

7/27/2015

Anniston, Alabama
July 27, 2015

The City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, met in Special Session in the Council Chamber in the City Hall of the City of Anniston, Alabama, on Monday, July 27, 2015, at approximately 5:34 o'clock p.m.

Reverend Marcus Dunn prayed the Invocation.

Reverend Marcus Dunn led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, was present.

Council Member Selase made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Selase, Harris and Stewart; nays: Council Member Reddick. The motion carried.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion for the unanimous consent of the Council to introduce and read by title Ordinance Number 15-O-11. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris.

Mayor Stewart asked if anyone wished to address the Council either in favor of or in opposition to the introduction and reading by title of Ordinance Number 15-O-11.

Karen Freeman addressed the Council and stated she had some concerns about the language of the ordinance.

Mayor Stewart asked if anyone else wished to address the Council either in favor of or in opposition to the introduction and reading by title of Ordinance Number 15-O-11.

No one else addressed the Council either in favor of or in opposition to the introduction and reading by title of Ordinance Number 15-O-11.

On call of the roll on Council Member Jenkins' motion for the unanimous consent of the Council to introduce and read by title Ordinance Number 15-O-11 and Council Member Harris' second to said motion the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Selase, Harris and Stewart; nays: none. The motion carried.

Unanimous consent of the Council having been granted to introduce and read by title Ordinance Number 15-O-11, Council Member Jenkins introduced and read by title Ordinance Number 15-O-11 as follows:

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(15-O-11, amending Article II of Chapter 34 of the City Code regulating Health, Safety and Sanitation; First reading)

Council Member Jenkins made a motion for the unanimous consent of the Council for the immediate consideration of Ordinance Number 15-O-11 as introduced and read by title. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Selase, Harris and Stewart; nays: Council Member Reddick. The motion failed.

Mayor Stewart stated the Council would have a second reading of Ordinance Number 15-O-11 on August 10, 2015 and would consider the merits of the proposed ordinance at that time.

Council Member Selase made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the City Council to meet on the first Monday of August, 2015. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Selase, Harris and Stewart; nays: none. The motion carried.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, summarized the changes in Ordinance Number 15-O-9 that had been introduced and read at the Council Meeting of July 20, 2015 but which had not come up for a vote of passage and adoption, and in Ordinance Number 15-O-11 that had been introduced and read at this meeting and which would be considered for passage and adoption on August 10, 2015.

Rick Shea, 1219 Christine Avenue, addressed the Council and stated he supported the proposed Ordinance Number 15-O-11. He stated there had been drug trafficking problems with properties in his neighborhood.

Glen Ray addressed the Council and asked what would happen if the police officers falsified documents and made false accusations. He stated the police needed to spend more time on the crime areas and not giving tickets on Quintard Avenue. He stated they needed more community policing.

Curtis Ray, 1004 Constantine Avenue, addressed the Council and stated he would like to commend Kumira Mason for the work she was doing in the Rocky Hollow Neighborhood.

Nathan Payne, Wildwood Road, addressed the Council and stated he appreciated the intent of the proposed Ordinance Number 15-O-11. He asked about the persistent criminal activity phrase and the State Law to which the ordinance makes reference.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, stated the proposed Ordinance Number 15-O-11 is not designed to identify and address every nuisance that could exist. He stated the ordinance carves out a type of conduct which is a nuisance but is not everything else that is a nuisance. He stated the ordinance is saying if your property is the site of persistent criminal activity it will be considered a public nuisance or the Council may declare it to be a public nuisance and abated in accordance with the law.

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Jennifer Maddox, Woodland Court, addressed the Council and stated all the work this Council had done for the City does not matter unless the citizens feel safe in their home and visitors feel in the city. She stated persistent criminal activity should be allowed to continue in the neighborhoods and thanked the Council for taking this step.

Norris Wilson addressed the Council and stated the nuisance should be made clear and to the point in the ordinance. He stated they have good and bad police officers. He stated they need to solve how to keep kids away from gang violence and drugs. He stated there were youth coaches who were smoking weed. He stated they needed police involvement in the schools and in the neighborhoods on a more personal level.

There being no further business to come before the meeting at that time Council Member Harris made a motion the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Council Member Selase; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Selase, Harris and Stewart; nays: none. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:05 o'clock p.m.