

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF HARTSELLE, ALABAMA  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Hartselle, Alabama, met in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, inside the Assembly Room at the Hartselle Municipal Building, located at 611 Chestnut Street NW. Council President Kenny Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

City Attorney Larry Madison gave the invocation. Council Member Ken Doss led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Council President Thompson called for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, August 23, 2022. Council Member Doss motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council Member Chuck Gill arrived at the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Council President Thompson addressed the first item on the agenda, Ordinance 1575, rezoning 38.79 acres on Higdon Road, and called on City Planner Jeremy Griffith to discuss with the Council. Mr. Griffith explained that if adopted, it will rezone 38.79 acres on Higdon Road (west and north of Turtle Pond Estates) from AG-1/R-1 (split zoning) to R-5 for a proposed patio home development. This change is not specifically shown in the current comprehensive plan, but the use does remain “detached residential,” as proposed. Planning Commission recommended approval 6-0. Council President Thompson declared a public hearing open for comments. Mr. Justin Hampton, 1001 Higdon Road, addressed the Council and provided pictures of drainage issues around his property. Mr. Ken Callaway, 1011 Higdon Road, also addressed the Council with drainage concerns as well. Both Mr. Griffith and Director of Development Jeff Johnson addressed the concerns presented to the Council. After further discussion and questions from the Council Members, Council Member Doss motioned to close the public hearing; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Council Member Doss motioned to adopt Ordinance 1575; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson asked Mr. Griffith to address the next item on the agenda, Ordinance 1576, rezoning Hwy. 31 North. Mr. Griffith explained that if adopted, it will rezone 1.16 acres and a commercial building on Hwy. 31 North (former foundation repair business) from B-1 to B-2 in order to allow a proposed towing service at this location. Mr. Griffith also said this change is not specifically shown in the current comprehensive plan, but there are other B-2 zoned parcels in the vicinity. Under the current B-2 ordinance, screening is required for auto storage in conjunction with a towing service, if the requested rezoning is approved. Planning Commission recommended approval 5-1. Council President Thompson declared a public hearing open for comments. No comments were made. Council Member Doss motioned to close the public hearing; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Council Member Alexander motioned to adopt Ordinance 1576; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, Resolution 22-0913, approve Special Use Permit for Verizon Wireless, and called on Mr. Jeff Belizo with CMS Consultants to come forward and discuss with the Council. Mr. Belizo explained that Verizon Wireless has applied for a Special Use Permit to modify equipment on an existing monopole tower located at 400 Hammitt Street. He informed the Council that Verizon Wireless would be

replacing existing antennas with twelve (12) new ones that would make upgrades to bring 5G service in the area. Council Member Doss motioned to approve Resolution 22-0913; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, Resolution 22-0913A, to authorize Mayor to sign application and related documents for FY2023 Airport Improvement Project and called on Jeff Johnson, Director of Development, to discuss with the Council. Mr. Johnson explained the resolution would allow the City to apply for state matching funds from the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) for an airport improvement project at the Hartselle Morgan County Regional Airport during FY2023. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve Resolution 22-0823A; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, Resolution 22-0913B, approve an increase in sanitation rates effective October 1, 2022, and called on Public Works Director Curtis Self to discuss with the Council. Mr. Self explained that it is necessary to raise the rates charged for collection and disposal of residential solid waste due to increase in the costs of operation. Council Member Doss motioned to approve Resolution 22-0913B; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to consider a Special Event Alcohol Permit for the Hartselle Area Chamber of Commerce for a Beer Garden at Depot Days, and called on City Clerk-Controller Rita Lee to discuss with the Council. Ms. Lee presented the request that had been reviewed and approved by the Alcohol Review Committee. Council President Thompson declared a public hearing open for comments. No comments were made. Council Member Doss motioned to close the public hearing; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Council Member Gill motioned to approve the Special Event Alcohol License; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to consider authorizing the Mayor to sign the Morgan County Emergency Management Communication District (MCEMCD) contract for dispatch service for FY2023 and called on Fire Chief Daryl Fox to discuss with the Council. Chief Fox explained this agreement with Morgan County Emergency Management Communication District (MCEMCD) would continue to provide dispatch services for both the Hartselle Police Department and the Hartselle Fire Department. Council Member Doss motioned to approve contract with Morgan County Emergency Management Communication; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to consider authorizing Mayor to accept ATRIP2 bids with ALDOT and called on Jeff Johnson, Director of Development, to discuss with the Council. Council Member Alexander motioned to accept ATRIP2 bids with ALDOT; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to authorize Mayor to sign proposals with GameDay Athletic Surfaces, Inc. for field management program, and called on Ms. Lee to discuss with the Council. Ms. Lee explained the proposals would include monthly application of all chemicals required for fertilization and weed control, aeration, top dressing and over-seeding some fields with rye. She pointed out the funding for the services had been included in the budget for FY2023. Council Member Doss motioned to approve the Mayor to sign proposals with GameDay Athletic Surfaces, Inc. for field management program; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to approved revised job description for Parks & Recreation Director, and called on HR Administrator Melee Laney to discuss with the Council. Ms. Laney reviewed the changes to the job description and asked for the Council's approval. Council Member Tankersley motioned to approve the revised job description as presented; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to declare items surplus for Administration, and called on Ms. Lee to discuss with the Council. Ms. Lee explained IT has various computer equipment that is no longer needed or is defective that they would like to place on GovDeals. Council Member Doss motioned to approve items surplus for Administration; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to declare items surplus for the Fire Department, and called on Chief Fox to discuss with the Council. Chief Fox explained he is requesting the Council to declare the following turnout gear (PPE) surplus that is out of date or damaged: three (3) coats and two (2) pair of pants. He stated that if approved, these items will be discarded at the landfill. Council Member Doss motioned to approve items surplus for Fire Department; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, approve FY2023 Budget for General Funds, and called on Ms. Lee to discuss with the Council. Ms. Lee reviewed the budget summary, and noted the only change from the budget presented at a recent work session was to the revenue amount to reflect the increase fees for sanitation services. She reviewed the summary with the Council, highlighting the 4% COLA and 3% merit increases that were included for employees. She also reminded the Council that the City had not received notice yet of any changes to the health insurance increase from the state and that an 8% increase had been included in the budget, but that amount could be higher. She also covered the items that were being carried forward and noted that the city has just been notified that the 2022 Sanitation Truck, that was on order, would not arrive until possibly March of 2023. Council Member Doss motioned to approve the FY2023 Budget for General Funds; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson asked Ms. Lee to address the last item on the agenda, approve FY2023 Budget for Other Funds. Ms. Lee informed that Council that no changes had been made to all other funds, including the Gasoline Funds, Court Funds and the Education Sales Tax Fund and requested the Council approve as presented. Council Member Doss motioned to approve FY2023 Budget for Other Funds; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

At this time, Council President Thompson recognized Police Chief Justin Barley, who asked City Attorney Larry Madison to come forward to swear in new Police Officer Mason Little. Chief Justin Barley then administered the Police Department Oath of Office as well and welcomed him to the force. He also recognized Police Sergeant Lynn Dean, who was in the audience, having been severely injured while on duty, but was improving and able to come back to work on light duty.

Council President Thompson asked for comments from the Mayor, Council Members or City Attorney. Council Member Gill congratulated Police Officer Little and welcome him to the City. Council Member Tankersley also welcome Officer Little and thanked Sergeant Dean for his service and welcomed him back. Council Member Doss and Alexander also congratulated Officer Little and expressed their appreciation to Sergeant Dean and thanked all those involved with the budget process. City Attorney Madison welcomed the new officer and thanked all the Police Officers for their service and expressed his pleasure in seeing Officer Dean back. Ms. Lee also thanked the Council for passing the budget and thanked all those that helped in the process. Council President Thompson also welcomed the new officer, expressed his gratitude to Officer Dean for his service an thanked all those involved in the budget process.

Council President Thompson asked for comments from the audience. Police Chief Barley and HR Administrator Laney thanked the Council for approving the budget. No other comments were made.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

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Kenny Thompson  
Council President

ATTEST:

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Rita S. Lee, City Clerk - Controller