

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF HARTSELLE, ALABAMA
September 8, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Hartselle, Alabama, met in a regular session at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, inside the Council Chambers at the Hartselle Municipal Building. Council President Kenny Thompson called the meeting to order.

Council Member Virginia Alexander gave the invocation. Mayor Randy Garrison led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present for the meeting: Council President Kenny Thompson, Council Members Dwight Tankersley, 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 Chuck Gill 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, August 25, 2020. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson called for approval of the minutes of the special called meeting held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020. Council Member Broom motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Tankersley seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the first item on the agenda, Resolution 20-0908, to provide Tier I RSA benefits to Tier II plan members, and called on Mayor Garrison to discuss with the Council. Mayor Garrison explained that if approved, under provisions of ACT 2019-132 the City, who participate in the Employees' Retirement System, may elect to provide Tier I retirement benefits to Tier II plan members, and to improve retirement benefits for Tier II plan members. The City has reviewed the actuarial cost estimates provided by the Employees' Retirement System and agrees to pay any resulting increase in the employer contribution rate. Mayor Garrison explained the increased cost was included in the FY2021 budget. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve Resolution 20-0908; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, Resolution 20-0908A, authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Professional Services Agreements with Garver Engineers to design US Hwy. 31 and Vaughn Bridge Road intersection improvement, and called on Director of Development, Jeff Johnson to discuss it with the Council. Mr. Johnson explained the City of Hartselle has received an ALDOT-MPO Funding Agreement to design and implement intersection changes at US Hwy 31 and Vaughn Bridge Road. Alabama Department of Transportation requires the City of Hartselle to contract a professional engineering firm to provide construction and engineering services for this project, and the City selected Garver Engineers to provide engineering design services for this project. Council Member Tankersley motioned to approve Resolution 20-0908A; Council Member Alexander seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, authorizing the Mayor to sign a renewal of the 911 Dispatch Contract with MCEMCD, and called on Mayor Garrison to discuss it with the Council. The Mayor reviewed the information that was discussed during the work session concerning the renewal and requested the Council's approval. Council Member Tankersley motioned to approve 911 Dispatch Contract as presented; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson called on Mayor Garrison to address the next item on the agenda, to consider adopting a new and updated job description for the Systems Administrator position. Mayor Garrison explained this position is responsible for providing City departments with reliable computer network and telecommunications structure and noted the job description had not been updated for several years. Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the Systems Administrator job description as presented; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, a request to set a hearing date to revoke the business license for Las Vias, and called on Mayor Garrison to discuss it with the Council. Mayor Garrison explained the restaurant's check to renew their alcohol license was returned as NSF by the bank. Numerous attempts had been made to contact the owners with no response. He stated the restaurant was in effect selling alcohol without a license and at the advice of the City Attorney, and with the support of the Alcohol Review Committee, was requesting a hearing to revoke the business license from the establishment. Council Member Tankersley motioned to schedule the hearing for the next Council meeting on September 22nd; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the final item on the agenda, to consider approval of FY2021 General Fund Budget and budgets for all other funds, and called on Mayor Garrison and City Clerk-Controller, Rita S. Lee to discuss it with the Council. After a brief discussion to review the budgets that had been discussed in detail during the work session preceding the meeting, Council Member Alexander motioned to approve the budgets as presented; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson announced the City of Hartselle is accepting applications for positions on the following boards:

- Personnel Board, one (1) expired term, six (6) year appointment
- Airport Board, one (1) expired term, five (5) 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, September 18, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Council President Thompson asked for comments from the Mayor, Council Members, and City Attorney. Council Member Tankersley and other Council Members thanked the Mayor, City Clerk – Controller, Department Heads and other staff members for their work on the budget. No other comments were made.

Council President Thompson asked for comments from the audience. Matthew Thomas, 1201 Vines Street, came forward to ask if a final decision had been made concerning Depot Days. Mayor Garrison informed Mr. Thomas that the festival had been cancelled due to concerns involving the coronavirus and the risk the City would be taking if a permit were granted for the event. Council Members Tankersley and Alexander expressed their support for the decision made by the Mayor to cancel the event mainly due to the lack of insurance coverage for the event. City Attorney Madison assured Mr. Thomas it was a hard decision for the Mayor to make, it was not decided in haste, but only after several discussions with several entities. No other comments were made.

There being no other business to come before the Council, Council Member Alexander motioned to adjourn the meeting; Council Member Broom seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Kenny Thompson,
Council President

ATTEST:

Rita S. Lee, City Clerk-Controller