

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF HARTSELLE, ALABAMA  
OCTOBER 24, 2017**

The City Council of the City of Hartselle, Alabama, met in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24, 2017, inside the Council Chambers at the Hartselle Municipal Building. Council President Kenny Thompson called the meeting to order.

Reverend Clayton Speed, Pastor of First Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Mayor Randy Garrison led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Council President Thompson called for the approval of the minutes from the regular meeting held on October 10, 2017; Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the minutes; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson called for the first item on the agenda, Resolution 17-1024, and asked Hartselle Police Chief Ron Puckett to come forward to discuss it with the Council. Chief Puckett explained to the Council the City had recently solicited bids for four new police vehicles but had only received one bid from Eddie Preuitt Ford for \$29,992.00 for each vehicle. Chief Puckett also stated that since the bid was received, he was made aware that one of the bid specifications for a street package was not necessary on the vehicles, so he was requesting the Council reject the one bid received and allow him to negotiate the price of the vehicles without that particular package. Council Member Gill motioned to reject the bid and allow Chief Puckett to negotiate a lower price on the revised model; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then asked City Attorney Larry Madison to discuss the next item, which was an application for a Special Event Alcohol License. Mr. Madison explained to the Council that The Freight House, Inc. had applied for a Special Event Alcohol License for on premise consumption for the Morgan County High School Reunion to be held at The Burleson Center located at 307 College Street N.E. He noted the property was owned by the Hartselle Board of Education and leased to the Hartselle Historical Society which allows The Burleson Center, formerly known as The Hartselle Fine Arts Center, to rent the building for various functions. He addressed the question that had been raised about alcohol being allowed on school property, and noted in his opinion, the building was not a school, had not been used as a school for several years and, therefore since the lease allowed the building to be used for "any lawful purpose" the Council would not be violating any school policies or state laws by approving the license. Council President Thompson mentioned he had spoken with the Superintendent Dr. Dee Dee Jones, and the Board of Education had no problems with the event taking place at the center. After further discussion, Council President Thompson declared a public hearing open for discussion for or against the license. No comments were made. Council Member Broom motioned to close the public hearing; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Council Member Gill motioned to approve the Special Event Alcohol License as requested; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson next asked Jeff Johnson, Director of the Department of Development, to come forward and discuss the quarterly Safety Award Winners. Mr. Johnson explained to the Council a drawing was held with eligible employees in each department and the Safety Award Winners are as follows:

- 1) Jennifer Tetreault – City Hall
- 2) Chris Hemming – Fire Department
- 3) Heather Hemming – Parks & Recreation

4) Justin Barley – Police Department

5) John Young – Public Works

Mr. Johnson also stated that with the Council's approval, each winner would receive a check for \$50.00 net. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the quarterly safety winners; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then asked Michelle Blaylock, Librarian, to discuss her request to declare books surplus. Ms. Blaylock stated the library has 477 books that are in poor condition, have not been checked out in over five years, and are the least popular with patrons. Ms. Blaylock also said the books have been marked as discarded and the Library has a discount book sale scheduled for November. Ms. Blaylock also told the Council any books that are unacceptable to be sold will be used for crafts. Council Member Gill motioned to declare the requested books surplus; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson next called on Hartselle Fire Chief Daryl Fox to discuss his request to declare items surplus. Chief Fox explained that he was requesting numerous items be declared surplus, but also that some items be donated to the Morgan County Volunteer Association and some items be sold on GovDeals.com. He also told the Council that he had received an email from SCORE Missions requesting firefighter boots, so he was asking the Council's permission to donate the surplus boots to SCORE, who in turn would distribute them to fire fighters in the Dominican Republic. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the surplus items and donations to be made as requested; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then asked Chief Fox to discuss his request to update the Hartselle Fire and Rescue Volunteer Roster. Chief Fox told the Council he had updated the list a few weeks ago, but had received a call from Luke Holt, a certified volunteer fire fighter who was moving to Hartselle and interested in becoming a volunteer. Chief Fox explained that other than adding Mr. Holt, there were no other changes made to the roster. Council Member Tankersley motioned to approve the updated roster; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then called on Melee Laney, Human Resource Administrator, to come forward and discuss her request to update the job description for Equipment Operator 1 for the Public Works Department. Ms. Laney explained to the Council the City is having a difficult time in filling the four open positions because the current job description requires having a CDL Class B and obtaining a Class A CDL within six months of hire. Ms. Laney stated it has been extremely difficult to get qualified applicants for these positions with these current qualifications at the rate of pay advertised. She said she was requesting permission from the Council to change the requirements to a valid driver's license with a clean driving history, to be insurable, and to obtain a Class B CDL within six month of hire, and a Class A CDL within one year of hire. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the new job requirements for Equipment Operator 1; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson called for comments from the Mayor, City Council and City Attorney. Mayor Garrison made presentations to the following employees who were celebrating 20 years of service with the City: Margaret Stinson, Police Department, Philip Kelso, Fire Department, and Ryan Kaser, Fire Department. He also recognized Mark Edmundson, Parks & Recreation, who was celebrating five years of service with the City. He also mentioned that he felt a lot had been accomplished in his and the Council's first year of service, mentioning the new fire engine that had been ordered, new police vehicles, new garbage trucks, and tractors. Each Council Member thanked those presented with service awards for their service.

Council President Thompson called for comments from the audience. None were made.

With no other business to come before the Council, Council Member Gill moved to adjourn; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

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Kenny Thompson  
Council President

ATTEST:

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Rita S. Lee, City Clerk/Controller