

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2021

The Enterprise City Council convened in Work Session at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 19, 2021 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

PRESENT: Council President Turner Townsend, District #5
Council President Pro-Tem Sonya W. Rich, District #1
Council Member Eugene Goolsby, District #2
Council Member Greg Padgett, District #3
Council Member Scotty Johnson, District #4

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William E. Cooper
Interim City Clerk/Treasurer Beverly Sweeney was present and kept the minutes.
City Attorney Rainer Cotter
Jonathan Tullos

ROLL CALL – Council President Townsend noted that all Council Members were present.

DEPT. HEAD PAY ADJUSTMENTS

Council Members discussed proposed Resolution 01-19-20-A, providing to approve a one-time salary increase and/or payment to the following Department Heads based on additional duties assumed during their tenure as either Interim Department Heads and/or for additional duties involving programs and work implemented.

- Staci Hayes
 - Beverly Sweeney
 - Michael Moore
 - Tammy Doerer
- Cassidi Kendrick
 - Christina Meissner
 - Shannon Roberts

Recommendation was made by Mayor Cooper to approve the salary adjustments as presented. Following discussion, all Council Members spoke in favor of placing the proposed resolution on the January 19, 2021 agenda.

NEW ENTERPRISE, LLC HOTEL INCENTIVES

Wiregrass Economic Development Corporation Director Jonathan Tullos discussed a request from New Enterprise, LLC for economic development incentives totaling \$400,000 to pay for a portion of the costs of acquiring a franchisee to develop, construct, equip and operate a Marriott or Hilton branded hotel at Camellia Commons. Mr. Tullos said the city was approached around a year and a half ago with a hotel looking to come into the Enterprise market, but the potential project was delayed due to COVID. The developer would commit to a Marriott or Hilton branded hotel with a minimum of 80 rooms and must break ground within 18 months of the Council approving the incentive. If the developer fails to maintain the Marriott or Hilton flag at the property for a period of three years, the developer would be required to pay back the incentive at a prorated rate. The incentive would be paid once the developer has had the property open and in operation for 90 consecutive days. Based on Mr. Tullos' estimates, the city would be made whole within 23 months at the latest, 10 months at the earliest. The public benefit to be achieved by the incentives are economic growth and an anticipated increase in new employment and tax revenues which will directly benefit the city and serve a valid purpose. A public hearing will be held in accordance with Amendment 723 of the Constitution of Alabama, 1901 prior to consideration of the request.

JOB OPENING - Police Chief

Discussion was held regarding the process for evaluating applications received for the position of Chief of Police. Starting from the list of 14 applicants, Council Members will each choose their top five choices to move forward. Council Members will then narrow the field to three final candidates who will be publicly interviewed by the Council.

JOB OPENING - City Administrator

Council Members requested Human Resources Director Christina Meissner to close the posting for the position of City Administrator. Mayor Cooper will work with the Council to review applications, as this position is filled at the recommendation of the Mayor.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Council Members reviewed the proposed agenda for the January 19, 2021 Council Meeting. Following questions and comments, a recommendation was made by Council President Townsend to approve the Regular Agenda as submitted with the following revision noted below:

ADD: Review & Consider Resolution 01-19-21-A

The consensus of the Council was to proceed with the amendment as recommended.

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council President Townsend informed those in attendance that items pending before the Council involved issues requiring legal advice and counsel and requested an Executive Session. Council Member Goolsby offered the motion to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Council Member Johnson. All Members – Aye. The President declared the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ALABAMA OPEN MEETINGS LAW

At 5:25 p.m., Attorney Rainer Cotter appeared before the Council and stated that items pending before the Council involved issues requiring legal advice and counsel.

STATE OF ALABAMA)

CITY OF ENTERPRISE)

MINUTES EXCERPTS AND MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION
PURSUANT TO THE ALABAMA OPEN MEETINGS LAW
A05-0145

WHEREAS, the Enterprise City Council with a quorum being present, was conducting a meeting on the 19th day of January, 2021, the time, date, place and agenda of which were duly announced and notices of which were posted in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Law, Act 2005-40 (Act);

WHEREAS, the following persons were in attendance: Council Members Rich, Goolsby, Padgett, Johnson and Townsend. Council President Townsend presided over the meeting. Mayor William E. Cooper was also present. City Attorney Rainer Cotter was present; and,

WHEREAS, during the course of said meeting, a motion was made by Council Member Goolsby for the Council to go into Executive Session for the purpose of legal advice and counsel, being one of the following purposes authorized by the Act:

- Reputation and Character
- Legal Advice and Counsel
- Security Plans
- State and/or Federal Law
- Law Enforcement
- Real Estate Transactions
- Trade Secrets
- Public Employee Negotiations
- Quasi-Judicial Deliberations

Which motion was seconded by Council Member Johnson; and,

WHEREAS, the Attorney advised the Council that a declaration was required by the Act for an Executive Session if it was in regard to any of the following purposes:

- Legal Advice and Counsel
- Law Enforcement
- Trade Secrets
- Employee Negotiations

WHEREAS, Attorney Rainer Cotter appeared before the Council and stated for the record that he/she was duly qualified and/or had the personal knowledge to provide the requisite declaration for the stated purpose of the Executive Session authorized by the Act and informed the Council that an Executive Session was necessary for the following reason:

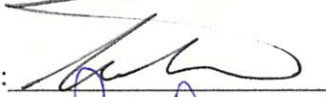
Discussion of issues requiring legal advice and counsel.

WHEREAS, the President directed the City Attorney to enter into said motion, purpose and declaration into the minutes of the meeting and called for a vote on said motion; and,


WHEREAS, said vote in regard to the motion for Executive Session was taken with the "yeas" and "nays" being recorded into the minutes as follows:

	<u>Yeas</u>	<u>Nays</u>
1. Rich		
2. Goolsby		
3. Padgett		
4. Johnson		
5. Townsend		

And the President declared that a majority of the votes being in favor of the motion, that such motion had therefore passed and the Council would forthwith recess into Executive Session at 5:25 p.m. for the purpose as stated in said motion and no other purpose, in accordance with the Act and reconvene in approximately 30 minutes.

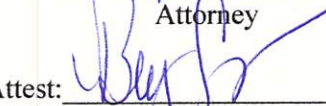
By: 

President

By: 

Attorney

Attest: 

Attest: 

RECONVENE/RECESS WORK SESSION


The Work Session was recessed into Executive Session at 5:25 p.m. and reconvened into Work Session at 6:00 p.m. after duly made motion and second with all ayes. The President declared the Executive Session adjourned and recessed the Work Session.

RECONVENE WORK SESSION

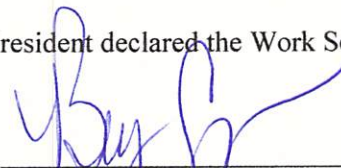
The Work Session was recessed at 6:00 p.m. and reconvened at 6:40 p.m. The Council entered into Executive Session and upon motion duly made and passed the Executive Session was closed at 7:00 p.m. and the Work Session was reconvened.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the President declared the Work Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



Turner Townsend
Council President



Beverly Sweeney
Interim City Clerk/Treasurer