REGULAR MEETING **February 10th, 2020**

The Bessemer City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 10th, 2020 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. Council member, Kay McCathen led the audience in prayer. Mayor Smith led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the February Agenda

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

Special Presentations & Recognition

Student Appreciation- Students from Bessemer City High 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. Tom Potter, Assistant Principal of Bessemer City High School, and Mayor Smith, recognized the following students of the month: Xavier Figueroa, 9th grade representative; David Sheppard, 10th grade representative; Zariyah Gamble, 11th grade representative, and Catlyn Whisenant, 12th grade representative.

Ms. Cathy Morrison, 4th Grade Teacher of Bessemer City Central Elementary, and Mayor Smith, recognized the following students of the month: Brooklyn McDaniel, 3rd grade representative; Naomi Ramirez Velasco, 4th grade representative; and Chase Holliday, 5th grade representative.

Dr. Conley, Principal of Bessemer City Primary School, and Mayor Smith, recognized the following students of the month: Kamber Larrick, Kindergarten representative; Tyshawn Glover, 1st grade representative; and Oswaldo Mendez, 2nd grade representative.

Consent Agenda

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

- Approval of Minutes- Regular Meeting Minutes of January 13th, 2020 and Work Session Meeting Minutes of January 28th, 2020.

Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment

Mayor Smith opened the floor for public comment. There was none.

Resolution-Title VI Policy

City Manager, James Inman informed Council that formal policy addressing non-discriminatory practices was needed to comply with NC Department of Transportation. This policy will ensure that no persons are discriminated against based on color, origin, etc. as the City receives federal funding.

By motion of Joe Will and unanimous vote, the resolution formally adopting a Title VI policy was approved.

Offer to Purchase City Property

City Manager, James Inman informed Council that during the advertising of an initial bid for 127 West Pennsylvania Avenue, they received an upset bid from J & M Holdings in Belmont, NC for $57,300. The new bid amount was advertised once more, and no other bids were received. Thus, City staff recommend that Council accept the bid to purchase property.

By motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, the offer to purchase City property at 127 West Pennsylvania for $57,300 was approved.

City with a Heart Day Proclamation

Mayor, Becky S. Smith read the City with a Heart Day Proclamation aloud and declared Friday, February 14th, 2020 as City with a Heart Day. All present were encouraged to perform random acts of kindness on this day.

By motion of Kay McCathen and unanimous vote, the proclamation was adopted. A copy of the proclamation is available at City Hall.

African-American History Month Proclamation

Mayor, Becky S. Smith read the African-American History Month Proclamation aloud and declared February 2020 as African-American History Month. All present were encouraged to pay tribute to the noble struggle of African-Americans and attend programs that honor their significant contributions.

By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the proclamation was adopted. A copy of the proclamation is available at City Hall.

Budget Amendments

City Manager, James Inman presented Council with budget amendments regarding the purchase of essential City equipment.

By motion of Alfred Carpenter and unanimous vote, the February 2020 budget amendments were approved.

City Manager's Report

City Manager, James Inman addressed Council regarding the progress of the Public Works building. Stinger Park Bids that came in higher than expected. Thus, staff and USDA officials are working to lower cost.

Mr. Inman also asked Council to cancel the February 2020 Work Session, as the Planning Retreat will take place two days later. By general consensus, Council canceled the February 2020 Work Session.

City Council General Discussion

Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. Council member, Dan Boling expressed his concern with Gaston County animal control. Council member, Joe Will inquired about the recycling audit program. Mr. Inman informed Mr. Will that door hangers had been acquired, and that we are waiting on Waste Pro.

Adjourn

Being no further business to come before the board, by motion of Alfred and unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

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