

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF HARTSELLE, ALABAMA  
FEBRUARY 9, 2016**

The City Council of the City of Hartselle, Alabama, met in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 2016, inside the Council Chambers at the Hartselle Municipal Building. Council President Kenny Thompson called the meeting to order.

Daxton Maze, Public Works Director, led the invocation.

The following were present for the meeting: Council President Kenny Thompson, Council Members Billy Buckelew, Tom Chappell, Ken Doss, Mike Roberson, Mayor Bill Smelser, City Attorney Larry Madison and City Clerk – Controller Rita S. Lee, who acted as Secretary of the meeting. Having a quorum present, Council President Thompson declared the proceeding open for business.

Council President Thompson called for the approval of the minutes of the work session held on Tuesday, January 26, 2016. Council Member Doss motioned to approve the minutes; Council Member Roberson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson called for the approval of the minutes from the regular meeting held on January 26, 2016. Council Member Roberson motioned to approve the minutes; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson called on City Planner Jeremy Griffith to address the first item on the agenda. Mr. Griffith explained to the Council that Ordinance 1432 was introduced at the previous Council meeting and was up for public hearing and final consideration. Mr. Griffith said that if adopted, this ordinance would annex 0.8 acres and a single family residence into the City limits. He also said that this property is within a priority one annexation area in the comprehensive plan and partially comprises an unincorporated island. Mr. Griffith also told the Council that the Planning Commission recommended annexation approval 6-0-1 on condition of the City Attorney's concurrence with the ordinance phrasing in regard to a pending property boundary line dispute. At this time, Council President Thompson called for a public hearing. Mr. Joe Dixon came forward to oppose the annexation due to a dispute he is having over property lines with the property owner seeking the annexation. He stated he was trying to get everything worked out but requested the Council not approve the annexation until the dispute was settled. City Attorney Madison pointed out to the Council that wording had been added to the ordinance to cover the annexation if a change in property lines was made at a later date. He stated the dispute would not affect the annexation. Council Member Chappell motioned to close the public hearing; Council Member Roberson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. After a lengthy discussion, Council Member Chappell motioned to table Ordinance 1432 until the next Council meeting; Council Member Roberson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Griffith then announced the companion ordinance to zone the property just discussed, Ordinance 1433, is being republished in the Hartselle Enquirer due to problems with the first publication. He noted the paper was rerunning the ordinance at no charge to the City.

Council President Thompson next addressed Ordinance 1435. Mr. Griffith explained to the Council that this ordinance was up for introduction only but if adopted, it would annex 2.6 acres and a single family residence into the City limits. He also said that the property is within a priority two annexation area in the comprehensive plan and the Planning Commission had recommended annexation approval 5-0-1. Council Member Chappell motioned to approve the introduction of Ordinance 1435; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then asked Mr. Griffith to address Ordinance 1436, also up for introduction only. Mr. Griffith explained that if adopted, this ordinance would zone the property annexed by Ordinance 1435 as R-1. He also said that this requested zoning is in conformance

with the current comprehensive plan and the Planning Commission had recommended the R-1 zoning approval 5-0-1. Council Member Chappell motioned to introduce Ordinance 1436; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson addressed the next item on the agenda, Ordinance 1437. Mayor Bill Smelser explained to the Council that if adopted, this ordinance would establish salaries and benefits for the Mayor, the Council President and each Council Member. Mayor Smelser said that the following salaries specified shall be paid in twelve monthly installments in a given fiscal year effective November 7, 2016:

- 1) Mayor - \$55,000.00 annually
- 2) Council President - \$9,500.00 annually (\$8,000.00 Council Member salary plus \$1,500.00)
- 3) Council Members - \$8,000.00 annually

In addition to the above referenced salaries, the Mayor shall be eligible to receive health insurance benefits in the same manner and at the same cost as regular City employees, but Council Members will not be eligible for health insurance. The Mayor shall also receive an annual travel expense allowance of \$4,200.00 paid in twelve monthly installments of \$350.00 each. Additionally, should the Mayor travel to a destination which is a driving distance greater than seventy-five (75) miles from the Hartselle Municipal Building, he shall be paid the I.R.S. mileage allowance rate then in effect for all miles driven beyond one hundred fifty (150) on any such trip. Council Members, upon submission of acceptable documentation to the City Clerk, will be entitled to be reimbursed for all reasonable actual expenses incurred while engaging in official City business authorized by the City Council and will also be entitled to be paid a mileage allowance for personal vehicle use while engaged in such business at the same rate as the Mayor. At this time, Council Member Roberson motioned to suspend the rules for immediate consideration of Ordinance 1437; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. Council President Thompson called for a roll call vote and the results were as follows:

Council President Thompson:	Yes
Council Member Buckelew:	Yes
Council Member Chappell:	Yes
Council Member Doss:	Yes
Council Member Roberson:	Yes

Council Member Roberson motioned to adopt Ordinance 1437 setting salaries and benefits for the Mayor, Council President and Council Members; Council Member Chappell seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then announced that the City had received one application for the vacant position on the Utilities Board from Walton Ashwander. Council President Thompson explained that if appointed, Mr. Ashwander would serve the remaining term vacated by Daxton Maze, which would expire August 2017. Council Member Chappell motioned to appoint Mr. Ashwander to the Utilities Board to serve the remainder of the term; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then announced that the City had received one application for the vacant position on the Park and Recreation Board from Todd Barrier. If appointed, Mr. Barrier would replace Ed Henry and serve a five-year term on the board, expiring January 2021. Council Member Doss motioned to appoint Mr. Barrier to the Park and Recreation Board; Council Member Roberson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

At this time Council President Thompson announced that the City was accepting applications for the following boards:

- 1) Cemetery Board: one (1) expired position, five (5) year term
- 2) Airport Board: one (1) expired position, five (5) year term

Applications are available at the City Clerk's office in City Hall or in the City's website. The applications must be turned in to the City Clerk's office by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 4, 2016.

At this time, Council President Thompson called for comments from the Mayor, Council Members and the City Attorney. Mayor Smelser said he was glad to be back in the office after a

recent knee surgery and thanked everyone for their phone calls, cards and most of all their prayers. Council Member Buckelew stated he had some questions about the \$10,000 that the County had transferred to the City for the SNAP project. He then asked if the City had ever had the SNAP organization audited. He also stated he did not appreciate a letter sent from the Chairman of the County Commission concerning the \$10,000 SNAP appropriation. He asked that the audit be discussed at the next meeting. He also mentioned the traffic problems on Hayes Street and stated he felt the City should discuss the need for a turn lane with the local legislative delegation.

Council President Thompson then called for comments from the audience. Mr. Joe Dixon came to the podium to announce he would like to serve on the airport board. Council President Thompson asked City Clerk Lee to provide Mr. Dixon with an application. DOD Director Jeff Johnson thanked Randy Garrison and the Hartselle Enquirer for working with his department over some publication problems with recent ordinances.

With no other business to come before the Council, Council Member Roberson motioned to adjourn the meeting; Council Member Chappell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

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Kenny Thompson  
Council President

ATTEST:

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Rita S. Lee, City Clerk - Controller