

Anniston, Alabama

June 7, 2022

The City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, met in Regular Session in Room B at the Anniston City Meeting Center in the City of Anniston, Alabama, on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at approximately 5:30 o'clock p.m.

RaShaud Drake, Anniston High School graduate, prayed the Invocation.

RaShaud Drake, Anniston High School graduate, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Vice-Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. On call of the roll, the following Council Members were found to be present: Council Members Jenkins, Roberts, Smith, and Harris; absent: Mayor Draper. 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 Roberts made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the May 17, 2022 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, Roberts, Smith, and Harris; nays: none. The motion carried and the May 17, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved.

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 Member Jenkins, Roberts, Smith, and Harris; nays: none. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

Vice-Mayor Smith introduced a board confirmation hearing of Undrea Gladden to the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

Vice-Mayor Smith opened a public hearing to receive public comments on an application for permit to conduct bingo games in Calhoun County, Alabama at 33 Old Gadsden Hwy, Anniston AL 36201 for 7 Springs Ministries. No one spoke. Vice-Mayor Smith closed the public hearing to receive public comments on an application for permit to conduct bingo games in Calhoun County, Alabama at 33 Old Gadsden Hwy, Anniston AL 36201 for 7 Springs Ministries.

Vice-Mayor Smith opened a public hearing to receive public comments regarding the City of Anniston applying to the Alabama Department of Transportation for a federal capital funding award Section 5310 of the Federal Transit Act for the purpose of helping meet the transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities in the City of Anniston. No One Spoke. Vice-Mayor Smith closed the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the City of Anniston applying to the Alabama Department of Transportation for a federal capital funding award Section 5310 of the Federal Transit Act for the purpose of helping meet the transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities in the City of Anniston.

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

(a)Resolution appointing member(s) to the Zoning Board of Adjustments (22-R-28)

(b) Resolution endorsing East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2022 (CEDS) (22-R-29)

(c) Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application for financial assistance under Section 5310 of the Federal Transit Act Amendment of 1991 (22-R-30)

(d) Motion to approve a Retail Beer (Off Premises Only) Retail Table Wine (Off Premises Only) application for 18 Quintard Shell LLC d/b/a 18 Quintard Shell located at 1731 Quintard Avenue within the corporate city limits

(e) Motion to approve a Retail Beer (Off Premises Only) Retail Table Wine (Off Premises Only) application for 202 Shell LLC d/b/a 202 Shell located at 720 Quintard Avenue within the corporate city limits

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

Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve a Bingo Permit to 7 Springs Ministries located at 33 Old Gadsden Hwy, Anniston, Alabama 36201. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jenkins.

Council Member Roberts stated that he understands the skating rink is doing really good and it is a big hit. He asked would they still be able to service the kids as a skating rink if a license is approved or will this be a situation like the coffee house, where it was opened for a little while and then it is no longer operating.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, stated that the rules of order state that during council comments only the council can speak however they can make a motion to suspend the rules to allow comments to be made.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to suspend the rules to allow dialogue with Daniel Hughes at that time in regards to the motion. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Roberts, Smith, and Harris; nays: none. The motion carried.

Daniel Hughes stated that the vision was to be able to do an outreach to young folks in the community. He stated that they will still designate their Saturdays and Sundays to skating and have bingo no more than two nights a week.

Council Member Jenkins stated that he appreciates what Mr. Hughes is trying to do in the community but his concerns are in regards to life safety. He stated that anytime someone opens a business in this town and there is a change of occupancy, there is a requirement to submit a life safety plan to the city. He stated anything over 2500 square feet and that has any kind of assembly occupancy. He stated that the life safety plan should be presented to city, reviewed and approved by the Division of Building & Safety, before a business license or permit is issued.

Daniel Hughes stated that he did not meet with the Fire Chief, he met with Steven Folks, City Manager, and Mayor Draper.

Council Member Jenkins stated that neither one of those gentlemen are not qualified to review the material.

Mr. Hughes stated that the state fire marshal reviewed it.

Council Member Jenkins stated that state fire marshal reviewed the plans for skating not bingo. He stated that Mr. Hughes is changing the occupancy by bringing in bingo; and that he is not against the idea of this. He stated that he is making sure from the council standpoint, that if anything happens in that building it happens in a safe environment. He stated that they should demand that out of all of their businesses.

Daniel Hughes stated that the last thing he wants to do is put anyone in danger. He asked that if there is anything they need to do to be in compliance, they are willing to have the discussion.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to table the motion to approve a Bingo Permit to 7 Springs Ministries located at 33 Old Gadsden Hwy, Anniston, Alabama 36201 until the process is followed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Roberts, and Harris; nays: none; abstentions: Council Member Smith. The motion carried and the aforementioned motion was tabled.

Council Member Jenkins stated that he wanted to acknowledge an achievement, Raymond Ervin won the gold medal today in the Special Olympics Nationals for bocce. He stated that this is not Raymond's first gold medal.

Council Member Roberts stated that he appreciates Mr. Drake for coming out and delivering the invocation. He asked everyone to pray for this world because it seems like it is always something happening.

Council Member Harris wanted to commend Vice-Mayor Smith for her diligence in trying to get this ordinance amended to do something about the senseless killings and crimes in Anniston. She wanted to commend the Anniston Fire Department for arriving in 7 minutes to respond to a fire on her street.

Vice-Mayor Smith stated that she is super proud of Mr. Drake. She wanted to remind everyone about the Juneteenth celebration that will be held on June 18th. She stated that the city will be commemorating the holiday on Monday June 20th, so city hall and offices will be closed.

There being no further business to come before the council at that time Vice-Mayor Smith made a motion that 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, Roberts, Smith, and Harris; nays: none. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:57 o'clock p.m.