

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF HARTSELLE, ALABAMA  
AUGUST 8, 2023**

The City Council of the City of Hartselle, Alabama, met in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, 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.

Public Works Director Curtis Self gave the invocation. Mayor Randy Garrison led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Council President Thompson called for approval of the minutes of the work session held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Doss 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, July 25, 2023. Council Member Doss motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the first item on the agenda, Ordinance 1591, rezoning Mountainview Road, and called on City Planner Jeremy Griffith to discuss with Council. Mr. Griffith explained that if adopted, this ordinance would rezone approximately 24 acres on Mountainview Road from R-3 to R-1. This property was recently rezoned to R-3 by the previous owner. The new owner wishes to ensure that future subdivided acreage lots can only be used for single family dwellings. Approximately 8 acres of the original 32 acres rezoning area is excluded to remain R-3. The previous change to R-3 was from the current comprehensive plan, and the requested zoning of R-1 is in conformance. Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezoning 5-0-1. Council President Thompson declared a public hearing open for comments. None were made. Council Member Tankersley motioned to close the public hearing; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Council Member Doss motioned to adopt Ordinance 1591; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, Ordinance 1587, CBD Enforcement Amendment, and called on City Planner Jeremy Griffith to discuss with the Council. Mr. Griffith explained this ordinance is for introduction only and if adopted, it would make a number of wording changes to the B-3 (downtown) section of the zoning ordinance, related to enforcement of Design Review Board decisions. City Attorney Madison recommended these revisions in order to ensure that board decisions are enforceable and defensible. Planning Commission recommended approval 5-0-1. Council Member Alexander motioned to introduce Ordinance 1587; 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 1593, CBD Art Amendment. Mr. Griffith explained this ordinance is for introduction only as well and if adopted, it would add a specific allowance for artwork to be permitted in the B-3 (downtown) district upon approval of the Design Review Board. The board would have to approve design, scale and location of any item deemed to be an artistic expression, but would not review colors. Color review requirement would still apply to building/trim, signage, etc. but the review of colors would not be required for artwork. Additionally, this ordinance would specify that up to two flags per building can be placed in the City-owned flag holders on the canopies,

provided that they are promptly removed when requested by the City for the placement of public flags (4<sup>th</sup> of July, etc). The current ordinance does not permit such flag placement on the canopies, although it has historically been allowed. Planning Commission recommended approval 5-0-1. Council Member Doss motioned to introduce Ordinance 1593; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, Ordinance 1594, to approve transfer of property owned by the City at 500 Pine Street NE to Habitat for Humanity, and called on Mayor Garrison to discuss with the Council. Mayor Garrison explained the property had been transferred to the City by a quitclaim deed by the Morgan County Board of Education and Habitat for Humanity had approached the City about it being transferred to their organization to allow a home to be constructed for a family in need. Mayor Garrison informed the Council that the property is not needed for public or municipal purposes but would be of public service if transferred to Habitat. Council Member Alexander motioned to suspend the rules for immediate consideration of Ordinance 1594; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. Council President Thompson called for a roll call vote and results were as follows:

Council President Thompson	Yes
Council Member Tankersley	Yes
Council Member Gill	Yes
Council Member Alexander	Yes
Council Member Doss	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council Member Gill motioned to adopt Ordinance 1594; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. The motioned carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson asked Mayor Garrison to address the next item on the agenda, Resolution 23-0808, authorizing Mayor to sign property purchase agreement with Housing Authority. Mayor Garrison explained the resolution would allow him to sign a sales agreement to purchase various properties in downtown from the Housing Authority for the purchase price of \$125,000.00. Council Member Doss motioned to approve Resolution 23-0808; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. At this time City Attorney Madison mentioned that City Planner Griffith had noticed some overlap on previous deeds for property previously transferred from the Housing Authority to the City and he recommended those errors be corrected with a quitclaim deed executed at the same time as the current property purchase. Council Member Doss motioned to amend his motion to approve Resolution 23-0808 along with a quitclaim deed to correct errors in previous deeds with property transferred from the Housing Authority; 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 approval of Safety Award Winners for the quarter, and called on Mr. Griffith to discuss with the Council. Mr. Griffith came forward to present the Safety Award Winners from each department. Council Member Gill motioned to approve Safety Award Winners as presented; 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, to consider approval of food trucks on City property for event. Mr. Griffith explained the Steering Committee for the upcoming Comprehensive Plan update is holding a public kick-off event at the Sparkman Civic Center on August 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. As part of that event, four food trucks are scheduled to be present for attendees. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve food trucks for Steering Committee to be placed on City property at the Civic Center; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to consider a request to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with Central Square and Morgan County Emergency Management Communications District (MCEMCD) and called on Fire Chief Daryl Fox to discuss with the Council. Chief Fox explained the reason for changing reporting software companies to First Due is due to the current software being used by the Fire Department being purchased by another company. Central Square is the same software that is used by the

MCEMCD and is therefore recommended for our Fire Department. Council Member Gill motioned to approve Mayor to sign contract with Central Square MCEMCD to begin in FY2024; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item to the agenda, to consider Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Hartselle City Schools for School Resource Officers (SRO) & School Protection Officers (SPO), and called on Police Chief Justin Barley to discuss with the Council. Chief Barley explained the MOU between the Hartselle Police Department and Hartselle City Schools was a renewal of existing programs with the school system and would continue to assign five (5) seasonally employed police officers as SPOs and two (2) full time SROs officers to Hartselle School Resource Officers Program. Council Member Gill motioned to approve the MOU with Hartselle City Schools for SRO & SPO Programs; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to consider revised job descriptions for Fire Lieutenant and Fire Fighter, and called on HR Administrator Melee Laney to discuss with the Council. Ms. Laney reviewed the changes to the job descriptions and asked for Council approval. Council Member Tankersley motioned to approve job descriptions for Fire Department; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson asked Ms. Laney to address the next item on the agenda, to consider revised promotional procedures for Fire Department. Ms. Laney reviewed the changes to the promotional procedures and asked for Council approval. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve promotional procedures for Fire Department; 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 Permit for Historic Downtown Hartselle Merchants Association, and called on Mayor Garrison to discuss with the Council. Mayor Garrison explained the Historic Downtown Hartselle Merchant's Association would like to expand the second Saturday car show to the public parking lot west of Life Church for Jeep Cruise In. Council Member Doss motioned to approve the Special Event Permit; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, to consider budget transfer request for Parks & Recreation, and called on Parks & Recreation Director Jerry Smith to discuss with the Council. Mr. Smith explained he would like to transfer \$5,000.00 from Gas & Oil to Vehicle Maintenance and \$890.00 from Pool Worker's Comp. to Shining Stars. Council Member Doss motioned to approve budget transfer for Parks & Recreation; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson asked Mr. Griffith to address the next item on the agenda, to consider request to declare items surplus for Department of Development. Mr. Griffith explained he would like to request a Hewlett Packard Design Jet T830 Plotter and HP T830 ink cartridges to be declare surplus. Council Member Doss motioned to approve items surplus for Department of Development; 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 request to authorize drainage work on Longhorn Pass and called on Director of Public Works Curtis Self to discuss with the Council. Mr. Self explained the situation with drainage accessing a business off of Longhorn Pass. He said he had consulted with City Attorney Madison and it was his opinion that the drainage is part of the City drainage system and needs to be repaired or replaced by the City. After much discussion by City Attorney Madison and Council Members, Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the drainage repairs on Longhorn Pass; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

At this time, Council President Thompson read the following announcements:

The City of Hartselle is accepting applications for positions on the following boards:

Hartselle Utilities Board, two expired positions, six-year term  
Personnel Board, one unexpired position, three-year term  
Airport Board, four expired positions, five-year term

Applications are available at the City Clerk's office in City Hall or on the City's website. Application or resumes must be turned into the City Clerk's office or emailed by Friday, August 25, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Council President Thompson asked for comments from the Mayor, Council Members or City Attorney. Mayor Garrison reminded everyone of the Comprehensive Plan kick-off meeting Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at the Sparkman Civic Center. He also mentioned that sales tax collections were back up. Also, the budget work session meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. No other comments were made.

Council President Thompson asked for comments from the audience. No other comments were made.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Kenny Thompson – Council President

ATTEST:

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Rita S. Lee, City Clerk - Controller