

**THE MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNTERSVILLE, ALABAMA
HELD ON JULY 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 July 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, and Randy Whitaker. Rich Russell was absent. 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 June 26th 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 on Renea Rowan who gave the following Personnel Report:

Sanitation: Jamie Bishop selected Mr. Jeffery Willis to feel the vacant position of Laborer. Mr. Willis accepted our job offer and he began as a full-time employee today July 3, 2023. Motion to approve report was made by Councilman Whitaker and seconded by Councilman Dink Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmember present.

Resolution to Request Demolition 1905 Beard Street

Mayor Dollar introduced **Resolution No. 1325** to request demolition of 1905 Beard Street and called on Cheryl Smythe to report on the unsafe structure. Mrs. Smythe reported on the timeline of the building since it was burned in 2012 and that the building was in such a state of disrepair that it is causing a blighting influence on the neighborhood. She also stated that it is a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the Citizens and asked the Council to adopt the resolution to demo the property. Councilman Whitaker asked Attorney Dan Warnes if the deed was not clear who owned the property, could someone claim the property at a later date? Mr. Warnes replied that the City puts a lien on the property and if someone purchases, they are given a deed from the City. Motion to approve demo was made by Councilman Whitaker and seconded by Councilman John Myers and unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmember present.

Resolution to Rename Railroad Avenue to Paddle Wheel Drive per E911 Request

Mayor Dollar introduced **Resolution No. 1326** to rename Railroad Avenue to Paddle Wheel Drive from Scott Street to Taylor St per a E911 request because Railroad Avenue is so long it could be confusing. Motion to approve the change was made by Councilman Whitaker and seconded by Councilman Watkins and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmember present.

Public Hearing for CDBG Funding

Mayor Dollar announced that due to an oversite the CDBG Public Hearing had not been placed on the agenda and asked that the Council consent to immediate consideration to add to the agenda. Motion to suspend the rules for immediate consideration was made by Councilman Watkins and seconded by Councilman John Myers and passes unanimously by the following roll call vote:

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

Mayor Dollar stated that this part of the Council Meeting would serve as a Public Hearing and called on Will Balderrama to conduct the meeting. Mayor Dollar explained that the Senior Center had sustained freeze and water damage during the winter. This grant application is for \$400,000 and is an 80/20 grant. Mr. Balderrama reported to the Council that this created an urgent need to rehabilitate the building due to the current use of the building as a Senior Center that served so many citizens. This application fits perfectly into the CDBG criteria. Applications will be submitted by July 24th the awards should be made by fall. There were no questions, but the Council expressed support.

Announcements:

- July 4th Fireworks Show on Tuesday at 9:00pm
- State of the City August 16th at the newly renovated Recreation Center Gym
- Road closure on Signal Point 6:00am-6:00pm Saturday July 8th. Shannon Johnson explained to the Council that he hoped the work would be done sooner than 12 hours and the road would be closed on one side at a time.

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

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

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

LEIGH DOLLAR, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
BETTY JONES, CITY CLERK