

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES – JANUARY 15, 2019

The Enterprise City Council convened in a Work Session at 5:00 p.m., Tues., January 15, 2019, in the Mayor's Conference Room at City Hall. Notice of the meeting was posted as Per Act 2005-40 Code of Alabama.

PRESENT: Council President Perry Vickers, District #3
Council Member Sonya W. Rich, District #1
Council President Pro-Tem Eugene Goolsby, District #2
Council Member Wallace "Al" Miller, Jr., District #4
Council Member Turner Townsend, District #5

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William E. Cooper
City Clerk/Treasurer, Robert J. Dean, Jr.
Donita Peters, Revenue Officer assisted Clerk with keeping minutes
Beverly Sweeney, Assistant City Clerk
City Attorney, Rainer Cotter
Stephanie Crowe, Finance Director
Jared Alexander, Director of Engineering
Michelle Mann, Southeast Sun
Josh Richards, Enterprise Ledger
Tammy Doerer, Tourism Director

ROLL CALL – Council President Vickers noted that all members of the Council were present. He then called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Council President Vickers asked that the Council review the agenda and asked for any changes or additions. There were no changes or additions.

Council President Vickers asked for discussion concerning Sunday alcohol sales and mentioned that this had been an ongoing issue that needed to be addressed. City Attorney, Rainer Cotter, said that Rhett Marques was the new Representative in the State House and the City will need to move forward and compose an official letter of petition to Representative Marques from Mayor Cooper and Council President Vickers for petitioning the Legislature to introduce a bill. Attorney Cotter also mentioned that Rep. Marques would prefer the City of Enterprise to have a referendum which would give everyone a voice. The City would petition for a bill to authorize Sunday sales of alcohol upon the vote of the people of the City of Enterprise. Once the bill passes it would give the council authority to pass the ordinance to authorize election. Mr. Vickers asked if this item could be placed on agenda for the meeting. Council Members voiced agreement to place item on agenda for regular meeting.

Council President Vickers addressed the issue of lodging tax for the City and his concerns that the tax needed to be increased. The City is presently at 6%. Areas surrounding the city are at a higher rate. (Dothan is 9%, Troy 4%, Montg. 11, Auburn 7%, Mobile 8%, B'ham 6.5%, Phenix City, Al. 9%). Council President Vickers said that for each percent above the 6% represented \$85,000.00 and would like 8% for the City to be considered.

The 8% increase would mean approximately a \$170,000.00 revenue increase for the City which would make the payment for the Dozier Property. Council President Vickers said that this would be an increase that would not affect the citizens of Enterprise.

Council President Vickers asked that the lodging tax discussion be placed on the next working agenda for further discussion.

Budget Amendments with capital projects and equipment was addressed by City Clerk Bob Dean. Mr. Dean spoke of laying out numbers for discussion. There will be hard numbers presented at the first meeting in February and the close out of the fiscal year of 2018 by the second meeting of February. President Vickers suggested an extra work session for the purpose only of the discussion of the equipment, etc. City Clerk Bob Dean will have more numbers to discuss -- cash-on-hand, revenue generation, etc. to present.

Councilman Turner Townsend requested a discussion on the resurfacing project at the first meeting in February or the second meeting at the latest. The budget amount approval by March was suggested by City Clerk Bob Dean. An extra work session would be needed. Council Member Gene Goolsby discussed the \$500,000.00 under budget and wanted to look at the worst streets first. City Clerk Bob Dean will present the numbers for the road infrastructure. The Mayor discussed the proposal of the list of streets. Some were not on the list. (ex. Mills Ave.). The last road evaluation was in 2013/2014. Glenn Morgan with Polyengineering would be contacted for the evaluation. There was discussion by Jared Alexander, Dir. of Engineering Services, concerning DOT road closures and the duration of closures. In 2020 the State anticipates resurfacing Main Street to the Circle. It was proposed in years past that perhaps the City would take over maintenance of Main Street. Discussion was held about what benefits that would give the City. Some of the benefits would be paving projects, assistance with events, under developed property, gain access to roads, changing signage, and traffic light control. Traffic light control would help the College and Lee Street crossing. It was discussed that there had been complaints concerning the traffic light at Main Street. Tammy Doerer discussed why DOT restricts the number of closures annually but there were other questions that needed to be answered. Mr. Alexander said that there was a verbal cap of (8). He also stated that the major benefit would be in the Main Street area and routes. There would be less heavy traffic and the maintenance life cycle would be much better and better for the downtown merchants. Council Member Townsend suggested that more facts were needed about whether the City would take over maintenance of Main Street.

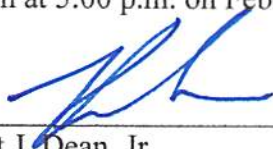
Council Member President Vickers presented to the Council that an appointment needed to be made to the Health Care Authority. City Clerk, Bob Dean, discussed that on January 4, 2019 that Beverly Mitchell expressed her desire to be re-appointed to the board. Council President Vickers asked that the matter be considered in the February work Session meeting.

Ms. Tammy Doerer, Tourism Director, discussed the Centennial Tool Kit events. There will be a tour with Ft. Rucker on Thursday, January 24, 2019 in which there will be 15 to 20 military spouses would be involved. This will be a recreational tour. The guests will visit the library, the Boll Weevil, have lunch at the Farmer's Market and enjoy and introduction to the City of Enterprise. There will also be tables set up from the City of Enterprise, the Police Dept., and the Fire Dept., as well as the Farmer's Market. Ms. Doerer also discussed the unveiling of (4) Boll Weevil statues on Thursday, January 31, 2019 to the public. The replicas of the Boll Weevil will be from Replica Plastics of Dothan, Al. There will also be a Rawls Ball as part of the Bicentennial Celebration events on Thursday, March 7, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at the Civic Center.

City Clerk, Bob Dean spoke and presented to the council the financial review and monetary budget information which was in the Council packets for review. He also stated that after the 2018 fiscal year was closed that there would be a better feel for the reserves.

A copy of the garbage ordinance was sent by City Attorney, Cotter to Council President Vickers and Council Member Goolsby. Council Member Townsend said that there was positive and negative feedback that should be discussed in a broader discussion. Council Member Townsend said that nuisance properties needed to be addressed and the enforcement of a clean city. The future code enforcement officer would aid in this concern.

As there was no other business to be discussed in the Work Session, Council President Vickers offered a motion to adjourn the Work Session. Council Member Townsend made a second. The vote being All Ayes, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m. and would reconvene in a Regular Session at 5:00 p.m. on February 5, 2019.



Robert J. Dean, Jr.
City Clerk/Treasurer



Perry Vickers
Council President