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Anniston, Alabama  
September 6, 2016

The City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, met in Regular Session in the Council Chamber in the City Hall of the City of Anniston, Alabama, on Tuesday, September 6, 2016, at approximately 5:25 o'clock p.m.

Reverend Tim Kendrick prayed the Invocation.

Reverend Tim Kendrick 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.

Brian Johnson, City Manager, was present.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, was present.

Council Member Selase made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of August 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. 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.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to approve the minutes of August 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. 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.

Council Member Harris made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jenkins; 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.

Council Member Selase made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items:

- (a) Resolution authorizing reimbursements to city officials for expenses incurred while traveling away from the city.
- (b) Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract for Professional Auditing Services.
- (c) Motion amending the City of Anniston Policies and Procedures Manual to include "Mandatory Direct Deposit of Employee Wages".
- (d) Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application to the National Endowment For the Arts.

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.

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Council Member Jenkins made a motion to reintroduce and read by title Ordinance Number 16-O-15. 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 reintroduction and reading by title Ordinance Number 16-O-15.

No one addressed the Council either in favor of or in opposition to the reintroduction and reading by title Ordinance Number 16-O-15.

On call of the roll on Council Member Jenkins' motion to reintroduce and read by title Ordinance Number 16-O-15 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 reintroduce and read by title Ordinance Number 16-O-15, Council Member Jenkins reintroduced and read by title Ordinance Number 16-O-15 as follows:

(16-O-15, authorizing execution of an agreement between the City and the Regional Medical Center Board and further authorizing the reincorporation of the RMC Board as "The Health Care Authority of the City of Anniston"; Second Reading)

Council Member Jenkins made a motion for the passage and adoption of Ordinance Number 16-O-15 as reintroduced 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, Reddick, Selase, Harris and Stewart; nays: none. The motion carried and Ordinance Number 16-O-15 was passed and adopted.

Council Member Selase introduced and read Resolution Number 16-R-98 as follows:

(16-R-98, authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement regarding donation of property)

Council Member Selase made a motion for the passage and adoption of Resolution Number 16-R-98 as introduced and read. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris.

Council Member Reddick asks who had the title for this property.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, stated that BB&T Bank had the tile for this property and it was a foreclosed property.

On call of the roll on Council Member Selase's motion for the passage and adoption of Resolution Number 16-R-98 as introduced and read 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 and Resolution Number 16-R-98 was passed and adopted.

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The Council made a presentation to Ken Rollins for an Honorary Street Naming.

Brian Johnson, City Manager, addressed the Council and made a presentation concerning the Fiscal Year 2017 General Fund Budget.

Council Member Jenkins stated that last week he had made some statements that were inappropriate and irrelevant to the discussion. He stated he would like to apologize to the Council, the School Board, Mr. Douthitt, and Ms. Jones who was present at the meeting. He stated it was not uncommon for the budget process to turn into a heated discussion. He stated he allowed himself to speak with frustration and anger. He stated it was critical for the monies the City received to be accounted for and expended in the proper way. He stated he asks for fiscal responsibility from the school system and all others who receive monies from the City. He stated he remains concerned with the fiscal accountability of the school system. He stated he wanted as much of the funding of the school system spent on the students as was possible. He stated the school system had too many facilities, that they were spending too much on bussing and other things that were not reaching the kids. He stated he was happy that they may find the funding for the Pre-K program.

Council Member Selase stated he appreciated Council Member Jenkins' apology. He stated this Council created the Education Innovation Fund on September 24, 2013 by a three- two vote. He stated in in 2014 \$150,000 was cut from the Education Innovation Fund and he had made a motion to add those funds back but his motion received no second and he was the only Council Member to vote against that budget and the cut to the Education Innovation Fund. He stated he was the only Council Member to vote against the budget in 2015 because that budget had a cut to the Education Innovation Fund. He stated he had respect for his fellow Council Members and did not blame them for not voting with him in opposition to the previous budgets mentioned. He stated he appreciated what this Council had accomplished. He stated his amendment proposal for the 2017 budget would be to defer the Employee COLA to January 1, 2017 (\$100,000), reclassify certain positions in the Parks and Recreation Department (\$75,000), reduce professional services (\$150,000), and reduce overtime (\$25,000) and to increase Coosa Valley Detention Services (\$50,000) and the Education Innovation Fund (\$300,000).

Council Member Reddick stated he had tried in the past to allocate  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the 2012 one cent tax increase to education and if they had done that then they would not be having this present discussion. He stated if he had funded everything as proposed originally last year then the Wiggins Center would have been closed and he would have never gotten it back. He stated they had to support their schools. He stated he would appreciate support to allocate a flat tax for the schools.

Council Member Harris stated she appreciated Council Member Selase's hard work to come up with a budget amendment proposal that they could support.

Mayor Stewart stated that was the time for the public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget, declared the hearing open and asked if anyone wished to address the Council concerning the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget.

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Glen Ray, 3514 Dale Hollow Road, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated they should give additional funding to the school system.

Nathaniel David, 2121 Ferron Avenue, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated they should give additional funding to the school system.

Joe Harrington, 801 Quail Drive, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated they should give additional funding to the school system.

Harold Ray, 905 Bennie Ray Street, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated they should give additional funding to the school system.

Donald Stewart addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated they should give additional funding to the school system.

James Montgomery, 1700 Greenbrier, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated Council Member Jenkins may want to consider resigning from the Council.

Sheila Jones, 1719 Rocky Hollow Road, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated the Council should meet with the parents and explain where there tax dollars are going.

Brenda Coleman, 316 Elm Street, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated their children were not hopeless.

Ciera Smith, Anniston High School student, addressed the Council and stated they needed the students at this meeting. She stated that money could not fix this. She asked why they did not the Council and the audience members in their schools.

Mary Harrington, 801 Quail Drive, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated they should not tell the Board of Education how to allocate their funds.

Erica Tolson, 409 South Allen Avenue, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated their kids were their future. She stated they needed to look at having a strong Mayor.

Freddie Rimpsey addressed the Council and stated he remembered in the past when the Council would not listen to them and stated they had come a long way. He stated the Council and community leaders should sit down and meet and try to solve these problems.

Rosalind Lawson, 1625 Marguerite Avenue, addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated the City needed to consider an occupational tax for people who worked in the city but did not live in the city.

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Celeste Jackson addressed the Council in opposition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and stated other schools in the area were preparing their students and they were having the same problems in Anniston that they had in years past.

Mayor Stewart asked if anyone else wished to address the Council concerning the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget.

No one else addressed the Council concerning the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget.

Mayor Stewart declared the public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget closed.

Council Member Selase made a motion to amend the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget to decrease salaries by \$100,000.00 by deferring the cost of living adjustment until January 1, 2017, to decrease the Parks and Recreation Department by \$75,000.00 by reclassifying certain positions due to the Federal overtime regulations, to decrease Professional Services by \$150,000.00 including fees for web site design, legal fees, PR marketing, grant writing and information technology, and to decrease by \$25,000.00 overtime for Public Works and Fire Department employees and to increase by \$300,000.00 the Education Innovation Fund and to increase by \$50,000.00 Coosa Valley Youth Services. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jenkins.

Council Member Reddick stated that if Council Member Selase's organization received funds from Coosa Valley Youth Services then he could not make this motion.

Council Member Selase stated that his organization received no funds from Coosa Valley Youth Services.

On call of the roll on Council Member Selase's motion to amend the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget to decrease salaries by \$100,000.00 by deferring the cost of living adjustment until January 1, 2017, to decrease the Parks and Recreation Department by \$75,000.00 by reclassifying certain positions due to the Federal overtime regulations, to decrease Professional Services by \$150,000.00 including fees for web site design, legal fees, PR marketing, grant writing and information technology, and to decrease by \$25,000.00 overtime for Public Works and Fire Department employees and to increase by \$300,000.00 the Education Innovation Fund and to increase by \$50,000.00 Coosa Valley Youth Services and Council Member Jenkins second to said motion the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Selase, Harris and Stewart; nays: none. The motion carried.

Council Member Reddick made a motion to amend the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget to decrease Health Care by \$100,000.00 and to decrease Special Events by \$40,000.00 and to increase the Education Innovation Fund by \$140,000.00. The motion was seconded by Council Member Selase.

Council Member Harris stated she would like more information about the Health Care costs before voting on this amendment. She stated she would be willing to give up the \$7,000.00 allocated for travel expense to each Council Member to give to the Education Innovation Fund.

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Cory Salley stated he had budgeted more for health care this year because they were starting with about a \$400,000.00 deficit and so he had budgeted \$300,000.00 more to hopefully get out of the hole and possibly build some fund balance. He stated he was trying to help smooth the fluctuations in the year to year actual health care cost.

Mayor Stewart made a motion to amend Council Member Reddick's motion to amend the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget to decrease Health Care by \$100,000.00 and to decrease Special Events by \$40,000.00 and to increase the Education Innovation Fund by \$140,000.00 to decrease Health Care by \$50,000.00 and to decrease Special Events by \$40,000.00 and to increase the Education Innovation Fund by \$90,000. The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick; 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.

There being no further business to come before the meeting at that time Council Member Selase made a motion the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick; 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 7:30 o'clock p.m.