

COUNCIL CHAMBER - CITY HALL - GADSDEN, ALABAMA  
JUNE 29, 2021 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on June 29, 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, Williams, Worthy, Back, Wilson, Cannon and Reed. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business. Heath Williamson, Lee Roberts and Chief Jaggears were also present. Mayor Guyton was absent.

The invocation was given by Heath Williamson.

The minutes of the Public Safety Committee, Work Session and Council meeting held on June 22, 2021, were approved by unanimous vote.

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

#208971-209105	General	\$585,570.95
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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(1) A resolution assessing a nuisance abatement lien on property at 1107 Hurst Street in District 3, which was tabled for 30 days on May 25, was presented for consideration. Upon recommendation of the Building Official, Councilman Worthy moved to table the resolution an additional 60 days. The motion was seconded by Councilman Williams and unanimously carried.

(2) The following ordinance, which was introduced for first reading at last week's meeting, was presented for consideration:

ORDINANCE NO. O-05-21

AUTHORIZING CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY

(Authorizing Conveyance of Property to Carrie Leon - 1515 Roosevelt Avenue - Lot 13, Block 29, Gadsden Realty Company's South Gadsden Addition- Accepting offer of \$200.00)

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

PUBLIC HEARING

President Toles stated this was the time and place as advertised to conduct a public hearing allowing anyone to speak in opposition to or in favor of an ordinance rezoning property at 1515 Roosevelt Avenue in District 5 from I-1, Light Industry District, to B-1, Neighborhood Business. No one spoke. President Toles stated the ordinance had been presented today for the first reading and the council will vote on it next week.

## RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

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

### RESOLUTION NO. R-143-21

#### AWARDING BID NO. 3454

(Awarding Bid No. 3454 - Wildhaven Circle Drainage Improvement Project - James E. Watts & Sons Contractors, Inc. - \$76,424.00)

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

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

### RESOLUTION NO. R-144-21

#### AMENDING SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

(Amending Substance Abuse Policy to comply with Federal guidelines - Note: Policy was first established by R-120-91 and last amended by R-227-18)

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

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Jen Weathington announced upcoming events, including First Friday and Summer concert, July 4 fireworks display, restart of limited senior programs at Downtown Civic Center with bingo and ice cream social on July 6, and the adult softball program. She noted July is Parks and Recreation month, with professionals being honored on July 16. In response to questions from Council members, Ms. Weathington noted exercise classes at Walnut Park Community Center will be evaluated in August and indoor facilities are “mask preferred.” City programs and activities are at reduced capacity; however, full capacity is allowed for facility rentals.

State District 29 Representative Gil Isbell reported on a study he requested from PARCA regarding the city’s tax structure and occupational license fees (OLF), in response to a proposed bill eliminating OLF for five cities in Etowah County, if approved by public vote. The study indicated revenues would have to be replaced by another tax, rather than “belt tightening” and growth. A discussion followed, with the following points: the city that favored the bill could eliminate its own OLF; it is unknown if OLF could be reinstated, once eliminated; Gadsden is a regional hub; OLF is designed for people working within the city, especially those who are not residents, to share in the cost of infrastructure and services provided; Gadsden’s current bond rating is “backed” by OLF. Council members thanked Rep. Isbell for the study.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Worthy announced a District 3/Town Hall meeting at 6 p.m. tonight at Carver gym. He noted city and county law enforcement and other officials will be present to discuss crime activity.

Councilman Cannon commended the service of former "Officer 65" Allen Hunter and extended condolences to his family.

Councilman Reed announced the July 4 fireworks display at 9 p.m., noting the time in the newspaper was incorrect.

Councilman Wilson said the complete tax structure must be considered before eliminating OLF and stated the need for a sound economic solution. He said government will obtain the needed funds to operate and nothing will be solved by changing which entity controls tax revenues. Councilman Wilson urged citizens to not drink and drive during the upcoming holiday.

President Toles announced changes in next week's garbage collection schedule, due to the Independence Day holiday on Monday.

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

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Iva Nelson, City Clerk (6-29-2021)

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FOURTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - BID OPENING  
JUNE 29, 2021 - 2:00 P.M.

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

Bid No. 3456 - Tee Shirts

Model Tees	Unit Prices
Express Press	Unit Prices
International Promotional Ideas	Unit Prices
SP Designs and MFG, Inc.	Unit Prices
Riverside Technologies, Inc.	Unit Prices

Bid No. 3457 - Small Tools & Equipment

AG-Pro Companies, LLC	Unit Prices
Carswell Distributing Company	Unit Prices

Copies of the bids will be forwarded to the Assistant Purchasing Agent and the NEAPA Coordinator, and a recommendation will be made to the Council.

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