

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF ARAB, ALABAMA
OCTOBER 2, 2023**

The City Council of the City of Arab, Alabama, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. for its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 2, 2023, 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:

JOHNNY HART
MIKE ALLEN
ALAN MILLER
MITCH STONE
MARK GULLION

Also present were Tony Willis (City Clerk), Katie Jones (Administrative Assistant), Rodney Edmondson (City Attorney), 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 Gullion led the pledge of allegiance. The invocation was given by Council Member Allen.

The minutes of the September 18, 2023, regular meeting was approved by unanimous vote upon a motion made by Council Member Allen and seconded by Council Member Gullion.

Council Member Allen moved to Amend the Agenda to include a nomination for the Water Board Member appointment which had been tabled at the prior meeting, Council Member Miller seconded and all voted yes, except Council Member Hart who voted no. Mayor Joslin reminded the Council of reports made in the work session. The Mayor then moved to the staff reports. With no staff reports, the Mayor then moved to the first item of old business, an Ordinance to Approve Personnel Policy Update-Retiree Health Insurance Changes. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the Rules, Council Member Gullion seconded and all voted yes, except Council Member Stone who abstained. Council Member Gullion moved to Adopt the Ordinance, Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes, except Council Member Stone who abstained. With no other old business, the Mayor then moved to the first item of new business, and declared a Public Hearing and opened the floor for any comments related to the Rezoning of 951 Guntersville Road. Doug Pike said he was concerned that a decision was already made by the Planning Commission, before a hearing ever happened. He thinks there are plenty of business spaces in town and not enough residential spaces. Teresa Martin said she agreed with Doug's comments. She said she is also concerned if an exit/entrance on Mt. Oak was included as part of the traffic study. Randy Martin says he is satisfied with the way the Mayor had addressed a street sign issue he brought up to him. He also requested a street light on Mt. Oak and 9th Street because it is dark. He then states that he is also against the requested rezone. Council Member Alan thanked the neighbors who had made comments but said he believes that the Planning Commission is put there for a purpose and he trusts that they have fully evaluated this matter in reaching their conclusion and that he hasn't heard anything new or different to persuade him. Kim Johnson reported that both the Planning Commission and Rezoning Sub-Committee

unanimously recommended approval. With no one else present that sought recognition the Mayor closed the Public Hearing. The Mayor then moved to the second item of new business, consideration of an Ordinance to Rezone 951 Guntersville Road from R-1 to NC. Council Member Hart moved to suspend the reading, Council Member Allen seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Stone moved to suspend the Rules, Council Member Hart seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Hart moved to Adopt the Ordinance, Council Member Gullion seconded and all voted yes. The Mayor then declared the Ordinance had passed and the Property would be rezoned upon publication of the Ordinance.

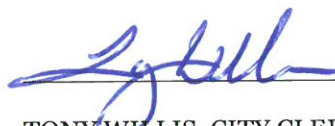
Next the Mayor moved to the third item of new business, a Resolution to Adopt the FY2023-2024 Operating Budget. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the reading, Council Member Miller seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Hart moved to suspend the Rules, Council Member Stone seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Hart commented and asked the Mayor if despite items being indicated in the budget as proposed expenses, the items that required purchases would come back before the Council and this would not bind the Council's decision. The Mayor indicated that would be correct for any purchases or expenditures which exceeded the bid law thresholds set by Alabama law. Council Member Allen then moved to Adopt the Resolution, Council Member Miller seconded and all voted yes. Next the Mayor moved to the fourth item of new business, a Resolution to Approve the GMC Park Master Plan Proposal. Council Member Allen moved to suspend the reading, Council Member Miller seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Stone moved to suspend the Rules, Council Member Hart seconded and all voted yes. Council Member Allen then moved to Adopt the Resolution, Council Member Hart seconded and all voted yes.

Next the Mayor moved to the fifth item of new business, consideration of a Water Board Appointment. Mayor Joslin opened the floor for nominations for the Appointment. Council Member Allen nominated Catherine Willis for the position. Council Member Miller moved to close the nominations. Council Member Allen seconded, all voted yes. Council Member Hart asked for discussion and stated that he had already previously discussed the issues that he had with re-appointing Ms. Willis or any of the other members. Upon roll call, Council Members Gullion, Hart, Stone, Allen, and Miller voted yes to reappoint Catherine Willis to the Water Board. The Mayor then declared Catherine Willis reappointed to the Water Board.

Mayor Joslin then opened up the floor for public comment. Water Board Member Renee Warren confirmed that Council Member Hart and others did talk to her about specific issues that the Council wanted addressed if she were on placed on the Water Board but that once she got on the Board, she realized that the Water Board is much bigger than just the Arab City. She continued to express concerns of the Water Board & City needing to work together. With no one else desiring to comment, Council Member Allen moved to adjourn the meeting and Council Member Miller seconded and all voted yes.



MAYOR BOB JOSLIN



TONY WILLIS, CITY CLERK