

The City of Pelham

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

September 16, 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
Council Member Bobby Robinson

City Manager, Craig Bennett
City Clerk, Lisa Austin
Attorney, Tommy Coleman
Police Chief, Nealie McCormick
Fire Chief, Ivey Godwin
Asst. Police Chief, Rod Williams
Investigator, Adam Lamb
Court Clerk, Helen Cody

Enterprise-Journal, Randy Wind
Rhonda Brown
Fox News Representative

With a quorum present, Mayor Eubanks called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.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 as distributed, seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council Member Adams made a motion to close the Regular Meeting and open the Public Hearing, seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Eubanks declared the Public Hearing open at 6:36 p.m.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive input from citizens about the raise of the property tax millage rate to 17 and raise the utility base rate by 10%.

The following citizen's spoke to the city council:

- Doris Swarn-opposed of the property tax millage and utility base rate increase
- David Pickering-opposed of the property tax millage and utility base rate increase
- Teresa Jones-opposed of the property tax millage and utility base rate increase
- Vivian Moore-opposed of the property tax millage and utility base rate increase
- Trudy Ward-opposed of the property tax millage and utility base rate increase

RECONVENE REGULAR MEEING

Council Member Hodges made a motion to close the Public Hearing and open the Regular Meeting, seconded by Council Member Adams. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Eubanks declared the Regular Meeting open at 6:55 p.m.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- **Teresa Jones spoke to the city council and stated she was opposed to any raises, utility rate increases, and property tax increases.**

COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Member Parrish made a motion to approve minutes from August 19, 2021, as distributed, seconded by Council Member Adams. The vote was unanimous.

2021 TAX DIGEST

The current 2021 tax digest and 5-year history of levy was provided for council review. The purpose is to set the property tax for the current year 2021. The tax collections will begin in December 2021. The tax increase will provide \$112,056 of the required revenue in the general fund to provide raises to employees. Property tax is the largest revenue stream in the general fund.

2021 UTILITY RATES

The utility rate increase would be to pay for salaries and wages increases for employees. The proposed utility base rate would increase by 10%. The current fee schedule inside city limits base rate is \$19.00 for water and sewer. The proposed base rate inside city limits is \$20.90. The current fee schedule outside city limits is \$24.30 for water and sewer. The proposed base rate outside city limits would increase to \$27.17. The cost per unit on both inside and outside city limits would remain the same.

Council Member Adams made a motion to approve the proposed utility rate increase, seconded by Council Member Hodges. The vote was a roll call vote. In favor of the motion was Council Member Adams, and Council Hodges. Opposed to the motion Council Member Davis, Council Member Parrish, Council Member Robinson, and Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. Mayor Eubanks stated with the majority opposed to the vote the motion will not carry.

WAGE AND SALARY ANALYSIS

The wage and salary analysis comes from data of the 2020 DCA Municipal Salary and Wage Survey. The data is for each city with the same job and indicates their minimum and maximum pay. The data has a fair market value scale for each position (low, median, and high). This data was used to establish the wage increase for each employee.

ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATION

Chuy's Grill & Bar have purchased the restaurant at 125 Mathewson Avenue from Casa Maya. As part of their menu, they wish to serve alcohol. Their request is for retail malt beverage consumption license, retail wine consumption license, and retail distilled spirits consumption.

Council Member Hodges made a motion to approve the alcohol license for Chuy's Grill & Bar located at 125 Mathewson Avenue, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. The vote was unanimous.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Reviewed financial reports of August 2021 that were presented.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

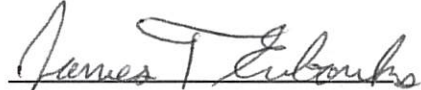
Reviewed department reports from August 2021 from the Pelham Police Department, Fire Department, Utility Department, and Code Enforcement.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Bennett stated he would email the city manager report to council.

ADJOURN

With no further business to come before the Pelham City Council, **Council Member Parrish made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Eubanks declared the meeting closed at 7:42 p.m.**



Mayor, James Eubanks

AUTHENTICATED:

This 21st Day of October 2021.



City Clerk, Lisa Austin

