

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - GADSDEN, ALABAMA  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2021 - 11:00 A.M.

The City Council met on September 28, 2021, in regular session, via teleconference.

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, Back, Wilson, Cannon, and Reed. Councilman Worthy was absent. The clerk stated a quorum was present and the meeting was open for business. Mayor Guyton, Lee Roberts, and Heath Williamson were also present.

The invocation was given by Councilman Back.

Deborah Gaither, Emergency Management Agency Director, presented local Covid-19 statistics, noting a slight improvement in the numbers. She reported on the Vaccinate Gadsden program and announced a Covid/Flu vaccine drive-through clinic at North Glencoe Baptist Church on October 5. She reminded everyone about "Preparedness Month" during September. Fire Chief Wil Reed reported on medic runs and said no staff members are out due to Covid. He noted an upcoming Trunk or Treat event sponsored by first responders and plans to resume fire prevention programs in local schools.

The minutes of the last work session and council meeting held on September 21, 2021, were approved by unanimous vote.

Payment of the HTE System accounts for the week of September 17-23 were ratified by unanimous vote.

#210923-211144	General	\$660,249.73
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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

ORDINANCE NO. O-13-21

AMENDING CITY CODE SECTION 18-1(b)  
REGARDING RENTAL PROPERTY INSPECTION

(Amending City Code Section 18-1(b) - Regarding Rental Property Inspection - Increasing fee for additional follow-up inspections from \$15.00 to \$50.00 each - Note: Cost of \$50.00 for initial inspection and one follow-up inspection remains unchanged)

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

(2) The following resolution, which was tabled for 30 days on August 24, was presented for consideration:

RESOLUTION NO. R-208-21

ORDERING ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

(Ordering Abatement of Nuisance - 312 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street - District 3 - State of Alabama; Wesley Sims; Possible rights of redemption of Heather Nicole Miller; Deborah Miller)

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

(3) President Toles announced that no action was necessary regarding a resolution ordering abatement of nuisance on property at 308 Miller Street in District 6, which was tabled for 30 days on August 24, as the nuisance has been abated by the owner.

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION:

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-209-21

AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN  
ALM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY

(Authorizing City of Gadsden's participation in Economic Development Academy - Year-long training and certification program developed by the Alabama League of Municipalities - Note: Participants include David Hooks, Mayor's Designee; Deverick Williams and Kent Back, Elected Officials; Dr. Kathy Murphy (GSCC President) and Shane Ellison (Etowah County Administrator), Community Members)

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-210-21

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH  
STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

(Authorizing Reciprocal Agreement - State of Alabama Department of Revenue - Providing for exchange of tax returns and information between City and State Department of Revenue)

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Lisa Rosser, Finance Director, responded to a commentary written by John F. Floyd in The Gadsden Times, regarding a \$1 million appropriation in the FY2021 budget for industrial development. She explained this appropriation was not to the Industrial Development Authority, which is funded as an outside agency by the City pursuant to a contract, and is a separate entity governed by its board of directors. She said the \$1 million was budgeted for construction of an access road for a proposed industrial project. The funds were not spent and were reallocated to the Gadsden State Sports Complex project in the FY2022 budget.

On behalf of Chief Reed, Michael Rodgers (Public Relations) clarified the first responders' trunk or treat event will begin at 6 p.m. on October 30, in the Gadsden Mall parking lot.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

On behalf of Councilman Worthy, City Clerk Iva Nelson announced various events for the Latin Festival, which will be held at The Venue on October 1.

Councilman Cannon announced this year's Trick or Treat event on Wall Street, from 5 to 7 p.m. on October 28.

Councilman Williams and President Toles thanked Lisa Rosser for the information she presented, as well as her work and transparency exhibited. President Toles noted citizens may attend meetings where the City's audit is reviewed.

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

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Iva Nelson, City Clerk (9-28-2021)

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