

# *The City of Pelham*

## **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

**May 18, 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 Robert Hodges  
Council Member Winfred L. Parker  
Council Member Bobby Robinson  
Council Member John Taylor

City Manager, Jim Hedges  
City Clerk, Lisa Austin  
City Attorney, Randall Chew  
Police Chief, Nealie McCormick  
Main Street Director, Ernest Barfield  
Pelham Journal, Carl Stokes  
Fire Chief, Ivey Godwin  
Citizen, Loys Johnson

With a quorum present, Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mayor Tucker provided the opening prayer.

### **CITIZENS DELEGATION**

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER HATCHER PRESIDING**

**Pelham Main Street Director Ernest Barfield** provided the city council with updates on the “Movie in the Park” (“Yogi Bear”) which was held April 24<sup>th</sup> at Freedom Park. Upcoming events will include: returning this summer will be the “Gourmet Lunch Box” fundraiser, and this Spring the final movie in the park will be shown (“Babe the Gallant Pig”). Other information provided is the Pelham Main Street has adopted a new logo for the organization.

### **MAYOR’S REPORT**

**Mayor Laura Beth Tucker** provided the city council with the following events in which she gave a speech at: Pelham Parkway Nursing Home where she recognized National Nursing Home Week and Pelham High School where she spoke with a group of girls called the “Dream Girls” about career development.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

**City Manager Hedges** provided the city council with updates on the following: Inert Landfills the city currently has two landfills and the Department of National Resources has ordered the Cotton Avenue landfill to be closed and the landfill behind the farmer's market as a dump and illegal. James Workman Natural Gas Pipeline Extension all nine (9) of the bores has been completed and the pipe is now being laid this project is expected to take one month. The financials were provided for the city council.

## **CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS**

**City Attorney Chew** provided the city council with updates on the following: Amendment to the SPLOST agreement, Inert Landfills, and City Cemetery maps. City Attorney Chew recommended the city digitize the city cemetery maps to help preserve the maps and be able to see what is available and what is already taken.

## **REGULAR SESSION**

### **MAYOR TUCKER PRESIDING**

### **APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

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

### **MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING**

**Council Member Parker made a motion** to approve minutes from the following meeting: April 20, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes, and April 30, 2015 Called Meeting Minutes as written, **seconded by Council Member Hatcher. The vote was unanimous.**

### **GMA RETIREMENT PLAN**

The City of Pelham is a participating member of the Georgia Municipal Employee Benefit System and has contributed less than the State required minimum, and has been reported to the State for each of the last two-year State reporting periods. Georgia Municipal Association Board of Directors has through their actuarial advisor, Segal Consulting, prepared a 10 year action plan with a 15-year amortization schedule. The action plan that was developed will start with a slightly higher rate than what the normal rate would be in order to catch up on the previous years that no payment was received. **Council Member Hodges made a motion** to adopt the Resolution for the City of Pelham's Retirement Plan, **seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous.**

## **PUBLIC WORKS MANPOWER**

The City of Pelham has agreed to close the Mize Street Detention Center and the inmate labor from the facility that has been utilized by the Public Works Department and will no longer be available. City Manager Hedges recommended the City of Pelham to enter into a contractual agreement with the Mitchell County Corrective Institute for the inmate work detail at a cost of \$41,000 per year effective June 1, 2015. **Council Member Eubanks made a motion** to adopt the Resolution for the City of Pelham Public Works ManPower, **seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous.**

## **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE-SANGITABEN PATEL-CHEVRON STATION**

Mayor Tucker stated a letter from Police Chief Nealie McCormick stated there was nothing found in the background check on Sangitaben Patel to prevent her from being able to obtain an alcohol license for package only. **Council Member Eubanks made a motion** to approve the alcohol license for Sangitaben Patel for the business located at 240 Glausier Street NE in the name YUZ Investments LLC. DBA Easy Corner, **seconded by Council Member Brown. The vote was unanimous.**

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING-DENNIS WHITSTON**

Mayor Tucker advised that a new Memorandum of Understanding will have to be prepared for the correction of signatures. City Manager Hedges stated it is for clarification for the original Memorandum of Understanding to spell out clearly that if the Joint Development Authority was not successful in selling the building to the donut man that the city would take it back, and the second piece of clarification was in the event the donut man defaulted on buying the building it would revert back to the city. No action was needed.

## **TOURISM PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION**

Mayor Tucker stated the chamber has requested a Tourism Product Development Grant application for FY16 that is due the end of June. The chamber desires to make an application for it however the chamber is not eligible to make the application it must be the city or the county who makes the application for the Tourism Product Development Grant. The maximum budget for this project would be \$30,000 \$15,000 from grant funds, \$9,000 cash match, and \$6,000 in-kind-match the proposal will be for expanding the museum that is currently operated one day a year. The proposal is to move the museum into the existing chamber office so the museum will be able to be opened five day per week. **Council Member Eubanks made a motion** to move forward with the city being the applicant for the Tourism Product Development Grant, **seconded by Council Member Hodges. The vote was unanimous.**

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **COUNCIL MEMBER HATCHER PRESIDING**

#### **Code Enforcement:**

Business/Peddler's license (4), Operating business without a current business license (16), Vegetation and Grass Cod Violation (26), Litter or Debris on street or sidewalk (1), Violations of Animal Control Ordinance (4), Sign Ordinance (1), Burning (fire) Permit Violations (2), Building Permit Violations (3), Pelham's Historic Preservation Commission (2), and Total Permits Issued (21).

#### **Animal Control:**

Animals Impounded (13)

#### **Police/Jail:**

Mitchell Co. 911 (612), Patrol Mileage (6,374), Housed Inmates other agencies (178)

#### **Fire Department:**

Responded to calls (45)

#### **Pelham Carnegie Public Library:**

Registered users (2,946), items circulated in April (710), people used computers (420).

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Council Member Eubanks made a motion to close regular session and go into executive session at 7:19 p.m., seconded by Council Member Parker. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Tucker stated the purpose of the executive session is to discuss legal matters.**

## **RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION**

**Council Member Parker made a motion to reconvene regular session at 8:28 p.m., seconded by Council Member Brown. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Tucker stated no votes were taken in executive session.**

## **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 8:29 p.m.**

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Mayor, Laura Beth Tucker

**AUTHENTICATED:**  
This 15th Day of June 2015.

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City Clerk, Lisa Austin