

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES – JUNE 18, 2019

The Enterprise City Council convened in a Work Session on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room in City Hall. Notice of the meeting was posted as Per Act 2005-40 Code of Alabama.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William E. Cooper
Robert J. Dean, Jr., City Clerk/Treasurer
Rainer Cotter, Attorney
Beverly Sweeney, Assistant City Clerk
Stephanie Crowe, Finance Director
Donita Peters, Revenue Officer, Minutes
Tammy Doerer, Tourism Director
Jason Wright, Communications Director
Michelle Mann, Southeast Sun
Josh Richards, Media

Council President Vickers called the Session to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: All Council Members were present.

Council President Vickers asked Stephanie Crowe, Finance Director and Robert J. Dean, Jr., City Clerk, Treasurer, to give the Council Members an update of the City's finances.

Ms. Crowe asked the Council Members to refer to a financial report that she had prepared. She discussed the City's total amount of cash through the end of May 2019 which is divided into restricted and unrestricted funds. The information showed a comparison to the same period of time in 2018. The City's sales tax is up 9% in just one month as compared to last year and is up to a little over 6% for the entire year. The report also showed budget to actual and projected actual figures. Mr. Dean said that the FY 2019 budget had been amended to include a street paving project. The project was to follow the first phase of the water project that is currently behind schedule and looks like it will push into FY2020. Therefore, the paving project was not added into this 2019 fiscal year report. Mr. Dean also said that the first and second phase of the paving projects, along with the airport project, would bring the total amount of capital expenses close to \$3,000,000.00 in 2020. Ms. Crowe's report also showed debt ratio comparisons with other municipalities. The long-term debt figures were also shown in the report for the Council Members to review. Council Member Townsend said that one of the big differences with our city, as compared with other cities, is the City of Enterprise carries a lot of school system debt and other cities don't have this debt. Ms. Crowe said that sewer disposal is a proprietary fund and is a separate fund that is not included in her previous fund reports. She said that these funds carry their own weight. Ms. Crowe explained the audit financial statements and changes to the long-term debt statement.

Council President Vickers asked Jason Wright, Communications Director, to update the Council Members on the Farmer’s Market. Mr. Wright presented the following report to the Council Members concerning the current information on the Farmer’s Market Activity. He said there had been a few changes since last year.

2018 FINAL REPORT

Total Vendors for the year	48
Farmers/Growers Permits	30
Arts and Crafts Vendors/Bus. License/Health Dept. Exempt	18
Non-profits	0
New Farmers/Vendors/Non-Profits	16/12
Total New	28

2019 YEAR TO DATE AS OF 18, 2019

Year to Date Sign-up Total	41
Farmers/Growers Permits	30
Arts and Crafts Vendors/Bus. License/Health Dept. Exempt	11
Non-profits	0
New Farmers/Vendors/Non-profits	8/6
Total New with 27 Returning	14

Mr. Wright said that there was one grower and one crafter applications pending with two more inquiries today. Growers have had estimated crowds at well over 1,000 for the past three to four weeks and they are pleased. The theme days, which consist of Watermelon Day, Pumpkin Day, Peanut Day, and Christmas at the Market, have all done well. Watermelon Day is set for August 29, 2019. A date has not been set for Christmas at the Market at this time, due to the month of December being very busy with various Christmas events, but a date will be announced around the end of this month. Mr. Wright said that a Farmer’s Market Promotion Program grant (FMPP) had been applied for as in previous years. This is an 80/20 grant which was applied for and approved for the City in 2015. The grant for the City in 2015 was a \$50,000.00 grant and this year Mr. Wright said he has asked for \$70,000.00 and it does not require a resolution. This grant can be used for advertising which can include t-shirts, etc. There has been roughly 800 people to apply for the grant. The City of Enterprise has applied for this grant four times and has received it once. The City will be notified, if selected to receive the grant, sometime within the next 90 days.

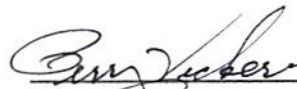
Mr., Wright also discussed the City’s Lodging Report. The lodging tax dollars are up just under \$60,000.00 from January 2019 through May 2019. This figure is also with one hotel not in service. Council President Vickers asked about the ongoing process with the off- line Hotel and Mr. Wright said the hotel was in the full remodeling process, but the activity was halted within the last thirty days. He was not sure of the current status, but would hopefully open for business by the end of the year. Council President Vickers asked Mr. Wright about the prospects for another hotel coming into the City and Mr. Wright said that he was in the process of selling the City to new potential investors. He said even though the City was down one hotel, the lodging tax was still looking good for the City. He also added that the upcoming Summer ball tournament months will increase the lodging tax revenues also.

Council President Vickers asked Tammy Doerer, Tourism Director, to update the Council Members on the Main Street Project. Mrs. Doerer said that next Monday, June 24, 2019 during the work day, there will be an organizational meeting for Main Street Alabama and that evening there will be a press conference with the Media. This will be a family-oriented event. There will be a kick-off reception with a "Taste of Downtown" in which all of the downtown restaurants will provide food. The next Main Street Alabama meeting will be in August. The August meeting will involve forming committees, gathering volunteers, and addressing the Main Street Director position. Ms. Doerer said she had sent the Council Members and everyone an e-mail with the details of the events that will be taking place.

Council President Vickers asked the Council Members for a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss Good Name and Character and Real Estate. Council Member Miller made a motion to move into Executive Session and Council Member Rich made a second. There was no further discussion. All were in favor with Ayes and the Work Session was adjourned and moved into Executive Session at approximately 5:21 p.m. The meeting returned from Executive Session and was adjourned without further business.



Robert J. Dean, Jr.
City Clerk/Treasurer



Perry Vickers
Council President