

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF HARTSELLE, ALABAMA  
MAY 24, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Hartselle, Alabama, met in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, inside the Council Chambers at the Hartselle Municipal Building. Council President Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Police Chief Justin Barley gave the invocation.

Mayor Randy Garrison lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present for the meeting: Council President Kenny Thompson, Council Members Virginia Alexander and Dwight Tankersley, and Mayor Randy Garrison and City Attorney, Larry Madison, who also acted as Secretary in the absence of City Clerk/Controller, Rita S. Lee. Also absent were Council Members Chuck Gill and Ken Doss. Having a quorum present, Council President Thompson declared the proceedings open for business.

Council President Thompson called for approval of the minutes of the work session held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022. Council Member Tankersley moved to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson called for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022. Council Member Tankersley moved to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the first matter of unfinished business on the agenda, a public hearing and final consideration of Ordinance No. 1570, which, if adopted, would provide for the annexation of certain property on Byrd Road. Council President Thompson announced that the public hearing was open for comment and no comments were forthcoming. Thereupon, Council Member Tankersley moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Council Member Alexander. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Council President Thompson next called for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1570 as presented. Council Member Tankersley made the motion, seconded by Council Member Alexander. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Council President Thompson next addressed the second matter of unfinished business on the agenda, a public hearing and final consideration of Ordinance No. 1571, which, if adopted, would provide for zoning of the property annexed by Ordinance No. 1570. The Ordinance provides that the property would be zoned R-1. Council President Thompson announced that the public hearing was open for comment and no comments were forthcoming. Thereupon, Council Member Tankersley moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Council Member Alexander. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Council President Thompson next called for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1571 as presented. Council Member Tankersley made the motion, seconded by Council Member Alexander. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Next, Terry Acuff addressed the Council with respect to proposed Resolution No. 22-0524, which involves a Land Water Conservation Fund grant. He outlined the purpose for which this fund would be used, which is primarily for construction of two new restrooms at Sparkman Park. Following Mr. Acuff's presentation and the recommendation of the Mayor in support of it, Council Member Alexander moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-0524, seconded by Council Member Tankersley. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Council President Thompson then called for consideration of the grant of an alcohol license for

Osaka Hartselle, Inc., d/b/a Osaka Sushi and Steakhouse at 1091 U.S. Highway 31, N.W., Suite D. in the City of Hartselle. The application is for a Restaurant, Class 1 retail liquor license. The Mayor addressed the Council as to what granting the motion would allow. He also advised that the alcohol committee had approved the form of the application. Thereupon, Council President Thompson called for a public hearing on the matter. There being no comments, Council Member Tankersley moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Council Member Alexander. The motion to close the public hearing carried unanimously by voice vote. Following the public hearing, Council Member Alexander moved to approve the license, seconded by Council Member Tankersley. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Next, Police Chief Justin Barley addressed the Council requesting a budget adjustment of \$13,994.77 added to line item 01-201-5300 Building. He explained that the transfer was needed to cover expenses relative to moving the Police Department to the Public Safety Building, which is the old City Hall. Thereupon, Council Member Tankersley moved to approve the budget adjustment, seconded by Council Member Alexander. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Fire Chief Daryl Fox next addressed the Council with a request for a budget transfer. Specifically, he requested a transfer of \$1,132.95 from line item 01-202-5300 Building/Grounds Maintenance to Siren Maintenance line item 01-202-5313. He explained that there were unforeseen maintenance requirements this year due to a lightning strike on Groover Road and battery replacement on Mountainview Road. Council Member Alexander moved to approve the transfer, seconded by Council Member Tankersley. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

As the final matter of new business on the agenda, Curtis Self, Public Works Director, requested a budget transfer of \$500.00 from line item 01-302-5413 Sanitation Insurance Expense to line item 01-302-5416 Sanitation Permits and Fees. After he explained the need for the transfer to the Council, Council Member Tankersley moved to approve the transfer, seconded by Council Member Alexander. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

There being no other new business to come before the Council, President Thompson moved on to announcements. He announced that the City of Hartselle is accepting applications for a five year term on the Parks and Recreation Board and a four year term on the Central Business District Board. Applications are available on-line or at the City Clerk's office. Applications and/or resumes must be turned in to the City Clerk's office, or emailed to her, by Friday, June 3, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

Council President Thompson then called for any comments by members of the Council, Mayor and City Attorney. Council Member Tankersley congratulated the Hartselle High School Baseball team for winning their 9th state championship. The sentiment was echoed by Council Member Alexander, Mayor Garrison and City Attorney Larry Madison. It was also pointed out that Hartselle High School alumnus, Chris Heaps, had led his Russellville High School baseball team to its second consecutive state championship.

Council President Thompson then opened the floor for comments from the audience. Mr. Phillip Harrison of 1848 Peach Orchard Road, N.W. addressed the Council. He complained of what he called a drug house at 1825 Peach Orchard, as well as a house where a refrigerator had been placed in the front yard at 1845 Peach Orchard. There have been multiple drug arrests at the 1848 residence, as well as overdoses and a death. Chief Barley advised that this was, in fact, a problem house and that there had been several arrests made there. He also indicated that every officer on the force is familiar with the residence. Chief Fox disclosed that there had been another overdose death at the house in the afternoon before the Council meeting. Chief Barley indicated that the primary problem is that with the new state laws prohibiting incarceration of individuals for drug possession, police enforcement has become onerous. He advised Mr. Harrison to pressure the local legislative delegation to make changes in the law. He indicated that he sympathizes with the problems that Mr. Harrison and others like him have, and explained the limitations of police enforcement of such matters at this time.

There being no further comments from the audience, Mayor Garrison asked that the Council consider adjourning to an executive session to discuss a potential price for sale of a certain parcel of municipal property. As required by the Alabama Open Meetings Act, City Attorney Larry

Madison certified that this was an appropriate subject for executive session, if the Council chose to do so. Thereupon, Council President Thompson announced that the Council would adjourn to executive session and would return in approximately ten minutes. The executive session was held and the Council returned within the announced time.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

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Kenny Thompson, Council President

ATTEST:

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By: Rita S. Lee, City Clerk/Controller