

MINUTES

CITY OF HARTFORD, ALABAMA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 7, 2023

JOHNNY HUGHES COMMUNITY CENTER COURTROOM, 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: Police Chief Annie Ward, City Magistrate Vernon Alford, Utility Superintendent Jerry Sorrells, and Chief Phillip Herring. See Attachment for others present.

CALL TO ORDER- The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE- Councilmember Paul Fondren led the prayer which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR WENDEL NOLEN – Explained to everyone in attendance the rules of the Council meetings, agenda items, public comments, and business part of the meetings.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEMBER RON ADAMS TO TAKE THE MINUTES FOR AUGUST 7, 2023 MEETING – Council member Melissa Clements made a motion for Council member Ron Adams to take the minutes for the August 7, 2023 meeting. Council member Zane Fowler made the second to the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 17, 2023 – Council member Paul Fondren made a motion to approve the minutes. Council member Zane Fowler made the second to the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM JEANNA BRANNON – Jeanna Brannon asked for updates on various projects, financial updates, and matters that she has addressed in the past.

COMMENTS FROM PAMELA VINES – Pamela Vines did not show up for the meeting.

REAPPOINT JERRY SORRELLS AS UTILITY SUPERINTENDENT - Council member Paul Fondren made a motion to reappoint Jerry Sorrells as Utility Superintendent. Council member Zane Fowler made the second to the motion. Mayor Nolen called for a roll call vote. Mayor Wendel Nolen - Yea, Council members Melissa Clements – Yea,

Ted Thompson – Yea, Zane Fowler – Yea, Paul Fondren – Yea, and Ron Adams – Yea. The motion was passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

Ms. Alfreda Hilliard stated Ollie Glass Street had a road sign needing repaired and sewage at Ms. Laura Dix house. Jerry Sorrells stated he would look into these issues.

Mr. Darryl Terry stated he wanted all the city officials to resign if the city wasn't straightened out by February 2024.

Ms. Jeanna Brannon stated she wants public comments later during the meetings after the agenda items because she didn't want to wait until the next meeting to address the Council.

Ms. Diane Copeland stated she has brown water coming from her house. Mayor Nolen stated the city took numerous samples at the meter and had them tested. The results of the test were clean/clear water.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Mayor Wendel Nolen stated the Constellation power contract for 5 years has been signed. Mayor Wendel Nolen stated the sewer projects are still ongoing. Mayor Wendel Nolen stated the potholes have been repaired.

Council member Melissa Clements named several people/organizations that could help our citizens with their utility bill. Council member Melissa Clements stated Radford Street sign needs to be looked at. Council member Melissa Clements made comments concerning overtime for all departments. Council member Melissa Clements made comments about part time employees working more than 30 hours a week. Council member Melissa Clements stated she wants to stop the second rescue crew. Chief Phillip Herring explained what the second crew does and explained their amount of runs and service they provide the city. Chief Phillip Herring explained the Fire and Resue department budget numbers concerning overtime and answered Council member Melissa Clements questions.

Council member Ted Thompson made a comment about things getting fixed such as our water wells and outfall lines cost money to repair. Council member Ted Thompson stated we all must make adjustments to receive grants. Council member Ted Thompson asked the citizens to understand. Council member Ted Thompson is concerned about lead pipes. Council member Ted Thompson stated some organizations are willing to help so for all of us to be prepared for adjustments.

Council member Paul Fondren thanked Jerry Sorrells for the road repairs. Council member Paul Fondren thanked Chief Annie Ward for the school support.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS – No comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT- Mayor Nolen asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council member Paul Fondren made the motion which was seconded by Council member Zane Fowler. The motion was passed unanimously.



Presiding Officer