

Anniston, Alabama

April 7, 2020

The City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, met in Regular Session in the Main Hall at the Anniston City Meeting Center in the City of Anniston, Alabama, on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at approximately 5:41 o'clock p.m.

Jay Jenkins, Councilman, prayed the Invocation.

Jay Jenkins, Councilman, 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 virtually present via an electronic device.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the March 17, 2020 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 March 17, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes were approved.

Council Member Harris made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the March 26, 2020 Called Meeting. 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 and the March 26, 2020 Called Meeting minutes were approved.

Mayor Draper made a motion to adopt the agenda with the deletion of the Public Hearing to receive public comments over-ruling objection to the abatement of identified nuisances. Group 2020-02 Grass/Debris/Vehicles and the Resolution over-ruling objections to the abatement of identified nuisances. Group 2020-02 Grass/Debris/Vehicles. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jenkins and 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 Reddick made a motion to appoint a candidate from the Health Care Authority's submitted slate of candidates to the Health Care Authority Place #3 with a term to expire May 31, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jenkins.

Council Member Reddick made a motion to table the motion to appoint a candidate from the Health Care Authority's submitted slate of candidates to the Health Care Authority Place #3 with a term to expire May 31, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council Member Little and call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Reddick, Little, and Draper; nays: Council Member Jenkins and Harris. The motion carried and the motion to appoint a candidate from the Health Care Authority's submitted slate of candidates to the Health Care Authority Place #3 with a term to expire May 31, 2025 was tabled.

Council Member Harris stated that they need to make some kind of accommodation to appoint board members during this crisis. She stated that she thought it was pretty important for appointees to be here in the past so that they take the appointment seriously because they have appointed people who never show up to meetings and they do not need that to happen again.

Mayor Draper stated that ultimately they will need to do that. He stated that they need to do something so these appointments are timely made. He noted for citizens watching online that members continue to serve until another appointment is made.

Council Member Reddick made a motion to appoint a candidate from the Health Care Authority's submitted slate of candidates to the Health Care Authority Place #4 with a term to expire May 31, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jenkins.

Council Member Reddick made a motion to table the motion to appoint a candidate from the Health Care Authority's submitted slate of candidates to the Health Care Authority Place #4 with a term to expire May 31, 2025. The motion was seconded by Council Member Little and call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Reddick, Little, and Draper; nays: Council Member Jenkins and Harris. The motion carried and the motion to appoint a candidate from the Health Care Authority's submitted slate of candidates to the Health Care Authority Place #4 with a term to expire May 31, 2025 was tabled.

Council Member Little made a motion to approve an allocation of \$50,000.00 from the Franchise Fee increase of Spire Alabama, Inc., for education in the following: \$25,000.00 to Anniston City Schools and \$25,000.00 split between the Donoho School, Faith Christian School, and Sacred Heart Catholic School. The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick.

Council Member Harris stated that she believes that need to proceed very cautiously. She stated that this is a great idea but at this time the council should not expend any funds that are not absolutely necessary. She stated that she cannot support any expenditure that is not critical at this point.

Council Member Little stated that school funds are critical at this particular point but he will make a motion to table it to bring it back. He stated that it is critical and the schools need it. He stated that other businesses will be getting some extra funds from the council and the school should too.

Mayor Draper stated that they need to be cautious about committing any funds not knowing what they are looking at in the future. He stated that he is not sure they can appropriate money to Donoho, Faith, and Sacred Heart.

Council Member Jenkins stated that he is supportive of this concept and that they should look at this as a funding source travel and events for the Youth Council since they have two students represented from each school. He stated that this could be an opportunity to include all the schools and still fall within the body of the law.

Mayor Draper stated that he thinks that is a great plan.

Council Member Little made a motion to table the motion to approve an allocation of \$50,000.00 from the Franchise Fee increase of Spire Alabama, Inc., for education in the following: \$25,000.00 to Anniston City Schools and \$25,000.00 split between the Donoho School, Faith Christian School, and Sacred Heart Catholic School. The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick 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 motion to approve an allocation of \$50,000.00 from the Franchise Fee increase of Spire Alabama, Inc., for education in the following: \$25,000.00 to Anniston City Schools and \$25,000.00 split between the Donoho School, Faith Christian School, and Sacred Heart Catholic School was tabled.

Mayor Draper made a motion for passage and adoption of a Resolution appointing member(s) to the Zoning Board of Adjustments (20-R-16). 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 and Resolution 20-R-16 Appointing member(s) to the Zoning Board of Adjustments was passed and adopted.

Council Member Reddick made a motion for passage and adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to execute and submit a Letter of Commitment of HOME Funds for Thomas May & Associates. The motion was seconded by Council Member Little.

Council Member Jenkins stated that he looked at what was submitted and that it is not a plan.

Council Member Reddick stated that it is a lot more than what was submitted prior to that with the people from Alexandria.

Council Member Jenkins stated that there is no funding source outside of this, recognized other than the tax credit and they will be tying up funds that need to be expended. He stated that they will not know if they get the tax credit until February. He stated that they will be following down the same rabbit hole of the unknown and the information that was submitted does not match the site. He stated that there are a lot of pieces that need to be done in order for this to become a reality.

Council Member Reddick stated that this is an opportunity to do something in his district and it is upon approval. He stated that all the last group gave them was a piece of paper with a map and some red stuff around it and told them about projects they have done in the past. He stated that it is not one piece of property she is purchasing but a whole city block; and waiting a couple of months is not unreasonable. He stated that he is in a unique situation; where he is trying to rebuild and revitalize West Anniston. And this is an opportunity to incentivize someone that will put a multi-million dollar project in his district to bring tax revenue to the city, economic development to his district, and have an economic impact on the community.

Council Member Harris asked if the person could go back to the drawing board and fill in the gaps. She stated that she believes Councilman Jenkins and others are not against a plan but are saying this is not an adequate plan.

Council Member Reddick stated that when you start showing more, you start showing proprietary information. He stated that when they start talking about who her developers are, who the home owner is, and things like that you are into proprietary information. He stated that they want her to violate the sacred code of a developer by giving them her entire plan but they do not expect big box stores to do the same.

Mayor Draper stated that they can enter into a NDA with her so they can see the completeness of the plan.

Council Member Little stated that once things are submitted to the council it becomes public record. He stated that it not just a boost for Ward 2 but for the City of Anniston. He stated that they are just committing the funds that does not mean she is getting the funds. He stated that they lost \$500,000.00 last year because they were not notified of some things. He stated that millions of dollars were held on to until he and Councilman Reddick started digging. He stated that they should not kill it now but give hope in a time of despair.

And on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Reddick and Little; nays: Council Member Jenkins, Harris, and Draper. The motion for passage and adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to execute and submit a Letter of Commitment of HOME Funds for Thomas May & Associates failed.

There being no further business to come before the council at that time Mayor Draper made a motion the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris; and on call of the roll, the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Harris and Draper nays: Council Member Reddick and Little. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:12 o'clock p.m.