WORK SESSION MEETING

June 25th, 2019

The Bessemer City Council met in work session on Tuesday, June 25th, 2019 at 3:00PM in Council Chambers. Proper notice was given.

Call to Order

Mayor Becky S. Smith called the meeting to order.

Members Present

Mayor Becky Smith, Council Members: Donnie Griffin, Sonny Boyd, Kay McCathen and Alfred Carpenter were all present. Also present were City Manager, James Inman, department heads, and City intern Mikel Graham. Council members Joe Will and Dan Boling were absent.

2018-2019 Budget Amendments

City Manager Inman addressed Council regarding the final 2018-2019 budget amendments. As the fiscal year ends, the books must be balanced and the appropriate money accrued back.

By motion of Alfred Carpenter and unanimous vote, the 2018-2019 budget amendment were approved. A copy of said budget amendments are available for citizen review at City Hall.

Department Head Reports

Bessemer City Department heads gave reports on their department status:

Chief Ellis informed Council that Police Department is doing well. The morale is high as officers are appreciative of their jobs and Council. Chief Ellis also commended JoD, Parks & Recreation Director on a job well done on the 2019 Sounds of Summer Cruise-In Series.

Finance Director, Diane Jenkins updated Council on the status of the new financial software. Ms. Jenkins also informed Council that the auditor would be here in the week to come.

Economic Development Officer, Joshua Ross informed Council that work to revise the UDO and land use plan has begun. Just last week over 20-25 community members had attended one of the three meetings to identify goals and needs for the community as we move forward. Also, City staff has begun accepting Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications. Citizens in the area south of the Osage Mill are asked to complete an application if they would like to receive assistance. Applications will be taken until August 9th. Blossoms, a new restaurant is considering applying for a façade and rehab grant, as the restaurant would like to expand its kitchen.

Parks & Recreation Director, JoD Franklin addressed Council regarding Swimming Pool operations and lifeguards. The pool is going well, considering the large amounts of rain. However, as we head into the week of July 4th, we expect to see a change in weather and attendance up.

City Manager's Report

City Manager, James Inman informed Council that the Public Work building is still progressing. Upgrades to the City's water plant and the Stinger Park project are still underway. The Police Department currently still has two openings available for any interested parties.

In an effort to streamline City code enforcement services, Mr. Inman also requested that the Code Enforcement division be moved back to City Hall.

By general consensus, the Code Enforcement division will be moved back to City Hall at 132 West Virginia Avenue.

Council General Discussion
Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. There was none.

Adjourn
Being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:12 PM by motion of Alfred Carpenter and unanimous vote.

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Becky S. Smith, Mayor Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk