the Central Activity Center.
19. Informed Council that Arbor Day Tree Give-away will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.
20. Advised Council that the Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 5:15 p.m.
21. Reviewed upcoming board appointments.

Mayor Lowe went over the agenda items.

City Attorney Jimmy Graham reviewed the claims with Council.

City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that the City has always been fair and consistent in policies, procedures and decision making. Mr. Hunter also stated that there are rumors going around the City stating that the City has been unfair and that is not the case, City Leaders are simply doing their jobs and doing what is right. Mr. Hunter further stated that the City no longer operates under the "Good Ole Boy" System where certain people are treated a certain way because of their economic status. Councilmember Bailey stated that no one is above the law and everyone is treated equal.

Mayor Lowe stated that Phenix City won the court case regarding the distribution of gasoline tax proceeds against Russell County. Mayor Lowe also stated that in the declaration it states that payments should start immediately but he has not heard that they have started as of now. City Manager Wallace Hunter stated that he will be meeting with the County Administrator to discuss the payments.

Mayor Lowe stated that there being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Monday, February 5, 2024.