REGULAR MEETING August 10th, 2020

The Bessemer City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 10th, 2020 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of City Hall.

Members Present

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

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

Appointment of Council Member

Mayor Smith informed the Board that someone needed to be appointed to complete Mr. Sonny Boyd's term.

By motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, Brenda Boyd was appointed to complete Sonny Boyd's term for Ward 4 until November 2023.

Oath of Office: City Council Member

Mayor Smith administered the oath to Mrs. Brenda Boyd and presented her with a proclamation in recognition of her deceased husband, Sonny Boyd. Mayor Smith invited everyone present to congratulate her and remember Sonny Boyd's legacy.

Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment

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

Consent Agenda

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

- Approval of Minutes- Regular Meeting Minutes of June 8th, 2020, and Work Session Meeting Minutes of June 30th & July 28th, 2020.

Establish Public Hearing- System Development Study Fee

The City of Bessemer City is considering adopting a system development fee and is seeking input from citizens. A study to determine the fee that is charged for sewer and water access is needed.

Input from the public will be received during a required 45 day period until September 13th, 2020. After which, City Staff would like to hold a public hearing at the next City Council meeting.

By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, a public hearing regarding a system development fee study will be held Monday, September 14th, 2020 at 7:00PM in Council Chambers.

Public Hearing- CDBG Scope Amendment

The City was awarded Community Development Block Grant-Neighborhood Revitalization funds from the NC Department of Commerce. As part of the required process the City has worked to complete an environmental review to show if the project will have any environmental impacts. Upon the submission of the environmental review documents to the State they requested that the City change the scope of the project by reducing the number of homes to be rehabilitated. The State had concerns that the budget would not allow the rehabilitation of 16 homes which is what was stated in the original application. The State has suggested instead that the City rehabilitate 10-12 homes. In order to change the scope of a CDBG-NR project you must hold a public hearing and allow the public an opportunity to provide input. The purpose of the public hearing tonight is to inform and allow the public to provide input on the proposed scope change for the CDBG-NR project. The change in scope will reduce the number of homes to be rehabilitated from 16 to between 10-12.

By motion of Kay McCathen and unanimous vote, the public hearing was opened at 7:16PM.

Mayor Smith asked if there was anyone to speak in favor of the CDBG Scope Amendment. There was none.

Mayor Smith asked if there was anyone to speak in opposition of the CDBG Scope Amendment. There was none.

By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the public hearing to consider the CDBG Scope Amendment was closed at 7:18PM.

Approve CDBG Scope Amendment

City Staff informed Council that the recommendation to reduce the number of homes came from the State. Amending the Scope would not disrupt the program, as the participants have not yet been notified. If the amendment is made, the Selection Committee will meet once more to reduce the number of homes rehabilitated.

By motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, the CDBG Scope Amendment to reduce the number of homes from 16 to 10-12 was approved.

Resolution- Cleveland, Gaston, and Lincoln Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mayor Smith read the resolution aloud. City Manager Inman informed Council that a mitigation plan is needed to receive federal funding. Said resolution also makes it possible to apply for federal funding during the event of a local emergency.

By motion of Kay McCathen and unanimous vote, the resolution regarding the Cleveland, Gaston, and Lincoln Regional Hazard mitigation plan was approved.

City Manager's Report

City Manager, James Inman addressed Council regarding COVID updates, Public Works debris collection and Stinger Park.

City Council General Discussion

Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. Mayor Smith led the discussion by welcoming the newest City Council Member, Brenda Boyd. Council member, Dan Boling welcomed Brenda as well and inquired about the Osage Mill redevelopment project. Council member, Donnie Griffin thanked everyone for the plant his wife received after her procedure.

Adjourn

Being no further business to come before the board, by motion of Alfred and unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.

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