REGULAR MEETING October 14th, 2019

The Bessemer City Council met in regular session on Monday, October 14th, 2019 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of City Hall.

Members Present

Mayor, Becky S. Smith, Council Members: Alfred Carpenter, Sonny Boyd, Kay McCathen, Dan Boling, Joe Will, and Donnie Griffin were all present. City Manager, James Inman and City Attorney, David Smith were present.

Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. First United Methodist Pastor, Tripp Hord led the audience in prayer. Mayor Smith led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the October Agenda

By motion of Alfred Carpenter and unanimous vote, the October agenda was approved with no revisions.

Special Presentations & Recognition

Police Officer Oath-Brett Parrish

Mayor Smith administered the Oath of Office to Brett Parrish, Police Officer with the City of Bessemer City. All present were encouraged to congratulate the new employee.

Police Officer Oath-Arthur (Dale) Collins

Mayor Smith administered the Oath of Office to Arthur Collins, Police Officer with the City of Bessemer City. All present were encouraged to congratulate the new employee.

Police Officer Oath-Billy McAllister

Mayor Smith administered the Oath of Office to Billy McAllister, Police Officer with the City of Bessemer City. All present were encouraged to congratulate the new employee.

Student Appreciation- Students from Bessemer City High School, Bessemer City Middle School, Bessemer City Central Elementary School, and Bessemer City Primary School were recognized by their principals and City Council as part of the Student Appreciation Program:

Dr. Sheila Wyont, Principal of Bessemer City High School, and Mayor Smith, recognized the following students of the month: Ashley Mull, 9th grade representative; Hannah Varadi, 10th grade representative; Sierra Logan, 11th grade representative, and Lindsey Swanson, 12th grade representative.

Dr. Mellon, Principal of Bessemer City Middle School, and Mayor Smith, recognized the following students of the month: Tristen Kiser, 6th grade representative; Addision Wallace, 7th grade representative; and Destiny Vernon 8th grade representative.

Mrs. Caroline Black, Principal of Bessemer City Central Elementary, and Mayor Smith, recognized the following students of the month: Landon Love, 3rd grade representative; Harlee Owens, 4th grade representative; and Jaystaria Gill, 5th grade representative.

Dr. Conley, Principal of Bessemer City Primary School, and Mayor Smith, recognized the following students of the month: Benjamin Floyd, Kindergarten representative; Charley Floyd, 1st grade representative; and Micah Grooms, 2nd grade representative.

Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment

Mayor Smith opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals came forward:

- Dr. Robert Crouch of ABC Board Dr. Crouch addressed Council regarding the ABC board. Dr. Crouch serves as Board Chairman, and informed Council that the board would be contributing $16,000 to the City for capital improvements.
- Brent Dolson of 505 S. 13th Street Mr. Dolson addressed Council regarding code enforcement. Mr. Dolson thanked the Code Enforcement Officer, Dave Taylor for dealing with an ongoing nuisance in his neighborhood.
- Monroe Taylor of 608 E. Ohio Avenue Mrs. Taylor addressed Council regarding code enforcement. Mr. Taylor thanked Code Enforcement Officer, Dave Taylor for doing a great job. Mr. Taylor also commended City Manager Inman and the Police Department for improving the quality of life for Bessemer City citizens.
- Ken Bain of 207 E. Maryland Avenue Mr. Bain addressed Council regarding code enforcement. Mr. Bain stated that the City has been doing a great job in code enforcement and the appearance of the town.
- Roxanne Mason of 207 E. Maryland Avenue Mrs. Mason addressed Council regarding code enforcement. Mrs. Mason stated that the Code Enforcement Officer, Dave Taylor and the City have done a good job improving the community. A cleaner community brings attracts new people and businesses.

Consent Agenda

The following items on the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved by motion of Kay McCathen:

- Approval of Minutes- Regular Meeting Minutes of September 9th, 2019 and Work Session Meeting Minutes of September 24th, 2019.
- Temporary Street Closure- Community Tree Lighting & Christmas in the City Festival and Parade- City Staff is requesting a temporary street closure of the 100 block of West Virginia Avenue for Parks & Recreation Community Tree Lighting on Saturday, November 30th at 6:30 PM, and on Friday, December 6th at 5:00 PM for the Christmas in the City festival and parade.

Establish Public Hearing- Voluntary Annexation 8th Street Church of God

City Manager Inman presented Council with a petition received from 8th Street Church of God expressing their desire to be annexed into the corporate limits of Bessemer City.
Council discussed the annexation with staff.

Upon motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, a public hearing was set for November 12th at the Regular City Council Meeting to hear public comment regarding the petition for voluntary annexation. This public hearing will be advertised as required by General Statute.

Resolution Directing Clerk to Investigate- Voluntary Annexation 8th Street Church of God
City Clerk Hayes is hereby directed to investigate the voluntary annexation of the 8th street Church of God to ensure General Statute.

Upon motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the resolution was adopted. A copy is on file at City Hall.

Ordinance- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Neighborhood Revitalization Project Budget
City Staff informed Council that this was a needed update to the original CDBG budget.

By motion Joe Will and unanimous vote, City Council adopted the ordinance to update the CDBG budget. A copy of this ordinance is available at City Hall.

City Manager's Report
City Manager, James Inman addressed Council regarding the new Public Works building. The new Public Works building is a little behind, but we are still expected to have the project completed within a reasonable time. All buildings are completed, and we are currently working on the storm drain on Lee Street.

City Council General Discussion
Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. Mayor Smith led the discussion by thanking everyone for calling and checking on her after her recent surgery. Mayor Smith thanked Mayor Pro Tem, Joe Will for chairing the meeting last month. Council member, Dan Boling inquired about enforcement regarding bright lights on pickup trucks at night. Council member, Kay McCathen inquired about how the City plans to complete the 2020 Census. City Manager Inman informed Ms. McCathen that a plan was in place and that City Intern, Sarahanne Smith and City Clerk, Hydeia Hayes would be handling the project. Information regarding the Census has been placed in mailers and placed on the LED sign downtown. Council member, Alfred Carpenter commended the Mayor and City Manager on a job well done throughout the City. Council member, Donnie Griffin thanked City Manager Inman and City staff for cleaning up the cemetery.

Adjourn
Being no further business to come before the board, by motion of Alfred and unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

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