WORK SESSION MEETING

September 24th, 2019

The Bessemer City Council met in work session on Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at 2:30PM 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: Dan Boling, Donnie Griffin, Sonny Boyd, Joe Will, Kay McCathen and Alfred Carpenter were all present. Also present were City Manager, James Inman, Department Heads, City Interns, special visitors: Steven Miller of Withers Ravenel and Nick Lattanzi, USDA Rural Development Specialist.

Special Presentation- USDA

Nick Lattanzi of the Shelby, NC office of USDA addressed Council regarding a grant. Mr. Lattanzi informed Council that a resolution adopting the letter of conditions and loan for the Stinger Park project must be approved, so that the City could formally accept USDA grant funds.

By motion of Alfred Carpenter, seconded by Dan Boling and a 6 (affirmative) to 0 (opposing) vote, the resolution adopting the letter of conditions and loan regarding grant funds was adopted. A copy of the letter of conditions has been attached for citizen review.

Water Plant Study

Steven Miller of Withers Ravenel addressed Council regarding a recent water plant study. Mr. Miller explained to Council that this was a status update to a study that the City has previously performed over the years. The study included a thorough review of Council's options regarding the continuance or cease of water plant operations.

Light discussion was held between Council and Mr. Miller. After further discussion, Council decided that it would be more financially feasible for the water plant to remain open.

Department Head Reports

Bessemer City department heads gave reports on their department's status:

JoD Franklin, Parks and Recreation Director- Mr. Franklin addressed Council regarding the 2020 Community Concerts & Cruise-Ins band schedule. Mr. Franklin has worked hard to secure the bands and has produced a copy of the schedule to be used for advertisement.

Josh Ross, Economic Development Officer- Mr. Ross explained that the City would have a booth at GO Gaston's 1st annual "Go Fest" on Thursday, September 26th. "Go Fest" is an event created to assist GO Gaston with the kick off of a month long celebration in Gaston County called "Go" month. "Go" month is a monthly celebration designed to showcase the wonderful happenings and economic development opportunities in Gaston County.

BEE City USA
City Staff is seeking Council approval to apply for "BEE City USA" designation. This designation would be something similar to that of "Keep Bessemer City Beautiful". Council would appoint a board that would be geared towards preservation of nature and an ecological focus on making the world safer for nature's pollinators.

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 3:58 PM by motion of Alfred Carpenter and unanimous vote.

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