

Anniston, Alabama

December 20, 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, December 20, 2022, at approximately 5:34 o'clock p.m.

Jay Jenkins, Council Member, prayed the Invocation.

Jay Jenkins, Council Member, 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, Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; absent: none. A quorum was present and the meeting opened for the transaction of business.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, was present.

Steven Folks, City Manager, was present.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the December 6, 2022 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the December 6, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Mayor Draper made a motion to adopt the agenda with the additions of a resolution changing the curbside garbage collection service charge for each residential unit, and a motion to revise the 2022 public safety classification by adding the "Firefighter-EMT" position for entry level firefighters who have not obtained their Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) and upon completion of AEMT, firefighter will be reclassified to "Firefighter-AEMT" to the consent agenda and a stand-alone motion to approve the request from Anniston City Schools for appropriated funds from Resolution 22-R-34 (formerly 18-R-113) of \$97,774.07 to be utilized to provide continued funding for a Career Technical Education Teacher, student classroom supplies and instructional resources to support our Modern Manufacturing Program. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the amended agenda was approved.

Mayor Draper made a motion to adopt the amended consent agenda:

- (a) Resolution authorizing reimbursements to City Officials for expenses incurred while traveling away from the City (22-R-64)
- (b) Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application for financial assistance under Section 5310 of the Federal Transit Act Amendments of 1991 (22-R-65)
- (c) Motion to approve the bid for the Leighton Avenue Resurfacing Project to Vulcan, in the total amount of \$989,359.95
- (d) Motion to suspend the rule requiring the City Council to meet on the first Tuesday of January 2023

- (e) Resolution changing the curbside garbage collection service charge for each residential unit in the City of Anniston
- (f) Motion to revise the 2022 public safety classification by adding the “Firefighter-EMT” position for entry level firefighters who have not obtained their Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) and upon completion of AEMT, firefighter will be reclassified to “Firefighter-AEMT”

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

Mayor Draper introduced the ordinance establishing Police Reserve Force (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to read the ordinance by title only. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris.

Mayor Draper opened a public hearing to receive public comment on reading the ordinance by title only. No one spoke. Mayor Draper closed the public hearing to receive public comment on reading the ordinance by title only.

Council Member Harris made a motion for unanimous consent for immediate consideration. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried.

Council Member Roberts made a motion for passage and adoption of the ordinance establishing Police Reserve Force. 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, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the ordinance was passed and adopted. (22-O-18)

Council Member Harris made a motion to approve the request from Anniston City Schools for appropriated funds from Resolution 22-R-34 (formerly 18-R-113) of \$97,774.07 to be utilized to provide continued funding for a Career Technical Education Teacher, student classroom supplies and instructional resources to support our Modern Manufacturing Program. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried.

Glen Ray, 3514 Dale Hollow Road, addressed the council on raising the garbage fee. He stated that it feels like in the crisis that the country is in, everyone is raising everything. He asked the council what are they doing to take the burden off the citizens in the city.

Richard Jackson, 2317 Noble Street, congratulated the city on the Christmas parade. He stated that he had not seen a parade as big or long as this one. He stated that to whom much is given, much is required.

John Squires, 201 Druid Hills Road, addressed the council that the reading scores for the students, 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, have taken a tremendous beating. He proposes a Winter reading program, which will increase the students reading ability by at least 25%.

Mayor Draper acknowledged Fire Chief Jeff Waldrep on his recognition from the Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill for his years of service with the Anniston Fire Department.

Council Member Harris stated that it has been a pleasure to work with the current council. She stated that they have gotten a lot done and she has nothing but respect for each one. She stated that she appreciates Mr. Squire's idea on the reading program, she encourages him to reach out the Anniston School Board. She thanked Karla Eden and everyone involved for the best Christmas Parade she has ever seen in Anniston.

Council Member Smith addressed Mr. Squire that the best way to implement a program like this, would be to meet with the principals of each school. She stated that raising the garbage fees is something that the council has discussed for months. She stated that in consideration of raising those fees, the City is planning to write off over a million dollars in unpaid fees.

Council Member Roberts apologized for getting out of character at the last council meeting. He stated that he allowed his attempt at trying to educate some of the citizens to really bother him.

Council Member Jenkins wished Julie good luck on her future endeavors. He thanked city staff for all the work they do. He stated that a pat on the back is earned by staff even though they do not ask for it. He commended Karla Eden and everyone who played a role in the success of the Christmas parade.

Mayor Draper echoed the comments regarding the Christmas parade. He stated that they have a great city staff and thanked Julie Borrelli on her service and wishes her farewell in her next endeavor.

Mayor Draper stated that they will be adjourning and convening into an executive session and will not be returning from that executive session to discuss matters that were discussed in that executive session.

Mayor Draper made a motion to convene an executive session to discuss (a) the general reputation and character, physical condition, professional competence, or mental health of individuals, not including the job performance of public employees, (b) the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated or imminently likely to be litigated if the governmental body pursues a proposed course of action, and (c) the consideration the governmental body is willing to offer or accept when considering the purchase, sale, exchange, lease, or market value of real property. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, stated that for the record... \*\* additional comments were inaudible\*\*

And on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the council was adjourned into an executive session at approximately 6:03 o'clock p.m.