

**THE MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNTERSVILLE, ALABAMA
HELD ON APRIL 3rd 2023**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Guntersville, Alabama met in a pre-meeting in City Hall in said city on April 3rd 2023 at 11:30 a.m. to discuss matters to come before the Council. Afterwards in a regular meeting in Town Hall at 12:00 p.m. Mayor Dollar presided as Chairman. The following members of the Council were present: Sanchez Watkins, Larry Wilson, John Myers, Carson Ray, Dink Myers, Rich Russell and Randy Whitaker. Shelly Thomas acted as City Clerk for the meeting in Betty Jones' absence. 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 March 20th 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 Personnel Report:

Street/Maintenance: Charlie Minor selected Mr. Randy Hughes to fill the open position of Equipment Operator II. A job offer was made to Mr. Hughes. He has accepted our offer and is scheduled to begin his employment as full time employee on April 10, 2023. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Whitaker and seconded by Councilman Dink Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution for Senior Center to Request Financial Assistance (Section 5310)

Mayor Dollar called on Transportation Director, Lori Kirkland to report on the following 3 items. Mrs. Kirkland explained that **Resolution No. 1305** was a yearly grant for the Senior Center. This is the 3rd year for the City to apply for and receive the grant, and it is an 80/20 split. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Russell and seconded by Councilman Ray and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution for Public Transportation to Request Financial Assistance (Section 5311)

Mayor Dollar asked Lori Kirkland to report on **Resolution No. 1306** for Public Transportation 5311 Grant, this is also a grant that the City applies for each year. This this authorizes the Mayor to execute and file the application requesting financial assistance on behalf of City. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Whitaker and seconded by Councilman Dink Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmember present.

Resolution for Public Transportation to Apply for Section 5311 Grant for Local Matching Funds

Mayor Dollar asked Lori Kirkland to report on **Resolution No. 1307**. This is also another yearly grant with a local match of 50% operating and 20% admin. The Transportation Department employs 6 persons and has 6 vehicles. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Whitaker and seconded by Councilman John Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution for Industrial Access Grant Application

Mayor Dollar introduced **Resolution No. 1308** and called on Matt Arnold with Marshall County Economic Development and Matt Hawes with CDG Engineering to explain the grant process. Mr. Arnold explained that 5-6 years ago the IDB received an Industrial Access Grant and paved Avalon Way and a portion of Holston Drive with that money. There is a manufacturer that is wanting to located on Holston Drive and because of this the City would qualify to apply for another Industrial Access Grant. Mr. Hawes then stated that the Industrial Access Grant was for new or expanding industries. This grant would allow for Holston Drive to be paved from where it currently ends to Bakers Chapel Road. This would give access to the new industry wanting to locate there as well as build the road for heavy trucks and equipment to travel on. The estimated cost for the project is \$1,040,689.00 and the Industrial Access Grant will cover up to \$965,689.00 with the City being responsible for the local match of \$75,00.00. The grant application has to be submitted by April 7th and the board will meet to review the application on June 13th 2023. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Whitaker and seconded by Councilman Dink Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present. Mayor Dollar made mention that there are several businesses already located at Conners Island including: Duckett Fishing, Metal Research, Industrial Rentals, Special Touch Restoration/American Dumpster Company, Alabama Forestry Commission, as well as the City's Street, Horticulture, and Sanitation Departments and the Police Storage Building.

Memorandum of Understanding with Mountain Lakes Behavioral Healthcare

Mayor Dollar called on Renea Rowan to give details about the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Mountain Lakes Behavioral Healthcare. Mrs. Rowan stated that Mountain Lakes has been operating in Marshall and Jackson Counties for over 50 years. They have teams that can assist with education, training, crisis response, and care for mental health and wellness for public safety employees. It is confidential and the employee can make the appointments themselves. Mrs. Rowan stated that the mental health of the City's employees is very important and we want them to have access to someone they can talk to when they are having issues and this will give them easier and quicker access to that help. The City will pay up to 6 co-pay amounts yearly per employee. This will also cover other employees in other Departments as well, not just public safety. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Dink Myers and seconded by Councilman Russell and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Board Appointment

Mayor Dollar made the following Board Reappointment recommendations:

Museum Board – Randy Hasty and Jennifer Moore

School Board – Jim Beard

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

Announcements:

- All non-essential City services will be closed this Friday, April 7th in observance of Good Friday. The modified Sanitation schedule is posted on Facebook and the Website
- Spring Fling by Downtown Merchants April 15th
- Art on the Lake will be April 15th and 16th
- Guntersville's 175th Birthday Celebration will be April 21st at Civitan Park

Public Comments

- Eddie Allen of Willow Beach Road stated that last Tuesday, March 28th, ALDOT was working on Willow Beach Road and Mr. Allen asked them what they were doing. They told him they were doing a traffic count and when he asked why they told him someone from the City asked for it to be done. He stated that was a bad time because schools were out for Spring Break so the traffic was not as heavy as usual. Mayor Dollar told Mr. Allen she did not know who with the City asked for the study but would find out.

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 April 17th 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Guntersville Town Hall

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE 17th DAY OF APRIL, 2023

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

LEIGH DOLLAR, MAYORM

**ATTEST: _____
SHELLY THOMAS, ACTING CITY CLERK**