

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA
MAY 25, 2021 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on May 25, 2021, 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, Worthy, Back, Wilson, Cannon and Reed. Councilman Williams was absent. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business. Mayor Guyton, Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts and Captain Jackson were also present.

The invocation was given by Brian Harbison.

Deborah Gaither, EMA Director, stated Covid cases in Etowah County total 13,954, with 357 deaths. She noted second doses for those vaccinated at Carver Community Center are available at the health department next week, which will conduct vaccinations each Thursday from 8:30 to 3:30. Ms. Gaither announced a second mid-action review meeting of the pandemic on Thursday from 9 a.m. until noon and the next conference call at 11 a.m. on June 16. In response to inquiries, she noted reopening drinking fountains is a local decision and a decision regarding booster vaccines is expected in late August.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on May 18, 2021, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of May 14-20 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#208122-208248	General	\$465,932.14
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President Toles presented certificates of achievement to the following students:

- (1) Ade Akinsanya - Gadsden City High School senior accepted to Columbia University
- (2) Xylia Scott - Adams Elementary School 5th grader selected as National Carson Scholar
- (3) Taylor Simmons - Graduate of Cumberland School of Law at Samford University
- (4) Anna Claire Tumlin - Gadsden City High School senior selected as National Merit Scholarship finalist

President Toles read a proclamation proclaiming “Anna Claire Tumlin Day” noting it will be displayed at Gadsden City High School. She also noted Claire was selected valedictorian of the senior class.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(1) The following resolution, which was tabled for 30 days on April 20 was presented for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-114-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$3,991.40 - 1423 Alabama Avenue - District 3 - State of Alabama, with possible rights of redemption by Brenda Giles and Roberto Barajas-Diaz)

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

(2) A resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1107 Hurst Avenue in District 3, which was tabled for 30 days on April 20 was presented for consideration. Councilman Worthy moved to table the resolution an additional 30 days, which motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson and unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

(1) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1501 Alabama Avenue, Estate of Virginia L. Shack and the State of Alabama being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-115-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$3,691.40 - 1501 Alabama Avenue - District 3 - Estate of Virginia L. Shack, heirs Chris John Shack, Jennifer Shack, Latrice Wilson; State of Alabama)

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

(2) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1420 Kyle Avenue, Van D. Stephens and Mavis Turner being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-116-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,666.40 - 1420 Kyle Avenue - District 3 - Van D. Stephens; Mavis Turner)

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

(3) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 3 North 28th Street, Jessie Marie Barron being the last known owner. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-117-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$3,891.40 - 3 North 28th Street- District 6 - Jessie Marie Barron)

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

(4) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 3419 Sudie Avenue, Eulas Cromer and/or his heirs if deceased, and Holly Denise Leatherwood being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-118-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$2,266.40 - 3419 Sudie Avenue - District 6 - Eulas Cromer and/or his heirs if deceased; Holly Denise Leatherwood)

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

(5) The floor was opened to allow anyone to speak for or in opposition to a resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 2517 Lookout Avenue (accessory building), the State of Alabama and rights of Christopher Croft and Lisa Croft being the last known owners. No one spoke. The following resolution was introduced in writing for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-119-21

ASSESSING NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY

(Assessing Nuisance Abatement Lien for Demolition - \$4,691.40 - 2517 Lookout Avenue (accessory building) - District 7 -State of Alabama; Rights of Christopher Croft and Lisa Croft)

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

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-120-21

AWARDING BID NO. 3453

(Awarding Bid No. 3453 - City of Gadsden Landscape Maintenance - CopelandScapes, Inc. - \$75,240.00)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-121-21

AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT
WITH LOS ARCOS PROPERTIES

(Authorizing Amendment to Economic Development Agreement - Los Arcos Properties - Extending opening date from 12 months to 24 months after execution of original agreement - Relating to construction of Los Arcos Mexican Restaurant at 401 W. Meighan Boulevard)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-122-21

AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO FY 2022
TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE SET-ASIDE PROGRAM

(Authorizing Application to FY2022 Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Program - For construction of phase one of planned sidewalk improvement projects in downtown area - Total project amount of \$621,000.00, with 80% Federal funds of \$496,800.00 and 20% City match of \$124,200.00)

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

ORDINANCE - FIRST READING

The following ordinance was introduced in writing and read by President Toles:

ORDINANCE - ADOPTING THE 2021 FISCAL YEAR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND BUDGET

Since no action was taken in this meeting, the ordinance will be placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting for consideration.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Dr. Kathy L. Murphy, President of Gadsden State Community College, congratulated the students who received certificates today, expressed excitement in being at GSCC, and pledged to continue working with the city. She said the college is offering six hours free to any graduating senior this summer.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

President Toles announced changes in the garbage collection schedule due to next Monday's Memorial Day holiday.

Councilman Reed announced a memorial program to be presented by the Gadsden Etowah Patriots Association at the War Memorial on Monday.

Councilman Wilson explained some of today's actions taken and thanked Striplin Elementary for inviting him to the super citizens program. He thanked first responders for their good work at a terrible accident in the downtown area. Councilman Wilson announced a voucher program for seniors to participate in local farmer's markets, offered by the Alabama Extension office.

On behalf of Councilman Williams, City Clerk Iva Nelson read a statement from him thanking everyone for their concerns expressed during the illness of his parents.

Councilman Back congratulated the Westbrook baseball team who won the State championship.

Mayor Guyton said social media statements regarding the rendering plant being a "done deal" are not true.

Councilman Worthy encouraged everyone to be safe during the upcoming holiday.

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

Iva Nelson, City Clerk (5-25-21)
