

MINUTES

**Montevallo City Council Work Session
February 25, 2013
5:30 p.m. at Montevallo Middle School**

Mayor Hollie Cost, Council Member Rusty Nix, Council Member Willie Goldsmith, Council Member Sharon Gilbert, Council Member Don Hughes, and Council Member Dee Woodham were in attendance.

(4:30 – 5:30 p.m. representatives of the Shelby County Board of Education presented the public and council with their plans for improvements to the Middle School. They also addressed public comments and concerns.)

**Waiver of Notice
Change in Regular Meeting Location
February 25, 2013**

We, the undersigned members of the City Council of the City of Montevallo, Alabama, hereby waive notice of the change in the location of the Regular Council Work Session and Meeting from City Hall to the Montevallo Middle School for the purpose of attending a public meeting with the Board of Education at 4:30 p.m. with the Council meetings to follow as described on the Agenda and do consent that said meeting for said purpose be held at the Montevallo Middle School in the City of Montevallo, Alabama at 5:30 o'clock p.m. (Work Session) and 6:00 o'clock p.m. (Work Session) on the 25th day of February, 2013.



Hollie C. Cost, Mayor



Rusty Nix, District 1 Councilmember



Willie Goldsmith, District 2 Councilmember



Sharon Gilbert, District 3 Councilmember



Don Hughes, District 4 Councilmember



Dee Woodham, District 5 Councilmember

ATTEST:



Herman Lehman, City Clerk & Treasurer

Mayor Cost called the work session to order at 5:37 p.m.

Ryan Parker discussed the Complete Streets Initiative and the benefits of adopting the policy to the City of Montevallo. Mayor Cost suggested the council look into this proposal to see if it is something the council wishes to adopt. She pointed out that we have already made some progress in this regard with our Sharrow Lane signs and bike network. Council Member Woodham asked Mr. Parker about the response he received from the County engineers. He said the he has talked to the County Engineers but hopes to gain support for the initiative from the city-level up.

A citizen asked if the proposal would mean that all streets would have sidewalks. She said streets in her neighborhood are too narrow for sidewalks. Mr. Parker explained this would not affect every street, only those where it was possible. He said the goal is to promote connectivity throughout the city as a whole.

Another citizen asked how long a right-of-way lasted. Ms, Gray wanted to know how wide our right-of-ways are on Ashville Circle.

Matthew Burgess, our City Engineer, explained that right-of-ways were created at the time the roads were originally built.

Mayor Cost asked Council Member Hughes and his Sustainability Committee to review the Complete Streets proposal and make a recommendation back to the council.

Council Member Hughes said the confusion comes because the right-of-way is different in different parts of town on different streets.

Blake Ray, the new Agricultural Science teacher at MHS, and two of his students addressed the council regarding FFA Farm Day on Friday, March 29th and Saturday, March 30th. He said the big festivities will start at 9 a.m. on Saturday with the parade. They asked the council to declare this as Farm Day and to waive all vendor fees as they do every year.

Council Member Nix suggested Mr. Ray talk to our Police Chief to help organize the parade.

Chief Littleton provided his report:

Council Meeting February 25, 2013

305 Total Calls for Service

13 Domestic Violence Calls

Schools have had 115 foot patrols so far this month.

6 Burglaries and 5 Vehicle Burglaries

19 Public Assist

Investigations Report

14 Felony case brought forward from January

7 New cases for February

21 Total cases

5 Felony cases closed
5 Recovered stolen firearms

I attended the Alabama Law Enforcement Explorer competition and graduation that was held on the University of Montevallo campus this weekend. The competition was a huge success and Lieutenant Alexander and the other Explorer Advisors did a great job. Everyone is doing a great job.

Mayor Cost commended the Chief and his officers for the additional efforts they are taking to help protect our local schools.

Montevallo City Council Meeting
February 25, 2013
6:00 p.m. at Montevallo Middle School

Mayor Hollie Cost, Council Member Rusty Nix, Council Member Willie Goldsmith, Council Member Sharon Gilbert, Council Member Don Hughes, and Council Member Dee Woodham were in attendance.

Meeting Call to Order – Mayor Cost called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval and/or corrections of the minutes – Council Member Woodham made a motion to approve the Minutes from February 11, 2013 as corrected. Council Member Hughes seconded. ALL AYES . . . MOTION APPROVED.

Opportunities for citizens to speak to the Council

Franklin Bell of 341 Samford St. asked about the temporary building which was erected on the property next to MMS. Mayor Cost said we checked with our Planning Officials about that structure and it is not in compliance with our code. She said we are working with the property owner to have that structure removed.

A resident living on Ashville Circle thanked the Water & Sewer Dept for repairing the problem in her neighborhood so quickly. She also thanked the Police Department for increasing the frequency of patrols in her neighborhood.

Ms. Bolden at 440 Selma Rd. asked what the city plans to do about the abandoned houses across 119 from MMS. The Mayor explained they can be looked at by our Abatement Board. The Board can recommend the houses be torn down, but we also have to wait until we have funding. In fact, several houses in that area are already condemned by the city and scheduled to be demolished as soon as we have the money. Our CDBG grant will allow us to address several problem houses in the MMS area.

Ms. Bolden asked if any funds are available to fix up houses. The Mayor said we do not have a program like that at this time. But we have done it with the help of volunteers and Habitat for Humanity.

In answer to a question regarding drainage, Mr. Burgess said our CDBG grant will address drainage issues. However, we can't tell anyone exactly how it will be addressed until our plans are finalized. However, we will continue to work with residents throughout that process so they are aware of our plans and have input into what is ultimately done.

Jim Farris asked about the status of the Subdivision Regulations. The City Clerk explained that the new regulations, which have been worked on for quite some time, had been approved by the Planning Commission at their last meeting. We are checking with our City Attorney to confirm, but it is our understanding the Planning Commission has the legal responsibility and authority to approve these regulations and that it will not require an additional council vote.

Council Member Hughes reminded everyone that the CDBG grant we received is time sensitive. We have 6 months to start the project or we will lose the money. That is why it is so important that we keep the project moving forward. He said we only have 4 months left. He said our last public hearing was to amend the scope of work for our CDBG grant and had nothing to do with the Board of Education's plans.

Terry Acuff, our Grant Writer, said we needed to delete the road from the project because we found out it is actually school property. He said we need to do something on the project in the 6 month period. That can include tearing down houses.

Another resident asked if this is an all or nothing proposal?

Mayor Cost stressed that if we receive feedback from the community that they do not want sidewalks, we will revise the scope of work to exclude sidewalks.

Mr. Acuff said we will keep them informed throughout the process. The meeting the other night was to inform them of the changes we proposed.

Mayor Cost said we will need to potentially amend our plans even further based on what the School Board said tonight. They still do not know exactly what their plans are.

Committee Reports and Consideration of Bills:

Public Health & Safety (Police, Fire, Code Enforcement, Housing Abatement) – Discussed earlier

Sustainability (Streets & Sanitation, Recycling, Arbor & Beautification, ValloCycle, Environmental Preservation Initiatives) – Council Member Hughes mentioned we need to properly repair potholes. He said he would like his Committee to discuss this at an upcoming meeting to include the head of the Water & Sewer Board and Mr. Belk, as well. Council Member Nix said he would make sure Mr. Harmon attended that meeting.

Courtney Bennett reported that ValloCycle would have a meeting at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Herschel Hale reported that Arbor Day was a huge success. He said 278 people signed in but that a lot more people were in attendance. He said this year our greatest percentage was actually from Montevallo and Shelby County.

Recreation, Preservation and Community Development (Parks & recreation, Golf Course, Youth Athletics, Trails, Historical Commission, Planning & Zoning, Annexations) –

Council Member Nix reminded the council about the upcoming Easer Egg Hunt in Orr Park at 11:00 a.m. on the Saturday before Easter. He also noted that the Golf Board is looking at the concerns previously discussed by the council. Mayor Cost interjected that she has a meeting with the Board Chairman on the 8th.

Debby Raymond reported that the Historical Commission application to designate downtown as a Historic District is still being worked on.

Council Member Nix informed the council that the Planning Commission has approved the Subdivision Regulations. We are checking with our City Attorney to determine whether or not the Regulations also require council approval. The Commission is still working on the Residential Rental Code.

The City Clerk mentioned that Mr. Belk had asked him to report to the council that he will be meeting with the engineers this week to discuss the traffic lights on Oak St. Also, the City Attorney is reviewing our bid specifications for the garbage services bid.

Education, Arts & Outreach (Schools, UM, Boys & Girls Club, Library, American Village, Sister City Commission, Artwalk, Middle School Grant) –

Allie Williams presented the following Library Report:

- We are now offering free genealogy classes every Thursday, please call the library for details at 205-665-9207.
- I will be presenting an LSTA grant to the Council next time and I have already talked with Libbie about the match and we should be able to get that support from the Foundation. I will present the grant to them soon. It is due April 5th.
- We are hosting a program for UM for Carey Heatherly on 2/26, featuring a ‘space archaeologist’ from UAB with a reception afterward.
- We will be hosting Dr. Scott Meyer from UM for Kathy Lowe next Tuesday (3/5) night at 6:30 p.m., where he will be discussing his new book. Books will be sold and autographed afterward at Eclipse.
- We offer free tax help four days a week (call library for details).
- We will be doing two Easter egg hunts in March, one for Pre-K on the 27 and one for K-4 on the 28th
- The library needs donations of candy for the egg hunts
- The library still needs donations of books for our big book sale this spring
- Polaris had an upgrade last week and once the public access catalog has the bugs worked out, it offers a lot more features than before

Council Member Gilbert then presented a brief report. She and the Mayor visited all three Montevallo Schools and presented them with a \$500 check. They were all very appreciative. They also attended the Sister City Commission meeting and presented them with a \$2,000 check. The Commission elected Julie Caine, President and Ted Metz, Vice President. We have about eight students travelling to Japan in July.

Finance, Economic Development & Tourism (Finance, MDCD, IDB, Chamber) –

Council Member Woodham reminded everyone that the next Finance Committee meeting will be Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. She pointed out a few of the larger bills in the packets, including a \$750 repair bill and \$5,400 for our auditors. She reported that the MDCD has 2 proposals so far for the Alabama Coach property. Deadline is March 1st.

Council Member Goldsmith made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Council Member Nix seconded. ALL AYES . . . MOTION APPROVED.

Consent Agenda: NONE

New Business:

Amendment to CDBG Grant Scope of Work – NO ACTION.

Ryan Parker’s Complete Streets Initiative Presentation – NO ACTION.

Declaration of property as surplus – Police Dept Rifle Scope – Chief Littleton explained that they have no use for this rifle scope and that they want to have it declared surplus so they can sell it and use the money for something they need.

Council Member Goldsmith made a motion to declare the scope as surplus. Council Member Nix seconded. ALL AYES . . . MOTION APPROVED.

CITY OF MONTEVALLO
AUTHORIZATION FOR MOVEMENT OR REMOVAL OF CITY OF MONTEVALLO
PROPERTY

INSTRUCTIONS: Maintain completed form in City Hall. Provide Copy of completed form to person moving or removing property.
REFERENCE: City of Montevallo Fixed Asset and Inventory Policy

Date: February 11, 2013

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Mayor Cost + City Council _____
 Name of Individual Title

is authorized to () move () remove the following equipment:

	Description	Asset Label #	Serial #
1	Leupold Variable Rifle Scope	NA	L157284
2			
3			
4			
5			

This authorization is valid for movement or removal of the above described property under the following conditions:

Move/Removal Date: <u>Declare Surplus</u>
Scheduled Return Date:
Location Moved/ Removed From:
Location Moved to: (address)
Purpose of Equipment Relocation: <u>Sale for \$200.00</u>

Custodian of Equipment:

 Employee Date

AUTHORIZED BY:

[Signature] _____ February 11, 2013
 Department Head Date

Parental Alienation Prevention Week Proclamation – Council Member Hughes made a motion to approve the proclamation. Council Member Gilbert seconded. ALL AYES . . . MOTION APPROVED.



WHEREAS: Alienating behaviors are often found in high conflict divorce and custody situations; and

WHEREAS: Speaking negatively about a parent to or in front of a child; interfering with communication and visitation; and discussing inappropriate information with a child, such as details of the separation, court proceedings, or financial matters, are behaviors that can not only destroy the bond between a loving parent and child, but can cause a child mental and emotional harm; and

WHEREAS: Parental alienation takes advantage of the impressionable and dependent nature of children; and

WHEREAS: Parental alienation deprives children of their right to love and be loved by both parents; and

WHEREAS: Parental alienation is considered harmful to children, as the alienating tactics are confusing, frightening and rob children of their sense of security; and

WHEREAS: Professionals agree that the problem of parental alienation is damaging to children and can affect them into adulthood, with tragic consequences; and

WHEREAS: There were more than 20,000 divorced Alabamians, almost 25,000 unwed births in 2011, and approximately 40,000 children in Alabama subjected to child custody determination;

WHEREAS: With awareness come education and understanding, and the power to stop the abuse of innocent children caught in the crossfire of the people they love; dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another;

WHEREAS: Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. This year organizers are doing something special by asking everyone to take 10 minutes out of their day at noon on April 25th, anywhere in the state, and blow soap bubbles representing love.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Montevallo, do hereby proclaim April 21 through April 27, 2013, as **PARENTAL ALIENATION PREVENTION WEEK** and April 25, 2013, as **PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS DAY**.

Hollie C. Cost, Mayor

FFA Farm Day - Friday, March 29 - Council Member Nix made a motion to declare Friday March 29th & Saturday March 30th as Farm Day and to waive all vendor fees in conjunction with the event. Council Member Hughes seconded. ALL AYES . . . MOTION APPROVED.

Old Business:

Janitorial Service – NO ACTION

Bucket Truck Purchase - NO ACTION

Victory Building Purchase - NO ACTION

Steam Cleaning Library Carpets & Chairs - NO ACTION

Approval of increased rental rates to cover cleaning fee for park rentals - NO ACTION

LGS Telephone Franchising Agreement - Debby Raymond explained that she researched this service and recommends the council not utilize their services. She suggested that the company we already use to investigate business licenses and fees could do the work and we would not have to pay them anything up front.

Mayor's Administrative Appointment to Planning Commission - NO ACTION

Mayor's Representative on Planning Commission - NO ACTION

Emergency Policy - NO ACTION

Residential Leased / Rental Property Code - NO ACTION

Board Appointments - NO ACTION

Other Business

Chief Littleton requested permission to lease a new copier. The council asked the Finance Committee to look at this request and make a recommendation back to the council.

Citizen Participation: NONE

The Mayor said she appreciated everyone coming to the meeting. There being no other business before the council, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Herman Lehman
City Clerk