

The City of Pelham

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

January 16, 2020 – 6:30 p.m. – Council Chamber

PRESENT:

Mayor James Eubanks
Mayor Pro-Tem Alfred Brown
Council Member Bennett Adams
Council Member Winfred Parker
Council Member Ansel Parrish
Council Member Bobby Robinson
Council Member Tad Williamson

City Manager, Craig Bennett
City Clerk, Lisa Austin
City Attorney, Tommy Coleman
Police Chief, Nealie McCormick
Fire Chief, Ivey Godwin
MCTV, Jerry White
Auditor, Perry Henry

Frederick Davis
Shirley Daniels
Melvin Horne
Stephen Brown
Cassandra Daniels
Judge, Gregory Williams

With a quorum present, Mayor Eubanks called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mayor Eubanks provided the opening prayer.

SWEARING-IN-CEREMONY

Judge Gregory Williams swears in the Council Members who were reelected in the General Election held in November 2019. The following were sworn in for a term of four years: Mayor James Eubanks, Council Member Bennett Adams, Mayor Pro-Tem Alfred Brown, Council Member Winfred Parker, and Council Member Tad Williamson.

REGULAR SESSION – LED BY MAYOR EUBANKS

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Mayor Eubanks stated that some adjustments need to be made to the agenda. Moving item #8 Alcohol Application Discount Liquor to item #2. Then also add item #9 Memorandum and Agreement for the GED classes that are done at the Donnie Cochran Center.

Council Member Adams made a motion to amend the agenda as stated, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. The vote was unanimous.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments from the public.

COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Member Williamson made a motion to approve minutes from the December 19, 2019 Regular Council Meeting, as presented, seconded by Council Member Parker. The vote was unanimous.

ALCOHOL APPLICATION DISCOUNT LIQUOR

Melvin and Anne Horne, of Cairo, are positioned to purchase Discount Liquor. They have applied for a beer/package, wine/package, and liquor/package license. These are the same license held by the current owner. A background check was conducted on both applicants. The Police Chief has recommended the approval of this application.

Council Member Robinson made a motion to accept the alcohol application for Discount Liquor, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. The vote was unanimous.

2019 BUDGET AMENDMENT

In order to comply the 2019 Financial Statement and the Audit, it was discovered a couple of line items in last year's budget required an adjustment to show a balanced budget.

Council Member Adams made a motion to authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to make the budget amendments that were proposed and note that it will not increase the net amount of the budget just shifting money around internally so that no departments will be over budget, seconded by Council Member Parker. The vote was unanimous.

AUDIT DEBRIEF

Auditor Perry Henry gave a presentation of the 2019 Audit. Henry stated that a clean opinion was issued on the June 30, 2019 statements. Henry stated the city was making slow but steady progress getting back in solid financial standing but then Hurricane Michael hit causing a setback. Henry also stated the city did a much better job budgeting and amending the budget than in prior years and should be commended.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

MITCHELL COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

City Manager highlight the following on behalf of the Mitchell County Development Authority: The Director for Mitchell County Development Authority is part of The Five County Joint Development Authority and is looking at ways to bring some efforts back to Mitchell County. The Mitchell County Development Authority is looking at some sites around the county to make

them shovel ready. The Mitchell County Development Authority has put a big effort into their social media to increase marketing.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mayor Eubanks highlight the upcoming Chamber events which include: 58th Annual Banquet, January 28th at 6:30 p.m. at Pelham First Baptist Church, and Chocolate Delight Night, February 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Depot Assembly Room.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Authority may be acquiring the old bakery on Mathewson, next to the old jail from the Mitchell County-Pelham Joint Development Authority, pending both authorities' approval. The DDA focus in the near term is on the southside of Mathewson St. block between Church St. and Blythe Ave. The Freedom Park Transportation Enhancement is complete. A spring time ribbon cutting is being considered when the fountain can be on for the kids. The November movie night was cancelled due to a conflict with the Elementary School Carnival. The Board is considering its option to reschedule. The Main Street Program received the Vibrant Communities Grant. Grant money from the program helps the City with murals in the downtown area. The program is utilizing the High School Art Club.

PELHAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

City Manager highlighted the following on behalf of the Pelham Housing Authority: The annualized turnover rate of 17% which is below the industry average of 25% to 30%. They are working on replacing aging sidewalks on Mize Street, and interior renovations of units on Baggs Avenue. The City continues to work with the Pelham Housing Authority on the trash service.

FRANCIS DAVIS PARK

The City of Pelham in partnership with a community action group are looking into ways to move forward and make Francis Davis Park a quality family park for the community. The request includes the following: repair both dugouts, replace grandstand announcement booth, repair and replace fence in the outfield, provide proper seating bleachers, repair and maintain restrooms, provide industrial grade playground equipment, create and provide a park maintenance schedule, establish waste management, install field drainage pipes in the center and left field, install foul pole gates, install proper lighting around the park and basketball courts, and make basketball court accessible. A grant application has been submitted to Georgia Power Foundation in the amount of \$25,000 in order to finance some of the improvements. The grant request will be the determining factor in several of the project tasks.

SPECIAL ELECTION ORDINANCE

An Ordinance declaring a vacancy on the City Council and Calling A Special Election for the purpose of filling said vacancy. The vacancy is due to the resignation of Council Member Hatcher on December 19, 2019, which created a vacancy for the position of Council Member for District II for the remainder of the four-year term which would end on December 31, 2021. The qualifying period will be February 24th -26th, the qualifying cost is \$72.00, Early voting will begin on March 2nd and end on March 20th, the Election will be held on March 24th, 2020.

Council Member Adams made a motion to adopt the Special Election Ordinance and approve Exhibit A, and Exhibit B and dispense with the second reading, seconded by Council Member Williamson. The vote was unanimous.

STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AND ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT

The Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement is a state-provided agreement for mutual aid among county and local governments statewide for mutual support during a disaster. Some key points: Assistance includes personnel, equipment, facilities, services, supplies and other resources, Only designated representatives of a local government can request assistance or authorize the deployment of assistance, Participating parties may withhold support as required to provide ample service to their community, Deployed assistance will remain under the authority of their normal supervisor, but units will fall under the operation control of the requesting party, Requesting party is responsible for the cost of deployment, operation and maintenance, and loss and or damage to equipment, May withdraw at any time with 30 day notice.

Council Member Williamson made a motion to approve the Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement as presented with the Designated Authorized representative being Mayor Eubanks, Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, and City Manager Craig Bennett, and Fiscal Officers being City Manager Craig Bennett, and City Clerk Lisa Austin, seconded by Council Member Parker. The vote was unanimous.

MEMORANDUM AGREEMENT DONNIE COCHRAN COMPLEX

Council Member Parrish made a motion to enter into an agreement with Southern Regional Technical College to continue to offer the GED classes at the Donnie Cochran Complex, seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous.

This agreement will remain in effect from January 1, 2020 until June 30, 2020.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Reviewed financial reports from December 2019 as presented.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Reviewed department reports from Pelham Police Department, Fire Department, Utility Department, and Code Enforcement.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Bennett reported on the following: Week of January 13th- 17th

Old Jail, Water Lab, and Donnie Cochran Center: During FEMA's document review to approve payment on these sites, they challenged our insurance policy, which has a phase, "and named locations." The claim manager after several weeks of research has come back and said the insurance policy will cover these sites. The adjuster will be back next week to start the claims.

IDP Marketing Video: The Mayor, Nichole Hillard and City Manager were the feature of an IDP marketing video on the Hand Trading Company.

ADJOURN

With no further business to come before the Pelham City Council, **Council Member Parker** made a motion to adjourn the meeting, **seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown**. **The vote was unanimous**. **Mayor Eubanks declared the meeting closed at 7:56 p.m.**



Mayor, James Eubanks

AUTHENTICATED:

This 20th Day of February 2020.



City Clerk, Lisa Austin

City of Pelham, Georgia
Budget Amendments
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019

	Fund	Increase/Decrease	Amendments 12/30/19
Financial	General	Decrease	(4,200)
Fire	General	Increase	1,100
Maintenance and Shop	General	Increase	2,500
Code Enforcement	General	Increase	100
Economic Development and Assistance	General	Increase	500
Hotel/Motel Revenues	Special Revenue	Increase	(15,600)
Hotel/Motel Expenditures	Special Revenue	Increase	15,600
Net Change			-