

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES - FEBRUARY 5, 2019

The Enterprise City Council convened in a Work Session at 4:30 p.m., Tues., February 5, 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, kept the minutes
Beverly Sweeney, Assistant City Clerk
Attorney Rainer Cotter
Stephanie Crowe, Finance Director
Jared Alexander, Director of Engineering
Tammy Doerer, Tourism Director
Jason Wright, Communications Director
T.D. Jones, Chief of Police
Billy Haglund, Lt. Staff Services
Billy Powell, Parks & Rec. Director
Shannon Roberts, Interim Public Works Dir.
Michelle Mann, Southeast Sun WDHN Reporter

ROLL CALL - Council President Vickers noted that all Council Members were present. He then called the meeting to order at 4:35 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 Tammy Doerer, Tourism Director, to inform the Council concerning the Main Street Project/Program. Ms. Doerer asked that the Council consider Enterprise as a designated community for the Main Street project. Ms Doerer said that the City would need to apply and complete the workshop requirements for the project. The deadline for the completed packet of information, which includes the letter of intent, needs to be completed by February 28, 2019. The City is not required to apply at this time, but needs to begin the process. Ms. Doerer stressed the importance of moving forward with the project now instead of waiting another year. The City's involvement in this project would be of great benefit aiding tourism and the economy. A letter of permission from Mayor Cooper for the letter of intent is needed to begin the process. Fundraising and how much the city would give to the program would need to be decided. Personnel, including a full time director, would be needed. The salary/pay and the fund that the monies would come from would be decided by the Council. This position would be someone from the current staff. Jason Wright discussed the need for a meeting with the downtown merchants informing them of the program. Some of the merchants have been reached by door-to-door. Ms. Doerer said if this project was approved the cost for the first year would be \$7500.00 and the second year would be \$5,000.00. There will be four committees with the Main Street project called (Action Committees).

Jason Wright, Communications Director, mentioned that the downtown merchants needed to fully understand what IS and what is NOT with this program. Ms. Doerer said that this is a huge asset for the City. There will be reports that are also due to Main Street. On the web page there will be very helpful information that will explain and help to inform everyone. Council President Vickers gave his approval to pursue the Main Street Project and that this would be a full time position for a current employee and is non-binding. Mayor Cooper was asked to sign a letter of intent by Council Vickers with all members of the Council in agreement.

Council Vickers then preceded to ask Police Chief T. D. Jones to present the information concerning the proposal for body cameras for the police force. Chief Jones said that (12) cameras have been tested from different vendors and would like the Council to consider purchasing the cameras from Axon-Taser International. These cameras are of critical and major points in law enforcement. Chief Jones said that these cameras had (12) hours of battery life which would serve a full shift for the officers. These are the normal hours for interaction with the citizens. There is a 143 degree diagonal view with these cameras and hold 70 hours of recording time and the company guarantees upgrades. Chief Jones said that the force has (17) Tasers that are the newest and (15) that are not as new. The docking stations would need to be downloaded and recharged after each shift for the next use. Council Member Townsend and Council Member Miller had questions concerning the usage when the officer was home. Chief Jones said that the officers would not have usage at home and off duty. Chief Jones also said that these cameras would protect the officers when on duty for the (12) hours shifts and would have the body packs when the officer left home. Security and access to the information would be accessed through Evidence.com. This information is indefinitely stored and most of the normal daily information drops off in a couple of years. If this information is needed, it can be pulled from the iCloud. Chief Jones continued his discussion with the breakdown in costs for the body cameras and that the \$43,061.50 to begin was budgeted in this year for 2019. An amount of \$31,632.00 would be needed for each year after the first year to continue the contract with Axon.

Council President Vickers asked that the body camera issue be added to the agenda. Mr. Cotter said that approval was needed. Council Member Townsend inquired about the department's body camera policy, including the process regarding the release of body cam footage. Chief Jones stated that currently, body cameras are covered under the car camera policy. He noted a policy would be looked into or developed before the cameras are received. Chief Jones further discussed the need for the body cameras and the Council Members asked various questions. Lt. Billy Haglund also discussed the need and cost effectiveness of the cameras. Chief Jones requested (40) cameras at no cost, (6) docking stations at a 25 percent discount totaling \$22,202.00. This total includes refreshment of the cameras and docking stations for 30 to 60 months. After 30 months all equipment would be upgraded. Chief Jones asked City Attorney Rainer Cotter to discuss bidding issues. Mr. Cotter stated that based on the bid law, exemptions for security and safety measures applied, and he stated as well as the fact that already purchased tasers link in with this specific system, the one source exception to the bid law could also apply to exempt the purchase from the bid law.

Council President Vickers asked for any objections for the consideration of the body cameras purchased and purchased from Axon and there were no objections. Council Member Townsend made a request for the cameras, expense, and approval for the body cameras to be considered and Council President Vickers asked that the agenda be amended upon the Mayor's approval and the body camera consideration be placed first on the next agenda.

Council President Vickers asked for discussion concerning the parking lot and land agreement with Coffee County. Rod Morgan, Coffee County Administrator, discussed that weather permitting, the paving project would potentially begin in March. There would be (42) spaces matching the existing parking at the courthouse that would be paved and the replacement of the sidewalk in front of the courthouse. There will be some spaces that will be saved that will be used for water retention. Mr. Morgan also expressed the county's appreciativeness for the city's involvement in the paving.

City Clerk/Treasurer, Robert J. Dean, Jr., discussed the city's cash reserves. Council Member Miller has several questions about business license revenue. Mr. Dean added that with the funds already received from the business license and the expected revenue that has not been received yet would bring the total city cash revenues to approximately \$8,000,000.00. Mr. Dean also discussed the amended revenue for FY2019 budget to include approximate amounts from garbage fees of \$588,000.00 and additional business license issuance fees of \$75,000 for a total of \$663,000. Optional additional revenue fees of \$40,000 in franchise fees and over \$182,000 in sales tax over the projected sales tax for FY2019 would give a total revenue of over \$885,000 above FY2019 budget. Council Member Townsend discussed the total of cash reserves and whether they were restricted or not and if the reserves could be used for paving. Mr. Dean said that he would have information on the capital projects before the next meeting to present to the Council and the Dept. Heads. The information will include the paving projects, including resurfacing, and the requirements for equipment. Mr. Dean will have these numbers available at the next meeting for the Council to review. Mr. Dean also suggested the last week of February on a day that is convenient for the Council and the Mayor he would like to have a special call work session at Enterprise Community College. At this meeting the numbers could be reviewed and, hopefully by the first or second meeting in March, the budget could be voted on for an amendment on the budget.

Council Member President Vickers discussed the issue of a city auditing firm and the fact that the particular auditing firm to use was the Mayor's decision, but he was concerned about the increase in cost that the city was being charged from the current auditing firm. Council President Vickers gave out a document showing audit charges for the last several years. He suggested that bids be taken to aid in the selection of another auditing firm.

Council President Vickers opened discussion regarding the draft bill on Sunday sales. City attorney Rainer Cotter said that Representative Marques intends to put forth the letter of proposal from the city. There are two drafts to be considered for the bill and the final Bill will have to be approved by the legislature. The Citizens will decide for Sunday Sales to be off premises and/or on premises after the bill is passed. Discussion was had concerning different drafts of the bill: Cotter explained Draft (1) - If referendum is approved by the citizens, draft (1) indicates the time for sales on Sunday will be on the referendum. If the time is placed on the bill in the Legislature or the time is included in the referendum, the time at a later date cannot be changed without returning to the Legislature to do so. Draft (2) - If the Council decides the time for sale on Sundays after the referendum is passed and something happens that the time is not working out for the city, then, the Council may change the times. All were in agreement that Draft (2) was more flexible. Mayor Cooper stated that most cities begin sales at 1:00 p.m. All Council Members were in agreement to commit to Draft (2) and to ask Mayor Cooper and Council Member President Vickers to send a cover letter to Representative Marques and Senator Holley with the request.

Billy Powell discussed the new supervisor position with the Parks & Recreation Dept. concession stand. Mr. Powell stated that this position would not be creating new personnel or additional funding. The Department is adapting a job description based on someone hired to run the night shift concession stand. Council Member Townsend asked about the budget and Mr. Powell said that the position was also based on special events, practices, tournaments, and night time events for the position.

Council Member President Vickers called on Shannon Roberts for an update on the Wembleton/Nottingham pipe problem that was brought up at the last work session meeting concerning. Mr. Roberts discussed the pipes and what was needed to correct the problem and the replacement of pipes. The pipes will be replaced with CMP 24" pipe that is corrugated and also AP reinforced pipe. Mr. Roberts also discussed the rail that was broken on the railroad track at College Street and that the road would need to be closed for a short period of time on Wed., February 16, 2019 to repair. There was concern brought by Mayor Cooper for the school bus routes through the area and the Council Members decided that the road would not close until 8:00 a.m. Mayor Cooper asked that the delay/road closure be placed on the city's website for public knowledge. It was decided that a motion would be made by Council Member Townsend during the regular meeting to amend the agenda to include consideration of a motion to close College Street for the repair of the rail on the railroad track. All Council Members were in agreement.

Jason Wright discussed the new policy that came into effect concerning SOP's at the Civic Center and the Farmer's Market. Mr. Wright explained that under this new policy any business or organization that fell outside of the normal issued licenses are to ask permission from the council for approval. Spectra Care is a 501C-3 organization and last year held its National Celebration Prevention week in Coffee County. They promoted mental health and substance abuse awareness. They also partnered with the school system. There were over 500 people that participated. They are asking to have this event again this year in April and would like the Council to waive the fee for their organization again this year. This will be the first group that has fallen into this new policy. Council President Vickers discussed the matter with all Council Members and all were in agreement with no objections with waiving the fee and the fee will be waived.

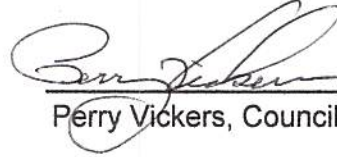
Council Member Goolsby addressed the trash can ordinance and suggested that the issue be tabled due to the new Code Enforcement Officer that will be in place to handle these issues. This will give the officer time to look over the issue and let us know if there are any revisions needed. Council Member Townsend agreed as did all other Council Members and the garbage can ordinance was tabled.

Glenn Morgan discussed and updated the Council concerning the culvert at College Street. He explained that the property was tied up with the owner and the owner did not want to donate the land giving the city approval to use the property. Therefore, the DOT will review the issue and the city will need a primary appraiser and a review appraiser to appraise the property, in which both are already set up. The city has an agreement with the DOT for property acquisition. After the issues are completed the city can move forward. Mr. Morgan added that the property was 1/10 acre.

There was no other business to be discussed in the Work Session and Council President Vickers offered a motion to adjourn the Work Session. The motion was made and a second. The vote being All Ayes, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m. and went into Executive Session and would reconvene in a Regular Session at 6:00 p.m.



Robert J. Dean, Jr., City Clerk



Perry Vickers, Council President