

CITY OF SPRINGVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
WORKSHOP AND SPECIAL MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2020

WORKSHOP – December 14, 2020

The City Council of the City of Springville met in a workshop session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2020 at Springville City Hall. Mayor Dave Thomas presided and City Clerk Lynn Porter served as recording secretary.

Those members present were as follows:

Mayor	Dave Thomas
District 1	Councilmember Herbert Toles
District 2	Councilmember David Vinson
District 3	Wayne Tucker
District 4	Katrina Hennings
District 5	Tim Walker
District 6	Marshall Parker
District 7	Sherry Reaves

Others present in official capacity: Attorney Charlie Waldrep

Councilmember Walker asked about paying invoices for attorney fees since we do not have a contract.

Mayor Thomas stated the billing is at the same rate as the prior firm.

Attorney Waldrep stated he felt it was appropriate for the City Council to approve a contract.

Councilmember Toles asked if the City Council did not vote on the city attorney, can they approve the contract.

Attorney Waldrep stated it is within the purview of the City Council to approve contracts.

Councilmember Walker stated he felt, if we are paying someone, we need to know how they are being paid.

Ms. Kimberly Jackson, Marketing and Economic Development, Alabama Power Company, was recognized. Ms. Jackson stated she covers North Jefferson County and St. Clair. She stated, if requested, Alabama Power will conduct a community asset assessment that will determine retail, commercial, and industrial development needs.

Councilmember Reaves asked the charge for these services and was told there is no charge unless the City expresses something else they want explored that would require hiring someone with expertise in that area down the line.

Councilmember Walker asked how long this assessment would take and was told four to six weeks.

Ms. Jackson stated this service is offered to targeted communities and is available to any community that Alabama Power serves, upon request.

Attorney Waldrep stated he asked Ms. Jackson to come here tonight. They are currently working with six other communities.

The City Council entered into a duly noticed Special meeting to consider an ordinance to restrict truck traffic from Purple Heart Drive, Mayor Dave Thomas presiding, and City Clerk Lynn Porter serving as recording secretary. Those members answering present to roll call were as follows:

Mayor	Dave Thomas
District 1	Councilmember Herbert Toles
District 2	Councilmember David Vinson
District 3	Wayne Tucker
District 4	Katrina Hennings
District 5	Tim Walker
District 6	Marshall Parker
District 7	Sherry Reaves

Councilmember Reaves moved for unanimous consent to suspend the rules of procedure to allow for the immediate consideration of Ordinance 2020-025 to restrict truck traffic from Purple Heart Drive, seconded by Councilmember Toles, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Toles, Vinson, Tucker, Hennings, Walker, Parker, and Reaves, and Mayor Thomas

Nays: None

Councilmember Toles moved Ordinance 2020-025 be adopted, seconded by Councilmember Hennings, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Toles, Vinson, Tucker, Hennings, Walker, Parker, and Reaves, and Mayor Thomas

Nays: None

It was pointed out that no opportunity for discussion was given prior to adoption of this ordinance. The action adopting this ordinance was rescinded. Discussion followed in which Councilmember Tucker asked was there a minimum fine, since the maximum is \$500, and Attorney Waldrep replied that would be up to the Judge. This is the standard maximum fine and jail time for a municipal ordinance violation as allowed by the Code of Alabama.

Councilmember Walker asked if in a two-axel personal vehicle pulling a two-axel trailer, would this be a violation of this ordinance?

Attorney Waldrep replied no, as the trailer is not self-propelled.

The question was then posed would a two axel semi-truck pulling a trailer be a violation, and Attorney Waldrep, stated no, not as written.

Public Works Directory Earl Peoples asked about tandem trucks pulling trailers and fifth wheel vehicles.

Fire Chief Richard Harvey commented that with this distinction, this ordinance will still not keep 18-wheelers out.

Councilmember Tucker commented the radius is too short to allow long vehicles to turn.

Attorney Waldrep asked what about when a resident is moving? Would a truck such as Allied Van Lines be allowed?

Councilmember Tucker stated they would still get stuck. They would need to use a smaller box truck. He further commented that these is not enough base on the road for heavy weights. The ordinance needs to cover weight and length, allowing no 18-wheelers and no tandems.

Councilmember Toles stated part of the road has only 14' of pavement width.

Councilmember Walker asked if putting weight restrictions would solve this.

Councilmember Tucker stated we would need some way to prove the vehicle was overweight. The state uses scales to monitor weight.

Attorney Waldrep stated you must have signage that you can't operate a vehicle with more than two axels to enforce.

Earl Peoples suggested a sign ‘No Trucks except for local delivery’ be posted.

The maximum weight limit on a state road like Highway 174 is 93,283 pounds.

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Nays: None

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Yeas: Councilmembers Toles, Vinson, Tucker, Hennings, Walker, Parker, and Reaves, and Mayor Thomas

Nays: None

The Special called meeting was adjourned, and the Council returned to a workshop session.

Councilmember Reaves stated the young lady who addressed the City Council about establishing a Youth Council left a Constitution and Bylaws for our review. These were give to the City Attorney.

Earl Peoples stated the Springville Station Boulevard sewer lift station needs to have an accumulation of grease removed and hauled away. This will require two or three men for up to five hours at a cost of \$1,700.00 per quotation. He stated this has to be done about every two years, and can be paid from sewer impact fees. He stated he would like to get this done before Christmas.

Richard Harvey stated he needs to do some preventive maintenance on his fire trucks and test the pumps. He stated he has \$15,000 in his budget for equipment maintenance and this will eat up \$8,000, leaving only \$7,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Mayor Thomas asked was this from last year’s budget or from the proposed budget?

Richard Harvey stated for now the two budgets are the same until a new one is adopted. Typically, this budget is used for tires, brakes and similar items, and this will impact his budget greatly.

Councilmember Vinson stated he would like to see us set up a Personnel Board to hear grievances. Our current policy says the appeal goes to the Mayor and City Clerk or Councilmember. He stated he would like for this to be a three to five member board to rule at these hearings.

Councilmember Reaves asked was that number appropriate, and would they serve for a certain time?

Attorney Waldrep stated there are usually three members, but this is not recited in State Law. Like other Boards, the term expiration dates would be staggered in the original appointment, and then members reappointed for full terms thereafter keeping the stagger.

Councilmember Vinson asked that this matter be considered at a future meeting.

Attorney Waldrep suggested the Mayor not be a member of this Board, and that the Board would need their own attorney, since appeals are made against the city. He stated he will investigate this.