

**Regular Meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the
City of Guntersville, Alabama
Tuesday, January 21st 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Guntersville, Alabama met in a pre-meeting in City Hall in said city on January 21st 2025 at 4:30 p.m. to discuss matters to come before the Council. Afterwards in a regular meeting in Town Hall at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Dollar presided as Chairman. The following members of the Council were present: Sanchez Watkins, John Myers, Larry Wilson, 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.

Mayor Dollar announced that copies of the minutes from the January 6th Regular Meeting have been distributed to the members of the Council. There being no corrections or additions to the minutes, there was a motion to approve made by Councilman Whitaker, seconded by Councilman Dink Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Personnel Report: Mayor Dollar called upon Renea Rowan for the personnel report:

There were no new hires to report but Renea Rowan announced that Ryan Bradford had retired after 17 years with the Police Department and Anthony Berry had retired after 25 years with the Fire Department. Mayor Dollar announced the loss of Museum Director Julie Patton and stated the visitation will be held at the Museum Saturday, January 25th from 3-5 p.m.

Resolution to Approve Purchase of New Dump Truck

Mayor Dollar introduced **Resolution No. 1422** to approve the purchase of a Kenworth 2025 T480 dump truck off the state bid list for Public Works Department through Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative in the amount of \$188,500.00. This is a budgeted item. There was a motion to approve the purchase made by Councilman Whitaker, seconded by Councilman Ray and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution to Approve Purchase of Garbage Truck

Mayor Dollar introduced **Resolution No. 1423** to approve the purchase of a 2025 Cobra rear loading Samson garbage truck for Sanitation off the state bid list thru Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative in the amount of \$229,194.27. This is a budgeted item. Jamie Bishop reported that the truck was a complete package and could be delivered in 90 days. There was a motion to approve the purchase made by Councilman John Myers, seconded by Councilman Watkins and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution to Approve Purchase of Dumpsters

Mayor Dollar introduced **Resolution No. 1424** to approve the purchase of 48 dumpsters from Wastequip off the state bid list from Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative for a total cost of \$49,927.98. This is a budgeted item. There was a motion to approve the purchase made by Councilman Dink Myers, seconded by Councilman Whitaker and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution to Surplus Items for Public Works

Mayor Dollar introduced **Resolution No. 1425** to surplus items for Public Works and read the following list:

Public Works

2019 Toro Z Master 5000 Lawn Mower Serial# 404968443
Stow Concrete Mixer with Honda 5.5 HP Motor Serial# 9901043
1997 Hay Blower with Honda 18 HP Motor
2017 Toro Z Master 5000 Lawn Mower Serial# 401358502
Taylor Way 15 ft. Batwing Bush Hog

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

Approve Electrical Change Order for Recycling Building

Mayor Dollar called on Emmett Smith to report on the electrical change order for Recycling Building in the amount of \$28,401.43. Mr. Smith stated the change was due to the addition of upper cabinets, installation of 3 large fans purchased by the City and wire to be run through the conduit to the fence. The building is expected to be completed in the next 2-3 weeks. There was a motion to approve the change order made by Councilman Whitaker, seconded by Councilman Watkins and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Approve Contract with WestRock

Mayor Dollar called on Sanitation Supervisor Jamie Bishop to present an agreement with WestRock. This would be a 3 year agreement to sell recycling products to WestRock and they in turn provide a \$150,000.00 baler that they will maintain and the City will insure. There was a motion to approve the agreement made by Councilman Ray, seconded by Councilman Dink Myers and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Approve Contract with RJ Young

Mayor Dollar entertained a motion to approve an agreement with RJ Young to digitize the City records files and books at a cost of \$19,168.09 and a monthly fee \$382.77. Councilman Whitaker asked if the public could use the system and Mayor Dollar stated it was to help the City staff to search documents for the public and to preserve our records in the cloud securely. There was a motion to approve made by Councilman Whitaker, seconded by Councilman Russell and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution to Approve Fixing of Cost for 1720 Williamson Street

Mayor Dollar called on Cheryl Smythe who requested the Council pass a resolution fixing of cost for 1720 Williamson Street at \$6,216.38. This is for demolition work, fees and legal costs. Mrs. Smythe read a description of the property and noted that it is found in plat book 2, page 68 in the probate office. There was a motion to assess the fees by **Resolution No. 1426** made by Councilman Russell, seconded by Councilman Dink Myers Russell and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution to Approve Fixing of Cost for 1535 Rayburn Avenue

Cheryl Symthe requested the Council pass a resolution fixing of cost for 1532 Rayburn Avenue at \$5,191.38. This is for the demolition, fees and legal costs. Mrs. Smythe read a description of the property found in plat book 666 page 33 in the probate office. There was a motion to assess by **Resolution No. 1427** made by Councilman Watkins, seconded by Councilman John Myers and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Approve Funding Request by Marshall County Tourism and Sports

Mayor Dollar stated the Marshall County Tourism and Sports had requested that the City partner with them with \$50,000.00 for Hydrofest funding from the Tourism Fund. The date has been changed to June 6th thru 8th and has more races scheduled and more sponsors this year. Councilman Dink Myers requested a breakdown of the income and expenses this year. There was a motion to approve made by Councilman Dink Myers, seconded by Councilman Whitaker and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Public Hearing for Rezone Request by Harbor Properties LLC

Mayor Dollar announced that this portion of the meeting would be a Public Hearing for a rezone request by Harbor Properties LLC for property located at 0 US Hwy 31 Guntersville from RS1 to BG1. No one spoke in opposition or support. Councilman Wilson asked to make a statement. Councilman Wilson stated he represented the district and turned in a petition of 123 names against the rezoning. Councilman Wilson stated this is a dangerous intersection near a residential area and he gave examples of similar instances that rezoning had been turned down due to these factors. Councilman Whitaker stated that when this piece of property was taken into the City, all property came in as residential and had to be rezoned. This property is facing Highway 431 and joins a gas station on the north side. Councilman Wilson stated that if a business were there, it would add to the traffic problem.

Councilman Whitaker stated that the property was not suitable for a home next door to a gas station. There was a motion to rezone made by Councilman Dink Myers, seconded by Councilman John Myers and passed by the following roll call vote:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-------------------|---------|
| 1. Sanchez Watkins | Yes | 5. Dink Myers | Yes |
| 2. Larry Wilson | No | 6. Rich Russell | Yes |
| 3. John Myers | Yes | 7. Randy Whitaker | Yes |
| 4. Carson Ray | Yes | 8. Leigh Dollar | Abstain |

Consider Special Event License for the Apple Foundation Fundraiser

Mayor Dollar entertained a motion to consider a special event license for the Apple Foundation for a fundraiser at the Marshall County RSVP Building located at 19272 US Hwy 431, Guntersville on February 28th 2025. There was a motion to approve made by Councilman Dink Myers, seconded by Councilman John Myers and passed by the following roll call vote:

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

Set Public Hearing for Rezone Request Made by David Clokey & Cynthia Maddox

Mayor Dollar entertained a motion to set a public hearing for a rezone request by David Clokey and Cynthia Maddox with Clokey-Maddox Properties LLC to Rezone Property Located at 301 Blount Avenue from BR to BG-1A on February 17th. There was a motion to set hearing made by Councilman Whitaker, seconded by Councilman Dink Myers and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Announcements: None

Public Comments:

- Councilman Watkins read a statement on the Crain Court Leadership Center enumerating the concerns he had about the safety of the children, the lack of educational help, lack of cleanliness and the number of times that he had talked to the Center Director, Kent Looney about leading in a different way. C Councilman Watkins stated none of his concerns had been met or requests followed by Mr. Looney.
- Unique Dunston told the Council a resource was taken away.
- Benjamin Wiggs agreed it had to be shut down.
- Monica Watkins said it was good at first, but now horrible.
- Thomas DeBerry stated the kids must be our focus.
- Andromeda Hardinger said she didn't like Sanchez talking about her kids.
- Carla Moore said Mr. Looney should have been replaced and the ball was dropped.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilman Ray and seconded by Councilman Dink Myers and passed by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

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 February 3rd 2025 at 12:00p.m. at Guntersville Town Hall

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE 3rd DAY OF February 2025.

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

LEIGH DOLLAR, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
BETTY JONES, CITY CLERK