# The City of Felham

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

# April 20, 2017 - 6:30 p.m. - Council Chamber

#### PRESENT:

Mayor James Eubanks
Mayor Pro-Tem Alfred Brown
Council Member Jeremy Hatcher
Council Member Loys Johnson
Council Member Bobby Robinson
Council Member Winfred Parker
Council Member Ansel Parrish
Council Member Tad Williamson

City Manager, Jim Hedges City Clerk, Lisa Austin Attorney Fire Chief, Ivey Godwin Police Chief, Nealie McCormick

Pelham Journal, Carl Stokes MCTV, Jerry White Chamber Director, Caltlyn Hatcher Main Street Director, Alyssa Blakley

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.

# **COMMUNITY REPORTS**

#### **PELHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Pelham Chamber Director Caitlyn Hatcher reported on the following events: Back to School Breakfast-January 2<sup>nd</sup>, Farmer's Appreciation Luncheon-January 13<sup>th</sup>, Albany Relief Efforts-January 24<sup>th</sup>, Annual Banquet-January 26<sup>th</sup>, GA Tourism-January 31<sup>st</sup>, Teen Maze-February 3<sup>rd</sup>, ROY Open House/Ribbon Cutting-February 4<sup>th</sup>, Feeding our Hero's-February 10<sup>th</sup>, BBQ Bob's Open House/Ribbon Cutting-February 13<sup>th</sup>, Arbor Day-February 17<sup>th</sup>, Lunch n' Learn-February 21<sup>st</sup>, Ambassador-February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Dr. Seuss Read Across America-March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Pelham Girls took State-March 7<sup>th</sup>, Small Business Week-March 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, CTE-March 16<sup>th</sup>, Pelham Girls Basketball Celebration-March 26<sup>th</sup>, Planation Trace-March 28<sup>th</sup>, GACCE Staff Development-March 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>. Notable Accomplishment membership has increased from 64 to 83 members since the beginning of the year. Also listed were upcoming events.

#### **PELHAM MAIN STREET**

Main Street Director Alyssa Blakley reported on the following: Albany Storm Relief, Presented Margaret Nesmith as Main Street's Volunteer of the Year, Guest speaker at Pelham Rotary Club and presented updates on Main Street/City of Pelham, Completed Main Street courses 101 & 201 in Athens, GA., Attended Plantation Trace Travel Association quarterly meeting on 3/28/17 in Enigma, GA., Discussed Miscellaneous Opportunities, Planting of the trees on Hand Avenue

began on April 17<sup>th</sup>, New Board Member are Shirley Daniels, and Doug Hall, New Businesses: South Georgia Insurance Agency (January) BBQ Bob's (Ribbon Cutting February), R.O.Y. (February), SCAR (February), Auto Zone (March) and Hotdog Xpress (March) Closed Business: Pastor Monty's Kitchen, Discussed Future Projects/Up Coming Events.

#### JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

An emailed report was provided.

#### PROCLAMATION-CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

Mayor Eubanks read A Proclamation to proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

# **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Hedges reported and pictures were shown on the following projects: the sidewalks on Palmer Street are in the process of being completed, new police cars with signage on them, potholes being repaired on Proctor Street, Pelham High School Lady Hornets Girls Basketball Team State Champs signs were shown, Spraying for Mosquitoes has started and being sprayed from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m., Discussed Pelham's Retirement Plan Actuarial Valuation and Review -January 2, 2017. Discussed and reviewed March Financials.

#### **REGULAR SESSION**

#### MAYOR EUBANKS PRESIDING

### **APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Council Member Parker made a motion to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Council Member Hatcher. The vote was unanimous.

#### MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

**Council Member Parrish made a motion** to approve minutes from the March 16, 2017 Regular Meeting as written, seconded by Council Member Brown. The vote was unanimous.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE

Council Member Johnson made a motion to accept and approve the Resolution for Animal Control Ordinance and for the revocation of the existing Animal Control Ordinance and implementation of the presented Animal Control Ordinance, seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was unanimous.

The City of Pelham has an ordinance dealing with animals, confinement, vaccination, prohibited conditions, impoundment, protection, cruelty and neglect to animals, and dangerous dogs, entitled the Animal Control Ordinance.

# **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CONTRACT**

Council Member Williamson made a motion to table the Chamber of Commerce Contract until next month, seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was six yea votes by Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, Council Member Parrish, Council Member Robinson, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Williamson, Council Member Parker and one abstained vote by Council Member Hatcher.

# **HOTEL/MOTEL AGREEMENT**

Council Member Williamson made a motion to approve the Hotel-Motel Tax Agreement between the City of Pelham and the Pelham Chamber of Commerce for the utilization of hotel-motel tax funds to promote tourism, seconded by Council Member Parker. The vote was six yea votes from Council Member Williamson, Council Member Parker, Council Member Parrish, Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, Council Member Robinson, and Council Member Johnson. Abstained from the vote Council Member Hatcher.

#### **SOUTHERN GIN PROPERTY TAX ISSUE**

Southern Gin requested the 2008 taxes to be waived due to the amount of monies expended for repairs on the "Seed Warehouse" this had been a verbal agreement in the past and the council unanimous approved to waive the fees at a work session held in April 2017.

#### **OUTSIDE WATER & SEWER RATES**

Council Member Parrish made a motion approve a Resolution for Outside Water & Sewer Rates and to increase water and sewer base and usage rates for customers outside the municipal boundaries by 150% of the rates charged by customers inside the municipal boundaries, seconded by Council Member Johnson. The vote was two yea votes by Council Member Parrish, and Council Member Johnson, four opposed votes by Council Member Hatcher, Council Member Parker, Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, Council Member Robinson, and one abstain vote by Council Member Williamson. Motion will not carry.

Council Member Hatcher made a motion approve a Resolution for Outside Water & Sewer Rates and to increase water and sewer base and usage rates for customers outside the municipal boundaries by 130% of the rates charged by customers inside the municipal boundaries, seconded by Council Member Robinson. The vote was five yea votes by Council

Member Hatcher, Council Member Robinson, Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, Council Member Parker, Council Member Williamson, and two nay votes by Council Member Parrish, and Council Member Johnson. Motion will carry.

# **PELHAM NATURAL GAS SYSTEM**

Council Member Johnson made a motion to approve the Resolution for Natural Gas and increase the Pelham Natural Gas Base rate to \$10.00; and to increase the cost per MCF by \$2.00 effective immediately, seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote was unanimous.

#### **WEATHER SIREN SYSTEM**

Council Member Johnson made a motion to move forward with the purchase and installation of the Whelen Weather Siren System at a turnkey cost of \$40,000, seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote was five yea votes by Council Member Johnson, Council Member Parrish, Mayor Pro-Tem Brown, Council Member Robison and Council Member Parker, and two opposed votes by Council Member Hatcher, and Council Member Williamson. The motion will carry.

# **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN RESOLUTION**

Council Member Parrish made a motion to adopt the Resolution for The Pelham
Comprehensive Plan to maintain its Qualified Local Government Status, seconded by Mayor
Pro-Tem Brown. The vote was unanimous.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

The following department reports were included in Council packets to review: Code Enforcement, Fire Department, Police Department, and Utility Department.

#### SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT

Council Member Parrish made a motion to approve the Special Event Permit submitted by Jess Kilpatrick to hold a revival on the lot across the street from Auto Zone from the hours of 6:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. for a period of 30 days beginning April 5<sup>th</sup> and ending May 4<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Council Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous.

# **DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY**

Council Member Williamson made a motion to approve a Resolution to declare the city owned former waste water treatment plant as surplus and authorize the property to be sold by sealed bids to the public, seconded by Council Member Parrish. The vote was unanimous.

# **WATER METER PROJECT**

Council Member Parrish made a motion to approve a Resolution for the Water Meter Project and award the water meter replacement project to UWS, Inc. at an estimated cost of \$494,776 being the lowest bidder, and to go forward with financing from the Georgia Environmental Financing Authority, seconded by Council Member Parker. The vote was unanimous.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

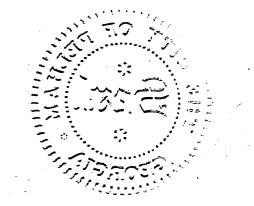
With no further business to come before the Pelham City Council, Council Member Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Johnson. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Eubanks declared the meeting closed at 7:25 p.m.

Mayor, James Eubanks

**AUTHENTICATED:** 

This 18<sup>TH</sup> Day of May 2017.

City Clerk, Lisa Austin



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