

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF ARAB, ALABAMA
MARCH 18, 2019**

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, March 18, 2019, 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), several city department heads, representatives of the media, and the public.

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

The minutes of the March 4, 2019, regular meeting were approved by unanimous vote upon a motion made by Council Member Allen and seconded by Council Member Warren.

The Mayor reminded Council of items covered during the work session.

With no more staff reports or old business, Mayor Joslin then opened the floor for a public hearing to discuss the approval of conditional use for Arab Electric Cooperative to build a substation at 1411 Brashiers Chapel Road. Arab Electric Cooperative Manager Scott Spence

spoke first. He indicated that he felt everyone was aware of the need for a new substation so he went on to discuss how the proposed site was selected and the due diligence and work that went into the same. He presented TVA's opinion that this location was the most economical. Next Council Member Allen questioned about what went into determining the size of substation. Spence reported that while size was part of their concerns, the real reason was because of caution due to the age of old station. Mr. Kenny Baskin then addressed the fact that he owns property outside of the city limits but beside the proposed site. He does see need for new substation but is concerned about it being close to him. He questions why the need for 37 acres if only 4 to be used and says that he thinks once conditional use is granted they can do anything with property. He thinks it should be moved elsewhere on the property. Council Member Harper then asked the City Attorney if it's true that once approved anything can be done on the property. City Attorney Edmondson stated that a conditional use can only be used for the stated conditional use or a purpose that fit within the normal zoning of the property. Spence responded that the reason for the proposed building location on the site was because that is where TVA and engineers surveyed it for. Council Member Hart then asked if zoning setbacks apply. Kim Johnson responded that yes they would. Colin Walls from Georgia Mountain said he had property under TVA high lines and he knew it greatly devalued property and he was concerned about the same occurring here. He questioned why AEC wouldn't know where TVA lines were going if the site was already selected. Spence responded that TVA will not propose the location of any feeder lines until a site is purchased and approved. Mr. Baskins then raised concerns over mulching occurring on property, as well. Spence explained how that operation would occur and the timing of same. Marshall Beam lives on Shoal Creek Trail and he questioned how TVA takes property and he was concerned over it happening. Spence indicated that he has looked at trying to just revamp the current Main Street

substation and that was not possible. The proposed location was selected as the best efficient and lease cost solution. He also reported that buffers will be planted and put in place to help with some concerns raised by neighbors. Since no one else sought recognition, Mayor Joslin closed the public hearing. Mayor Joslin then moved to the first item of new business, to approve conditional use for the substation. Council Member Allen moved to approve the requested conditional use. Council Member Harper seconded and all voted yes.

Next, the second item of new business, a resolution to authorize Mayor to submit grant application for Alabama Certified Local Government (CLG) Historic Preservation Fund. Council Member Hart moved to suspend the reading of the resolution. Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the rules. Council Member Gullion seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Allen then moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Warren seconded and all voted yes.

With no more new business to address, Mayor Joslin then opened up the floor for public comment. Mr. Robert Avery with the 2020 Census reported they were here and hiring verifiers for canvassing the area. Since no one else sought recognition, Council Member Allen moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Harper seconded and all voted yes.

MAYOR BOB JOSLIN

TONY WILLIS, CITY CLERK