

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
AUGUST 20, 2019 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on August 20, 2019, in regular session.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Council President Toles. On roll call by the Assistant City Clerk, Jennifer Smith, the following council members answered present: Toles, Worthy, Back, Wilson, Cannon and Reed. Councilman Williams joined the meeting shortly after it began. 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 Kent Back.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on August 13, 2019, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of August 9 - 15, 2019 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#193681-193843	General	\$461,370.82
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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 203 Carolyn Lane, State of Alabama, possible redemption rights of FNA NP, LLC, Linnie D. Smedley and Eugene Smedley being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated this case involves a burned house and no improvements have been made since procedures began in April 2019, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-314-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 203 Carolyn Lane - District 2 - State of Alabama; Possible redemption rights of FNA NP, LLC; Linnie D. Smedley; Eugene Smedley)

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

(2) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 1410 Stroud Avenue, Walter and Otice Crumpler, Estate of Walter Lee Crumpler, and his heirs: Annie Renea Crumpler Hicks, and Deborah Elaine Crumpler being the last known owners.

Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated this case began in December 2018. Although a permit was obtained in January 2019, no improvements have been made and he recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-315-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 1410 Stroud Avenue - District 2 - Walter and Otice Crumpler; Estate of Walter Lee Crumpler; Annie Renea Crumpler Hicks; Deborah Elaine Crumpler)

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

(3) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 625 Spring Street, Lillie Mae Hollis c/o Juanilieta Benson, Estate of Lillie M. Collins and her heirs: Beverly Hollis Paker, Alfred T. Hollis, Narfleeta Hollis Ecxford, and Juanaleta Hollis Benson being the last known owners. Juanaleta Benson (801 Nuckolls Street) stated that a back injury has prevented her from making repairs and asked for additional time. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated this case began in November 2014. Although permits were obtain in August 2015 and August 2016, no improvements have been made and he recommended abatement. Councilman Worthy moved to table the resolution for 30 days, which motion was seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously carried.

(4) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 1003 Spruce Street, Jeffery Wright and Anita Riggins, State of Alabama being the last known owners. Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated this case began in July 2018. A building permit was obtained in February 2019 and some improvements were made. However, there has been no work done in the last 120 days and he recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-316-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 1003 Spruce Street - District 5 -Jeffery Wright; Anita Riggins; State of Alabama)

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

(5) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution ordering the abatement of nuisances on property at 2833 Cambron Street, State of Alabama, subject to the rights of redemption of Samuel Abel being the last known owners.

Brian Harbison, Building Inspector, stated this case involves a burned structure and no improvements have been made since procedures began in April 2019, and recommended abatement. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-317-19

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 2833 Cambron Street - District 6 -State of Alabama, subject to the rights of redemption of Samuel Abel)

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

(6) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 305 South 16th Street, State of Alabama, those certain rights of redemption of J.M. Brown and/or his heirs being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-318-19

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$4,591.40 - 305 South 16th Street - District 3 - State of Alabama; Rights of redemption of J.M. Brown and/or his heirs)

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

(7) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 2816 Forrest Avenue, Dorothy J. Woods, State of Alabama being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-319-19

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,691.40 - 2816 Forrest Avenue - District 6 - Dorothy J. Woods; State of Alabama)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-320-19

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH SAIN ASSOCIATES, INC.

(Authorizing agreement - Sain Associates, Inc. - \$36,350.00 - Engineering design services to prepare Alabama Department of Transportation permit plans required for improvements to the intersection of George Wallace Drive and East Chestnut Street)

At President Toles' request, Heath Williamson (City Engineer) described planned improvements to increase the flow of traffic at the intersection. The offset nature of East Chestnut Street at the intersection creates a traffic bottle-neck. Working with ALDOT, plans are to turn the easternmost portion of East Chestnut Street into a right-in, right-out traffic pattern which would increase the time allotted for the traffic signal and improve the flow of traffic. Plans also include improving turning radiuses and synchronization of traffic lights at the East Broad Street intersection.

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Worthy announced a Job Fair from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on August 27 at The Venue, noting an employability skills seminar will be held from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. He advised interested parties could register online at www.labor.alabama.gov/jobfair to participate as an employer.

Councilman Williams requested that the office of the city attorney arrange for the city's cable franchise consultant to speak with the council regarding a recent FCC vote regarding cable franchising. He stated that the public needs to understand the impact the vote has on the city. He also encouraged support of the Gadsden City High School football team and its new coach at the first game of the season against Etowah High School this Friday.

Mayor Guyton spoke about the need for people with good work ethics to apply for available jobs.

President Toles asked that Eric Wright (Public Affairs) speak at next week's council meeting to share information he had prepared regarding the new FCC regulations. She also shared that she had a conversation with a Birmingham resident who stated that he had been hearing about a lot of good things happening in Gadsden. She encouraged local citizens to become more involved so that they can see the progress being made in the city.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (8-20-2019)

FOURTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - BID OPENING
AUGUST 20, 2019 - 2:00 P.M.

The City Clerk received bid proposals as advertised for the following bid:

Bid No. 3413 - Robotic Scanning Total Station and Equipment

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Earl Dudley LLC	\$68,970.00 (Option A)
Earl Dudley LLC	\$64,942.00 (Option B)
Navigation Electronics, Inc.	\$62,517.17

Copies of the bids will be forwarded to the Department, the Assistant Purchasing Agent, and the City Engineer, and a recommendation will be made to the Council.
