

**THE MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNTERSVILLE, ALABAMA
HELD ON JULY 19th 2021**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Guntersville, Alabama met in a pre-meeting in City Hall in said city on July 19th 2021 at 4:30 p.m. to discuss matters to come before the Council. In a regular meeting in Town Hall at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Leigh Dollar presided as Chairman of the meeting. The following members of the Council were present: Sanchez Watkins, Larry Wilson, John Myers, Carson Ray, Dink Myers, Rich Russell and Randy Whitaker. Betty Jones acted as City Clerk for the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Randy Whitaker. Mayor Dollar welcomed visitors and declared that a quorum was present and opened the meeting for business.

Minutes

Mayor Dollar announced that copies of the minutes from the July 7th 2021 Regular Meeting have been distributed to the members of the Council. There being no corrections or additions the same on motion duly made and second stood approved.

Personnel Report – Mayor Dollar called upon Renea Rowan to give the following personnel report:

Transportation: Currently Ms. Joyce Adams is a part-time employee. Due to the departments' need for her to work more hours and for the City to meet the Affordable Care Act requirements, it is my recommendation that Ms. Adams be made a full-time employee as of 7/26/2021.

Horticulture: Ms. Wendy Walker selected Mr. Garrett Biglin to fill the vacancy of a Laborer position. Mr. Biglin excepted our job offer and is schedule to start his employment tomorrow, 7/20/21, as a full-time employee.

Ms. Walker also has selected Mr. Samuel Johnson to fill an approved additional position of Labor. Mr. Johnson excepted our job offer and is scheduled to begin his employment as a full-time employee on Monday, 7/26/21.

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Ray and seconded by Councilman Watkins and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution to Approve Soccer Field Lighting

Mayor Dollar introduced **Resolution No. 1212** to approve a Soccer Field Lighting Materials Quote thru MUSCO Lighting/Sourcwell Purchasing cooperative with a bid of \$455,000.00. Matt Bryant reported to the Council that the three needs of the soccer field were parking, restrooms and lighting and that it was determined that lighting was the most important. After receiving several quotes, it was determined the best action was to purchase from the Sourcwell Cooperative. MUSCO Lighting provides LED lights at a significant savings, it will be monitored by them and has a 25-year warranty on parts and labor. Most of the cost will be covered by a corporate donation and the City has applied for a \$100,000.00 grant to help with the installation costs. Councilman Wilson asked when the installation would take place and it should be in the fall. Councilman Wilson made the motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Ray and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Approval of Comprehensive Plan

Mayor Dollar asked for Council Approval for Services for a Comprehensive Plan to be put in place by Croy Engineering at a cost of \$42,300.00, partnering with TARCOG at a cost of \$7,500.00. Andy Summers of Croy reported that this was a 6-9-month project and by partnering with TARCOG the City would get a better value. This will be in 3 phases: Public Involvement, Stakeholder Team Involvement, and General Public outreach and input. They will gather data and formulate a plan. Mayor Dollar reported that the last comprehensive plan was done in 1998 and that she received request from more than one developer. Councilman Wilson stated that he thought engaging the public was most important and Mr. Summers stated that they will make every effort to do so. Motion to approve the hiring of both groups was made by Councilman Watkins and seconded by Councilman John Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Annexation Request

Mayor Dollar stated that the Planning Commission approved an annexation request by Todd and Janna Carrol, as trustees of the Carroll Family Trust, located at 229 River Pointe Drive. Councilman Whitaker made a motion for immediate consideration, seconded by Councilman Ray and this passed unanimously by the following roll call vote:

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|--------------------|-----|-------------------|--------|
| 1. Sanchez Watkins | Yes | 5. Dink Myers | Absent |
| 2. Larry Wilson | Yes | 6. Rich Russell | Yes |
| 3. John Myers | Yes | 7. Randy Whitaker | Yes |
| 4. Carson Ray | Yes | 8. Leigh Dollar | Yes |

Mayor Dollar then entertained a motion to annex by **Ordinance No. 1124** and a motion was made by Councilman Whitaker and seconded by Councilman Russell and passed by the following roll call vote:

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|--------------------|-----|-------------------|--------|
| 1. Sanchez Watkins | Yes | 5. Dink Myers | Absent |
| 2. Larry Wilson | Yes | 6. Rich Russell | Yes |
| 3. John Myers | Yes | 7. Randy Whitaker | Yes |
| 4. Carson Ray | Yes | 8. Leigh Dollar | Yes |

Special Event License for the Rock House

Mayor Dollar announced that consideration for a special event license needed to be added to the agenda because it had been approved more than a year ago, cancelled by Covid and that the ABC Board would not accept it after this length of time. Motion to add to the agenda was made by Councilman Russell, seconded by Councilman Watkins and was approved by the following roll call vote:

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|--------------------|-----|-------------------|--------|
| 1. Sanchez Watkins | Yes | 5. Dink Myers | Absent |
| 2. Larry Wilson | Yes | 6. Rich Russell | Yes |
| 3. John Myers | Yes | 7. Randy Whitaker | Yes |
| 4. Carson Ray | Yes | 8. Leigh Dollar | Yes |

Motion to approve the special even license for the Rock House to do Casino Night for the Rotary Club on August 14th 2021 was made by Councilman John Myers and seconded by Councilman Russell and passed by the following roll call vote:

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|--------------------|-----|-------------------|---------|
| 1. Sanchez Watkins | Yes | 5. Dink Myers | Absent |
| 2. Larry Wilson | Yes | 6. Rich Russell | Yes |
| 3. John Myers | Yes | 7. Randy Whitaker | Abstain |
| 4. Carson Ray | Yes | 8. Leigh Dollar | Yes |

ACE Aeronautics Request

Mayor Dollar entertained a motion to add another item to the agenda concerning a request by ACE Aeronautics for a temporary easement. Motion to add another item to the agenda concerning a request by Ace Aeronautics for a temporary easement was made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Russell and passed by the following roll call vote:

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|--------------------|-----|-------------------|--------|
| 1. Sanchez Watkins | Yes | 5. Dink Myers | Absent |
| 2. Larry Wilson | Yes | 6. Rich Russell | Yes |
| 3. John Myers | Yes | 7. Randy Whitaker | Yes |
| 4. Carson Ray | Yes | 8. Leigh Dollar | Yes |

Hans Ingold representing ACE reported to the Council that since the through the fence agreement had changed a conveyance of property the existing fence needed to be removed and stored to get a blade in to improve the drainage off the access road and take the water to the north of the road and allow ACE to complete its construction. ACE will provide the equipment and complete the work. Councilman Ray asked if the plan to do this work had been approved by the City or an engineer? Jimmy Hanson reported that no it had not and asked that a City representative be given authority to oversee. Councilman Ray stated that the City must have input when private work is being done on City property and must have supervision. Mayor Dollar had Jimmy Hanson, Dan Warnes and Charlie Minor all at the podium to answer various questions about drainage from the access road. Councilman Whitaker stated that this was why the ACE additional property should have been annexed in the City and processed through the proper channels so we would not have this problem today. Councilman Whitaker added that the remainder of the ACE property must be annexed and Mr. Ingold needs to convince them to annex so when future development of this property is done, the City can have oversight to make sure it is done properly to avoid future problems. Mr. Whitaker also stated that the Rocky Frasier hangar road was torn up during the construction of ACE and Mr. Ingold stated that it had been repaired, but Councilman Whitaker disagreed. Mr. Ingold stated that drainage on the airport was City responsibility and ACE had nothing to do with the amount of drainage. Mr. Whitaker stated "ACE cleared 8 acres of vegetation and did not plant any grass and now the water is running on the airport property off the ACE property and you don't think you had anything to do with that?" Councilman Ray stated that he wanted to be clear that the City would oversee the work. Dan Warnes stated the motion should be for ACE to fill out a form notifying FAA that work is to be done by them on City Property to grant them a temporary easement; have permission to take the fence down and to do the work subject to City supervision and for ACE to supply the City with plans. That motion was made by Councilman Russell and seconded by Councilman Whitaker. Councilman Whitaker asked that the record show that Hans has said ACE tore up the Frasier road and that if they had annexed in the City with a plan we would not have this problem today. Mr. Ingold said "I did not say that ACE had torn up the road" Mr. Ingold added we regraded the road after building. Councilman Whitaker stated we had a finished road there with asphalt before the construction and now it was gravel. An argument ensued and the mayor called for order in the meeting. Mayor Dollar called for the vote and the agreement was passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Announcements

- School starts August 11th
- The Pinta will docked at the Harbor July 30th thru August 12th

Public Comments

- Unique Dunston of 9761 Brooklyn Way, Semmes Al addressed the Council asking that Council encourage that the Confederate flag at the Albertville Court House be removed. Mrs. Dunston gave several examples of why the flag is offensive to the Negro race.
- Andy Harber of 3018 Woodvue Road reported to the Council that there had been a disturbance at River Rock Plantation after midnight that had resulted in the Police being called to quiet the persons at the pool area. He asked how this should be handled in the future. He was told calling the police was proper procedure.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council at this time, the meeting on motion duly made and seconded, stood adjourned until August 2nd 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE 2nd DAY OF AUGUST, 2021

**CITY OF GUNTERSVILLE, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

LEIGH DOLLAR, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
BETTY JONES, CITY CLERK