

**CITY COUNCIL OF TALLADEGA
PRE-COUNCIL
April 21, 2014- 5:00 pm**

Special Guest Senator Fielding wanted to say a few words before the Council, stating he was not here to talk politics, but was here to make it known that he believes in being accessible. Senator Fielding mentioned that he has been in correspondence with City Manager Muenger regarding a Bill that has passed that can help cities if a debt is owed to them. If a claim is filed through the Alabama League of Municipalities (ALM) there will be hold on the debtor's income tax refund of that amount. The filing fee is \$25.00.

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
April 21, 2014 – 5:30 pm**

The City Council of the City of Talladega met in a regular meeting on Monday, April 21, 2014 at 5:30 p.m., at the Talladega City Hall Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order and the following were present: Council President Miller, Councilman Rick Simpson, Councilman Horace Patterson, Councilman Jarvis Elston, Councilman Joe Ballow, Mayor Larry Barton and City Manager Brian Muenger.

Invocation by Keith Owensby of Valley View Church of God.

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second from Councilman Simpson to approve invoices and expenditures. AYES: All.

Total Invoices & Expenditures for 04/7/2014 to 04/18/2014	\$ 1,112,815.03
General Operating Account	907,379.20
Senior Nutrition	99,686.50
Municipal Court	9,863.79
Corrections	2,626.20
CDBG Fund	19,350.00
Capital Improvement Fund	73,909.34

Motion by Councilman Simpson with a second from Councilman Patterson for approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 7, 2014. AYES: All.

Council President Miller recognized a young man who was presented as the Bryant Jordan Award winner, Coby Wheeler. Mayor Barton stated that he was a product of Bemiston. Coby Wheeler came before the Council and stated he is proud to honor his school and city by winning this prestigious award.

City Manager Muenger brought before the Council the Municipal Golf Course RFP stating that the City was forced to assume operations of the Municipal Golf Course after the previous management company ceased operations, and is now paying for utilities, golf car lease, and other maintenance items. So there has been an attempt to seek out interested parties through a Request for Proposals (RFP) that has been released by the City. If a company can be secured that meets the proper criteria and a contract entered into, the City could compete strongly for USDA funds that could help to restore and improve the existing clubhouse. These funding streams are not guaranteed, but they do provide an avenue for potential improvement and the creation of an additional revenue for the facility.

City Manager Muenger next informed the Council about the WRATT Grant Award asserting that the City has been selected for a LED Lighting grant, made available by funds from the Appalachian Regional Commission. An application was submitted in January 2014 to WRATT with a variety of project options. After discussion with representatives from WRATT, it was decided that they would provide funding to install LED lighting on each of the 28 shoebox lights at Veterans Park as well as the 6 acorn style lights in the North Street Parking Lot. The LED units that will be installed will have a life of approximately 70,000 hours versus the 20,000 for standard metal halide fixtures. The energy savings generated by the LED lights will be in excess of \$2,000.00 annually. The total value of this grant is roughly \$10,000.00 with the final value being determined by the result of the fixture bid. These lights should be in place prior to the reopening of Veterans Park.

Brought before the Council by City Manager Muenger was the Mump Creek Fishing issue. At the previous meeting the Council requested additional information on the opening of the Mump Creek Reservoir for fishing. Contact was made with Dennis Harrison, Chief of the Drinking Water Branch at the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) to request his opinion on the subject. Mr. Harrison indicates that ADEM regulations do not ban fishing in a public drinking water reservoir. He also states that nearly all of Alabama's surface water sources are open to fishing. Correspondence from the City's insurance provider indicates that the City's insurance would cover potential accidents at the facility, but it also states that any claims related to the property may have the potential to impact the City's premiums. If this is approved, there is some road erosion that needs to be dealt with so it would be advisable to delay this to June 1 so the road repairs can be done. The cost of a fence and grading of the road work to be done was requested.

Talladega College President Billy Hawkins was present to speak about Talladega College issues. He was allowed 15 minutes to present his issues instead of the original 3 minute allotment. President Hawkins also presented a PowerPoint presentation indicating surrounding neighbors of where the 7th annual President's Scholarship Fundraiser concert would be held. President Hawkins stated that the neighbors indicated that they would not be bothered by the concert being held and some may even attend. He requested that the Council rescind the 9:30pm curfew for the Concert stating that the Council does not dictate when a business should be shut down so they should not tell the College when to shut down as well. President Hawkins also mentioned that Talladega College has a big impact on the economic conditions of the City. He asked for fairness in this matter. There was quite a bit of discussion regarding this.

Shirley Allen, a resident from the Frazier Farm subdivision, came before the Council to express her concern over the noise from Talladega College. Ms. Allen stated that the laws are for all of us and there should be some respect. City Manager Muenger stated that there were formal complains through E-911 dispatch regarding noise from Talladega College.

Motion to honor Talladega College's request to have the concert continue until 10:30 p.m. by Councilman Elston with a second by Councilman Ballow. Roll Call. AYES: Councilman Elston, Councilman Ballow, Councilman Miller, and Councilman Simpson. NAY: Councilman Patterson.

Councilman Ballow requested that there needs to be some work done on the calls for noise violations. President Hawkins stated that they will work with the City on this issue. He asked citizens to call him instead of the police when there is a noise violation complaint. City Manager Muenger made it known that the music was to end at 10:30 p.m. but there was no time period as to when students would need to vacate because it is on private property.

Resolution #3127 M-Tek tax abatement for major addition.

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Councilman Elston to approve Resolution #3127. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3128 M-Tek tax abatement for new project

Motion by Councilman Patterson with a second by Councilman Elston to approve Resolution #3128. Roll Call. AYES: All

Resolution #3129 approving application for Summer Food Program

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second by Councilman Elston to approve Resolution #3129. Roll Call. AYES: All.

Resolution #3130 approving a contract with AIDB to provide lunches for Summer Food Program.

Motion by Councilman Ballow with a second by Councilman Elston to approve Resolution #3130. Roll Call. AYES: All.

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

Water Department Expenditures for 4/9/14 to 4/17/14	\$ 358,119.04
Operations & Maintenance	131,273.85
Revenue	210,995.19
Construction & Improvement	15,850.00

The subject of Municipal Court Judge was brought before the Council. Councilman Patterson stated that he had an unconventional recommendation of hiring 3 of the candidates with them alternating months and after 2 years it would be known who is a good fit for the job. Councilman Ballow

questioned whether this was legal and if the candidates would even be interested in doing so. Councilman Elston stated that he had not done his due diligence and research so that he could vote tonight on this topic. Council President Miller mentioned that the month was up for the Interim judge and a decision had to be made. Therefore, a meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Simpson stated that the Council needed to revisit the vicious dog ordinance. City Manager Muenger said that the ordinance is based on state law and that Animal Control is lacking authority.

Councilman Patterson requested that the Council carefully look over the noise ordinance. There was some discussion about consistency and that no one situation can override the ordinance.

Motion by Councilman Simpson to adjourn the meeting.

AUTHENTICATION

I, Elizabeth Cheeks, 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 Monday, April 21, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall in the City of Talladega, Alabama.