

The City of Pelham

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

July 20, 2015 – 6:30 p.m. – Council Chamber

PRESENT:

Mayor Laura Beth Tucker
Council Member Alfred Brown
Council Member James Eubanks
Council Member Jeremy Hatcher
Council Member Bobby Robinson
Council Member Winfred Parker
Council Member John Taylor

City Manager, Jim Hedges
City Clerk, Lisa Austin
City Attorney, Randall Chew
Police Chief, Nealie McCormick
Fire Chief, Ivey Godwin
Pelham Journal, Carl Stokes
Law Enforcement Associates, Jim Brooks
Gregory Williams, Municipal Court Judge
Citizen, Bobbie Carter
Citizen, Levi Williams
Citizen, Ira Jean Williams
Citizen, Jim Brooks
Citizen, Jacquelyn Miller

Council Member Robert Hodges was absent from the meeting**

With a quorum present, Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mayor Tucker provided the opening prayer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Parker made a motion to close regular session and go into executive session at 5:36 p.m., seconded by Council Member Eubanks. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Tucker stated the purpose of the executive session is to discuss personnel matters.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

Council Member Parker made a motion to reconvene regular session at 6:35 p.m., seconded by Council Member Eubanks. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Tucker stated no votes were taken in executive session.

MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE GREG WILLIAMS SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Mayor Tucker administered the Oath of Office to Gregory Williams whom recently was appointed as the Municipal Court Judge for the City of Pelham.

CITIZENS DELEGATION

COUNCIL MEMBER EUBANKS PRESIDING

Mitchell County Development Authority provided the city council a written report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Laura Beth Tucker reported that first payment that was approved in the budget for the Pelham Chamber of Commerce has been delivered to them at their monthly meeting in July. Other updates included both Council Member Eubanks and Mayor Tucker was able to attend the Retirement Board Meeting at GMA and received very positive feedback.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

City Manager Hedges reported the General Election will be held November 3, 2015 the positions up for re-election include: Mayor-At-Large (Laura Beth Tucker incumbent), Councilman-District 1 (Winfred Parker incumbent), Councilman-District 1 (Alfred Brown incumbent), Councilman-District 11 (Robert Hodges), and Councilman-District 11 (John Taylor). Qualifying Period will be August 31, 2015- September 4, 2015 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. qualifying fees: Mayor \$108 and Councilman \$72. City Manager Hedges gave an overview of the gas line expansion going to the construction of the chicken houses on Tomato Road. The inmate crew from Mitchell County is working on cleaning up the Pelham Cemetery. Other topics: Pelham is responsible for providing drinking water to the Waco Community. The Department of Natural Resources issued a "second" Notice of Violation of the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water. DNR demand Pelham so submit a corrective action plan. Options were discussed about abandoning the system and have residents to drill private wells, or rehabilitate the well and replace the water tank. The financials for the fiscal year 2015 closeout were discussed. All of the income far exceeded the budget, and on the expense side everything was below budget with the exception of the Jail. The full year financials reflect a surplus of \$280,921 for the year.

REGULAR SESSION

MAYOR TUCKER PRESIDING

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Council Member Robinson made a motion to approve the agenda as written, **seconded by Council Member Brown. The vote was unanimous.**

MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

Council Member Eubanks made a motion to approve minutes from the following meeting: June 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes and June 19, 2015 Called Meeting Minutes as written, **seconded by Council Member Brown. The vote was unanimous.**

SUNDAY SALES REFERENDUM

Sunday Sales is authorized by O.C.G.A. 3-3-7 and requires a resolution by Council calling for a referendum, must be approved in July for the General Election in November 3rd, early voting will begin August 31st, and date and purpose of the referendum must be published for two weeks. Council **Member Robinson made a motion** to adopt the resolution calling for a referendum on November 3, 2015 at the General Election authorizing Sunday sales of package distilled spirits, malt liquor, wine, and on-site consumption between the hours of 12:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. in the City of Pelham, **seconded by Council Member Parker. The vote was unanimous.**

JAIL FUND

Effective June 1, 2015 the City of Pelham, as a result of closing the Mize Street Detention Center, has contracted with the Mitchell County Sheriff's Department to house Pelham inmates. O.C.G.A. 15-21-93 states Imposition of additional penalty in fines cases; additional sum required when posting bail or bond. Additional penalty is 10% of the criminal or traffic fine. O.C.G.A. 15-21-94 states collecting moneys from fines shall be paid over to the governing authority of the county in which the municipality has contracted. Such sums paid over to the governing authority shall be deposited by the governing authority into a special account to be known as the "county jail fund". O.C.G.A. 15-21-95 states the county jail fund shall be expended by the governing authority of the county or counties solely and exclusively for constructing, operating, and staffing county jails, county correctional institutions, and detention facilities of the county. **Council Member Eubanks made a motion** as required by law, to implement O.C.G.A. 15-21-93 which requires an additional 10% add-on to all criminal and traffic fines and to pay same to Mitchell County, **seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous.**

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

City Manager Hedges discussed the Development Authority purpose according to O.C.G.A. 36-42-1 is to revitalize and redevelop central business districts of cities in the state by financing projects to promote trade, commerce, industry, and employment opportunities. **Council Member Eubanks made a motion** to Adopt Resolution to Create a Downtown Development Authority and appoint: Laura Beth Tucker (6 year term), Charles Gilbert (2 year term), Nicole Hilliard (6 year term), Suzanne Anderson (6 year term), Chris Nurmi (4 year term), Donnie Palmer (4 year term), and Robbie Willis (2 year term), as directors for the Downtown Development Authority, **seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous.**

SOLID WASTE RATES

The solid waste provider Advance Disposal announced a 1.7% rate increase. All residential and business customers will be assessed a solid waste fee. The City will provide 2 dumpsters in the downtown area; behind the Hand Bldg. and opposite the depot. The proposed new residential and commercial rates will generate approximately \$2,700 per month in additional revenue, or \$32,400 annually. **Council Member Parker made a motion** to implement the new residential and commercial solid waste rates effective immediately, **second by Council Member Eubanks. The vote was unanimous.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Code Enforcement:

Business/Peddlers license (2), Vegetation and Grass Code Violation (15), Litter or Debris on street or sidewalk (2), Violations of Animal Control Ordinance (5), Sign Ordinance (1), Building Permits (3), Total Permits Issued (24), and Total for June 2015 (78) .

Animal Control:

Animals Impounded (22)

Police/Jail:

Mitchell Co. 911 (563), Patrol Mileage (6,882)

Fire Department:

Responded to calls (36)

Pelham Carnegie Public Library:

Registered users (3,011), items circulated in June (909), people used computers (484).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Eubanks made a motion to close regular session and go into executive session at 7:27 p.m., seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Tucker stated the purpose of the executive session is to discuss legal matters.

RECONVENE

Council Member Parker made a motion to reconvene regular session at 7:42 p.m., seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Tucker stated no votes were taken in executive session.

ACTION BASED ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Eubanks made a motion to adopt the Tolling Agreement between Mooring Capital Fund, LLC and the City of Pelham, seconded by Council Member Parker. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Pelham City Council, **Council Member Eubanks made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Tucker declared the meeting closed at 7:44 p.m.**

Mayor, Laura Beth Tucker

AUTHENTICATED:

This 17th Day of August 2015.

City Clerk, Lisa Austin