

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOTHAN, ALABAMA
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2021**

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 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 19, 2021 with the following members present: Mayor Mark Saliba, Associate Commissioners Kevin Dorsey, Albert Kirkland, John Ferguson, Beth Kenward, and David Crutchfield. Commissioner Janasky Fleming was absent. Also present were City Manager Kevin Cowper, City Clerk Wendy Shiver, Administrative Secretary Courtney Vickers, who recorded the Minutes of the Meeting, and the local news media representatives.

Mayor Saliba called the meeting to order and led in prayer, afterwhich Commissioner Crutchfield led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioner Kirkland complimented Utility Collections Accounting Assistant Sandra Malone for her customer service and professionalism while helping a friend update her utility account after the recent passing of her husband.

Commissioner Kenward expressed appreciation to Community Relations Officer Vincent Vincent for Commissioners' Weekly, a weekly Board of Commissioners newsletter, as well as The Monthly Messenger, a monthly employee newsletter.

Commissioner Crutchfield thanked all Department Heads and Staff for the progress around the City.

Mayor Saliba said he is glad to have all our guests from Dothan Downtown Redevelopment Authority, Visit Dothan, and Dothan City Schools with us this morning. He expressed excitement and gratitude regarding the reports being provided today by these agencies.

Mr. Cowper invited Aaron McCreight, Visit Dothan President and CEO, to give an update. Mr. McCreight provided a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the creation of the Fuel-Up Campaign to attract tourists that are passing through Dothan to their destination, the effects of all sports on tourism in Dothan to include group tourism, and the marketing tactics utilized to grow all sports in Dothan. He thanked Leisure Services Director Alison Hall and Leisure Services Staff for their support. He explained Visit Dothan anticipates 2021 hotel room nights, hotel revenue, and visitor spending to triple from 2018, which is a \$12 million increase in revenue. He said all of this could not have happened without the partnership, the value of the partnership, and the growth of the partnership Visit Dothan has with the City, specifically the Leisure Services Department. He said Visit Dothan is now a rocket ship and they are not slowing down. He reviewed the upcoming 2021 sporting events, discussed Dothan being an outdoor multisport destination, and introduced the Dothan Deals marketing tactic used on each tournament's website. Commissioner Kenward inquired about Water World being included in the Dothan Deals during their open season. She also asked if the City parks are being promoted. Mr. McCreight confirmed both requests. Mayor Saliba expressed appreciation to Mr. McCreight and Visit Dothan. He also thanked Leisure Services Director Alison Hall and Leisure Services Staff for working so well with Visit Dothan.

Mr. Cowper invited Jamie Bienvenu, Dothan Downtown Redevelopment Authority (DDRA) Executive Director, to give an update. Ms. Bienvenu said the DDRA has restructured internally with their marketing, and she said they now rely on The Main Street Approach that partners with the National Main Street Organization. She said they have volunteer-based committees, which are composed of stakeholders, business owners, and community members, that assist with decision making and projects. She discussed the upcoming Main Street Salutes project as well as the success of the recent sidewalk event in October, the Great Pumpkin Hunt partnered with the Cultural Arts Center, and the Downtown Christmas

Festival in December. She said there are a few projects pending completion, which includes the repair of an awning at one of the “Hump” properties, the kickoff of the Heritage Talk Series at Porter Hardware, and the alley project by the Opera House. She explained the \$26,555.00 raised through the recent Porter Hardware estate sale will be used to help fund the Heritage Talk Series. She said this past year the DDRA awarded two of their matching façade grants to two local downtown businesses and awarded two additional matching and/or inhouse grants to two separate businesses. She said there was only one business loss due to COVID-19 in the downtown area, but she explained the space is now being leased by a new tenant. She provided an update on the Farmer’s Market property regarding the brownfield phasing and the authorization to operate the market temporarily out of pop-up tents. She also provided an update on the Juvenile Building property with a pending project that has been delayed due to COVID-19 as well as an update on the Saint Andrews Market property. Commissioner Kenward expressed appreciation for the Downtown Christmas Festival.

Mr. Cowper invited Dr. Dennis Coe, Dothan City Schools (DCS) Acting Superintendent, to give an update. Mr. Cowper also recognized Mr. Mike Schmitz, DCS Board Chairman, in the audience. Dr. Coe provided a PowerPoint presentation. He discussed DCS expecting to receive approximately \$10 million in state bond money to renovate the Dothan Technology Center, the Dothan High School Convocation Center, and the Dothan High School Gymnasium. He explained a crowding issue that was discovered at the Dothan Preparatory Academy and the DCS Board approved the separation of the 9th Grade from the Dothan Preparatory Academy campus to the Carver Elementary campus, thus creating the Carver 9th Grade Academy. He said this will reduce the size of Dothan Preparatory Academy from approximately 1700 students to approximately 950 students. He explained transitional type services being installed for the Carver 9th Grade Academy. He discussed the creation of a virtual school with a synchronous and asynchronous schedule, the implementation of a two-strand advanced curriculum for the 7th and 8th Grade students at the Dothan Preparatory Academy, the formation of a Student Advisory Council for the Superintendent, and the development of an employee assistance program to support DCS Staff. He provided a timeline outlining DCS’s plan as they implement the changes discussed today before the new school year in August. Commissioner Kirkland expressed gratitude for DCS’s planning.

Mr. Cowper invited Fire Chief Larry Williams to make an announcement. Chief Williams announced the Fire Department has been constructing a new firetruck over the past year. He said the new firetruck is in the parking lot for the Mayor, Commission, and citizens to explore today. He expressed appreciation to Mayor Saliba, the Commission, City Manager Kevin Cowper, Assistant City Manager Randy Morris, General Services Director Andy Love, and Fleet Services Manager David Childs for their assistance with the new firetruck.

Mayor Saliba announced a Public Hearing regarding the abatement and removal of noxious or dangerous weeds. There being no one present to speak, Mayor Saliba declared the Public Hearing closed.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-7, declaring certain properties which are overgrown with weeds, scrub, wild bushes, grass and other vegetable growth as injurious to the health, safety and welfare of the community as nuisances and ordering that the properties be abated. Commissioner Ferguson moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Kirkland and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-8, confirming the cost incurred in notification and abatement of certain properties determined to be nuisances by Resolution Numbers 2020-290 and 2020-334 and turning the costs over to the County Tax Collector so that the amounts can be added to the next regular bills for taxes levied against the respective lots and parcels of land. Commissioner Kirkland moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Ferguson and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-9, confirming the cost incurred in notification and abatement of certain properties determined to be in violation of Article III, Chapter 106 of the City of Dothan Code of Ordinance (repeat offenders) and turning the costs over to the County Tax Collector so that the amounts can be added to the next regular bills for taxes levied against the respective lots and parcels of land. Commissioner Kenward moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-10, entering into an agreement with Avenu Insights and Analytics, LLC to administer and collect the City's alcohol taxes for a three (3) year period beginning March 1, 2021. Commissioner Kirkland moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Kenward and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-11, awarding the bid, entering into a contract, and issuing a Notice to Proceed and other related documents to L and K Contracting Co. Inc. for the 2021 Burdeshaw Redwater Project for the sum of \$824,225.00. Commissioner Dorsey moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Kirkland. Commissioner Dorsey said he is glad to see the project going to a local contractor. There being no further discussion, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-12, entering into an agreement with the United States Department of Justice, through the United States Marshals Service, to accept funding for reimbursement of overtime expenses in an amount not to exceed \$19,424.00. Commissioner Kenward moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-13, accepting the renewal proposal provided by McGriff, Siebels, and Williams with coverage underwritten by Chubb/ACE American Insurance Company for Cancer-Disability Insurance at \$172.00 per active firefighter per year for a one (1) year period beginning January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, and appropriating funds for said coverage. Commissioner Kirkland moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Dorsey and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-14, authorizing the Mayor to execute the Certification of Local Government Approval for Nonprofit Organizations Receiving Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program Funds from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs through the Alabama Rural Coalition for the Homeless. Commissioner Kenward moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Dorsey and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-15, approving payment of invoices for the month of December, 2020 in the amount of \$10,701,973.01. Commissioner Kenward moved for adoption, motion seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield and unanimously adopted.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-16, awarding the following bids and approving other purchases over \$15,000.00 by the City, and appropriating funds for said bids.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
<u>Additional Purchases from Previously Awarded Bids:</u>		
<i>Supper Meals for Covid Feeding</i> <i>Quantity: 191,580 (more or less)</i> <i>Unit Price: \$3.36</i>	Breakfast at Tammie's Dothan, AL	\$818,046.60 (Estimated)
<i>Snacks for Covid Feeding</i> <i>Quantity: 191,580 (more or less)</i> <i>Unit Price: \$.91</i> <i>Program extended through 6/30/2021</i> <i>Reimbursable at 100%</i>		

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners – January 19, 2021, continued.

<p>Provide Safety Shoe Service For Various Departments of the City of Dothan-Omni Cooperative Contract #R-BB-19002</p>	<p>Cintas Marianna, FL</p>	<p>\$ 57,450.00</p>
<p>Mobile Data Terminal Replacements <i>See attached requisition for details and unit pricing-Sourcewell Cooperative Contract 081419 CDW</i></p>	<p>CDW Government, LLC Vernon Hills, IL</p>	<p>\$ 125,574.52</p>
<p>NetMotion Premium Technical Support for Netmotion Mobility <i>1 Year Annual Renewal for Period Covering 4/21/2021-4/20/2022, 1 Year Premium Maintenance Covers Mobility w/250 devices, 1 additional server. Analytics Module, NAC Module and Policy Module Maintenance. State of Alabama contract MA 999 17000000186</i></p>	<p>CDW Government, LLC Vernon Hills, IL</p>	<p>\$ 17,401.00</p>
<p>Solar Winds Annual Maintenance Agreements <i>State of Alabama Awarded Contract MA 999 17000000186.</i></p>	<p>CDW Government, LLC Vernon Hills, IL</p>	<p>\$ 25,130.73</p>

Commissioner Kirkland then moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2021-16, motion seconded by Commissioner Kenward and unanimously carried.

Mayor Saliba introduced Resolution No. 2021-17, approving the following advance travel requests for City employees:


<u>NAME</u>	<u>CONFERENCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Steven Parrish	Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police 2021 Winter Conference Montgomery, AL	\$ 614.05
William Benny	Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police 2021 Winter Conference Montgomery, AL	\$ 814.05
Danny Williams	Montgomery Regional APOSTC Academy Montgomery, AL	\$ 4,832.00
Larry Williams	2021 Alabama Association of Fire Chief's Mid-Winter Conference Birmingham, AL	\$ 803.00
David Hasty	2021 Alabama Association of Fire Chief's Mid-Winter Conference Birmingham, AL	\$ 803.00

Commissioner Kenward then moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2021-17, motion seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield and unanimously carried.


Commissioner Crutchfield moved to accept easements from multiple property owners to construct necessary improvements to existing drainage facilities for the Girard Drainage Basin Project, motion seconded by Commissioner Ferguson. Commissioner Crutchfield asked when would the construction start. Public Works Director Charles Metzger said the Girard Drainage Basin Project is about 90% complete and it will take approximately 180 days for to complete this portion of the project. He said the plan is to bid the closed structure box culvert in May. He said the estimate is approximately \$1.6 million and is not currently funded. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

Mayor Saliba announced the re-appointment of Jocelyn Gutzmore as a member of the Dothan Housing Authority Board.

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


Wendy Shiver,
City Clerk

Approved:


Mark Saliba, Mayor


Kevin Dorsey, Associate Commissioner


Janasky Fleming, Associate Commissioner


Albert Kirkland, Associate Commissioner


John Ferguson, Associate Commissioner


Beth Kenward, Associate Commissioner


David Crutchfield, Associate Commissioner

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