

**Regular Meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the
City of Guntersville, Alabama
Monday, November 20th, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
AGENDA**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Guntersville, Alabama met in a pre-meeting in the Conference Room at City Hall in said city on November 20th, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. to discuss matters to come before the Council. In a regular meeting at the Guntersville 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 was present and acted as 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 November 6th Regular Meeting have been distributed to the members of the Council. There being no corrections or additions to the minutes, motion to approve was made by Councilman Whitaker, seconded by Councilman Dink Myers passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

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

Street/Maintenance: Virgil J. Rowell was selected to fill the position of Skilled Laborer. He began his employment as a full-time employee on 11/13/23.

Sanitation: Steven Olinger was selected to fill the position of Laborer. Mr. Olinger has been working as a temporary employee. He began his employment as a full-time employee on 11/13/23.

Police Department: Mitchell Peavy was selected to fill the position of Communications Officer. He began his employment as a full-time employee on 11/8/23. Zachary Godwin was selected to fill the position of Police Officer. He began his employment as a full-time employee on 11/13/23. Cody Whitt was selected to fill the position of Police Officer. He began his employment as a full-time employee on 11/14/23.

Municipal Court: Sherry Wilson was selected to fill the position of Magistrate. She began employment as a full-time employee on 11/14/23. Motion to accept was made by Councilman Whitaker, seconded by Councilman John Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Resolution to Accept T-Shirt and Screen-Printing Bids

Mayor Dollar introduced Resolution No. 1355 to accept alternate bid for T-Shirts and Screen Printing. Ross Originals withdrew their bid, and the next lowest bidder was Hometown Designs. Motion to approve the bidder was made by Councilman Whitaker, seconded by Councilman Dink Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

2023/2024 Budget

Mayor Dollar introduced the 2023/2024 Budget that was tabled last Council Meeting. Mayor Dollar went over the increases she proposed in the income and several of the expenses expected this coming year such as the Bridge Trail, Phase 2 at Recreation Center, the Veterans Park and a 5% COLA for the employees. Councilman Wilson commented there was also enough in the budget for 2 additional police officers and fire fighters and also money that could be used to evaluate sites for an additional fire station. Motion to approve the budget was made by Councilman Whitaker, seconded by Councilman Ray and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

2021/2022 Audit

Mayor Dollar called on Jennifer Forrester of MDA to report on the 2021-2022 Audit. Mrs. Forrester went over the administrative letter and stated the City's net position was up 16%. Sales tax was up 1.4 million, but Police fines were decreased. The City has a clean opinion and required a Single Audit this year due to the ARPA spending. Motion to accept was made by Councilman Ray, seconded by Councilman Watkins and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Mayor Dollar left the meeting due to illness.

Phase II Change Order

Mayor ProTem Whitaker called on Matt Bryant to explain the Guntersville Parks and Rec Phase II Change Orders. Mr. Bryant explained there were 3 corrections in this change order #2. One was storm structure revision for \$658.98, one was a deleted island in the parking lot and concrete changed resulting in \$11,272.25 and another one was the subgrade remediation for the walking trail, totaling a change of \$25,757.02. Motion to approve change order no. 2 was made by Councilman Dink Myers, seconded by Councilman Watkins and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Public Hearing for Hampton Inn

Mayor ProTem Whitaker announced that this portion of the meeting would serve as a public hearing for Hampton Inn Guntersville LLC DBA Hampton Inn Lake Guntersville located at 14451 Hwy 431 South for an On and Off Premise Beer and Wine License. No one spoke in opposition or support. Motion to approve license was made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Russell 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 Absent |

Annexation Request by Anthony and Jane Owens

Mayor ProTem Whitaker introduced an ordinance request for annexation by Anthony F. Owens and Jane S. Owens for Property Located at 805 Buck Island Drive to be Zoned RS-1 This was approved by the Planning Commission. This is the first reading and will be carried over until the next meeting

Annexation Request by City of Guntersville

Mayor ProTem Whitaker introduced an ordinance request for annexation from the City of Guntersville for 56.5 acres Located Between Robert Circle and Highway 79, to be Zoned I-1 (Duckett Property at Landfill) This is the first reading and will be carried over until the next council meeting.

Board Appointment

Mayor ProTem Whitaker recommended Caroline Sellnow be appointed to the Industrial Development Board. Motion for appointment was made by C. Ray, seconded by C. Dink Myers and passed unanimously by a voice vote of all Councilmembers present.

Announcements:

- All non-essential City offices will be closed Thursday and Friday to celebrate Thanksgiving.
- Tree Lighting in Errol Allen Park Nov 28 at 5:30
- Tue and Wednesday will be trash pick ups this week.

Public Comments

Joel Kennamer of 1217 Taylor Mill addressed the council stating that the council had passed the budget, but he did not know the total amount of the budget. Mayor ProTem Whitaker started reading the departmental budgeted amounts and Mr. Kennamer said he did not want the breakdown, he would get that from the paper, he only wanted the total and Mr. Whitaker replied \$50,447,419.59. Mr. Kennamer stated that he had requested documents from the city that taxpayers have the right to see and he is being held off and stated he needed a letter from the city saying why they were not furnished or furnished the documents. Does the City take in more money than it spends?

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 December 4th, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. at the Guntersville Town Hall

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE 4th DAY OF DECEMBER 2023.

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

LEIGH DOLLAR, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
BETTY JONES, CITY CLERK