## REGULAR MEETING November 9th, 2020

The Bessemer City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 9th, 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, David Smith were present.

**Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. Olin Byrum, First Baptist Pastor led the audience in prayer. Mayor Smith invited all present Veterans to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the November Agenda**

By motion of Alfred Carpenter and unanimous vote, the November agenda was approved.

**Special Presentations & Recognition**

Bessemer City Police Department- Mayor and City Council recognized Captain Erin Long of the Bessemer City Police Department. Captain Long recently received her Advanced Law Enforcement certificate. Mayor Smith and Police Chief, Ellis invited everyone present to congratulate Captain Long.

Bessemer City Administration Department- Mayor and City Council recognized Diane Jenkins of the Bessemer City Administration Department. Diane was recently selected as a finalist for the Chief Financial Officer of the Year Award presented by the Charlotte Business Journal.

**Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment**

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

- Tamira Moody: Ms. Moody addressed Council regarding a speeder in her neighborhood. Ms. Moody requested that a speeding deterrent, like a speed bump be placed in her neighborhood.

**Consent Agenda**

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

- Approval of Minutes- Regular Meeting Minutes of October 12th, 2020 and Work Session Meeting Minutes of October 27th, 2020.
- Title VI Plan Update- City administration is requesting that Council approve the updated Title VI Plan. This plan is needed for the City to receive federal funding. A revision was needed to add a formal complaint process and assign a liaison.

**Gastonia Water Interconnection Funding-Agreement Amendment**

City Manager, James Inman addressed Council regarding an amendment to the Gastonia Water Interconnection agreement. An amendment was needed to account for grant funds that the City received from the Golden Leaf program.

By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the amendment to the agreement was approved.

**Gastonia Water Interconnection Funding- Capital Project Ordinance**
By motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, the Capital Project Ordinance regarding the amendment to the Gastonia Water Interconnection agreement.

**Code Enforcement Officer- New Position**
City Manager, James Inman addressed Council regarding the creation of a new position. An additional Code Enforcement Officer is needed, in addition to the current part time Officer.

By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, a new full time position for a Code Enforcement Officer was approved.

**Budget Amendments**
City Manager, James Inman addressed Council regarding the November 2020 Budget amendments. Said amendments are needed address funding for the new Code Enforcement position and general Fire Department expenses.

By motion of Kay McCathen and unanimous vote, the Code Enforcement budget amendments were approved.

By motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, the Fire Department budget amendment was approved.

**City Manager's Report**
City Manager, James Inman reminded Council that all holiday events sponsored by the City had been cancelled due to COVID-19. There was a COVID outbreak among a Youth Soccer team. Council Member, Alfred Carpenter inquired about the possibility about Santa riding thru town on the Fire Truck.

**City Council General Discussion**
Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. Mayor Smith led the discussion by informing Council that she had received a request to send a birthday card to Howard Jones. Howard Jones is a former Council member who will be turning 93 years old on Saturday. Thus his family and friends are requesting that he receive 93 birthday card. Council member, Donnie Griffin inquired about a Code Enforcement issue.

**Adjourn**
Being no further business to come before the board, by motion of Alfred and unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

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