

# *The City of Pelham*

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

October 18, 2021 – 6:30 p.m. – Council Chambers

### PRESENT:

Mayor James Eubanks  
Mayor Pro-Tem Alfred Brown  
Council Member Bennett Adams  
Council Member Fredrick Davis  
Council Member Robert Hodges  
Council Member Ansel Parrish

City Manager, Craig Bennett  
City Clerk, Lisa Austin  
City Attorney, Tommy Coleman  
Fire Chief, Ivey Godwin  
Police Chief, Nealie McCormick  
DDA Director, Christian Drake

David Pickering  
Doris Swarn  
Cody Shiver  
Enterprise-Journal, Randy Wind

\*\*\*Absent from the Council Meeting Council Member Bobby Robinson\*\*\*

With a quorum present, Mayor Eubanks called the meeting to order at 6:35p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mayor Eubanks provided the opening prayer.

### REGULAR SESSION – LED BY MAYOR EUBANKS

#### APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Council Member Hodges made a motion** to approve the agenda with changes adding number ten (10) Reapportionment to the agenda, **seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. The vote was unanimous.**

#### CITIZENS COMMENTS

David Pickering a trustee of for the cemetery trust came before the council to speak about the condition of the cemetery. Mr. Pickering stated he would like the city to give him permission or give the trust fund permission to take over the care of the cemetery. Mr. Pickering stated the trust has provided the city \$22,000 dollars over the past two years for the upkeep to the cemetery. In an agreement that signed on February 22, 1999 between the Pelham Women Business Group and the City of Pelham states with signing the agreement the city will provide maintenance of the entire cemetery subject to the allocation of funds from the trust. The agreement also notes that the funds in which are not spent at the cemetery should be returned to the club. Mr. Pickering stated he would like the trust to receive the funds that have been paid to the city returned back and give the trust permission to take care of the cemetery.

After discussion with Mr. Pickering Mayor Eubanks stated the council would discuss at the next work session as a way forward with the cemetery.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Council Member Hodges made a motion** to approve the minutes of Council Meeting September 18, 2021 and the minutes of the Called Meeting September 25, 2021, **seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote was unanimous.**

## **SENIOR CENTER**

The Council on Aging is no longer operating the Senior Center in Pelham and the building has been turned back over the city. The City of Pelham created a Downtown Development Authority and the Development Authority is in a place to market the building and look for viable options for the building. Discussion of turning this building over to the Downtown Development Authority and get them working on what the buildings future use could be.

After discussion from the council they asked City Attorney Coleman find out some additional details before making any discussions about the Senior Center.

## **LIABILITY AND PROPERTY INSURANCE RENEWAL**

The city received two proposed quotes from Dover Rock Insurance and Georgia Interlocal Risk Management Agency (GIRMA).

Dover Rock Insurance the current central policy is with the carrier HCC Public Risk, Georgia, affiliated with Tokio Marine HCC-Public Risk Group. They proposed a renewal rate of \$118,661.00.

Georgia Interlocal Risk Management Agency (GIRMA) from GMA provided a quote of \$124,024.00.

City Manager Craig Bennett stated the GIRMA quote came in just before the council meeting and he was still doing some comparing between the two quotes.

Council decided to set a Called Meeting for Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 6:30 to make a discussion on the liability and property insurance and give City Manager Bennett some time to do comparisons of the two different quotes which were received.

## **GEORGIA CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND GRANT PROGRAM**

Governor Kemp with the state's ARPA money is offering the Georgia Corona Virus State Fiscal Recovery Fund Grant for infrastructure water and wastewater. Watkins & Associates is developing a grant application and engineering plan for the city.

**Council Member Hodges made a motion** to support the grant application and authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support, **seconded by Council Member Adams. The vote was unanimous.**

## **RESOLUTION INVENTORY TAX EXEMPTION**

The city passed the mileage rate last month a resolution for the inventory tax exemption should have been passed. This is an annual requirement since 1978.

**Council Member Adams made a motion** to approve the Resolution for Inventory Tax Exemption, **seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote was unanimous.**

## **RESOLUTION BANCORP FINANCE-BACKHOES**

The council approved the lease-purchase of two Flint Backhoes with financing through BancorpSouth. Once the equipment was delivered an associated agreement with a resolution included in the financial documents was received. The resolution required to be passed and signatures from each elected official.

**Council Member Parrish made a motion** to approve the Resolution for Bancorp Finance for the backhoes, **seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. The vote was unanimous.**

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Council reviewed financial reports of September 2021 that were presented.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Council reviewed department reports from September 2021 from the Pelham Police Department, Fire Department, Utility Department, and Code Enforcement.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Week of 18-22 October

### **Corona virus**

- The rate of contracting COVID 19 in Mitchell County dropped to 2 new cases/day.
- The utility shop had two people of contracted the virus.

Area	CONTRACTED COVID 19		DIED		%	
	TODAY	PREVIOUS REPORT	TODAY	PREVIOUS REPORT	TODAY	PREVIOUS REPORT
GLOBAL	241,886,635	239,007,759	4,919,755	4,871,841	2.03	2.04
U.S.	45,149,234	44,518,018	730,368	716,370	1.62	1.61
GEORGIA	1,256,278	1,247,631	24,239	23,575	1.93	1.89
MITCHELL COUNTY	2,172	2,155	89	88	4.1	4.08

AREA	TOTAL VACCINATIONS		FIRST SHOT		FULLY VACCINATED	
	TODAY	PREVIOUS REPORT	TODAY	PREVIOUS REPORT	TODAY	PREVIOUS REPORT
U.S.	411,010,650	404,371,247	219,624,490 66.2%	217,627,490 65.6%	189,924,447 57.2%	187,937,559 56.6%
GEORGIA (10.62M)	11,003,520	10,822,549	5,765,666 55%	5,719,170 55%	5,125,171 49%	5,058,492 49%
MITCHELL COUNTY (22,192)	20,809	20,496	10,864 49%	10,790 49%	9,831 44%	9,676 43%

**Personnel**

- An individual for the Utility Clerk is in the screening process.
- Open positions, 1.) PW Director, 2.) Police Officers (2), 3.) Fire Fighter, 4.) Road Crew Supervisor, 5.) Water and Wastewater System Operator, 6.) Assistant Water Wastewater System Operator and 7.) Road Crew Labors (2).

**DCA**

- Commissioner Nunn will present Pelham its Rural Zone Designation and Housing CDBG grant at the Kirkland Conference Center at Albany Technical College, 9:00 a.m. on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**GAS**

- Eddie Harp & Associates will be here next Monday to dig up the leak on Mize Street following Monday's assessment; we will get a request for proposal out to contractors.

**REAPPORTION**

City Attorney Tommy Coleman advised the council on the steps to reapportion the election districts within the City of Pelham. City Attorney Coleman stated he had prepared a letter to send to Representative Campbell to ask him to do plans for the City of Pelham. The plan of the two election districts have to be generally the same size or within 5%, and also you cannot draw a plan in which diminishes the minority voting strength. These plans will be drafted and sent to the City of Pelham to be considered for the redistricting of the election districts within the City of Pelham.

**Council Member Adams made a motion** to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter to Representative Campbell for the reapportion plans for the City of Pelham, **seconded by Council Member Hodges. The vote was unanimous.**

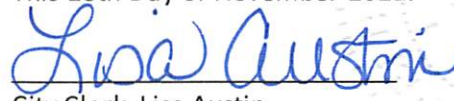
**ADJOURN**

With no further business to come before the Pelham City Council, **Mayor Pro-Tem Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Eubanks declared the meeting closed at 7:45 p.m.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, James Eubanks

**AUTHENTICATED:**

This 18th Day of November 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk, Lisa Austin

