

Anniston, Alabama

January 7, 2020

The City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, met in Regular Session in Room B of the Anniston City Meeting Center in the City of Anniston, Alabama, on Tuesday, January 7, 2020, at approximately 5:30 o'clock p.m.

Richard Jackson, played a rendition of "The Lord's Prayer" on saxophone for the Invocation.

Richard Jackson, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Draper called the meeting to order. On call of the roll, the following Council Members were found to be present: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris, and Draper, absent: none. A quorum was present and the meeting opened for the transaction of business.

Steven Folks, City Manager, was present.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, was present.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the December 17, 2019 Regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Reddick, Little Harris, and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the December 17, 2019 council minutes were approved.

Mayor Draper made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Little and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris, and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

Council Member Harris made a motion to approve the consent agenda:

- (a) Resolution authorizing reimbursements to City officials for expenses incurred while traveling away from the City (20-R-1)
- (b) Resolution appointing/reappointing member(s) to the Longleaf Botanical Gardens Board (20-R-2)
- (c) Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the annual Application for Federal/State Assistance for Fiscal Year 2020 with the State of Alabama Department of Transportation for Improvements at the Anniston Regional Airport (20-R-3)
- (d) Motion to authorize the creation of a Local Attorney Consortium to assist with de-annexation.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Little and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris, and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the consent agenda was approved.

James Montgomery, addressed the council on what background checks are being done on Police Officers to see if they are associated with White Nationalist Groups; and why would they hire someone

as a bailiff in the Municipal Court that killed an unarmed black person. He stated that he does not feel like the Mayor has tried to bring the city together.

George Dudchock, 730 Cherokee Trail, addressed the council and thanked them for their service; and they have an opportunity to start anew and state the facts not an opinion. He stated that they need to work together as a team and be a legacy for the city.

Glen Ray, 3514 Dale Hollow Road, addressed the council that when they can pinpoint when something was done wrong, they should not try and cover it up; and allow everyone to be treated fairly. He stated that he does not believe the Mayor is someone who will bring the city together and they should allow people to separate them by race.

Richard Jackson, 2317 Noble Street, addressed the council on ownership and they need to make sure they take ownership and everyone in the City is the council's responsibility. He stated that the council is responsible for all four wards and that the City cannot live if they don't handle everyone in the same just manner. He stated that this council needs more accountability, responsibility, and more justice.

Emma Fantroy, 2530 Paul Street, addressed the council that they do have unfinished business; and that in 2019 a lot was brought up about the police department and they need to straighten things out. She stated that a house divided cannot stand, and color has nothing to do about what is right and wrong.

Joanne Pope, 31 Dianne Hills Road, addressed the council that there is an unbiased police advisory committee out there that people should reach out to.

Rico Jackson, 1519 Bancroft, addressed the council and commended them on representing the people while being under a microscope. He stated that they do understand and that the council takes on a lot of pressure and they do not have to do that. He stated that they are needed.

Kim Nixon, addressed the council on the upset that was caused at the meeting. She stated that she has a concern with her car being kept for 20 days and they expect her to pay the \$800.00 fee and no one gave her a reason to why her car was being held.

Council Member Jenkins stated that he wishes everyone a happy new year had hopes they had a good holiday season and that his looks forward to this new year,

Council Member Reddick stated that he received a lot of support from the community with the passing of his uncle on Christmas Eve and he thanked everyone for that. He stated working on the 2020 Census campaign that people are struggling. He stated that he presented an incentive where they incentivize city staff to be advocate to bring businesses into the city. He stated that everyone should get with their councilmember and encourage them to support his Ward 2 action plan.

Council Member Little stated that is wrong for Ms. Nixon to have to pay something that her son had her car and she had nothing to do with it. He stated that whatever the charge is, should be charged to him when they catch him and go through the right process and that it is wrong for them to hold her car. He stated that the council should read the board appointment ordinance and they violated that ordinance. He stated that they are not sitting by and allowing things to happen for the sake of getting along. He stated that the hospital board appointment, there is no one from Ward 3 and he is asking for the addresses for where all these people live and Ward 4 is heavily saturated on that board. He stated that

he has been asking about 15 & Stephens to get that work done. He stated that are going to have to start taking more applications for CDBG and they have 1.5 million dollars sitting there

Council Member Harris thanked everyone for being there and for the words of encouragement. She stated that she believes this city is on the verge of turning a corner; and that the city's crime rate is way down. She stated that the greatest resource in the city is their people and that it has been a dilemma for her to decided what to do in the future. She stated that she loves this town and the people. She stated that love conquered her desire for peace, and she announced her desire to run for Ward 4 council representative.

Mayor Draper stated he hoped everyone had a great and happy holiday season and that he wishes nothing but the best for Anniston in 2020. He stated that he prays for peace and prosperity for the city and God's will and direction. He stated that there are good things are the horizon but they have to surrender themselves to God's will in order to do that.

Mayor Draper made a motion to convene into an executive session for the purpose of discussing with the City attorney the legal ramifications of and legal options for controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated depending on the City's course of action. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jenkins and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris, and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried the council convened into executive session at approximately 6:10 p.m.