

Anniston, Alabama

September 5, 2023

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, September 5 2023, at approximately 5:31 o'clock p.m.

Ciara Smith, Council Member, prayed the Invocation.

Ciara Smith, 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. 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 Smith made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the August 15, 2023 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, Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the August 15, 2023 regular meeting minutes were approved.

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

Mayor Draper made a motion to remove the resolution adopting the budget for fiscal year 2024 from the table and place on the floor for consideration. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith Harris 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.

Mayor Draper made a motion to amend the Resolution adopting the budget for fiscal year 2024 with the following amendments:

1. Increase police administration budget by \$38,000.00 for wireless data service to the camera systems; this expenditure will be offset by Reserve
2. Increase outside agencies by \$10,000.00 to bring the total appropriation to Coosa Valley Juvenile Center to \$150,000.00; this expenditure will be offset by Reserve
3. Increase Non-departmental by \$15,000.00 to bring the total Anniston Express amount to \$340,000.00. They recently submitted a proposed resolution in the amount of \$340,000.00 and we originally budgeted \$325,000; this expenditure will be offset by reserve
4. Allocate \$400,000.00 in Rescue Act Funds to Regional Medical Center for Capital Improvements
5. Allocate \$225,000.00 in Series 2022 Bonds for PARD Playground Improvements and Capital Improvement Equipment

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, Harris, and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried.

Mayor Draper made a motion to table the amended Resolution adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 2024. 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 to approve the consent agenda:

- (a) Resolution authorizing reimbursements to city officials for expenses incurred while traveling away from the city (23-R-41)
- (b) Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, authorizing the adoption and approval of the fiscal year 2020 Annual Action Plan under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and HOME Investment Partnerships Act Program (23-R-42)
- (c) Resolution establishing the position of career Technical Education Teacher (23-R-43)
- (d) Motion to approve bid for purchase of three (3) 2023 ½ ton crew cab pickup trucks for Fire Departments to Sunny King Ford in the amount of \$73,800.00/each
- (e) Motion to authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement with MBA Engineers, Inc., for engineering services for Noble Street City Parking Lot at 12th Noble
- (f) Motion to submit a letter of support for Premier Holdings to apply for a grant through ADECA Capital Funds Grant to provide affordable internet service for citizens of the City of Anniston and Calhoun County

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, Harris, and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the consent agenda was approved.

Glen Ray, 3514 Dale Hollow Road, addressed the council that he would like to receive something in writing that states that police officers in the community are allowed to pull over a citizen who failed to turn their blinker on 100 ft. before they make a turn.

Richard Jackson, 2317 Noble Street, addressed the council that there is a lot of what Mr. Ray mentioned going on in Anniston and surrounding areas. He stated that he feels the police are going on a fishing mission.

Council Member Harris thanked the finance director, Jessica Leonard and department heads for their efforts in compiling the budget.

Council Member Smith stated that the \$400,000.00 that is being allocated to the hospital have the same requirements as other entities. They would have to request and provide documentation of what the funds are being utilized for.

Council Member Roberts stated that something is working, because the budget has continued to increase since he has been in office.

Council Member Jenkins stated that this has been the easiest budget cycle he has been through. He stated that they saw an almost 10% increase in revenue since the previous budget. He stated that they are moving Anniston in the right direction.

Mayor Draper echoed the sentiments regarding the budget. He stated that Anniston still has some big issues they need to address but he is proud of the direction they are going.

There being no further business to come before the council at that time Mayor Draper made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith; and on call of the roll, the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:49 o'clock p.m.