

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF HARTSELLE, ALABAMA
MARCH 12, 2019**

The City Council of the City of Hartselle, Alabama, met in a regular session at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, inside the Council Chambers at the Hartselle Municipal Building. Council President Kenny Thompson called the meeting to order.

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

The following were present for the meeting: Council President Thompson, Council Members Chuck Gill, Virginia Alexander and Matt Broom; Mayor Randy Garrison, City Attorney Larry Madison and City Clerk-Controller Rita S. Lee, who also acted as Secretary of the meeting. Council Member Dwight Tankersley was 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, February 26, 2019. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the minutes; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the first item on the agenda, Ordinance 1494, set for introduction only to rezone 1.76 acres on Celia Drive. City Planner Griffith came forward to explain the request, which if adopted, would rezone a tract from AG-1 to R-1 in order to allow the area to be divided off from a larger AG tract. He explained the request is in conformance with the current comprehensive plan. The Planning Commission recommended the approval of the rezoning 5-0-1. Council Member Broom motioned to introduce Ordinance 1494; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item, a request to apply for a RC & D Grant for a Pocket Park/Playground for downtown. Parks & Recreation Director Tom Chappell came forward to present the request, which would provide funds to make improvements to a vacant, city owned lot located at 118 Main Street West in downtown. In addition to the playground equipment, the project includes funds for fencing, mulch, lighting and signage. The total project is estimated at \$81,000.00, the grant amount to be applied for is \$50,000.00. If the grant is forthcoming, Mr. Chappell mentioned the Council would be requested to make a \$25,000 budget adjustment at some point. He also mentioned he would recommend the Mayor and himself appoint a small committee to work with local residents to decide the exact playground equipment, benches, tables, etc..to be located there. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the request to apply for the RC & D Grant; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed a request to approve an ALDOT project for intersection improvements at U. S. 31 and Vaughn Bridge Road. Jeff Johnson, DOD Director came forward to present the project details. He stated the total project cost was approximately \$851,600.00 with the City match at 20% or \$170,000.00. The improvements would be an MPO funded project, and only needs a vote of commitment from the Council to move forward. Council Member Gill motioned to approve the project commitment; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson next addressed a request by the Chamber of Commerce to cancel the contract between the Chamber and the City for the management of the Farmer's Market. The request from the Chamber Board of Directors requested the change be effective March 1, 2019. Mayor Garrison presented the request from the Chamber and recommended the Council accept

the request. Council Member Alexander motioned to accept the request for the cancellation of the management of the Farmer's Market with the Chamber; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Council President Thompson called for discussion. Council Member Alexander stated she thought, since the City was getting the majority of the calls complaining about the Farmer's Market, the City should be in charge and be able to set the hours and other rules. She stated she thought the Chamber had done a good job with the Market but since they wanted to return it to the City, the Council should honor their request. Mayor Garrison mentioned he had plans for the Farmer's Market by adding Wi-Fi to downtown to make it a more attractive place to be and would place the day to day management of the Market under Park & Recreation. Council Member Gill stated he thought the issue should be tabled for this meeting. He explained the Chamber only found out this week that a local couple was interested in contracting with the Chamber to run the Farmer's Market and he thought they could do so with fewer restrictions under the Chamber management, than under the City. After further brief discussion, Council President Thompson called for a vote. Motion carried by a voice vote of 3-1.

Council President Thompson next addressed a request to approve a Community Service Grant. Mayor Garrison announced the request was from the Library to accept a grant request from Rep. Scott Stadthagen for \$500.00 to purchase tables and chairs for the children's area of the Library. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the grant request; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed a request by Public Works for a budget transfer. He recognized David VanKoughnett, Public Works Supervisor, to present the request, which was to transfer \$2,500.00 for the Shop Building and Grounds (01-301-5300) to Landfill Building and Grounds (01-302-5300) for repairs needed to the scales at the landfill. Council Member Broom motioned to approve the budget transfer as requested; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed a request by the Administration Department to declare items surplus. City Clerk – Controller Rita Lee reviewed a list of discarded city issued cell phones that IT Administrator Shawn Woods had put together to declare surplus. She stated the phones would be sold on GovDeals. Council Member Broom motioned to declare the items surplus as presented; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed a request by the Police Department to declare items surplus. Acting Chief Justin Barley came forward to review a list of discarded uniforms and equipment no longer needed by the department and requested the items be declared surplus to be donated or destroyed. Council Member Broom motioned to declare the items surplus as presented; Council Member Gill seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson next addressed a request by the Fire Department to declare items surplus. Fire Captain Ryan Kaser came forward to request two (2) Generac 15kw natural gas generators be declared as surplus. He stated the department had replaced the generators with new ones and these were no longer needed. Council Member Alexander motioned to declare the items surplus as presented; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson next addressed a request by the Fire Department to update the roster of volunteer firefighters. Captain Kaser also presented the updated list and ask for the Council to approve the list as presented. Council Member Gill motioned to declare the items surplus as presented; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson read the following announcement:

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

Library Board, two expired terms, four-year appointment
Airport Board, one expired term, five-year appointment
Mental Health Board, two expired terms, six-year appointment

Applications are available at the City Clerk's office in City Hall or on the City's website.
Applications must be turned into the City Clerk's office by Friday, March 29, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Council President Thompson called for comments from the Mayor, Council Members, City Attorney and City Clerk – Controller. Mayor Garrison presented a certificate to Fire Fighter Cory Johnson for 10 years of service with the City and thanked him for his service. Mayor Garrison requested that the Council go into an executive session to discuss a pending land purchase. Council Member Alexander motioned to go into executive session to discuss the pending land purchase only; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimous voice vote.

Council President adjourned the meeting for the executive session and announced the Council would reconvene the meeting in 10 -15 minutes. The Council left the chambers at 7:20 P.M. They returned at 7:35 with Council President Thompson calling the meeting back to order.

Council President Thompson recognized Mayor Garrison who gave some additional updates concerning City activities. No other comments were made.

Council President Thompson asked for any comments from the audience. Tom Chappell, Park & Recreation Director came forward to thank everyone for their participation in the work session prior to the meeting and for the ideas presented for the downtown park. Elizabeth Jackson, downtown business owner, came forward to thank the City for securing the grants in the past that had help to prevent flooding of the downtown area with the recent rainstorms.

With no other business to come before the Council, Council Member Broom motioned to adjourn the meeting; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Kenny Thompson
Council President

ATTEST:

Rita S. Lee, City Clerk-Controller