

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF HARTSELLE, ALABAMA  
JULY 12, 2016**

The City Council of the City of Hartselle, Alabama, met in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12, 2016, inside the Council Chambers at the Hartselle Municipal Building. Council President Thompson called the meeting to order.

Reverend Alan Host, Pastor of Jubilee Family Worship Center, gave the invocation.

The following were present for the meeting: Council President 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 also acted as Secretary of the meeting. Having a quorum present, Council President Thompson declared the proceedings open for business.

Council President Thompson called for the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on Tuesday, June 28, 2016. Council Member Doss motioned to approve the minutes: Council Member Chappell seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson called on Jeff Johnson, Director of the Department of Development, to address the first item on the agenda, Resolution 16-0712. Mr. Johnson explained to the Council that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved mitigation grant funding to reduce storm water flood hazards in historic downtown Hartselle, and if approved, this resolution would authorize Mayor Smelser to sign the State-Sub Recipient Disaster Assistance for Part II of the drainage project with a total cost of \$399,990.01 and Federal share of \$299,900.01. Mr. Johnson also said the City will be responsible for \$100,000 match in cash or in kind services. Council Member Doss motioned to approve Resolution 16-0712 and grant Mayor Smelser the authority to execute the agreement: Council Member Roberson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then addressed Resolution 16-0712A, which would appoint City Clerk – Controller Rita S. Lee to perform all those duties otherwise required to be performed by the Mayor with respect to the Municipal General Election to be held on August 23, 2016 and any run-off election ordered held with respect thereto, due to the Mayor being a candidate in the election. Council Member Chappell motioned to approve Resolution 16-0712A and appoint Ms. Lee to perform all duties required; Council Member Roberson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then called on Police Chief Ron Puckett to come forward and discuss his request for a budget transfer. Chief Puckett explained that he has requested to transfer \$1,500.00 from the Gas & Oil line item #201-5306 to Building and Grounds Maintenance. Council Member Roberson motioned to approve Chief Puckett's request for the budget transfer; Council Member Chappell seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council Member Thompson then called on Human Resource Administrator, Melee Laney, to step forward and discuss her request to update job descriptions for the following sworn police officer positions:

- 1) Patrol Officer
- 2) Investigator
- 3) Sergeant - Patrol
- 4) Sergeant – CID
- 5) Sergeant – Special Services
- 6) Lieutenant – Patrol
- 7) Lieutenant - Special Services
- 8) Police Captain
- 9) Police Chief

Ms. Laney explained to the Council that she had removed any verbiage pertaining to the jail or dispatching, and added the duty of transferring prisoners to the county jail. She also indicated she

change the working of “Police Sub-Station” to “Police Training Center”. She also mentioned that the Police Chief and City Attorney had reviewed them and approved. Council Member Doss motioned to approve the updated job descriptions; Council Member Chappell seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then called on Mr. Johnson, Department of Development, again to discuss his request for a budget adjustment. Mr. Johnson explained to the Council he had received an invoice for \$26,156.72 from J. C. Cheek Contractors, Inc. for road striping, and he had requested it be paid out of the 4% Gasoline Fund. Council Member Roberson motioned to approve the budget adjustment; Council Member Doss seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Council President Thompson then asked Public Works Director, Tommy Halbrooks, to step forward and give an update on the status of the Landfill Expansion Project. Mr. Halbrooks explained he had requested to be on the agenda to give an update and for the Council to determine if it wished to move ahead with the future expansion of the landfill. He called on David VanKoughnett, Public Works Supervisor, who had been working on the project to come forward with the presentation. Mr. VanKoughnett explained to the Council that Public Works, under the direction of the Council, had been working on an expansion project that would modify the City’s property to expand the landfill without acquiring additional land. He explained to move the project forward the Council must commit to the cost of purchasing stream credits from the ADEM at an approximate cost of \$90,000.00 and an additional cost of concrete pipe of \$13,500. Other items needing approval would be an advertisement in the local paper, a public hearing 30-45 days later, a resolution adopted by the Council, statement of consistency with solid waste plan from NARCOG and Corps of Engineers permit. The ADEM fee would also cost \$4,375.00 to move the project forward. Council Member Chappell asked Mr. VanKoughnett how long the landfill would last with the stream mitigation, he replied about 1 1/1 years, with the modification it could last approximately nine additional years. City Attorney Madison mentioned it was really up to the Council to either expand or close the landfill, closure cost would run upwards of 1.3 million dollars. After further discussion Council Member Chappell motioned to move forward with the landfill modification and authorize the Mayor to sign the appropriate documents and approved the cost to do so; Council Member Roberson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

At this time Council President Thompson asked for comments from the Mayor, Council Members and the City Attorney. Mayor Smelser mentioned there was a movement being organized by the community to recognize and honor our Police Officers due to recent national events where officers lost their lives in the line of duty. Council Member Roberson thanked the Police Department for their service to the City. Council Member Doss thanked the Police Department as well and mentioned it would be up the next City Council to come up with a plan for the landfill. City Attorney Madison announced the City should be able to move forward with the Cemetery expansion in the next thirty days. Council President Thompson thanked all City employees for their dedication to the City and to their position.

Council President Thompson then asked for comments from the audience. Melee Laney, HR Administrator came forward to recognize the following employees and thank them for their service to the City:

- Jerry McClure, 25 years’ service with Public Works
- Greg Mayfield, 20 years’ service with Pubic Works
- David VanKoughnett, 20 years’ service with Public Works

Keith Magee, came forward to state he felt the City was making a mistake in overlooking a qualified candidate for the Director of Parks & Recreation because it was requiring a degree instead of giving consideration for the years of service. Don Sanders, 102 Sloss Street, came forward to ask several questions concerning sidewalks, crosswalks, yard waste policies and Depot Days. Public Works Director Halbrooks indicted he would get with Mr. Sanders after the meeting concerning his questions about Public Works. Mr. Sanders was informed by Council President Thompson that the Chamber of Commerce handled Depot Days and he would have to get with them concerning any questions about the event.

With no other business to come before the Council, Council Member Chappell moved to

adjourn; Council Member Roberson seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

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Kenny Thompson, Council President

ATTEST:

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Rita S. Lee, City Clerk/Controller