

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
JANUARY 29, 2019 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on January 29, 2019, in regular session.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Council President Toles. On roll call by the City Clerk, Iva Nelson, the following council members answered present: Toles, Williams, Worthy, Back, Wilson, and Reed. Councilman Cannon was absent. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business. Mayor Guyton, Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts and Chief Jaggears were also present.

The invocation was given by Councilman Wilson.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on January 23, 2019, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of January 18 - 24, 2019 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#188482-188613	General	\$1,626,072.90
#188372-188481	Election	\$ 18,770.00

(Mayor Guyton joined the meeting at this time.)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

President Toles stated this was the time and place as advertised to conduct the following public hearings:

(1) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 1109 Wainwright Avenue, Lillie Mae Jones, c/o Deborah Harris, Lillie Mae Jones (deceased) heirs, Deborah Harris, Michael Harris, and Ekra Tolbert, being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated no improvements have been made since procedures began in April 2018, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-38-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 1109 Wainwright Avenue - District 1 -Lillie Mae Jones, c/o Deborah Harris; Lillie Mae Jones (deceased) heirs, Deborah Harris, Michael Harris, and Ekra Tolbert)

President Toles said she spoke with Deborah Harris, who agrees with the demolition of the structure. She then moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

(1) The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-39-19

AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

(Authorizing acquisition of property at 1241 S. 12th Street - Lots 15-19 and the S. 25 feet of Lot 20, Block M, Elliott Addition #2 - Haren Construction Company, Inc. - Note: This property was omitted in error from earlier conveyance approved by Resolution Number R-309-18)

Councilman Reed moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Back and unanimously adopted.

(2) The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-40-19

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH FLW, LLC

(Authorizing Agreement - FLW, LLC - \$2,000.00 - For Choo Choo Division fishing tournament at Coosa Landing on May 4, 2019)

Councilman Worthy moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Williams and unanimously adopted.

(3) The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-41-19

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH FLW, LLC

(Authorizing Agreement - FLW, LLC - \$2,000.00 - For BFL/Alabama Division fishing tournament at Coosa Landing on July 14, 2019)

Councilman Wilson moved to adopt the resolution as introduced, which motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy and unanimously adopted.

(4) President Toles advised that due to the threat of a winter weather event, the City Council met in special session on January 28 and canvassed the results of the referendum election held on January 22. She cited the final results (1,245 “yes”; 563 “no”), which indicated that an elected school board is favored by a majority of voters who participated in the election.

NEW BUSINESS

(1) Councilman Williams introduced the following ordinance in writing for consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. O-06-19

AMENDING CITY CODE §34-7
REGARDING QUALIFYING FEE FOR CANDIDATES

(Amending City Code Section 34-7 - Changing qualification fee for candidates seeking election as member of the city board of education from \$10.00 to \$50.00 - Providing for waiver of fee for indigent person)

Councilman Williams moved to suspend the rules to immediately consider the ordinance as an item of new business. The motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Toles, Williams, Worthy, Back, Wilson, Reed

NAYS: None

Councilman Williams moved to adopt the ordinance, which motion was seconded by Councilman Worthy and unanimously adopted.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Kay Moore (Downtown Gadsden, Inc.) announced the 12th Annual Chili Cookoff on Saturday, February 2. Councilman Back complimented Ms. Moore's work on this fun event.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Worthy thanked City Clerk Iva Nelson, who sang the National Anthem at last week's prayer breakfast in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Councilman Back and President Toles joined in thanking attendees of last night's joint District 1/4 meeting at The Venue. Appreciation was expressed to City Engineer Heath Williams, Police Chief Jaggars, and Mary Catherine Crain for their assistance.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was duly adjourned.

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (1-29-2019)
