

MINUTES

Montevallo City Council Work Session

January 28, 2013

5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Mayor Hollie Cost, Council Member Rusty Nix, Council Member Willie Goldsmith, Council Member Sharon Gilbert, Council Member Don Hughes, and Council Member Dee Woodham were in attendance.

Mayor Cost called the work session to order at 5:30 p.m.

Police Lieutenant Tim Alexander presented his department's report for Chief Littleton, who was attending the Chief's Conference. He said they are still patrolling the schools and keeping their presence up. They hired a new officer – Joseph Abate. He has 28 years of experience and will be an excellent addition to our force. Alexander noted we have 35 ongoing investigations. 9 new cases. 9 closed cases. He also noted that morale at the department is high and everyone is excited about the future.

Council Member Hughes presented the council with the following:

Memo:

To: Montevallo City Council

From: Don Hughes

Re: County Road 12 Bridge Replacement

Called the Shelby County Highway Department and contacted Mr. Tom Grimes for an update on bridge replacement. Tom stated that the contract has been let and construction would start in early February.

Large concrete boxes would be placed next to creek and the water flow would be diverted into the boxes until bridge is completed. The creek bed would not be disturbed but would be temporarily covered and the fill dirt would be removed and allow water to follow the original creek route.

The contract completion time is four and half months with good weather permitting. The County is constructing a bridge on Co. Rd. 11 similar to Co. Rd. 12 project for review if interested.

Tom further stated: Please be patient and understanding and hopeful to be completed before next school year.

Council Member Nix asked if they will install a temporary bridge. Council Member Hughes said they will.

Fire Chief Bill Reid said they will pick up the new cab & chassis for the rescue truck this week. He noted their maintenance costs are up. The fuel injector repair will cost around \$3,200.

Council Member Hughes discussed the new federal street sign reflectivity standards and said we need a plan for replacing our street signs, along with an estimated cost we can budget over the next three years or so. He said this is a mandate.

He also mentioned that he noticed we are spending money to provide uniforms for our public works employees. He mentioned he has also noticed that not all of our employees wear their uniforms. He suggested we should look into this and consider eliminating uniforms if our employees are not going to wear them.

Council Member Hughes also reported that he gave Mayor Cost a memo outlining the recommended procedures for filing a pothole. He asked that she share those procedures with our city engineer and ask him to help us develop a policy for filing potholes both internally and for utility companies that dig up our streets to work on their lines. He also noted that we need to make sure we coordinate our Main Street improvements with the Water Board so they can replace all their lines before we repave the streets.

Council Member Nix assured Council Member Hughes that the Water Board is aware of our planning and working in coordination with the city to do what is needed.

Council Member Hughes said he would like to see the utility lines moved to the rear of the buildings, if possible. Council Member Nix said the lines will be replaced but he does not think it is feasible to move them to the rear of the buildings.

Council Member Hughes asked again that the Mayor ask the City Engineer to review the pothole procedures. Mayor Cost said she would. In fact, she has a meeting scheduled with our engineer on Monday and said she'd talk to him about it then. She noted we are also looking at developing a long-term plan for repaving our streets.

Council Member Hughes presented a proposal to designate a section of Hwy 119 leading up to the National Cemetery as a Blue Star Memorial Hwy. He mentioned a portion of that road is already designated as the Ralph Sears Hwy, so we'd need to avoid any conflicts. He asked the council to review the proposal for consideration at a later date. Mayor Cost asked Council Member Gilbert to work with Council Member Hughes on this project and talk to the Cemetery. She noted there is also a proposed project to line Hwy 119 with flags which would be complimentary to this idea.

Courtney Bennett reported there will be a ValloCycle meeting the following day at 12:30 at UM.

Herschel Hale reported that Arbor Day plans are going well. He said there will be a vendor at the event who is an expert in landscaping designed to protect wildlife. Council Member Hughes

said the state used to give away wildlife seed. Mr. Hale noted, as well, that the Spring Beautification Awards will be held in March.

Mayor Cost said we have permission from Alagasco to plant whatever trees we want surrounding their substation on Hwy 119. She also reminded the council that Serve Pro will clean the duct work at City Hall over the weekend of Feb 2-3.

The council discussed a request from the Boy Scouts to improve the lighting and add a water heater to the city's Boy Scout Hut. Council Member Hughes said the restroom in the building do not meet ADA requirements and suggested we should not plan to rent that building. Council Member Woodham said we also need to make certain the building is kept clean. The Mayor said Mr. Belk is looking into these requests and will report back to the council.

The Mayor noted we have been working to resolve the ongoing problems with the restroom at the Orr Park ball fields. They have been gutted and we are rebuilding them with materials donated by UM. They should be ready in time for the baseball season (Feb 11).

Council Member Hughes commented that he is concerned about our ability to adequately water the grass and plantings along the Promenade. He said we will still have to water the grass, trees etc even after they are established. He would like to see the MDCD consider adding an irrigation system to the project. In the long-run, he said it will save us a great deal of time and money. Mayor Cost suggested the Sustainability Committee meet to discuss that issue and make a recommendation.

Council Member Nix discussed our plans for cleaning the park buildings, restrooms, etc. He said the Park Board is in favor of increasing the rental fees to provide for cleaning, increasing it to \$150. He also mentioned that the Golf Board met 2 weeks ago and that he will discuss some of their issues at the upcoming Finance Committee meeting. Youth Athletics sign-up is February 2nd & 8th. Historical Commission meets February 5th. He said they hope to have an update on the National Registry submission. Debby Raymond informed the council that she talked to Mary Shell with the State Historical Commission on Friday and she said submission is being revised to account for the demolition of the bus station building. Council Member Nix said the Planning Commission meets Feb 14th and 21st to discuss the proposed Subdivision regulations and the proposed rental lease maintenance code.

Council Member Woodham asked if the new regs will address the sealcoat issue. The City Clerk said Mr. Wilkins will make his recommendation regarding sealcoating at the Planning meeting.

Montevallo City Council Meeting
January 28, 2013
6:00 p.m. at City Hall

Mayor Hollie Cost, Council Member Rusty Nix, Council Member Willie Goldsmith, Council Member Sharon Gilbert, Council Member Don Hughes, and Council Member Dee Woodham were in attendance.

Meeting Call to Order – Mayor Cost called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval and/or corrections of the minutes – Council Member Hughes made a motion to approve the Minutes from January 14, 2013 as corrected. Council Member Nix seconded. Council Member Woodham abstained. ALL OTHERS VOTED AYE . . . MOTION APPROVED.

Council Member Hughes suggested that we look into the possibility of having someone else take the minutes of the meetings to enable the City Clerk to participate more fully in the meetings. Mayor Cost said we are working on that.

Opportunities for citizens to speak to the Council – NONE.

Committee Reports and Consideration of Bills:

Public Health & Safety (Police, Fire, Code Enforcement, Housing Abatement) – Discussed earlier.

Sustainability (Streets & Sanitation, Recycling, Arbor & Beautification, ValloCycle, Environmental Preservation Initiatives) – Discussed earlier.

Recreation, Preservation and Community Development (Parks & recreation, Golf Course, Youth Athletics, Trails, Historical Commission, Planning & Zoning, Annexations) – Discussed earlier.

Education, Arts & Outreach (Schools, UM, Boys & Girls Club, Library, American Village, Sister City Commission, Artwalk, Middle School Grant) –

Council Member Gilbert presented the following:

Education, Arts & Outreach Committee

Montevallo Middle School

I spoke to the LOT class on January 18th. They are planning to participate in the Big Event along with Upward Bound students. The LOT students will attend the City Council meeting in March and conduct a mock meeting.

Montevallo High School

Mayor Cost and I attended the Montevallo Connection meeting last week at Montevallo High School. The attendance was excellent.

UM

On Saturday, April 6th, the University of Montevallo will host The Big Event. The Big Event gives UM students the opportunity to show appreciation for all of the support the Montevallo community has given the University of Montevallo. I have job request forms tonight and will leave some at City Hall.

On February 16, the UM men's basketball game will be nationally televised on CBS. The game starts at 11:00 a.m. For tickets, contact Trish Hughes with the Athletic Dept. at hughespm@montevallo.edu or 665-6600.

Allie Williams gave her Library Report. She said we had 1,332 visits to the website since our last meeting. She said she is still working on the carpet cleaning. She recommended that the council authorize the purchase of her existing copier for \$1,171. She said she also received a quote to repair the cameras at the library for \$1,830. She said she will check to see if other companies may be able to do it cheaper. Mayor Cost recommended she also talk with Shelby County's IT Department. Ms. Williams said they are also busy planning the upcoming Summer Reading Program.

Council Member Hughes asked what we charge for copies at the library. Ms. Williams said we charge 10 cents for B&W and \$1.00 for color. She said the color rates are as high as other libraries, but our B&W charges are lower. She said she would talk to the Library Board about increasing the rates.

Mayor Cost informed the council that there is an upcoming meeting to discuss the MMS project.

Council Member Gilbert noted we are still working to relocate the basketball goals.

Finance, Economic Development & Tourism (Finance, MDCD, IDB, Chamber) –

Council Member Woodham mentioned there was a Special Called Meeting of the Finance Committee to discuss the Assistant Court Clerk / Magistrate position and salary and purchase of AMIC's Loss of Sales Tax Revenue Insurance. This coming Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. is the regular Finance meeting. At that meeting, the committee will discuss the December Financials,

the Art Council proposal, and the permanent financing for the Promenade loan. Council Member Woodham also informed the council that the UMOM project is progressing well and will probably be ready for occupancy in the fall. In addition, the Promenade project is progressing well. The restaurant property RFP is to be re-issued and they expect to have letters of interest by March 1st. They hope to have a tenant selected in the spring.

Mary Lou Williams reported on the Chamber of Commerce. She said there are a lot of activities scheduled for February, including UM's Homecoming on the 9th. The Chamber will meet on February 2-0th at the library. Mayor Cost noted the Montevallo Chamber and City will have a booth at the Greater Shelby Chamber meeting this week and invited everyone to attend.

Council Member Nix made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Council Member Goldsmith seconded. ALL AYES . . . MOTION APPROVED.

Consent Agenda: NONE

New Business:

Approval of increased rental rates to cover cleaning fee for park rentals – Council Member Nix recommended we wait until the next meeting to consider this issue to make certain that Mr. Belk thinks increasing the rental fee to \$150 will be sufficient to cover our cleaning cost. The council agreed.

Finance Committee Recommends Approval of Assistant Court Clerk / Magistrate position and salary – Council Member Woodham said she felt restricting these positions at City Hall would give us more depth and allow us to cover jobs more effectively.

The City Clerk explained what the position would be responsible for and how we would pay for it.

The Mayor said we will post both the Assistant Court Clerk and Administrative Assistant openings at the same time.

Council Member Hughes said that when someone is out sick you definitely see the need for additional, trained back-up at City Hall – especially with regard to Court. The Mayor agreed and said that is the basis for this recommendation.

Council Member Woodham made a motion to approve the creation of the of Assistant Court Clerk / Magistrate position at a salary of \$30,000 per year, making the following budget amendments in order to pay for the position:

10.4151.41020 General Sales & Use Tax	\$1,436,000 (UP \$26,000)
15.4151.80010 Salaries (City Hall)	\$118,576 (UP \$8,576)
15.4151.80015 Payroll Tax	\$9,464 (UP \$1,464)
15.4151.80025 Retirement	\$7,400 (UP \$2,400)
15.4151.80035 Group Insurance	\$21,784 (UP 14,484)
10.4124.49010 Transfer Fines from Court	\$112,000 (UP \$17,000)
24.4124.44020 Fines	\$445,600 (UP \$9,600)
24.4124.94055 Transfer Fines to GF	\$112,000 (UP \$17,000)

Council Member Hughes seconded. ALL AYES . . . MOTION APPROVED.

Finance Committee recommends purchase of AMIC’s Loss of Sales Tax Revenue Insurance at \$832 per year +/-, city agrees to distribute its proportional share of proceeds from said insurance to the MDCD in the event of loss – Council Member Woodham explained the proposal. She stressed the importance of this to the MDCD’s ability to meet its obligations since 100% of their revenue comes from our sales tax receipts. Everyone agreed that \$800 a year to insure a potential \$500,000 loss was a good deal. Council Member Hughes made a motion to authorize the city to purchase this insurance. Council Member Nix seconded. ALL AYES . . . MOTION APPROVED.

Steam Cleaning Library Carpets & Chairs – Will be discussed again at a later date.

Purchase of Library Copier – It was explained the cost of purchasing the copier would come from the line item which covered leasing the copier. Council Member Hughes made a motion to approve the purchase, subject to the Library Board considering an increase in the B&W copy rate. Council Member Gilbert seconded. ALL AYES . . . MOTION APPROVED.

Old Business:

LGS Telephone Franchising Agreement – Mayor Cost asked this item be delayed to give her time to explore some other options.

Set Date for Strategic Planning Workshop – The Mayor said she will email everyone with potential dates.

Mayor’s Administrative Appointment to Planning Commission – The Mayor said she will attend a meeting or two before deciding which way to go.

Mayor's Representative on Planning Commission – Again, the Mayor said she will attend a meeting or two before deciding which way to go.

Emergency Policy – The Mayor said we will meet the department heads to get their input after they have time to review the proposed plan.

Residential Leased / Rental Property Code - Discussed earlier.

Board Appointments: NONE

Other Business:

Council Member Nix said we need to make sure the patio improvements at the Recreation Center are finished before Arbor Day. The Mayor said she will make certain they are.

Council Member Woodham thanked the Arbor Board for all their efforts.

Citizen Participation:

Ms. Taylor with the Stand Up Program in Columbiana alerted the council to the following event and asked their help in finding potential sponsors:

**The Stand Up Program Presents
First Annual Montevallo Spring
Break Blowout Talent Show/**



We welcome you to Dailey Park on March 25th from 1-4pm for food, fun, and fellowship. This is your chance to share your talent with all your friends, family and neighbors. This is a free event for all ages and everyone is welcome.

Our purpose is to take a stand against bullying, rape, drugs, abuse, poverty and hunger while supporting our youth and neighbors. Our mission is to bring unity to our youth and help build up their self-esteem. "No weapon formed against us shall prosper..." -Isaiah. We believe a strong community creates a strong backbone and we believe in making a difference.



Before choosing your song, dance, and apparel please keep in mind that this is a spiritual event and we wish to stay positive and uplifting.

Thank You, The Stand Up Program.

Contact: Bridgetta Taylor
Leslie Reynolds
(205) 218-1865
(205)902-5597

Mayor Cost suggested they attend the upcoming Park Board meeting to get their support for the program.

Tim Alexander reminded the council that on February 23rd Montevallo will once again host the Statewide meeting of Police Explorers. He also mentioned that Chief Littleton has been walking around town talking to our local business owners. He said they are all very supportive of his efforts and like to see police officers downtown at in our library.

There being no other business before the council, and hearing no opposition, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Herman Lehman
City Clerk