

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF ARAB, ALABAMA
SEPTEMBER 18, 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, September 18, 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 Warren led the pledge of allegiance. The invocation was given by Council Member Gullion.

The minutes of the September 5, 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. Police Chief Ed Ralston reported that Arab City Police Department is assisting with a countywide event in Albertville this month. Melissa Cook stated that the Zaxby's property preparations are continuing and a site plan is being developed. Dameon Pittenger reported that he has been fairly successful in getting multiple ordinance violations in compliance.

There being no more staff reports or old business, the Mayor then moves to the first item of new business, a resolution to Amend FY 2017-2018 Municipal Operating and Capital Budget. 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 Harper seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Allen then moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Warren seconded and all voted yes.

For the second item of new business the Mayor opens the floor for a public hearing to discuss amending the City of Arab Zoning Ordinance No. 2016-3. Kim Johnson reported that this ordinance is meant to give the City a basic sign ordinance and to assist with electronic sign control. She stated that it also made a few amendments that were recently discovered were needed to the Zoning Ordinance. Council Member Harper asked the City Attorney, Rodney Edmondson, if this is compliant with current laws. Mr. Edmondson stated that it is a bare bones ordinance but it does appear to be compliant with the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Reed v. Town of Gilbert in being content neutral but it is still a very untested issue. Council Member Warren states she has some concerns with electronic signs no longer being allowed on Main Street. Council Member Harper agreed and said he too had concerns. Mayor Joslin then closed the floor. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the reading of the resolution. Council Member Gullion seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Gullion moved to suspend the rules. Council Member Warren seconded and all voted no which would make this a “first read” of the Ordinance. Council Member Allen then moved to return the Resolution to the Planning Commission for their further consideration of the Sign Ordinance and to allow them to address these concerns before the Council considers the Ordinance at the next meeting. Council Member Warren seconded and all voted yes.

The last item of new business was to approve bid specifications and solicit bids for restrooms/meeting room facilities at Thompson Eidson Park. Council Member Hart then moved to accept. Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes.

With no more new business to address, Mayor Joslin then opened up the floor for public comment. Since no one 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