

**CITY OF TALLADEGA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
January 21, 2021 – 5:00 pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Talladega City Hall Chambers. The meeting was called to order and the following were present: Council President Trae Williams, Councilman Horace Patterson, Council Member Vickey R. Hall, Council Member Betty C. Spratlin, Councilman Joseph K. Power, Jr., Mayor Ragland and Interim City Manager Kelsey Gallahar.

Invocation by Councilman Horace Patterson.

Public hearing was opened for anyone who wished to comment and/or object to the placement of weed abatement liens to 10 properties. No one was present to comment and the public hearing was closed.

Public hearing was opened for anyone who wished to comment and/or object to the vacation of a portion of Tinney St. No one was present to comment and the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall to approve invoices and expenditures. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Total Invoices & Expenditures for 1/1/2021 to 1/12/2021	\$69,819.50
General Fund	53,123.59
Corrections Fund	7,920.01
Cemetery	6,565.72
Library Fund	2.00
Municipal Airport	2,208.18

Motion by Council Member Hall with a second from Council Member Spratlin for approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 4, 2021 and the Called Meeting of January 6, 2021. AYES: All.

Mayor Ragland swears in Phaer Bonner to the Industrial Development Board.

Brought before the Council was the discussion concerning the Letter of Intent from Southwest Water. It was stated that the LOI was not a binding agreement; it would only give Southwest Water 120 days for their due diligence. There was some question as to whether Southwest Water would retain the current water department employees. Southwest Water representative Charles Long commented that they would be needing people who were familiar with the system. Motion by Councilman Power with a second from Council Member Spratlin to approve the Letter of Intent. Roll Call. AYES: Council Member Spratlin and Councilman Power NAYS: Council President Williams, Councilman Patterson, and Council Member Hall.

A petition and declaration of the vacation of a public road was brought before the Council which would be considered via Resolution #5223. Interim City Manager Gallahar had stated that the portion being vacated was already in use by Talladega Patterson, however they wish to do some work on that portion to create a better entrance and request this vacation.

Weed Abatement Liens

Resolution #5213 to assess a weed abatement lien on 823 Allen St.

Resolution #5214 to assess a weed abatement lien on 122 Lane St.

Resolution #5215 to assess a weed abatement lien on 141 Mt. Olive Circle

Resolution #5216 to assess a weed abatement lien on Old Elizabeth Salon on East St.

Resolution #5217 to assess a weed abatement lien on Vacant lot on corner of Lide Rd. and Hollingsworth St.

Resolution #5218 to assess a weed abatement lien on 821 Eastwood Ave.

Resolution #5219 to assess a weed abatement lien on 817 Eastwood Ave.

Resolution #5220 to assess a weed abatement lien on 371 Pinehurst Drive

Resolution #5221 to assess a weed abatement lien on Vacant lot on corner of Knox St. and Ave H

Resolution #5222 to assess a weed abatement lien on Vacant lot on corner of Knox St. and Ave H

Motion by Councilman Power with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5213 to Resolution #5222. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #5223 to vacate a portion of Tinney St.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5223. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Council Member Hall to approve invoices and expenditures for the Water Department. AYES: All.

Water Department Expenditures for 1/4/2021 to 1/14/2021	\$ 178,621.09
Water/Sewer Fund	178,621.09

Resolution #5224 to approve a contract extension for the third and final year with Alpine Properties for ground maintenance for all 33 Water and Wastewater facilities.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5224. Roll Call. AYES: All.

There was some discussion concerning the grass cutting at the water facilities. It was inquired if any of the Water Department personnel could handle this duty. Water Department Director Fuller commented that although water department employees occasionally cut grass at the waste water plant; there would not be enough man power to cut all the grass at the 33 water facilities.

Resolution #5225 to approve a change order on the contract with Living Waters to repair the raw sewage motor and pump for a cost not to exceed \$19,046.00.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for the approval of Resolution #5225. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Councilman Power requested that the monthly financial report be complete before submitting to the Council; stating that it would be more helpful to the Council to receive a finished report even if it is month or so late. Finance Director Stamps stated that the only time accuracy is an issue would be the sales tax reporting from September to October because it does not post until the end of October.

Interim City Manager Gallahar wished to remind the Council that the filing of the Statement of Economic Interest is due April 30, 2021. She also had passed out to the Council, a revised draft of the CIP which had been color coded to categorize the items by topic. Also mentioned was an E-Recycle event scheduled for March 26.

Councilman Patterson wished to speak about a video on social media displaying parts of the City in a bad manner; inquiring if the position vacated by the retirement of Code Enforcement Officer Rowls had been filled. Interim City Manager Gallahar commented that off duty officers are currently filling the role and that Council will see documentation once the job description has been finalized to allow for an officer to handle the position. Councilman Patterson requested that he be informed of any updates concerning this matter and asked if anyone could tell him about the situation on Roosevelt St., which was brought to his attention by citizen Dixie Bonner. Interim City Manager Gallahar deferred to Police Chief Busby. Police Chief Busby commented that during this transitional period, there has been quite a few complaints, since Mr. Rowls had retired; causing a back log. However, Sergeant Nabors has been out getting the lay of the City and what needs to be prioritized, with Roosevelt St. being high on the list. It was also mentioned that some work had already been done with gathering photos of some areas. Councilman Patterson requested that Chief Busby contact Ms. Bonner and update her concerning the situation on Roosevelt St.

Council Member Spratlin wished to address the issue of speeding on South St., stating that she had received two emails and phone calls concerning this. She also inquired about a machine that was once set up to detect the speed of motorists. Chief Busby commented that that particular equipment was run by batteries which are obsolete. It was also mentioned that there would be some additional radar equipment installed in the police cars and more officers would be out to run radar. Council Member Spratlin also wished to request that an officer be stationed at the Library or Heritage Hall; upon which Chief Busby stated that he would make sure the extra patrol would be added back on.

Councilman Power inquired if the court cases in the monthly reports were for speeding or running stop signs. Chief Busby commented that this would fall under the Municipal Court.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second from Council Member Hall for adjournment.
AYES: All.

AUTHENTICATION

I, Joanna Medlen, City Clerk of the City of Talladega, Alabama, do hereby attest that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings of the City Council of Talladega, Alabama, which met in a regular session on Thursday, January 21, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. in the City of Talladega, Alabama.