

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF ARAB, ALABAMA
NOVEMBER 6, 2017**

The City Council of the City of Arab, Alabama, met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. for its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 6, 2017, in Arab City Hall, the time and place scheduled for such meeting.

Mayor Bob Joslin called the meeting to order. Upon roll call, the following answered present:

MIKE ALLEN
MARK GULLION
CHRIS HARPER
JOHNNY HART
RENAE WARREN

Also present were Tony Willis (City Clerk), Summer Bixler (Administrative Assistant), Rodney Edmondson (City Attorney), representatives of the media, and the public.

Mayor Joslin declared a quorum present and opened the meeting for the transaction of business. Council Member Allen led the pledge of allegiance. The invocation was given by Council Member Harper.

The minutes of the October 16, 2017, regular meeting were approved by unanimous vote upon a motion made by Council Member Allen and seconded by Council Member Harper.

Mayor Joslin then moved to staff reports. He reported that as discussed in the Work Session, the Council had agreed with the concept to allowing the Cost of Freedom Veterans Museum, in conjunction with other Veteran organizations, to at least look into first phase of improvement to Veterans Memorial at Arab City Park. However, they are to come back to the council once they have a more concrete plan before they actually begin doing any improvements as the City will need some type of agreement in place. The Mayor then calls on Police Chief Ed Ralston who reported that call volume has increased and APD is currently working under a traffic

grant through state. He also reported that cameras at the park had caught recent vandalism which had been addressed. Next the Mayor calls on Fire Chief Ricky Phillips who reported that fire hydrant testing throughout the city has been completed. Also, AFD will be a collection point for Christmas Coalition. Next, Mr. Eric Hayes from the Arab Recreation Department stated there will be a Veterans Memorial on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and also there will be a Disc Golf tournament during the upcoming month. Ms. Melissa Cook then reported that she will be attending workshops during the coming months and grants are moving along. Ms. Helen Stone from the Street Department stated that paving should be restarting in the next few weeks.

There being no more staff reports, the Mayor then moves to the first board appointment, one position on the Water Board is open for appointment. Mayor Joslin opened the floor for nominations. Council Member Gullion nominated Dr. Catharine Willis. Council Member Hart moved to close the nominations. Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes. Upon roll call, Council Members Hart, Warren, Gullion, Allen and Harper voted yes to appoint Dr. Willis. Mayor Joslin then declared Dr. Willis reappointed to the Water Board based on the vote of the Council.

Next the Mayor stated that there is one board position on the Personnel Grievance Board open for appointment and that Mr. Sid Tidmore has indicated he would like to serve. Mayor Joslin opened the floor for nominations. Council Member Warren nominated Mr. Sid Tidmore. Council Member Allen moved to close the nominations. Council Member Hart seconded and all voted yes. Upon roll call, Council Members Hart, Warren, Gullion, Allen and Harper voted yes to appoint Mr. Tidmore. Mayor Joslin then declared Mr. Tidmore appointed to the Personnel Grievance Board based on the vote of the Council.

Next the Mayor stated that there is one board position on the Library Board open for appointment and reported that Mr. George Pollock has indicated that he desires to continue serving on the Library Board. Mayor Joslin opened the floor for nominations. Council Member Hart nominated Mr. George Pollock. Council Member Allen moved to close the nominations. Council Member Gullion seconded and all voted yes. Upon roll call, Council Members Hart, Warren, Gullion, Allen and Harper voted yes to appoint Mr. Pollock. Mayor Joslin then declared Mr. Pollock reappointed to the Library Board based on the vote of the Council. The Mayor also then reports that he has appointed Mr. Thomas Shelton to the Planning Board as a Mayor's appointment.

With no more board appointments or old business to address, Mayor Joslin then moved to the first item of new business, a resolution to Amend FY 2017-2018 Operating Budget. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the reading of the resolution. Council Member Harper seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the rules. Council Member Warren seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Allen then moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Gullion seconded and all voted yes.

The second item of new business, a consideration of a bid received to facilitate soccer restrooms. Council Member Allen moved to reject the sole bid received to allow the City to further negotiate to determine what the City desires to do regarding the project as the one bid was substantially higher than expected. Council Member Hart seconded and all voted yes to reject the bid received.

The third item of new business, a resolution to declare certain surplus items from City inventory. Council Member Hart moved to suspend the reading of the resolution. Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Harper moved to suspend the rules.

Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Warren then moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes.

The fourth item of new business, an ordinance to amend the City of Arab Zoning Ordinance, No. 2016-3; owner of property located at 10428 US Highway 431 is requesting to rezone said property from M-1 to GB. Mayor then opens the floor for a public hearing. David Jones, attorney for Bancorp South, announced that he was present to answer any questions. Mayor then closed the public hearing after no comments or questions were made. Council Member Hart voiced his concern in changing this zoning as it's the first parcel of property that is seen when coming into the City and he doesn't want it to become an eye sore and asks if this will help the chances of that occurring. Council Member Gullion indicates he thinks there is a better chance of getting a good business who would improve the property with the requested zoning. The Mayor reports that Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve the request. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the reading of the resolution. Council Member Harper seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the rules. Council Member Gullion seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Hart then moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes.

Last item of new business, an ordinance to Amend the City of Arab Zoning Ordinance, No. 2016-3; owner of property located at 10th Street NW is requesting to rezone said property from R-1 to R3-SD. Mayor then opens the floor for a public hearing. Mr. Michael McGee, owner of the property, states that he is planning to develop about two and a half acres and would be glad to answer any questions. The Mayor closes the public hearing and reports that the Planning Commission had unanimously voted to recommend approval of the request. Council Member Harper moved to suspend the reading of the resolution. Council Member Allen seconded and all

voted yes. Council Member Warren moved to suspend the rules. Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Allen then moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Hart seconded and all voted yes.

With no more new business to address, Mayor Joslin then opened up the floor for public comment. Dr. Catherine Willis thanked the Council for reappointing her to the Water Board. Ms. Joyce Utterback was present and she stated that a local Arab group will have a “cash mob” this Saturday and invited all to attend. After the public comments, Council Member Allen moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Harper seconded and all voted yes.