

# *The City of Pelham*

## **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

**December 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  
City Attorney, Tommy Coleman  
Police Chief, Nealie McCormick  
Fire Chief, Ivey Godwin  
Enterprise-Journal, Randy Wind

Stephen Collier  
Doris Swarn  
Teresa Robinson  
Trudy Ward

With a quorum present, Mayor Eubanks called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Council Member Fredrick Davis 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 presented, seconded by Council Member Adams. The vote was unanimous.**

#### **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Teresa Robinson stated was not in favor of the utility rates being raised for employees to receive a salary increase.

Doris Swarn stated she was not in favor of the utility rate increase, or the salary increase.

## **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Council Member Adams made a motion to approve the November 17, 2021, Called Meeting minutes, and the November 23, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes as distributed, seconded by Council Member Davis. The vote was unanimous.**

### **2022 CALENDAR**

Pelham's personnel policy has identified 11 days as the number of days of paid in 2021 by not observing Christmas Eve on a weekday and adding Juneteenth will leave the city providing 11 paid holidays. Juneteenth day is a new federal holiday on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Brown made a motion to observe the holidays that were presented in the packet and to add on Christmas Eve Day to be observed on Friday, December 23, 2022, seconded by Council Member Davis. The vote in favor of the motion was Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, Council Member Davis, and Council Member Robinson. The vote opposed to the motion was Council Member Adams, Council Member Hodges, and Council Member Parrish. Mayor Eubanks voted due to it being a tie vote in favor of the motion. Mayor Eubanks stated the motion will carry.**

### **UTILITY FEE SCHEDULE**

A utility fee schedule was presented to the council that would increase the utility rates also would increase the tap fees.

**Council Member Adams made a motion to change the tap fees and any other fee associated with taps as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. The vote was unanimous.**

**Council Member Hodges made a motion to adopt the water and sewer utility fee schedule that was presented, seconded by Council Member Adams. The roll call vote in favor of the motion was Council Member Adams, and Council Member Hodges. The roll call vote opposed to the motion was Council Member Robinson, Council Member Davis, Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, and Council Member Parrish.**

**Council Member Robinson made a substitute motion to leave the utility rates the same and give all employees a \$1.00 an hour raise across the board to all employees, seconded Council Member Davis. The roll call vote in favor of the substitute motion was Council Member Robinson, and Council Member Davis. The roll call vote opposed to the substitute motion was Council Member Parrish, Council Member Hodges, Council Member Adams, and Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. City Attorney Coleman stated since the motion failed the the previous motion will now be voted on.**

## **PREMIUM PAY**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Brown made a motion** at this time he would like to adjust the agenda as item number 4 to include Premium Pay, **seconded by Council Member Adams. The vote was unanimous.**

City Manager Bennett stated he would like to propose a Premium Pay to all employees since the utility fees did not pass.

**Mayor Pro-Tem made a motion** to give each employee that worked between August 5<sup>th</sup> thru September 11<sup>th</sup> \$2.00 per hour for every hour worked between those dates for premium pay and the funds come from utilizing the ARAP Funds, **seconded by Council Member Adams. The vote was unanimous.**

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD RAISE**

**Council Member Hodges made a motion** proceed with the department head raises based on the property tax increase that was passed the amounts were presented in the packet, **seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. The roll call vote in favor of the motion was Council Member Adams, Council Member Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, and Council Member Davis. The roll call vote opposed to the motion was Council Member Robinson, and Council Member Parrish. Mayor Eubanks stated the motion will carry.**

## **JOINT RESOLUTION-PELHAM SCHOOL BOARD**

A Joint Resolution Requesting The General Assembly To Make Certain Changes To The City Charter Of The City Of Pelham With Regard To The Composition Of The School Board And The Conduct Of Elections, Repealing All Resolutions In Conflict Herewith And For Other Purposes.

**Council Member Adams made a motion** to adopt the Joint Resolution-Pelham School Board, **seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote was unanimous.**

## **ANNUAL CONTRACTS RENEWALS**

**Council Member Davis made a motion** to renew all annual contracts as presented for 2022 and instruct the City Manager to pursue options for the yard debris pickup in the first quarter of 2022, **seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote was unanimous.**

## **ETHICS ORDINANCE**

The Georgia Sunshine Law allows the council to enter into executive session to discuss certain matters closed to the public, such as personnel and acquisition of property. With the entrance into executive session there is an expectation of confidentiality.

The proposed ordinance amendment will make it an ethical violation to divulge information discussed during the session.

**Council Hodges made a motion to adopt the Ethics Ordinance, seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote in favor of the Ethics Ordinance was Council Member Hodges, Council Member Adams, and Council Member Parrish. The vote opposed to the Ethics Ordinance was Council Member Robinson, Council Member Davis, and Mayor Pro-Tem Brown. Mayor Eubanks voted due to it being a tie in favor of the motion. Mayor Eubanks stated the motion will carry.**

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Council reviewed financial reports of November 2021 that were presented.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**


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

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager spoke about the Mitchell County all being about 50% on the vaccination rate and needing to get much better in the county. The biggest for the week is the transition to the interim City Manager Stephen Collier.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business to come before the Pelham City Council, Council Member Robinson made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting, **seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Eubanks declared the meeting closed at 7:39 p.m.**

  
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Mayor, James T. Eubanks

**AUTHENITCIATED:**

This 20th Day of January 2022.

  
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City Clerk, Lisa Austin