

## **MINUTES**

### **CITY OF HARTFORD, ALABAMA**

### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**March 4, 2024**

**JOHNNY HUGHES COMMUNITY CENTER OF HARTFORD ALABAMA 405 SOUTH THIRD AVENUE, HARTFORD, ALABAMA 36344**

**ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Wendel Nolen, Councilmembers Melissa Clements, Ted Thompson, Zane Fowler, Paul Fondren and Ron Adams.

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** City Clerk Melissa Rosser, Interim Police Chief Zac Cooke, Chief Mark Shehee. See attachment for others present.

**CALL TO ORDER-** The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**PRAYER AND PLEDGE-** Councilmember Ted Thompson led the prayer which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 20, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING-** Council member Paul Fondren made a motion to approve minutes as read. Council member Zane Fowler seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 29, 2024 WORK SESSION-** Council member Paul Fondren made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Council member Zane Fowler seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** –Darrell Terry stated that he would like to speak on behalf of his neighbor Daniel Hart. He had issues with his power bill for several months and his meter was replaced. The mayor informed Mr.Hart that he was sending off the meter to have it tested and he has not heard back. He also stated that he went to the post office and stopped by City Hall, and noticed the lights were on by the flag. He asked if this was supposed to happen. Mayor Nolen told him that it was probably a mishap.

Bobby Bailey came forward to bring to the council's attention that the area on Radford and 123 is very congested and hes concerned that an accident is going to happen. Council member Melissa Clements stated that she has already contacted the police about this area and there are no ordinances in place for parking on the streets and until this is changed, nothing can be done. She is also concerned. Mr. Bailey stated that there is also a rotten tree on 123 that may be on the city's property, and he asked that it be checked. Mr.Bailey wanted to know what the status of the Police Chief position is. He asked if we were taking applications and doing interviews and why we haven't hired Zach Cooke. Mayor Nolen stated that this is a process, and they are handling it. He stated that there had been several applications and that we will begin interviews quickly.

**APPROVE MILLAGE RATE 2024-** Mayor Nolen stated that the current millage rate was at 6.8% and he made a motion that we keep it the same. Zane Fowler made a motion to keep the millage rate at 6.8%. Council member Paul Fondren seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE 03-04-24-1-** Ordinance 03-04-24-1 for garbage states that an additional can will be available for purchase at the cost of \$76.00 per can. This ordinance amends the previous Ordinance 02-05-18-1 stating the trash cans will cost \$52.00 each. Paul Fondren made a motion to adopt Ordinance 03-04-24-1. Zane Fowler seconded the motion. Attorney Bart Boothe stated that the motion was handled incorrectly. Paul Fondren made a motion to withdraw his motion. Zane Fowler seconded. Paul Fondren stated that he wished to suspend the rules. Zane Fowler seconded the withdrawal. Paul Fondren made a request for unanimous consent to adopt Ordinance 03-04-24-1. Zane Fowler seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS-** Mayor Nolen would like to let council members be aware of a luncheon on Thursday March 7 @ 11am for the Geneva County Farm City Social. Please RSVP. He would like to let the city know that the city has applied for the 2025 Congressional Spending Request for a Lagoon Rehab Project. He would like to let the city know that the air testing that was approved at the previous council meeting was postponed due to the company having to replace some equipment. They will return and resume when they have the equipment. Mayor Nolen stated that Ronnie Driskell would like to attend the next work session or meeting to go over the ADEM grant that the city agreed to apply for. He would like to review water and sewer rates with the council. Mayor Nolen asked the council if they could participate in a work session after the next council meeting to discuss. Mayor Nolen stated that Jessie Quillen will be attending the next council meeting to discuss some Economic Development ideas that he has put together.

Councilman Paul Fondren stated that the Father Daughter Dance was a huge success and that he wanted to publicly say thank you to everyone that helped.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS –** Chief Mark Shehee would like to say thank you to everyone that made the Winston Howell race a success. There was a good turnout. Mark wants the city to be aware that the Wounded Warrior walk will be coming through Hartford this weekend. The rescue will help cover EMS for a certain portion of the walk.

**ADJOURNMENT-** Mayor Nolen asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council member Paul Fondren made a motion to adjourn. Council member Zane Fowler seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.



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Presiding Officer

CITY OF HARTFORD  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
March 4, 2024

Please **Print** Name

Heather Brockshaw

Jo Ann Bush

Anybella Ricardo (Reaper)

Jim Chert

Saul Eller Thompson

Darrell Terry

Bobby Bailey

Alfred Hilliard

Sigee Williams