

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF ARAB, ALABAMA
AUGUST 16, 2021**

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, August 16, 2021, 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
ALAN MILLER
MITCH STONE

Also present were Tony Willis (City Clerk), Katie Jones (Administrative Assistant), Rodney Edmondson (City Attorney), city department heads, a representative of the media, and the public.

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

The minutes of the August 2, 2021, regular meeting were approved by unanimous vote upon a motion made by Council Member Allen and seconded by Council Member Stone.

The Mayor then moved on to staff reports. He reminded the Council of items covered in the work session.

With no more staff reports or old business to address, Mayor Joslin then moved to the first item of new business, one board appointment on the Arab Housing Authority Board. Mayor Joslin opened the floor for nominations. Council Member Gullion nominated Ms. Karen Burgess. Council Member Allen moved to close the nominations. Council Member Stone seconded and all voted yes. Upon roll call, Council Members Gullion, Allen, Stone and Miller voted yes to appoint Ms. Burgess. Mayor Joslin then declared Ms. Burgess appointed to the Arab Housing Authority Board based on the vote of the Council.

The Mayor then moved to the second item of new business, an agreement between the City of Arab and the Arab Historical Society to memorialize the working relationship between both entities. Council Member Stone moved to approve the agreement. Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes.

Next, the Mayor moved to the third item of new business, a resolution to adjust the budget for the purchasing of FirePro units from the Tobacco Tax Account. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the

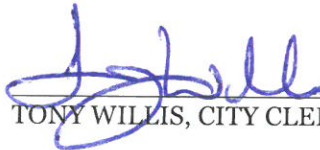
reading of the resolution. Council Member Miller seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Stone moved to suspend the rules of the council. Council Member Miller seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Allen then moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Gullion seconded and all voted yes.

With no more new business to address, Mayor Joslin then welcomed the members of the public and asked if anyone had any comments. Mr. Danny Hawkins of Arab stated that he attended the meeting and was there to talk about the Arab Pee Wee Football league. He heard they were pulling out so he called and spoke to the Coach and spoke at the Pee Wee meeting. The decision was then made by part of the group to stay in Arab. He continued and gave the history of the Arab Pee Wee Football league. The league now has a new board, they are not a travel team, and they just want to go back to the way it was and wants the City's help to allow them to do the same. Ms. Ashley Chambers of 147 Briar Lane in Arab stated that she was the prior president and over past years there have been several problems that have developed with the City's requirements on them. She said they must have gate and concession monies in order to provide services. They talked with Cullman County on April 28, 2021, and decided to go with them and move the league since she said if they don't have concessions, they can't have a league. She also stated that the league built everything that is at the current field. Mr. Jordan Bryant of 50 Brazelton Road in Guntersville stated that the group had a prior agreement with Mr. Eric Hayes of Parks and Rec regarding payment for fields and concessions. It was never mentioned other than they would have to abide by Coke contract and he felt that was sprung on them but they did it. He says it was only then that it was mentioned the City would need a contract and they would need to be a non-profit entity. He stated that they obtained that status and presented by-laws to Hayes. Ms. Brittany Hyatt of 3825 County Highway in Blountsville stated that her family chose to come to Arab to play in the pee wee league and that it has been a blessing. Mr. James Cross of 903 3rd Avenue NW in Arab stated that he believes the pee wee league is great. Ms. Dana Brooks of Blountsville spoke next and said the league is free and has even done charitable events for other causes. Mr. Eric Chambers of 147 Briar Lane in Arab stated that they ensure kids are taken care of. He has seen that many of the kids on Arab's current junior high and high school teams came from the pee wee league. Ms. Diane Richards of 894 Willis Grove in Union Grove said that her grandson has played in the league. Ms. Margaret Eddy of 144 Meadowood Circle stated that she has some paperwork for the league and believes they are a proper legal entity and will provide documentation.

If they had known more than 5 days ago they could have done a better job. Mr. Michael Mitchell of Arab said that his office applied for a Tax ID number but it went into error status and as such the league is not currently a 501(c)(3) entity but is trying. Ms. Taylor Patterson of County Road 1774 said that she is wondering if the City of Arab is going to do maintenance on the fields. Mr. Mike Marsh of Walley Drive in Arab stated that he sees the reasoning behind the City's position as he understands they need to treat everyone the same and be on the same page. The Mayor then called on the City Attorney to provide some information and response to the concerns of the City. The City Attorney stated that the City is only attempting to ensure that all groups and individuals using the City's ballfields are treated the same. The Mayor and Council echoed that the City is not opposed to the pee-wee league and just wants to ensure everyone is treated equal. The Mayor informed those present to get the proper documentation to Eric Hayes and the City Attorney so that they could evaluate. Since no one else sought recognition, Council Member Allen moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Miller seconded and all voted yes.



MAYOR BOB JOSLIN



TONY WILLIS, CITY CLERK

