

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 20, 2020

The Enterprise City Council convened in a Special Meeting on Friday, March 20, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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
Interim City Clerk/Treasurer Beverly Sweeney was present and kept the minutes.

ROLL CALL – Council President Vickers noted that all Council Members were present.

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council President Vickers informed those in attendance that an Executive Session was needed to discuss issues relating to security.

STATE OF ALABAMA)

CITY OF ENTERPRISE)

**MINUTES EXCERPTS AND MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION
PURSUANT TO THE ALABAMA OPEN MEETINGS LAW
A05-0145**

WHEREAS, the Enterprise City Council, with a quorum being present, was conducting a meeting on the 20th day of March, 2020, the time, date, place and agenda of which were duly announced and notices of which were posted in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Law, Act 2005-40 (Act); and,

WHEREAS, the following persons were in attendance: Council Members Rich, Goolsby, Vickers, Miller and Townsend. Council President Vickers presided over the meeting. Mayor William E. Cooper was also present. City Attorney Rainer Cotter was present; and,

WHEREAS, during the course of said meeting, a motion was made by Council Member Miller for the Council to go into Executive Session for the purpose of legal advice and counsel and security plans both being one of the following purposes authorized by the Act:

- Reputation and Character
- Legal Advice and Counsel
- Security Plans
- State and/or Federal Law
- Law Enforcement
- Real Estate Transactions
- Trade Secrets
- Public Employee Negotiations
- Quasi-Judicial Deliberations

Which motion was seconded by Council Member Rich; and,

WHEREAS, the Attorney advised the Council that a declaration was required by the Act for an Executive Session if it was in regard to any of the following purposes:

- Legal Advice and Counsel
- Law Enforcement
- Trade Secrets
- Employee Negotiations

WHEREAS, Attorney Rainer Cotter appeared before the Council and stated for the record that he/she was duly qualified and/or had the personal knowledge to provide the requisite declaration for the stated purpose of the Executive Session authorized by the Act and informed the Council that an Executive Session was necessary for the following reason:

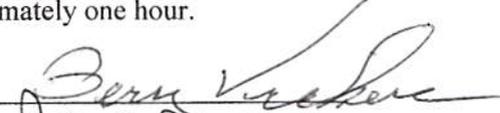
Legal advice and counsel related to security issues.

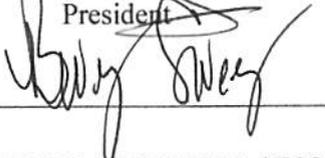
WHEREAS, the President directed the City Attorney to enter into said motion, purpose and declaration into the minutes of the meeting and called for a vote on said motion; and,

WHEREAS, said vote in regard to the motion for Executive Session was taken with the "yeas" and "nays" being recorded into the minutes as follows:

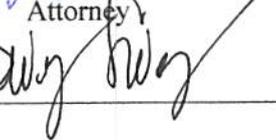
- | | <u>Yeas</u> | <u>Nays</u> |
|----|-------------|-------------|
| 1. | Rich | |
| 2. | Goolsby | |
| 3. | Vickers | |
| 4. | Miller | |
| 5. | Townsend | |

And the President declared that a majority of the votes being in favor of the motion, that such motion had therefore passed, and the Council would forthwith recess into Executive Session at 12:05 p.m. for the purpose as stated in said motion and no other purpose, in accordance with the Act and reconvene in approximately one hour.

By: 
President

Attest: 

By: 
Attorney

Attest: 

RECONVENE IN SPECIAL SESSION

The Special Session was recessed into Executive Session at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened in Special Session at 1:40 p.m. after duly made motion and second with all Ayes.

REVIEW & CONSIDER RESOLUTION 03-20-20 (State of Emergency/Coronavirus)

The President read at length, out loud, Resolution 03-20-20, providing that a State of Emergency be declared, effective immediately, for the City of Enterprise. Council Member Miller offered the motion to adopt Resolution 03-20-20. Council Member Rich made the second. The President called for any discussion.

Council Member Townsend - While I agree with many of the stipulations in this resolution I cannot support it. I don't think the timing is right. I think we have time before we declare a state of emergency so therefore I think it is a little premature. I don't think all the stipulations are premature but I do think the actual declaration is premature. But I completely respect the need to be proactive and respect each individual decision on this, but that is my stance.

Council Member Rich - This resolution was not done to heighten anxieties but rather to, hopefully, provide some assurance that we are on top of this situation. We are doing this because we feel we are in-line with what has already been passed down from our nation's capital and our governor's office. We are not in a state of chaos here in Enterprise. Our citizens are conducting themselves in a way that we all should be proud. I want to say that we are assured our department heads are doing everything we can ask, and even things we haven't asked, to take measures to work soundly and in the best interest of the citizens of Enterprise.

Council Member Miller - I think we need to be proactive and what this resolution does is set in place possible security and safety measures for the citizens of Enterprise that we may need to take in the upcoming weeks. As Ms. Rich said, the federal government and state government, as well as many of the municipalities have done this and I think it is something this Council needs to do.

Council Member Goolsby - Being proactive is all that was intended with this declaration. We as a Council do not know anything that you as the public does not know. We did not get any secret information or anything. Like everyone has said, we just think we need to be proactive.

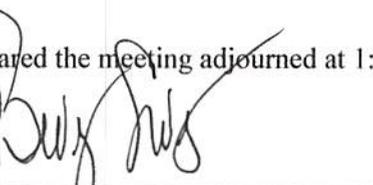
Council President Vickers - I think we want to tell the citizens of Enterprise that we are doing everything we possibly can.

The vote being: Rich - Aye; Goolsby - Aye; Vickers - Aye; Miller - Aye; Townsend - Nay. The President declared Resolution 03-20-20 duly passed and adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.


Perry Vickers
Council President


Beverly Sweeney
Interim City Clerk/Treasurer