

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING

## MINUTES MAY18, 2009

Mayor Isley called meeting to order at 6:10 PM

Present: Mayor William Isley, Councilmember's; Herbert Toles, Hugh Marlin, Wayne Tucker, Katrina Hennings, John Coyne, David Jones, and Brian Skinner.

Mayor Isley opened with prayer and councilmember John Coyne led the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Mayor briefly discussed the issue of the "modular home" owner desiring to place a modular home at a specific site in Springville. Mayor advised the owner has received a letter stating that this modular home cannot be placed in the City of Springville until this Mayor and Council advises him of permission to do so. Also, the Alabama Manufactured Housing Commission must sign off on this particular site and home before permission granted. The Council requested the Mayor to request our attorney, James Hill to seek legal research and the legal opinion of Attorney General as to whether the City will be required to permit this modular home to be placed on this particular site. Attorney James Hill advised he will need a resolution passed to seek Attorney General Legal Opinion.

Motion to suspend rules to consider resolution made by Wayne Tucker, second by John Coyne. Mayor Isley called for verbal votes, motion passed unanimously.

This Resolution is seeking the Opinion of the Attorney General on the legality of placing this type "**On Frame Modular Home**" in our R-1 Residential Zoning District, motion made by Brian Skinner, second by Hugh Marlin, passed unanimously all yea's. Copy of resolution attached.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Motion to approve financial statement for April, 2009 made by David Jones, second by John Coyne, passed unanimously with all yeas.

## EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION INCENTIVE PROPOSAL:

Mayor stated he spoke with all department heads and none are in favor of the “**an incentive bonus paid to city employees**” stating that all employees in their departments do their jobs well. This action may very well create inter- departmental problems as well as employee morale problems. Mayor stated that an alternative recognition program presented by Police Chief Greg Charles, who spoke on his behalf regarding this issue, suggesting that an annual picnic for employee appreciation, with activities, food/refreshments with expenses budgeted by the city council, honoring all city employees and their families.

Brian Skinner stated that with approximately 50 employees, with 2 to 3 family members, roughly 100-150 people would cost approximately \$1,500.00 to \$2,000.00, and stated he thinks this is a great idea. After other discussion, Mayor advised decision can be made by council when councilmember John Coyne brings up on agenda.

## BEAR MOUNTAIN ROAD PROJECT:

Mayor stated he received information this week on this issue. The application date was extended to June 26<sup>th</sup> for submission of this grant application because of the short notice in the beginning. Mayor stated he feels this is of great importance for our city and would like to have a work session to discuss further and allow him to present specific financial alternatives for the council to consider and to look at this project again. He stated there are current and future property owners on this road that can be a tremendous revenue source for the City.

Herbert Toles stated maybe we need to have a special session for this issue because we may not be able to discuss everything in the short regular session at 5:30. Hugh Marlin asked if we could go over the time for the work session, Attorney James Hill recommended we start our council meetings on time at 6:00 PM. David Jones wants the session to discuss more in depth the reason for this project, are there developers sitting out there waiting for us to do this project, how much revenue will be created, how many people involved. Also asked Earl who the reference of “they” is in this project. Earl Peoples responded that the St. Clair Commission has been working on the project of providing water to all residents in St Clair County for approximately 11 years. Ladd Environmental is working with St Clair County Commission on this project. Wayne Tucker asked Earl if he could

provide a projection of revenue monies and people to be affected in this project and present this to them at the work session, possibly a 1 year projection, this would be something they could work from.

Brian Skinner stated that if only about 20 residents of the projected 35 residents now on the road are interested in hooking on to city water then we would be backing up as far as monies are concerned. He also asked Earl about the proposed 6 inch or maybe 8 inch line that will provide water to the potential 500 homes. Earl stated that he is comfortable with the fact that this size lines will provide ample water along with a booster pump and water tank.

David Jones expressed concern that this was not on the top 5 issues listed on our town hall meeting. Mayor stated, this town hall meeting did not represent people from this area, although there may or may not be concern there from some of the people at the town hall meeting, discussion and decisions for this project will be discussed at the work session. All agreed on work session on June 1, 2009 at 5:00PM.

MINUTES OF PUBLIC TOWN HALL MEETING APRIL 23, 2009:  
Motion to approve minutes made by David Jones, second by Katrina Hennings.

Herbert Toles requested discussion on a question that was asked at the public town hall meeting regarding a crossing guard for the elementary school on Wilson Street.

Mayor responded that he has driven to the area to see the need for this guard and advised our grant writer is applying for funds to put in sidewalks for this area. Also, the council needs to decide if they want to appropriate funds into the budget to provide a crossing guard for this particular area.

John Coyne stated that in previous council meeting 2 crossing guards were approved but only 1 was hired, no one recalls this action. It was suggested to be presented back to the council the cost to provide another crossing guard and projected cost to put sidewalks in this area.

Motion to approve minutes of public town hall meeting passed unanimously with all yeas.

## EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE PAY: JOHN COYNE

John Coyne stated his reason for incentive pay for employees that go above and beyond the call of duty.

Police Chief Greg Charles, Fire Chief Richard Harvey, Public Works Supt. Earl Peoples all spoke on behalf of their departments and employees and again they are all employees of the month. They do their jobs. They suggested that maybe letters be placed in the file of an employee for future raises or promotions.

Herbert Toles suggested department supervisors write letters of recommendation to be placed in the employees files.

John Coyne requested Mayor to provide figures on the cost of insurance for the City to continue to provide insurance for employees who retire from the city before they reach the age for Medicare.

Mayor will research the cost of insurance, how many employees may be retiring at early retirement age and also what other municipalities may be doing in this regard and report this back to John Coyne and the Council.

Mayor asked for council recommendation for employee incentive.

Brian Skinner made motion to spend up to \$2,000.00 for an annual employee/family recognition day for the year 2009, second by Herbert Toles, motion carried unanimously with all yeas.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Elaine Street:

Herbert Toles made a motion for Wayne Tucker and Attorney James Hill to discuss and/or research legality and feasibility of Elaine Street being a by-pass for the City. This motion was second by Brian Skinner.

There was discussion as to whether this street is on the KPS Comprehensive Plan as a future by-pass. Brian Skinner stated it is referred to as an inter-connectivity street and that monies spent on the improvement of the street would be beneficial to the citizens of the area.

Wayne Tucker stated that we must realize that this is not a city street and that we have no right to do anything to the street. The developer or property owners actually own the street. Brian Skinner stated that the property owner/developer, Ms. Sarusce will give the street to the city.

Attorney James Hill stated that Ms. Sarusce cannot give the street to us nor can we buy the street. Also, there is a possibility that to accept this street as a by-pass or inter-connectivity street would be a violation of our sub-division regulations since it is not a city designated street and cannot be a city street because it does not meet sub-division street regulations.

Wayne Tucker stated to be on record that there will be a lot of problems and expense encountered in creating this street as a by-pass based on his experience and knowledge.

Mayor called for vote on the motion by Herbert Toles, second by Brian Skinner to have Wayne Tucker and Attorney James Hill to research Elaine Street for by-pass. Motion passed with 5 yeas, Toles yea; Tucker yea, Jones yea, Coyne yea, and Skinner. Henning's nay and Marlin nay.

Resolution 2009-12  
Senior Citizen Program:

Motion to suspend the rules to consider was made by David Jones, second by John Coyne. Motion passed with all yeas.

Motion to approve Resolution 2009-12/Establishing Senior Citizen Program was made by John Coyne, second by Wayne Tucker and David Jones.

Mayor stated that Faye Kinstler, Shirley Woods, and Bobbie Grubbs will be working together to try to get the Senior Citizen Organization going and they will have the first meeting on Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 9:00 AM and encouraged everyone interested in helping and organizing to attend.

He also suggested that the purchased property on Robinson Street may be considered as a designated senior citizen center. We would also be able to apply for grants to establish the center and provide means of food, transportation and so forth in relation to a senior citizen center.

Council needs to consider whether we will spend money that is not in this budget to help get the program organization started. Richard Harvey said he would pay for the first senior citizen get together from his personal funds.

Mayor will look into the possible contract with ClansTran to see if it will provide transportation of seniors to the center.

Mayor called for vote on Motion to Approve Resolution 2009-12. Motion passed with all yeas.

Motion to adjourn made by Wayne Tucker, second by Hugh Marlin.

Herbert Toles asked for information regarding the discount drug cards. Mayor responded the application process has taken place and when we receive the cards the process and pharmacies will be advertised. He will advise further when he receives all information.

Meeting Adjourned 7:43 pm by Wayne Tucker second by Hugh Marlin. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Brenda Roberts, City Clerk

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Mayor Protem Wayne Tucker

Minutes transcribed by Helen Williams in the absence of Brenda Roberts