

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CITY OF DOTHAN, ALABAMA  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 15, 2008**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Dothan, Alabama, met in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Roy Driggers Municipal Building at 5:30 P.M., Tuesday, January 15, 2008 with the following members present: Mayor Pat Thomas, Associate Commissioners Larry Matthews, Amos M. Newsome, Jr., Paul Lee, John E. Craig, Jr., Taylor Barbaree and Keith Seagle. Also present were Acting City Manager Jerry Corbin in the absence of City Manager Michael West, City Clerk Pam McCoy, Secretary Tammy Danner, who recorded the Minutes of the Meeting, and the local news media representatives.

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order. Reverend Myrice McNab, Evangel Assembly of God Church, then led in prayer, afterwhich Commissioner Seagle led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioner Matthews moved that the Minutes of the Meeting of January 8, 2008, be approved, motion seconded by Commissioner Barbaree and unanimously approved.

Mayor Thomas introduced Dr. Thomas Harrison and Tracy Knowles, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce who were present to give an ENVISION update. Mr. Knowles announced the creation of Dothan Area Young Professionals. Their goal is to strengthen a young professional community in the Dothan area that is energized, engaged and properly educated to help make the Dothan area the best it can be. Mr. Knowles said the target audience for this group is individuals between the ages of 21-41 that carry themselves in a professional manner and want to be more involved with their community. He encouraged anyone wishing to be a part of this group to contact the Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Lee said there are some areas in our city that do not have adequate sewage. He said he mentioned this about a month ago and the idea was to wait and see how the year ended to see if there is potential for a line item for us to pursue that and work on those areas maybe in small amounts. Commissioner Lee said he would like to see that on the next administrative agenda.

Commissioner Craig concurred. He said there are several sections in District IV that have the same problem.

Acting City Manager Jerry Corbin asked if this included areas that the City staff has identified over the years or is it a specific list that you have identified, or both.

Commissioner Lee said what started this was him identifying one in his area. Mr. Corbin added ... on Cottonwood Road. Commissioner Lee said yes; there is sewage across the street, behind it, and in front of it. He said there are probably 12 to 15 houses on that particular stretch of road that have never had sewage there. He said if they were to go today to get a permit for a septic tank, he felt like they would not get it because of the restrictions. Commissioner Lee said all we are talking about is running the pipe from one end that is already there to the other connecting those 15 homes.

Mr. Corbin said we will have a cost estimate on that particular area for the next meeting.

Commissioner Craig said he was referring to Halls Mill Road. Mr. Corbin said we have that one designed and the latest estimate on that is between \$250,000.00 and \$300,000.00.

Commissioner Matthews asked how many millions are set aside for his district. Mr. Corbin said we do have sporadic pockets all over.

Commissioner Lee said he understood that they cannot all be done at one time, but we can work toward getting these areas taken care of.

Commissioner Newsome asked if those pockets could be identified and provided to the Commission prior to the next administrative meeting so that we will know where they are and those that have already been looked at and have a program and a cost. Mr. Corbin said he should be able to put something together before then.

Commissioner Seagle said he could not let the evening pass without telling a quick “Wylie” story; referring to Mr. Wylie Yelverton who passed away on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Yelverton was retired from the City of Dothan and served 18 years as County Commissioner of District 1.

Commissioner Barbaree stated that he attended a Homeowner’s Association meeting for Spann Farm last night, along with City staff to work on some options with their drainage problems. He said in the future he or Mr. Corbin will update the Commission on where we stand on that.

Mr. Corbin added that the staff plans to have this project advertised this weekend to go forward with the bid.

Mayor Thomas asked Mr. Corbin to brief the Commission over the next couple of days on what would be bid. Mr. Corbin said the big question was whether or not we could discharge the drainage pipes in the last pond. He said that was the primary decision last night; they voted in favor of it. Mr. Corbin said that will save the City a lot of money. He said the City will then maintain the dam.

Commissioner Newsome asked if this would be the conclusion of that project in that area. Mr. Corbin said yes; there are prongs to that. The sewer line at the bottom going through Spann Farms is one prong. The detention pond that we would construct on the back of Spann Farm would be the other part of the project. Mr. Corbin said the Sony pond, which the City owns about 7 acres there, will be excavated and built as a detention pond as part of the project. He said that is last; you start at the bottom and work up hill. Mayor Thomas said this is a court recommended project.

Mr. Corbin announced that the City of Dothan will host the Annual AUSA Breakfast this Thursday morning at 7:30 a.m. with Dr. Jack Hawkins, Chancellor of Troy University as the key speaker.

Mr. Corbin said that the Cultural Arts Center was vandalized over the weekend. Two of the air conditioning units were stripped of their copper. Larry Muench, General Services Director is currently working on those repairs.

Mr. Corbin said Phase I of the Animal Shelter renovation project has been completed. He asked Mr. Muench to update the Commission on what has been done. Mr. Muench said staff from General Services, along with the Police Department and Public Works has been working out there for the past year. He said approximately \$250,000.00 has been spent so far on improvements to the animal shelter. Mr. Muench said ventilation systems have been installed in the main building. A new epoxy floor system has been installed. All of the cages inside have been repaired. Walls that were causing ventilation problems have been removed. The outside of the building has been repainted and relit. A brand new 32 pen kennel has been built, along with an 800 sq. ft. concrete storage building. A new euthanasia building was built. Mr. Muench said the property has been completely re-landscaped. Security fencing has been placed all around it, along with security lighting. Commissioner Lee said the majority of that work was done by City employees. Mr. Muench said that is correct; the only thing we contracted out was the ventilation repairs and the installation of the epoxy floor and fencing.

Mr. Muench said Phase II is in the planning stages right now. He said we are looking at a number of options. The police department is preparing their priority requests for what they feel needs to be done out there in the next phase. Mr. Muench said as soon as he receives those requests they will be making a

presentation to the Commission. Mayor Thomas said we are also working with the animal groups to get their input.

Commissioner Craig said based upon the number of animals picked up in the last couple of years this is not being done any too soon. Mr. Muench said this is a long over due project.

Commissioner Newsome asked how many copper dealers are there in the City of Dothan. Mr. Corbin said there are several scrap dealers in Dothan. Commissioner Newsome asked if we were following up with the dealers to see if they were getting stolen copper? Chief John Powell said yes; there have been a number of arrests made in the theft of copper. He said it is a revolving door.

Commissioner Matthews said they are suppose to show their identification when they try to sell their copper. Commissioner Lee said that just started within the last year. Chief Powell said that is correct; there were amendments made to State legislation.

Commissioner Seagle said that goes both ways. He said he received a call this afternoon from an owner of a scrap plant who has filed a police report because thieves broke into his business and stole the scrap metal that he had prepared to ship off.

Commissioner Newsome said we encourage follow up as close as possible and as many people as we can bring in who are doing this we would love to do that.

Mayor Thomas asked, as we repair the units, are we making sure that we are then protecting the unit? Mr. Muench said one of the things we are going to take a look at is the possibility of putting fencing around all of these condenser units at all City facilities. He said it will be expensive because we have hundreds of condenser units.

Commissioner Matthews announced that there will be a Galaxy Bowling Fundraiser tomorrow night to help with Special Olympics. The event will be held at Patricia Lanes beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Thomas introduced the application of Debbie A. Tyler for a Restaurant Retail Liquor License for K.D. O'Shea's Irish Pub, LLC, located at 4196-A Montgomery Highway. Commissioner Lee moved for approval, motion seconded by Commissioner Craig. Commissioner Seagle said this is the application that came up in November, 2007. At the time there was a church in the specified range. Commissioner Seagle said there was a plan for the church to move and we told this applicant that they would need to reapply and Ms. Tyler has reapplied. Commissioner Seagle said there is no opposition from the neighbors this time and the church has moved. There being no further discussion the application was unanimously approved.

Mayor Thomas introduced a proposed ordinance, amending Chapter 2, Administration, Sec. 2-104, Same-Placing items thereon, of the Code of Ordinances to allow for the distribution of biweekly agenda packages on Tuesday, one week prior to the commission meeting. Commissioner Seagle moved for immediate consideration, motion seconded by Commissioner Barbaree and upon the motion being put to vote, those voting "yea," were Thomas, Newsome, Craig, Barbaree and Seagle; "nay:" Matthews and Lee. The vote was five "yeas" to two "nays." Without unanimous consent for immediate consideration, the proposed ordinance will be placed on the next administrative agenda for discussion.

Mayor Thomas introduced Resolution No. 2008-15 (recorded in Ordinance Book No. \_\_\_\_\_ at Page \_\_\_\_\_), entering into a Real Estate Sales Contract with John Watson, Alfred Saliba Corporation, and Charles H. Chapman, III for the purchase of a parcel of land constituting approximately 87.59 acres for the purchase price of \$18,900.00 per acre. Commissioner Barbaree moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Mathews and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Thomas introduced Resolution No. 2008-16 (recorded in Ordinance Book No. \_\_\_\_\_ at Page \_\_\_\_\_), entering into an agreement with the Trinity

Lutheran Church to provide a driveway from Cottonwood Road to the church parking lot in conjunction with improvements to the intersection of Cottonwood Road/Beverlye Road/Forrester Road/Saunders Road. Commissioner Lee moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Barbaree and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Thomas introduced Resolution No. 2008-17 (recorded in Ordinance Book No. \_\_\_\_\_ at Page \_\_\_\_\_), amending the Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement with Southern Communications Services, Inc. and Nextel South Corporation to reconfigure the 800 MHz band emergency communication system with no additional cost to the City. Commissioner Matthews moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Barbaree and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Thomas introduced Resolution No. 2008-18 (recorded in Ordinance Book No. \_\_\_\_\_ at Page \_\_\_\_\_), approving purchases over \$7,500.00 by the City. Commissioner Seagle read each item in the meeting.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
<b><u>Other Purchases:</u></b>		
2008 F250 Pickup Truck per state bid T-191	Family Ford Sales, Inc. Florence, AL	\$25,033.37
Three (3) 2008 E150 Work Vans per state bid T-191	Ken Boggs Ford Opelika, AL	\$46,459.56
Four (4) 2008 E350 Crew Cabs per state bid T-191	Long Lewis Ford Muscle Shoals, AL	\$104,607.00
Three (3) Service Bodies for F350 Crew Cabs per state bid T-195A	Truck Equipment Sales, Inc. Mobile, AL	\$18,429.00
2008 Chevrolet Impala per state bid T-191	Capital Chevrolet	\$15,511.00

Commissioner Matthews then moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2008-18, motion seconded by Commissioner Barbaree and unanimously carried.

Mayor Thomas introduced Resolution No. 2008-19 (recorded in Ordinance Book No. \_\_\_\_\_ at Page \_\_\_\_\_), approving the following advance travel requests for City employees:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CONFERENCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Pat Parker	Nursing 2008 Symposium Las Vegas, NV	\$ 1,605.65
Don Bryan	USTA National Tournament Director's Workshop Dallas, TX	\$ 0.00
Larry Patrick Steve Sherrill	Dixie Baseball/Softball State Convention Auburn, AL	\$ 230.00
David M. Thornton Scott Heath Eric Easley Thomas Davis	WSFA 12 News Job Link Employment Expo Montgomery, AL	\$ 460.00
Paul Isler	Southeastern Meter School & Conference Auburn, AL	\$ 747.05
Tim Mullis	Investigation of Motorcycle Crashes Jacksonville, FL	\$ 1,225.00
Benny Baxley	School Resource Officer Supervisor/ Management Class Plano, TX	\$ 1,007.00

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners – January 15, 2008, continued.**

Valerie Harris	Forum on Local Government	\$ 855.00
Jansen Tidmore	Performance Measurement	
	Chattanooga, TN	

Commissioner Matthews then moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2008-19, motion seconded by Commissioner Barbaree and unanimously carried.

Commissioner Lee moved for acceptance of an easement from Richard E. and Lynda T. McClendon needed for improvements to existing storm drainage and utility facilities, motion seconded by Commissioner Barbaree and unanimously carried.

There being no further business, Commissioner Barbaree moved that the meeting be adjourned, motion seconded by Commissioner Lee and upon the unanimous vote of "yea," the meeting was duly adjourned.

/s/Pam McCoy, City Clerk

**Approved:**

Pat Thomas, Mayor

/s/Larry Matthews, Associate Commissioner

/s/Amos M. Newsome, Jr., Associate Commissioner

/s/Paul Lee, Associate Commissioner

/s/John E. Craig, Jr., Associate Commissioner

/s/Taylor Barbaree, Associate Commissioner

/s/Keith Seagle, Associate Commissioner

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