

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA,
HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014

The Honorable Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, met in regular session on Thursday, March 13, 2014, at 6 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, there being present:

President:	Russell
Councilpersons:	Culver, Olshefski, Showers, Kling
Mayor:	Battle (Not present for entire meeting)
City Attorney:	Joffrion
City Clerk-Treasurer:	Hagood

President Russell called the meeting to order
Rev. John Herndon, Pastor Emeritus of Fellowship Presbyterian Church, led the invocation; members of Boy Scout Troop 276 led the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council on February 27, 2014, were approved as submitted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Resolutions and Special Recognitions.

President Russell recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle stated that he regretted he would have to leave the Council meeting at 6:30, noting that Leadership Alabama was being hosted at his home.

Mayor Battle stated that he would like to recognize his good friends at Ed White School, noting that he had visited the

school earlier in the week, and they had given him the t-shirt he was displaying. He stated that he had seen some great student leaders at the school and had also seen some great learning occurring.

Mayor Battle asked Chief Harry Hobbs, Mr. Kenny Anderson, and Ms. Sara Crocker to come forward, noting that they were going to honor a student at this time.

Chief Hobbs stated that first he would like to thank Mayor Battle and Chief Lewis Morris for supporting this extension of the Annual Community Awareness for Youth by allowing them to recognize the CAFY/Star 99.1 Young Citizen of the Month, along with their partners.

Chief Hobbs stated that the Young Citizen of the Month was Estienne Trudeau. He stated that she had helped form the Jewish Youth Program at her school. He continued that she was a 3.9 GPA student, part of the Air Force JROTC, and that she played several instruments, that she was just a nice young lady who got out and got the job done without the camera rolling, that she did it anyway.

Chief Hobbs stated that what they hoped this program would do would be to inspire other young people in the city to do great things.

Chief Hobbs asked Ms. Trudeau to come forward.

Ms. Sara Crocker of the City of Huntsville Human Relations Commission, stated to Ms. Trudeau that they were pleased to have this opportunity to honor her, noting that she was very

well-deserving of the award. She presented a certificate to her, recognizing her as the Star99/CAFY Young Citizen of the Month.

Mr. George Dugan of DynCorp stated to Ms. Trudeau that it was a blessing to have persons like her in their midst, helping someone every day, and inspiring others to do the same. He presented a letter to her, stating that it explained a few things they would like for her to have, including a VISA card for \$100, as well as other small gifts.

Mayor Battle congratulated Ms. Trudeau, expressing appreciation to her for making the city a better place.

Chief Hobbs presented Ms. Trudeau with the CAFY Coin of Excellence, noting that they very much appreciated everything she did.

Mayor Battle asked Paige Colburn and Raven Reese to come forward. He asked Ms. Reese to bring her entire group with her.

Mayor Battle stated that he had a proclamation in recognition of National Service Day for AmeriCorps members and Senior Corps volunteers.

Mayor Battle read from the proclamation that the Corporation for National and Community Service annually engaged 5 million citizens, with service throughout the United States, including Huntsville, Alabama. He continued that the power of these citizens through AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs provided a positive impact, making the city of Huntsville a

better place to live. He stated that a majority of these members made a year-long, full-time commitment, while living at an economic poverty level, to serve on a specific project at a nonprofit agency organization, a public agency, providing health services and health education, promoting emergency preparedness, tutoring or mentoring students, assisting in autism awareness, and managing community volunteers, and that national service members helped mayors tackle tough problems. He thanked them for this, stating that everyone needed help.

Mayor Battle stated that he was proclaiming April 1, 2014, to be Mayor's Day of Recognition for National Service in Huntsville, Alabama, in honor of and in recognition of AmeriCorps members and Senior Corps volunteers serving the needs of the community effectively for 25 years. He thanked them for their service.

Mayor Battle asked the members to introduce themselves and tell the Council and the audience what their service was and where their specific area was.

Ms. Raven Reese stated that she was the AmeriCorps Vista for the North Alabama Medical Reserve Corps, where they did emergency preparedness, second response at the time of an emergency, as well as health education.

Ms. Ellen Ward stated that she worked with the Autism Research Foundation, noting that their primary goal was to raise funds and awareness, especially so that children with autism who did not have the money available to pay for needed

therapies could get the help they needed.

Ms. Cassandra Cord stated that she was the AmeriCorps Vista at the United Way of Madison County, where they helped to raise funds to assist different non-profits in the area.

Mayor Battle stated that Ms. Paige Colburn was with the City's Emergency Management Agency and pulled all these groups together.

Ms. Colburn stated that, actually, she really did not do that, that she had just wanted these persons to be recognized and have a great moment here at this time, as well as on April 1, the AmeriCorps Day. She stated that she had been an AmeriCorps Vista herself and had recognized the importance of the work these persons did.

Ms. Colburn expressed appreciation to Mayor Battle for this recognition.

Mayor Battle thanked the group for their service.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution commemorating the life of Mr. William Myers Johnson, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-163)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers stated that he was glad to be able to read from this resolution, posthumously honoring a great man, who was a former teacher, fraternity brother, and friend.

Councilman Showers read from the resolution, noting that Mr. Johnson had passed away at the age of 85 on February 2, 2014. He read from the resolution concerning Mr. Johnson's education and stated that he had most recently taught at Alabama A&M University.

Councilman Showers stated that in July of 1990, Mr. Johnson had been appointed by the Council to serve on the Huntsville Gas and Water Board, and that on July 24, 1995, he became Chairman of the Board, being the first African American elected to that position. He stated that major accomplishments had been made by the Huntsville Gas and Water Board during Mr. Johnson's tenure, noting that the Board had overseen growth of both systems, with the water system being the second largest in the state and the gas system being in the top 15 of public gas systems in the nation.

Councilman Showers stated that Mr. Johnson had been involved in the planning and decision to purchase property for the new water plant near Guntersville Dam, noting that this would provide clean, safe, plentiful water for generations to come. He stated that Mr. Johnson focused on facilities and equipment and wanted them clean and presentable.

Councilman Showers stated that Mr. Johnson was always an advocate for the customers, as well as the employees, to make sure Huntsville Utilities did the right thing for all. He stated that he had continued to be a dedicated and dependable Board member up until his death.

Councilman Showers read from the resolution that Mayor Battle and the Council wished to express their great appreciation to Mr. Johnson for his many years of service to the citizens of Huntsville and they wished to acknowledge the stamina, character, and responsibility he displayed to make Huntsville a better place for all citizens.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Johnson's daughter, Ms. Carmeleita Winburn, as well as her husband, Mr. Jesse Winburn, to come forward.

Councilman Showers stated that he was honored to have known Mr. Johnson, noting that he had met him when he first came to Huntsville, and that when he was running for a place on the City Council, Mr. Johnson had simply said to him, "Make a difference."

Councilman Showers stated that thereafter the Huntsville Gas and Water Board had a vacancy, and that Mr. Johnson had been trying for years to get on this Board. He continued that he was the first African American to serve on the Board. He stated that Mr. Johnson had cherished the opportunity of serving on that Board and had actually designed the logo that persons saw on Utilities trucks at this time.

Councilman Showers stated that he was delighted at this time, on behalf of Mayor Battle and the Council and the loving, caring citizens that resided in the city, to acknowledge Ms. Winburn's father and to say thank you to her, her husband, and her sisters, for loaning him to them. He presented a copy

of the resolution to Ms. Winburn.

Ms. Winburn expressed appreciation for the recognition of her father and thanked the Council for having given him the opportunity of serving on the Huntsville Gas and Water Board. She stated that her father had loved the city, noting that they had moved to Huntsville in 1961. She stated that he had always wanted to do his best in everything he attempted, and that he always wanted everything to be fair and to treat everyone right.

Ms. Winburn stated that as her father had gotten older, he did not want to miss any meetings of the Gas and Water Board, and that she had driven him to the meetings and picked him up, that anything that had to do with this Board, she made sure he got there. She continued that she had enjoyed doing that the last few years.

Ms. Winburn again thanked the Council for providing her father the opportunity to serve on this Board.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution congratulating Dr. Lola Burnett Brown, MD, owner of the Children's HealthCare Center, upon her retirement, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-164)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Culver asked Dr. Brown and her family and

friends to come forward. He also asked Mayor Battle and Councilman Showers to come forward.

Councilman Culver read from the resolution that Dr. Brown, President and CEO of Children's HealthCare Center, had officially retired on March 9, 2014, after 18 years of exemplary, dedicated public service to the citizens of Huntsville, Madison County, the State of Alabama, and the country.

Councilman Culver stated that Dr. Brown was to be commended for her efforts to improve the quality of life for the citizens of the Huntsville community, noting that she had established the Children's HealthCare Center, serving as President and CEO from 1996 to 2014.

Councilman Culver stated that Dr. Brown was very active in educational support programs at Oakwood University and Oakwood Academy, and was also a member of Oakwood University's Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Councilman Culver stated that Dr. Brown had served a countless number of children in her medical practice and had received a plethora of praise from parents and schools alike for her service and interest in medical science.

Councilman Culver stated that Dr. Brown intended to make Huntsville her retirement home.

Councilman Culver read from the resolution, expressing sincere appreciation to Dr. Brown for her valuable service to the community and wishing her the best upon her retirement, and

success in all future endeavors.

Councilman Showers stated that he was delighted Dr. Brown intended to make Huntsville her retirement home. He stated that because of her outstanding service, his district, North Huntsville, as well as the entire city, was a better place.

Mayor Battle asked Dr. Brown to introduce her family and friends who were with her, and she did so.

Mayor Battle thanked them for coming and also thanked Dr. Brown for her service to the community, noting that she had been called on above and beyond what others were called on. He thanked her for taking care of the city.

Dr. Brown expressed appreciation to Mayor Battle and the Council for the recognition and thanked the families and the medical community for allowing her to practice in the field of pediatrics for the prior 18 years in the Madison County-North Alabama community. She stated that she planned to continue to work to enhance the field of medicine, especially for newborns and children. She continued that she also planned to continue to promote and encourage students to enter into sciences and the field of medicine.

(Mayor Battle leaves the Council Chambers.)

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution recognizing the Rev. Dr. Jamal-Harrison Bryant of Baltimore, Maryland, keynote speaker at Prophet to the Nations Rise Conference, to be held on March 14, 2014, at 7 p.m. at Eagles'

Nest Ministries in Huntsville, Alabama, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-165)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers stated that he would be presenting the resolution on behalf of the Mayor and the Council at the event to be held on March 14, 2014, at Eagles' Nest Ministries.

President Russell stated that the Administration had asked that the Council consider at this meeting, by unanimous consent, items 14.a, Resolution No. 14-179; 14.b, Resolution No. 14-180; 14.c, Resolution No. 14-181; 14.d, Resolution No. 14-182; and 14.e, Resolution No. 14-183. He stated that items 15.v and 15.w on the agenda had been deleted.

President Russell stated that on item 6.b.4, there was a change in the date for the setting of the hearing, noting that he would make that clear when the item was considered by the Council.

President Russell welcomed Commissioner Bob Harrison of the Madison County Commission to the meeting.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was the presentation of "Legacy Huntsville: Civic Challenge." He recognized Mr. Mason West.

Mr. Mason West appeared before the Council, stating that

he was the Director of Community Learning at Randolph School. He continued that he had a group of three students present at the meeting to speak to the Council about some programs they had helped to design. He stated that one of these was being implemented the following week, and one the following year. He continued that they would also like to talk briefly about some of the programs in which they had been participating along with Butler High School. He thanked the Council for their time and consideration.

Ms. Megan Plotka appeared before the Council, stating that she was a senior at Randolph School. She stated that the prior year they had established a Community Learning program at Randolph as a way to expand the minds of all the students, taking what they learned in the classroom and teaching ways to apply it in the outside world. She stated that this taught them about the wider community, while helping them understand the importance of education and providing them greater opportunities for leadership.

Ms. Plotka stated that she could personally vouch for this program. She stated that when the Youth Leadership Council at Randolph had been established, every student had had the opportunity to have his or her voice heard. She stated that in the current year she had been elected as the Director of Communications and head of Volunteering on the Executive Committee. She stated that she had been able to take these positions and really run with them, with the backing of her

advisors. She continued that they had been able to increase the volunteering effort by approximately five times while increasing the organization of the Council.

Ms. Plotka stated that one way they had been able to go out into the community was through tutoring at University Place Elementary School. She stated that they were tutoring students to prepare them for the labor force, as well as teaching them how to communicate and have a voice in the community. She stated that this was a learning experience for all parties involved.

Ms. Plotka stated that she had met many friends through these programs, most of whom she would have never gotten to know without the Youth Leadership Council.

Ms. Plotka stated that they took what the kids had learned and put them to a test called "The Randolph Challenge." She stated that this contest was a yearly event, coming up on April 13. She stated that the title of this was very misleading, in that there were students from all over the city that participated in it.

Ms. Plotka stated that they had established a connection between Randolph and the Village of Promise, reaching many students. She stated that the competition was highly competitive, noting that it would include a lightning fast math contest; an oratorical contest, where the competitors would give a State of the Union address; a debate; and, lastly, the entrepreneurship contest.

Ms. Plotka stated that they would bring in other elements of the Huntsville Community, that they were being supported by a variety of local stakeholders, and that they hoped the Council members would attend. She thanked President Russell for judging at the event and thanked Councilman Culver for judging the prior year.

Ms. Plotka expressed appreciation for being allowed to speak before the Council at this time.

Mr. Hedley Meyers appeared before the Council, stating that he was a junior at Randolph School. He stated that he would like to speak about the Civic Challenge, noting that this was a week-long program, where students would emulate the fundamental positions in the government of the city of Huntsville, noting that these positions included the Mayor, City Councilmen, and department heads.

Mr. Meyers stated that there were a total of 20 students participating in this program from Randolph School during the week of March 17-21, and that the program included three fundamental things: the students learning to work together with their peers, developing team-building strategies, and learning to communicate with each other. He stated that, also, they would learn to participate in government and learn how decisions were made, as well as the protocol that City leaders followed. He continued that the students would learn to apply what they had learned in the classroom to the real world.

Mr. Meyers stated that they would engage in qualitative

and quantitative reasoning, which they had learned in science and mathematic classes. He continued that communication and social analysis skills, which they had learned in social sciences and language arts classes, would also be applied in this program. He stated that this would allow the students to be able to see the impact their learning had on the real world.

Mr. Meyers stated that all these leadership traits would be applied to solve one problem presented to them by the City of Huntsville: Finding a way to decentralize poverty or to combat the negative effects of the centralization of poverty in Huntsville.

Mr. Meyers stated that they were very thankful for this opportunity and that they wanted to extend their gratitude to Mayor Battle, who was supporting the program. He continued that they would also like to thank Mr. Kenny Anderson and Ms. Kelly Schrimsher for organizing this program with Mr. and Mrs. West, noting that without them the program would not be possible. He stated that they looked forward to meeting the members of the leadership of the City of Huntsville on the following Monday.

Mr. Mustafa Hassoun appeared before the Council, stating that he was a junior at Randolph School and the Director of Operations for the Leadership Council.

Mr. Hassoun stated that, as the Council members were aware, Randolph School students and Butler High School students had come together in the prior year to work on and design a

program for the benefit of the community. He stated that what they had come up with was "Legacy Huntsville," noting that Legacy Huntsville's primary goal was to pass the baton of leadership from the leaders of today to the leaders of tomorrow.

Mr. Hassoun stated that the way they had decided to conduct this was by presenting a complex, real-world problem to students, a problem that had multiple facets. He continued that the students would then get together in teams and each team would play a role in solving the problem. He stated that the roles the students would have to fill would range from computer specialists to team manager, or whatever they would choose for the title. He stated that the point was that by having such a complex problem that would need so many different roles to be played, students from all over the talent spectrum could get involved and contribute.

Mr. Hassoun stated that throughout the school year, industry leaders and professionals from companies such as Boeing would assist students in their efforts. He stated that Legacy Huntsville would culminate in a week solely dedicated to the problem, called the "One Week Intensive." He stated that this would consist of students going to companies throughout a week in March and working with professionals in order to solve the problem. He stated that this would end in presentations to various judges, including industry leaders and teachers from the respective schools. He stated that the students would

learn valuable lessons from this program that would be used in their professional lives for many years to come.

Mr. Hassoun stated that the program had been presented to many local companies, such as AEGIS, Boeing, AdTran, and NASA, and that they had also presented to the State, along with various departments in Washington, D.C., namely the Department of Education and the Department of Justice.

Mr. Hassoun stated that currently monthly meetings were being conducted to further develop the program. He noted that President Russell had participated in these and thanked him for his time. He continued that he was acting as the student representative for these meetings. He stated that these meetings had furthered his own abilities and had proven invaluable for his future career and for the rest of his professional life.

Mr. Hassoun stated that the opportunities that had been presented to him in these meetings were, in one word, amazing. He stated that he, as a high school student, had had the opportunity to work with the highest level officials in the city and had gotten to work for the good of the community.

Mr. Hassoun stated that the entire program was set to launch in August of the current year. He thanked the Council and the Administration for all the help and the time they had given to developing this project and investing in the city's future, noting that this would not have been possible without the help of each of them.

Mr. Hassoun thanked the Council for listening to their presentation and stated that if there were any questions, they would be glad to respond.

President Russell asked if there were any questions from the Council members.

There was no response.

President Russell thanked the group for appearing before the Council, noting that their work in the community was certainly appreciated.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Public Hearings to be Set.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance zoning newly annexed property lying east of Old Jim Williams Road and on the north side of Martin Road as Neighborhood Business C-1 District, at the April 24, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-166)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 14-167, zoning newly annexed property lying east of Old Jim Williams Road and on the north side of Martin Road as Neighborhood Business C-1 District.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance zoning newly annexed property

lying on the west side of Old Big Cove Road and on the north side of Buford Drive as Residence 1-B District, at the April 24, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-168)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 14-169, zoning newly annexed property lying on the west side of Old Big Cove Road and on the north side of Buford Drive as Residence 1-B District.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance zoning newly annexed property lying east of Old Big Cove Road and north of Hampton Ridge Drive as Residence 1-A District, at the April 24, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-170)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 14-171, zoning newly annexed property lying east of Old Big Cove Road and north of Hampton Ridge Drive as Residence 1-A District.

President Russell moved for approval of a request to set a public hearing to hear the appeal of Mr. Tommy Howell,

appealing the decision of the Liquor License Review Committee denying a Retail Liquor Lounge Entertainment License to Club Upscale, LLC, dba Club Upscale, at 2021 Golf Road, Huntsville, AL 35802, at the March 6, 2014, Liquor License Review Committee Meeting, at the April 10, 2014, Regular Council Meeting.

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for the vote on the above motion, and it was unanimously approved.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from the Public. He stated that persons who wished to speak at this time would have three minutes to address the Council.

Mr. Gary Taylor, 11000 Jean Road, appeared before the Council, stating that he was bringing greetings on behalf of WDJL Radio Station, Rev. Walter Peavey, and Rev. Roger Acklin. He continued that he was also appearing on behalf of Star Market and that he had a package from them to present to the Council.

Mr. Taylor stated that Family Movie Night at the Heart of the Valley YMCA would start in the current week.

Mr. Taylor stated that on the following evening at Whitesburg Baptist Church, the Huntsville Police and Fire were holding a benefit concert at 6 p.m., and urged everyone to attend. He stated that the Police, Fire, and Paramedic personnel were angels and that he prayed for them every time he saw an emergency vehicle.

Mr. Taylor stated that on April 9 at the Heart of the Valley YMCA, they were having a Day of Caring, and that they were asking for volunteers to come out and help clean up the campus. He continued that on April 14 there would be a golf tournament at the Valley Hill Country Club. He stated that on April 19, there would be a run and stated that everyone was invited to register and could go to www.color-5k.com. He stated that, also, they were looking for volunteers for this event.

Mr. Taylor stated that on Saturday, April 26, at the Star Market on Bailey Cove Road, there would be their barbecue, which he noted was like the Whistle Stop Festival in Huntsville. He stated that the proceeds from the event would go to charity.

Mr. Taylor expressed appreciation for the opportunity to speak before the Council.

Ms. Michelle Watkins, 3310 East Helena Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that she wished to address the Huntsville City Schools, noting that persons were not allowed to speak and question or seek answers to some of the things that were going on at the School Board meetings. She stated that she had attended a meeting on the prior Monday, and the Superintendent had started off with, "We are having a meeting. This meeting is for the Board. The public is here, but this meeting is for the Board. No questions will be answered; no input will be given."

Ms. Watkins questioned the fact that in this day and time, when persons paid taxes, they were not able to give their input or ask questions at these meetings. She continued that decisions were being made without the public being involved, and stated that that was taxation without representation. She continued that this happened every day and every time this Board had a meeting.

Ms. Watkins asked when North Huntsville was going to be allowed to have input with anything dealing with Huntsville City Schools. She asked when the City Council and the Mayor were going to speak up, noting that they were seeing what was going on in North Huntsville, but they were being quiet about it, and that that was not right.

Ms. Watkins stated that when persons paid their taxes, they should have an elected official representing their district on the Huntsville City School Board, but that North Huntsville did not have any representation, and they needed some. She stated that they had a renegade Board and a renegade Superintendent, that they were running wild and running amok, that they did not take any input, that persons could not have any input whatsoever.

Ms. Watkins stated that Mr. David Blair had recently stated that Commissioner Harrison was not qualified to speak on education issues. She questioned what qualified Mr. Blair, inasmuch as he did not have an education degree. She stated that Northwest Huntsville had educators in the community, but

they did not speak to them, that they did not talk to them. She stated that they came to the meetings and persons looked at them like they were staring into outer space and did not understand what they were talking about.

Ms. Watkins stated that if this was going on in South Huntsville, it would not be an issue like it was in North Huntsville, that it would be resolved.

Ms. Terri Michal, 115 Mill Creek Crossing, appeared before the Council, expressing appreciation for being allowed to speak at this time. She stated that she would just like to attempt to make the Council members think for a moment, noting that there was a lot of talk about zoning and about the deseg order, etc., and that she believed they were kind of losing their focus.

Ms. Michal stated that she had been blessed the prior weekend with being able to go to the Selma Bridge Crossing Jubilee. She continued that they had had several students from J.O. Johnson there that were playing in the band, that they had played everybody across the bridge, and it was an incredible experience.

Ms. Michal stated that before they had gotten underway, they had been talking about J.O. Johnson, and that she had asked one of the students what they thought about the name change, noting that she had simply asked this question. She stated that this student had replied that they did not want the name change, and she had asked why they were not speaking up.

She stated that the student had replied that a teacher had told them that they could not get off the failing list unless they changed the name.

Ms. Michal stated that she had been talking to a lot of people across the state about this issue, in Montgomery, etc., and that she had found out by calling the Accountability Office at the Department of Education that they could not get off the failing list by changing the name of the school. She stated that there was a process that had to be done, and they would have to submit a lot of data concerning this, and ask to see the status for the new school. She continued that the question was why they were allowing persons to think this and why they were allowing teachers to tell their students this.

Ms. Michal stated that before she continued, she wanted to get back to the students crossing the bridge who felt like they had no voice. She stated that these students had walked for two hours, playing their drums, getting everybody in the spirit that if they crossed that bridge, they would get to the other side. She stated that she could see the transformation in these students' faces, and that by the time they had gotten to the other side, they got it, they understood that everyone had a voice and they could use it, that they could effect change. She stated that she was so proud of them that they were able to put it together. She continued that they were on fire at that time and ready to move forward.

Ms. Michal stated that citizens wanted great schools in

Huntsville, and she stated that part of having a great school was empowering the children. She stated that it scared her and upset her that the children were being manipulated and being served propaganda to silence them. She continued that this was the same thing they were doing to the parents, the same thing they were doing to the community. She stated that the politicians, the Boards, and the Legislators were making decisions that were affecting the rest of these childrens' lives, their futures, and the future of the state, and that persons had no input.

Ms. Michal stated that she was aware that there was a vote before the House to get a cyber security charter school and that she was also aware that Huntsville representatives were fighting that. She continued that she had been told by a representative the reason they were fighting it was because Superintendent Wardynski almost had the money in place to have the school in Huntsville. She stated that this was about corporate reform, that this was about persons making decisions based on money and not on the children's education.

Ms. Michal stated that on the following Sunday at 12:30 p.m., on Pulaski Pike, across from the new school, there would be a gathering for persons who had concerns about education issues in the city.

Mr. Reginald Hill, 227 Blake Bottom Road, appeared before the Council, stating that it appeared that society had entered into an unwavering state of complacency, and that in this

process, they had tuned out efforts toward effectiveness and cohesion, only to be subdued by the elements of secrecy and warfare, both physical and spiritual, and monetary greed. He stated that he saw the current societal issues as minute challenges, to be championed by public servants dedicated to the overall uplifting of the international community. He questioned where persons would find their responsibility in harvesting fruitfulness for their neighborhoods, noting it would be in their hearts and in their minds.

Mr. Hill stated that many times they conversed about circumstances and even planned out or organized solutions but never took the necessary steps of action because fear of intimidation clouded their ability to think and execute. He stated that this was nothing more than being chained to the past, noting that as they continued to latch themselves to the shortcomings of their history, they also eliminated true opportunities to advance to the unimaginable celebrations of the future. He stated that because worry was a hurdle of the future, they found themselves in a present day hallucination of uncertainty which halted them from exploring the adventures and innovative discoveries that would truly shape the quality of life for this time and ages to come. He continued that they were distracted by solicitations from the media concerning rising homicide rates and failing communities and school systems, with this being treated as the norm in the ever evolving human race. He continued that freedom of expression

appeared to be something that persons felt was wrong at this time.

Mr. Hill stated that he was speaking at this time not to target or antagonize the City leadership but to question and challenge the awareness of the public. He asked how the public could complain about the lives they lived if they did not speak up to the powers that be. He asked who they were to grow frustrated with the governance of their lives if they did not foster solutions to the many things that made them grow weary. He continued that City Council meetings, County Commission meetings, and School Board meetings were too empty, and that this was the fault of the citizens. He stated that the minds of the youth could certainly be corrupted by the influences of many with whom one might never truly come in contact, and that this, as well, was the citizens' fault. He stated that they were letting elected leaders get away with political murder on a daily basis because of not becoming involved.

Mr. Hill stated that if citizens were collective in their mission, the city would have prosperity. He stated that if they were mindful in their collaborations and considerate in their actions, they would remain in the realms of coherency and harmony. He asked what it would take for citizens to move in a rebellion, what it would take to promulgate a revolution against the multiple manipulations of others. He stated that the stylings of the pen and the proclamations of their voices would stand for what they needed.

Mr. Hill stated that at this time the city was in a place where if citizens continued to allow things to keep them complacent, they could not expect to see a difference. He stated that they were also in a time where if citizens divided themselves based on what they perceived of one another, they would never truly understand the abilities they could have based on what they could give to one another.

Mr. Hill stated that his mission was not to antagonize the leaders but to ask the leaders to be considerate of the citizens' decisions, their points of view, the things that they wanted to see in the city, because these individuals had been put in place to hear this.

Mr. Hill thanked the Council for their time.

Ms. Jackie Reed, Jack Coleman Drive, appeared before the Council, expressing appreciation to the Council for allowing the public to be involved in their meetings. She stated that she had discussed with Dr. Wardynski that the School Board should allow public comment, and that if the School Board did not care to hear persons, she had a problem with this. She stated that the Council was very good about allowing public input and that she appreciated it.

Ms. Reed stated that she would like to express appreciation to all the employees who served the City so well.

Ms. Reed stated that she had attended the Jimerson High School ribbon-cutting and that the City Administrator had represented the Mayor well at this event, that he had made a

very good speech. She thanked President Russell for being there also. She stated that she had not seen Councilman Showers there, but that she could understand why he did not show up, noting that she had also been opposed to the name change for the school, that she had marched against it, and remained against it. She stated that school name-changing was not going to change the grades of the students. She stated that until the parents stepped up to the plate and got involved, this was never going to change.

Ms. Reed stated that there were 26 buses running daily across the city, at a cost of \$7.5 million, and that they were going to add that many more. She stated that they had to join hands and stop this mess that was going on in the city, that all were God's people, and that they had to stop this and start working together. She stated that that was her vision of the city and the community and the country, and that until that happened, nothing was going to happen.

Ms. Reed stated that she wanted to go back to the chicken ordinance. She asked if persons saw her vest, noting that Mayor Battle had not known what kind of cow this represented, that it was a Holstein cow. She stated that there was a new ordinance that was coming before the Planning Commission on March 25 and that it was really bothering her. She stated that the Council should drop the hen ordinance and drop urban agriculture and get back to business in the city. She stated that they should do away with both of these. She stated that

now they were proposing to put livestock in the city, cows, pigs, horses, et cetera. She continued that they did not need this in the city. She stated that persons were coming in and stirring up things about the farmers' market and zoning ordinance and taking up so much of the Council's time and her time. She stated that they should leave the city like it was at this time. She stated that someone had told her that chickens were livestock and not to let persons fool her. She stated that she would continue to ask the Council to do away with this.

Pastor T.C. Johnson, 1800 Sparkman Drive, appeared before the Council, expressing appreciation to the Council, noting that on the prior weekend he had celebrated his 30th anniversary at St. Luke's Missionary Baptist Church. He stated that Councilman Showers and Councilman Culver had been at the event on Friday evening and at the end of the program had made a presentation to him and he expressed appreciation for this. He also thanked Mayor Battle for coming to his church on Sunday.

Pastor Johnson stated that he was from his heart thanking these persons for this because it showed that they did not take it personal that he did what he did at the Council meetings, noting that he did this because he loved the city of Huntsville. He continued that when he came before the Council arguing about things, he did it because he believed what he was saying, he expected them to believe what he was saying, and

that he hoped they would look into what he was saying. He stated that Huntsville was the only city in Alabama in which he would live, and that he refused to live anywhere else in the country, so that he was not leaving. He stated that this was not personal, that he would promise them that they could drink coffee together after he complained about things.

Pastor Johnson stated that he again wanted to thank Chief Morris because not one young black man had died in handcuffs in the hands of the police since he had become the chief of the department. He stated that he would like to give him a resolution for that.

Pastor Johnson thanked the Council members for showing that they were not mad at him most of the time.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Huntsville Utilities Items.

President Russell stated that Councilman Olshefski would recuse himself from these items and abstain from voting.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the approval to purchase annual software support for Stream Serve (PR#10144701) (Utilities: Electric), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-172)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for the vote on the above

resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Showers, Kling, Russell

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Olshefski

President Russell stated that the resolution had passed.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the entry into a contract for Vehicle Parts Management and Supply Services (PR#10145843) (Utilities: Joint), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-173)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Showers, Kling, Russell

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Olshefski

President Russell stated that the resolution had passed.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Board Appointments to be Voted On.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Lee Jones to the Huntsville Public Library Board, for a term to expire February 10, 2018, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-174)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing

resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Michelle Cummings to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Council, for a term to expire April 28, 2017, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-175)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Britt Birdwell to the Madison County Communications District Board, Place 6, for a term to expire April 30, 2018, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-176)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution to appoint Teresa Bingham to The Medical Clinic Board of the City of Huntsville-1966, for a term to expire March 10, 2020, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-177)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Board Appointment Nominations

Councilman Showers nominated Michelle Watkins for appointment to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Council, for a term to expire April 14, 2017.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Approval of Expenditures.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution authorizing expenditures for payment, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-178)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling asked Mr. Randy Taylor, Director of Finance, to present the Finance Committee report.

Mr. Taylor stated that he had one figure that he could provide. He stated that they had the sales tax figure for the month of February, noting that this was, of course, collections from January sales. He continued that this would be the fifth month of the fiscal year. He stated that February collections were 3.2 percent less than February of the prior year, which meant that the year-to-date number would drop. He stated that the budget requirement was 3 percent for the year and they were now at 1.7 percent for year-to-date activity, through five months. He continued that they had some ground to make up. He stated that at the end of the month, they would have

collections through the first six months of the fiscal year and the mid-year review would come not too long after that. He stated that they would need to grow at approximately 4 percent through the remainder of the year in order to close this gap. He stated that each percent deviation represented approximately \$1.1 million to the General Fund of the City. He stated that he just wanted to let them know they were running behind somewhat but noted that they were optimistic they could close this gap.

Mr. Taylor stated, concerning the other revenues of the City, that they were still working through them, as he had reported the prior month. He stated that as far as they could tell, these appeared to be on target. He stated that they were still waiting on privilege license figures but they should have good information on that for the mid-year review.

Mr. Taylor reiterated that they were behind somewhat on the No. 1 revenue and stated that hopefully they would improve on that and be able to report that the following month.

President Russell stated that since Mayor Battle had had to leave the meeting, the next item on the agenda was Communications from Council Members.

Councilman Olshefski stated that it was a sensitive subject, but he would make a comment on the school situation. He stated that he appreciated everyone's input and that he listened to every word everyone said. He stated that it made his heart hurt that he came to a wonderful town like Huntsville

and things always seemed to turn into black and white, that this really bothered him. He stated that he knew his black brothers out there knew his heart and he knew that they knew he did not like any of this. He stated that he was reading a book at this time by Carl Elliott, telling the history of the great state of Alabama.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he could not fix some of these things that the citizens were asking the Council to fix. He stated that, however, he could say that he had looked at the numbers, noting that he was a person who always liked to throw a positive in when there was a negative. He continued that the numbers were way better at this time than they had been 2 1/2 years prior, noting that he was confident in that. He stated that he was aware that some citizens were very disappointed in the name change of the school and that he appreciated their comments on this, but reiterated that the city was better off at this time, from a school perspective, than it had been 2 1/2 years prior.

Councilman Olshefski stated that they could not forget that there were 23,000 young kids in the community, and that this was about the kids, that it was about how they were going to grow up and would they be college kids or go into a trade. He stated that they had had these discussions.

Councilman Olshefski stated that Councilman Showers was well aware that he was a mentor to one of Councilman Showers' nephews, who was a young man at The Citadel, and that since

they had been at this meeting, he had been calling him to ask for some mentorship.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he had attended a school that did not have black students in it until 1965 and did not have women in it until 1998. He stated that he loved his school, and he was glad they had made changes. He stated that they put out great products, and they took great kids like Chad Adams from Buckhorn High School.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he would just leave this matter with the point that the Council would continue to listen. He stated that the citizens should keep bringing this, that he was not telling them to stop bringing it. He stated that he got his emails, he got his calls, and he made his calls.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he talked to Dr. Jennie Robinson concerning school situations more frequently than persons could imagine, and that he talked to Casey Wardynski on school situations. He stated that he would just leave it at that, reiterating that he believed the schools were headed in the right direction academically, although he was not saying there were not problems.

Councilman Olshefski stated that persons came before the Council with complaints about problems at City Hall, but that he believed the City was better at this time than it had been two or three years prior, as well.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he had had the

opportunity to speak to the Young Professionals the prior evening, noting that he had been on a panel, and that he had looked out and felt really good about the demographics of the Young Professionals. He stated that there was not just one black guy and one black young woman, that there were more, that it was almost 50-50. He continued that there were blacks, whites, Hispanics, married, unmarried, the whole gamut. He stated that they were attending this event to learn why the politicians ran and why they did what they did.

Councilman Olshefski stated that there was a lot of goodness going on, and he did not want to lose that.

Councilman Culver stated that on the prior weekend, the Kite Day was an incredible day, that it was probably one of the most diversified days in the city. He stated that he had really enjoyed it and had had an opportunity to see many persons.

Councilman Culver stated to Pastor Johnson that his church had poured out pure love, and that he had thoroughly enjoyed the evening. He stated that it had been a great weekend, noting that he had also enjoyed the fellowship with the church on Saturday.

Councilman Culver thanked the persons who were attending the Council meeting and had spoken earlier, noting that he was very concerned about the school system and had attended most of the meetings, that he had attended Johnson, Butler, Columbia, and the Chamber, and some at Dr. Wardynski's office. He stated

that he had also met privately with Dr. Wardynski on the prior Monday for a discussion. He continued that the black pastors had also met with Dr. Wardynski, and that he was also present at that meeting.

Councilman Culver stated that there was an issue with the school system, that this was clear. He continued that there was not much diversity in North and West Huntsville.

Councilman Culver questioned if it was practical to create some type of elongated path that would go from Northwest Huntsville into Southeast Huntsville to make kids come into Johnson/Jimerson. He stated that, of course, there was case law that prevented this, but even if there were not, that would be an unconscionable thing to do.

Councilman Culver stated that then the question was what they would do and stated that this was what he had been asking the community. He stated that he did not want to embarrass anyone, but noted that when he was talking to persons, he was listening carefully to what they were saying, and that he had gotten some good information from a person who was in the audience at this time. He stated that he was not a School Board member, that he had been elected to the Council, but that he was concerned about education, so that he had taken it upon himself to look into how they could resolve this problem, noting that they had gotten to this point, and the question was where they could go from here.

Councilman Culver stated that he wanted to talk about the

Academy for Arts and Academics, better known as AAA. He stated that AAA was situated in one of the largest public housing communities in the city, and that people from Hampton Cove sent their kids to AAA, and that students came from all over the city. He questioned why they would want to do this. He continued that it had nothing to do with the physical walls, that it had to do with curriculum.

Councilman Culver stated that what he had discussed with Dr. Wardynski, after having spoken with his good friend who had given him some good advice, was if they could create a magnet program that was all-inclusive, that would attract persons from all over the city. He continued that if they did that, they would not have to worry about the diversity, that it would naturally evolve. He stated that, of course, this would not happen overnight. He continued that he did not know what this curriculum might be, that it might be biotechnology, or whatever, but that whatever it might be, this would be an opportunity. He stated that he felt they should take advantage of this opportunity and all of them sit down with Dr. Wardynski and the School Board and say that this was what they thought might work, and that they should move forward with it in an amicable way.

Councilman Culver stated that persons could blame and fight, but that this was not going to help the children at all. He reiterated that they should say they felt this program would not only serve the community in Northwest Huntsville but it

would serve Southeast, Southwest, and Northeast, so that then they would have something.

Councilman Culver stated that some persons had told him that they could not talk with Dr. Wardynski, that they could not get an audience with him. He stated that if he needed to, he would be more than happy to relay whatever persons' concerns might be. He stated that persons should not take what he was saying negatively, noting that he was just trying to be resolutional in this matter. He asked that they please work with him, with the Council, with the School Board, with the Superintendent, with the Mayor, and with the Department of Justice in this matter. He stated that if they could put man on the moon, surely they could fix their problem in the Huntsville City School System.

Councilman Kling stated that in the prior few weeks, there had been a lot of meetings in his district and that he had attended a lot of good activities that had taken place.

Councilman Kling stated that the Triana Village Community Watch had reactivated, noting that they had been dormant for awhile, and that Kimberly Battle was now chairperson of the organization. He stated that he had attended a meeting with residents and that he felt they were going to be doing some good things. He stated that he had mentioned before the tens of thousands of man hours of Community Watch volunteers citywide and what this meant to the community. He stated that this would be a great shot in the arm for the Triana Village

neighborhood.

Councilman Kling stated that he had also attended the event at John Hunt Park and that, conservatively, he believed there must have been at least 10,000 people there, that people from all over the community were coming in, that it was a beautiful day and it had been a great event for the city. He stated that everyone involved in putting on this event should certainly be commended.

Councilman Kling stated that on that same morning, Grace Lutheran School had been celebrating its 50th anniversary, noting that that was a great historical milestone for that school that had meant a lot to the community.

Councilman Kling stated that in the prior week, the Holiday Homes Neighborhood Association had had a meeting, noting that they were working on getting some neighborhood issues resolved. He stated that this was a great group, with a lot of neighborhood involvement.

Councilman Kling stated that the Huntsville-Madison County Builders Association had had their Builders Showcase the prior week at the Civic Center. He continued that a lot of great things were taking place with this group, noting, concerning the economy, that the city was not just all about aerospace, that there were thousands of builders and support businesses that were thriving in Huntsville-Madison County. He stated that one thing that was certainly appreciated was the numerous housing opportunities available in the Huntsville-Madison

County area.

Councilman Kling stated that he had attended a dinner event with Huntsville South and that he had certainly enjoyed seeing the people there, people that cared about their neighborhoods.

Councilman Kling stated that the St. Patrick's Day Parade would be coming up on the following Saturday and that he would be participating in this.

Councilman Kling stated that his town meeting would be held on the following Tuesday, March 18, at 7 p.m., rather than on Monday, because of the schedule of the Library. He stated that persons were welcome to attend, noting that they would talk about whatever persons in attendance wanted to discuss. He stated that there was always the subject of road resurfacing, noting that that was always a good topic. He stated that there had been a lot of input from persons throughout the city about the streets they wanted to have Mr. Hatfield look at and see where they would be on the resurfacing list.

Councilman Kling stated that they would also be talking about schools at his town hall meeting, noting that he was a former School Board member and was certainly very concerned about the schools. He stated that he had had the opportunity to talk to Dr. Wardynski, noting that one of the concerns he had was that, based on the plans that were being submitted by the City of Huntsville School System, and also the plan the

Justice Department had, several schools in West Huntsville would be closed. He stated that, as persons were aware, empty schools were not good things for neighborhoods. He continued that persons in these neighborhoods that he had spoken with were very concerned about what the impact of this would be.

Councilman Kling stated that he had spoken with Dr. Wardynski, and that he had consented to come and meet, with a plan of action, once the dust was settled, and they would know what the status of the schools would be, and whatever the zoning plan situation would be. He stated that that was a meeting that they would have in the future and that information would be provided concerning this. He stated that Dr. Wardynski was aware of the concern about the impact the empty schools would have on the West Huntsville neighborhoods. He continued that hopefully something could be done to provide relief to these neighborhoods.

Councilman Showers stated that he had attended a red carpet event the past weekend, honoring Dr. T.C. Johnson, and that he wanted to again recognize his 30 years of service to the community. He stated that he certainly appreciated having the opportunity to attend this event.

Councilman Showers stated that his sister-in-law, Ms. Ruby Ford, was celebrating her 70th birthday on this day and that he wanted to congratulate her.

Councilman Showers stated that Commissioner Bob Harrison and Councilman Culver and himself were supposed to attend a

function of the ATA at this time, noting that there would be a regional opportunity for this on the weekend. He stated that they had been invited for a dinner on this date but, rather, were present at this meeting.

Councilman Showers stated that on the following day the Boy Scouts of America, the Greater Alabama Council, would have the annual Whitney M. Young Service Award, at 6 p.m., at The Marriott.

Councilman Showers stated that also on the following day would be the welcome night for the AKA, the 82nd Southeastern Regional Conference, where he would be bringing greetings.

Councilman Showers encouraged persons to attend the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Councilman Showers stated that on the following Saturday, at 5 p.m., local radio station WDJL would have an Icons in the Community program.

Councilman Showers stated, concerning the schools, that he had been elected to the Council in 1988, at a time when the School Board was negotiating funds to support the school district. He stated that at that time, in 1988, the City was allocating \$4.7 million to assist the schools in their needs. He continued that shortly after that, a Councilman who no longer served on the Council, Councilman Jim Putnam, and himself had put in a resolve to the Council that they would support the school district with 12.5 percent of the previous year's revenue. He continued that at this time the City was

giving the schools \$19 million.

Councilman Showers stated that they had gone through proration, and they were giving the schools at that time \$1 million for capital, in addition to the 12.5 percent they were giving. He stated that Councilman Kling had put this resolution on the table, and it had passed.

Councilman Showers stated that at this time the City was giving approximately \$20 million to the School Board because of the action of the Council. He stated that he would be remiss if he did not say that he had served with the School System for 36 years. He stated that the superintendents at that time had granted him the opportunity to be on the Council and to maintain his job at the Technical School on Drake Avenue.

Councilman Showers stated that in addition to approximately \$19 million the schools would receive this year, an additional \$17 million would be provided to the School Board for debt service, for building all the new buildings that were going to be coming up and were proposed to be coming up.

Councilman Showers stated that prior to 1988, the City was earmarking the amount that he had just indicated that Councilman Kling had suggested, that because of proration, there would be more money to operate the school district.

Councilman Showers stated that he had enumerated all of this to show that he had always supported the School Board, the School System.

Councilman Showers stated that they had been discussing

the schools earlier in the meeting and that he too wanted to address this matter. He stated that there were letters and statements that were being made about whose purview it was to address school issues. He stated that he would like to remind the public that under another administration, the City was losing a large number of students to private schools and to other schools, such as county schools. He stated that Councilman Kling would remember that at that time, they came up with the TIF, an opportunity where the City could generate money to support the schools, noting that at that particular time they had TIF 1.

Councilman Showers stated that Johnson High School was struggling at that time, that they were not getting the funding they should have been getting. He continued that because of the support from the Council, Johnson had received \$12 million, and they had done a lot of things, but, still, that wasn't enough.

Councilman Showers stated, in regard to the Huntsville City School Board and its superintendent, that what they had was a failure to communicate. He stated that the leadership of the City of Huntsville was inclusive of the Mayor, the City Council, the Madison County Commission, and state and national elected officials. He stated that the Huntsville City School Board and its superintendent, this leadership, must lead in a way that it represented the community which it served. He stated that the leadership must be respectful of its citizens

and of each other.

Councilman Showers stated that the recent actions and comments of the Huntsville City School Board and its superintendent addressed to citizens and the news media were unfortunate. He continued that they had served to create a division in the community at a time when the City was promoting One City, One Vision. He stated that these actions by the School Board and Dr. Wardynski were not consistent with that goal.

Councilman Showers stated that as a member of the City Council and as a concerned citizen, it was his responsibility to speak out against this unjust situation in the city. He stated that all leadership, whether elected, appointed, or hired, had the inherent responsibility to its constituents to be open, honest, respectful, and just in all of their dealings and actions.

Councilman Showers stated that he personally felt the School Board and the Superintendent had not adhered to that spirit. He continued that the lack of oneness, respect, honesty, and truthfulness, in respect to School Board meetings, the changing of school names, and zoning issues had demonstrated that fact. He stated that after several meetings with citizens, inclusive of several teachers, clergy members, and public officials, he had reached the conclusion that something had to be done concerning this situation. He stated that the School Board and the Superintendent should understand

that the intimidation and disrespect of the citizens, teachers, public officials, and the scarring of the School System was unacceptable for this great city.

Councilman Showers stated that unless the School Board and the superintendent exhibited a more transparent form of governance and respected its citizens and their right to attend and speak out at Board meetings, and respect, communicate with, and work with all elected public officials, it would be his recommendation to the Council that all funds allocated to the Huntsville City School System be withheld until it was determined by the Council that the School System had met the spirit and intent of the aforementioned items that he had just enumerated. He stated that, additionally, he would request that all future allocations of funds to the Huntsville City School System be earmarked for specific operational items, as determined by the Council.

Councilman Showers stated that he would close by reiterating that he supported the School System, but noted that he did not support what had happened in the last several months, with the school name change and concerning the approach that had been taken with the Justice Department to grant this school district unitary status. He stated that most persons had seen the media report about the concerns that had been raised by the Justice Department.

Councilman Showers stated that at this time he was being told that there would be better programs, better schools, but

stated that, yet, they had to look like they were one school district. He stated that based on what was on the table at this time, they were not one school district. He stated that he was not accusing anybody concerning this situation but that the facts were the facts. He stated that they were trying to establish unitary status, but they had five black schools, and they were recommending that those schools feed into a black school, Johnson High School, and they expected that the Justice Department was going to approve this. He continued that he was concerned about this.

Councilman Showers stated that it had been said that America had but one problem: That she was consistently inconsistent. He stated that was what they had in the city, noting that the theme was One Huntsville, One Vision. He stated that he wanted this too, but that they had to face the facts, they had to face up to the reality that they were not there yet. He continued that if they were really sincere, if they really wanted to come together, as Councilman Olshefski had stated, they needed to do just that. He continued that it had to go beyond just talking, that they had to put it in action.

Councilman Showers stated that they should join hands on this and walk together.

President Russell stated that he appreciated all his colleagues' comments on this matter, noting that he agreed with many of the things that were said and that he respected

Councilman Showers' position on these issues. He stated that his experience had been that the rezoning had been a very public process, noting that he had attended many public meetings concerning this, at Lee, Grissom, Huntsville High, and Johnson. He stated that Pastor T.C. Johnson and himself had been in attendance at Johnson, and that he believed they were treated equally, that all their questions were answered by professionals. He stated that he himself did not need to talk to Dr. Wardynski, but he was certainly there, and if he or Pastor Johnson had wanted to ask him a question, he was available. He stated that his questions had been answered by architects, construction managers, educators, and administrators. He continued that most of his questions were dealing with how this affected the children and the parents in his district.

President Russell stated that he had also been in attendance at the School Board meetings twice and heard their plans. He stated that he did not necessarily agree with their policy concerning taking public comment, that he much preferred the way the Council did this, when they allowed public comment as much and as often as they could. He continued that this was just his opinion, noting that he did not serve on the School Board. He continued that perhaps if he did serve on that Board, his opinion would change concerning this. He stated that the Council could handle what they did, that they could not handle what the School Board did.

President Russell stated that he had seen Dr. Wardynski speak at two or three Chamber of Commerce meetings, which he believed all the Council members were invited to, noting that most of them were there. He stated that Dr. Wardynski had taken questions, and that after the last Chamber of Commerce meeting, he had met with the PTA's from all across the district, from north, south, east, and west, that it was not just a specific group, that there were PTA members from all over the city.

President Russell stated that, in addition, his School Board member, David Blair, who served in his district, had answered all the questions he had asked him, noting that he had asked him to explain several situations concerning constituents. He continued that Mr. Blair had been more than helpful and more than open in dealing with the issues he had. He stated that the results were not all perfect for the citizens who had asked him questions, but that he had gotten the information for them. He stated that this was working together. He continued that they all had to work together, noting that he had worked with Doug Martinson and David Blair in his district. He continued that he could not say how the other Council members worked with the members in their districts, but noted that it was possible. He stated that he believed that most of them did want to work together.

President Russell stated that, in his opinion, this situation had been very public. He stated that there had been

some issues that Councilman Showers had brought out and some other persons had brought out that were of concern, and stated that he was sure these would be worked out. He stated that he did not want citizens to leave thinking that he felt this situation was perfect, but noted that he did believe they were going in the right direction. He continued that he believed they should get the children back into this discussion, noting that most of the complaints they were hearing at the Council meetings were not about the children, that they were about buildings, locations, et cetera. He stated that he hoped they could center this back on the children and their education.

President Russell stated to Councilman Showers that he understood the threat concerning holding the money and that the School Board should be concerned about this, but noted that was not something he could do, that he would not be able to hurt the children in his district by holding money that was so desperately needed. He stated that he hoped Councilman Showers could find another way to get the School Board's attention. He continued that if there was anything he could do to help him do this, he certainly would assist.

Councilman Kling stated that from time to time the Council had had meetings with other governing bodies, that they had met with the County Commission just a couple of weeks prior. He asked if perhaps they could set up a joint breakfast meeting with the School Board for the purpose of having discussion between the City Council, the Mayor, the School Board, and the

Superintendent.

President Russell stated that that was being planned at this time.

Councilman Showers stated that he felt he would be remiss if he did not reply to President Russell's last statement, being if he could help. He continued that he could and stated that he would be asking not only President Russell but also the other three Council members to assist in this. He stated that he believed it was important to talk. He continued that he believed it was not helpful when citizens were denied the right to speak, noting that any citizen was due the respect of being heard.

Councilman Showers stated that in 1988, he had been elected to represent the interests, the needs, and the wishes of citizens who resided in District 1. He stated that if Council members were not going to do that, they did not need to be in place. He stated that the people whom he represented had concerns. He stated that he did not have any problem with Jimerson, but it was the way in which it was done. He stated that when citizens had gone to the Board meeting and asked to be heard, they had acknowledged that they wanted this name not to be changed, that they wanted the legacy to remain, and the representative for District 1 had not listened to them, as well as the Board had not listened.

Councilman Showers stated to President Russell that he had attended the same meeting that President Russell had attended.

He continued that there were citizens that were present at that meeting and stated that it was a shame the way they were treated, how they were ignored, and the arrogance that was displayed. He reiterated to President Russell that yes, he could certainly help with this.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Unfinished Business Items for Action.

Councilman Showers moved for approval of Ordinance No. 14-140, annexing land lying on the west side of Dug Hill Road and north of Raintree Road, which ordinance was introduced at the February 27, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-140)

Said motion was duly seconded by President Russell.

President Russell recognized Ms. Lisa Leddo of the Planning Division.

Ms. Leddo stated that this was 0.99 acre of land lying on the west side of Dug Hill Road and north of Raintree Road.

President Russell asked Ms. Leddo if she had a slide depicting the location of this property.

Ms. Leddo stated that it was not displaying at this time.

Ms. Leddo stated that there was one single-family, detached dwelling located on the property, and that it was residential property. She continued that the owner had requested the annexation in order to be able to attend City schools.

President Russell called for the vote on the above

ordinance, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers moved for approval of Ordinance No. 14-141, annexing land lying on the north side of Mohawk Road and west of Taylor Road, which ordinance was introduced at the February 27, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-141)

Said motion was duly seconded by President Russell.

President Russell recognized Ms. Leddo.

Ms. Leddo stated that this was 1.16 acres of land lying on the north side of Mohawk Road and west of Taylor Road. She stated that this was, again, residential land and that there was one existing single-family, detached dwelling located on the property, and that they were requesting annexation for City schools and City services.

President Russell called for the vote on the above ordinance, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Introduction. He stated that the Administration had asked that these items be considered at this meeting by unanimous consent. He continued that they all dealt with reorganizing the Planning Department, so that this was basically organizational issues.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance establishing the Planning Department, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-179)

President Russell moved that unanimous consent be given

for the immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers, and upon said motion being put to vote, the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

President Russell stated that the motion for unanimous consent for immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance had been unanimously carried.

President Russell thereupon moved that said ordinance be finally adopted, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell asked Mr. Shane Davis, Director of Urban Development, to explain the above ordinance.

Mr. Davis stated that the Council members had before them a series of ordinances to establish the Department of Planning and the Director of Planning. He stated that historically this department had fallen under the Department of Urban Development, noting that it would continue to do this. He stated that this department had previously not had a director. He stated that what the Council would be establishing at this time would be the Director of Planning. He continued that the Planning Services manager and the Long-Range Planning manager would fall under that Planning Director, similar to other departments throughout the City.

Councilman Culver stated that his question concerned the

pay grade for the position, noting that, if he understood correctly, from what he had gathered through the media and after talking with Mayor Battle, there was a current employee of the City who would move into this position.

Mr. Davis stated that that was correct. He continued that from a pay grade status, this would be a lateral transfer.

Councilman Culver inquired as to why it would not be a higher pay grade.

Mr. Davis stated that this was a pay grade 22, which was in line with the pay grade of the other directors that fell under the Director of Urban Development.

Councilman Culver inquired if that would mean it would be consistent with other departments that were similarly situated.

Mr. Davis replied in the affirmative.

Councilman Kling stated that he would like to note for the record that he had spoken with Mr. Joffrion, and he had advised him that he had no problem with his having full voting and participation on these five items.

Councilman Showers asked if the transfer that would take place would reduce that particular pay grade, or if it was the same, less, or more.

Mr. Davis stated that the position that Ms. Jordan would be vacating in administration would not be refilled. He continued that Mayor Battle and the Administration were determining how some of these services would be disbursed, noting that there could be a position to fill a portion of

those, but it would be at a considerable pay grade less.

Councilman Showers stated that he would have a concern if the transfer was going to reduce the annual contract that was current at this time. He asked Mr. Joffrion if he would be at liberty to ask the delta between the present time and what would happen when the transfer occurred.

Mr. Joffrion stated that he was not sure he understood Councilman Showers' question.

Councilman Showers stated that Mr. Davis had stated that there would be a decrease and he wanted to know what this difference would be, based on what that particular employee was earning at this time.

Mr. Davis stated that perhaps he had confused Councilman Showers on this issue. He stated that there would be no decrease. He continued that he was saying that the position of Director of Governmental Affairs and Economic Development, that position that was currently in the Mayor's office, would be omitted.

Councilman Showers stated that he understood that but noted that he had been asking about the salary. He asked Mr. Davis if he was stating at this time that the salary would remain the same.

Mr. Joffrion stated that Ms. Jordan's salary would remain the same.

Mr. Davis apologized to Councilman Showers for the confusion on this issue.

Councilman Culver stated that economic development was very crucial, especially as it related to North and West Huntsville, as well as the South corridor on the Parkway. He asked who would be the point of contact concerning this. He stated that he was asking who he needed to contact concerning what was needed in North and West Huntsville.

Mr. Davis stated that Mayor Battle had given him the official duty of economic development. He continued that Ms. Jordan and himself would still work hand in hand just as they did at this time. He stated that carrying out those duties would really not change.

Councilman Showers stated that the citizens who resided in North Huntsville wanted the same quality that any other area of the city was receiving. He continued that their tax dollars were spent just like other tax dollars in the city. He stated that there were plenty of vacant spots on the north end, and that he had raised this issue previously, and that Mr. Davis had heard this, and Mr. Davis had shared with him some future opportunities. He stated that, however, the fact remained that North Huntsville wanted some more grocery stores, some hotels, and some other developments to happen on the north end of town. He stated that they were going to continue to ask that there be an inclusive Planning Division, Economic Division, more so than there was at this time.

President Russell called for the vote on Ordinance No. 14-179, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance establishing the Division of Urban and Long-Range Planning, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-180)

President Russell moved that unanimous consent be given for the immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers, and upon said motion being put to vote, the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

President Russell stated that the motion for unanimous consent for immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance had been unanimously carried.

President Russell thereupon moved that said ordinance be finally adopted, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

President Russell recognized Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis stated that the Manager of Long-Range Planning, by this ordinance, would have direct supervision by the Planning Director. He stated that this concerned setting the organizational structure of the division.

Councilman Kling stated that he had confidence for the future, that he felt there were some good things that were starting to happen in the West Huntsville area, that hopefully there would be a grocery store. He stated that there had been

a lot of work by Mr. Davis's office, and him especially, in trying to make the big Walmart on a small piece of property be as least intrusive as possible on the affected neighborhood. He stated that he was aware that a lot of things had been done regarding this and that these were certainly appreciated.

Councilman Kling stated that Mr. Madsen had gone out on some very good sessions with two people that he recommended that he meet with in West Huntsville: Michelle McMullen from Lowe Mill and B.J. Robinson from Bailey-Patton Estates. He stated that they had ridden around and looked at all the things that needed to be addressed, noting that he believed one of the top things they were looking at was Patton Road, which he noted was adjacent to the Arsenal. He stated that as far as a planning point of view, he did not think that was what they wanted the Arsenal to look out and see when they started thinking about future expansions to take place.

Councilman Kling stated to Mr. Davis that he felt they had some good things taking place in his department and that his leadership was very much appreciated.

President Russell called for the vote on Ordinance No. 14-180, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance establishing the Division of Planning Services, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-181)

President Russell moved that unanimous consent be given for the immediate consideration of and action on said

ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers, and upon said motion being put to vote, the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

President Russell stated that the motion for unanimous consent for immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance had been unanimously carried.

President Russell thereupon moved that said ordinance be finally adopted, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

President Russell recognized Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis stated that this was for the Manager of Planning Services, which he noted was the position that Ms. Marie Bostick had vacated, due to retirement. He stated that this was the same type structure, putting this position under the Planning Director.

President Russell called for the vote on Ordinance No. 14-181, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance establishing the Division of Community Development, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-182)

President Russell moved that unanimous consent be given for the immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers, and upon said motion being put to vote, the

following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

President Russell stated that the motion for unanimous consent for immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance had been unanimously carried.

President Russell thereupon moved that said ordinance be finally adopted, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

Mr. Davis stated that this was again setting structure in the Planning organization, and that the Director of Community Development would answer to the Planning Director.

President Russell called for the vote on Ordinance No. 14-182, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 89-79, the City of Huntsville Classification and Salary Plan, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-183)

President Russell moved that unanimous consent be given for the immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers, and upon said motion being put to vote, the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

President Russell stated that the motion for unanimous

consent for immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance had been unanimously carried.

President Russell thereupon moved that said ordinance be finally adopted, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell recognized Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis stated that this was the ordinance to put in the classification and pay scale for the Planning Director.

President Russell called for the vote on Ordinance No. 14-183, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers asked where Community Development was at this time in the structure.

Mr. Davis stated that it was under his direction, the Department of Urban Development, and it would still be within Urban Development but would be a division of the Planning Department.

Councilman Showers asked if that department would then answer to the Director of the Planning Department.

Mr. Davis replied in the affirmative.

Councilman Showers asked if it was correct that in the scenario the Council had just voted on, three divisions would come under the Director of Planning.

Mr. Davis replied in the affirmative.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Consideration or Action. He reiterated that items 15.v and 15.w had been deleted from the

agenda.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreements with the low bidder meeting specifications as outlined in the attached Summary of Bids for Acceptance, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-184)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance to amend Budget Ordinance No. 13-630 by changing appropriated funding for various departments and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-185)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance to amend Budget Ordinance No. 13-630 by changing authorized personnel strength in various departments and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-186)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the acceptance of donations, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-187)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an investment custodial agreement with U.S. Bank, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-188)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute Change Order No. 1 to the agreement between the City of Huntsville and Metro Commercial Contracting LLC for Landscape Management Office renovations, located at 2413 9th Avenue, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-189)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with LBYD, Inc., Engineering Services for Redstone Gateway Earthwork and Topsoil Analysis, Project No. 65-14-SP18, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-190)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing

resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Littlejohn Engineering Associates, Inc., d/b/a G. W. Jones & Sons Consulting Engineers, for Topographic Surveying Services for John Hunt Park, Project No. 65-14-SP17, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-191)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the low bidder, Christopher Professional Enterprises, Inc., for Periodic Bid for Sanitary Sewer Projects-2014, Project No. 65-14-SS04, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-192)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc., for Engineering Design Services for Wynn Drive Relocation, Project No. 65-14-RD02, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-193)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing

resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Garver, L.L.C., for Engineering Services for Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Administration, Project No. 65-14-SP16 (Water Pollution Control), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-194)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to make application for State Revolving Loan Funds from the State of Alabama for City of Huntsville Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-195)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to modify the agreement with Johnson & Associates Consulting Engineers, L.L.C., for Engineering Services for NPDES Permitting and Inspections for John Hunt Park, Project No. 65-12-SP19, by Modification No. 1, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-196)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Real Estate Purchase Agreement between the City of Huntsville, 103 Wynn Drive LLC, and the Alabama State Board of Education for Wynn Drive Relocation, Project No. 65-14-SP18, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-197)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Jackson County Commission, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-198)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Limestone County Commission, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-199)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Marshall County Commission, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-200)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Morgan County Commission, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-201)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Cullman County Commission, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-202)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the North Alabama Medical Reserve Corps, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-203)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing

resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Roark Chainsaw Carving for Earth Day Event at Hays Nature Preserve on April 12, 2014, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-204)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute Modification No. 13 to Supplemental Development Agreement, TIF5 Series 2010-A, between the City of Huntsville and LW Redstone Company, LLC, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-205)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to amend an agreement with Rimini, as adopted August 28, 2008, by Resolution No. 08-815, for support for PeopleSoft Products, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-206)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling

and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement between the City of Huntsville, Alabama, and Summit Technology, Inc., for hosting the City of Huntsville's PeopleSoft Database, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-207)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell moved for approval of a request for authorization to advertise and fill the position of Deputy Director of Traffic Engineering, at Grade 20, and at a higher rate if necessary, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously approved.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Real Estate Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Heritage Ventures, Inc., as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-208)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

President Russell asked Mr. Davis for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Davis stated that this was the final piece of right-of-way for the Downtown Gateway Boulevard that they had

been working on for several years, to have a main entrance from Governors Drive into the downtown area without having to go through the hospital district. He stated that if this was approved by the Council, they would put the project out for bid once they made this purchase.

President Russell inquired as to the price for the purchase and how it was derived.

Mr. Davis stated that the price was \$1.6 million, noting that it would take two structures down, one along Governors Drive and then the back side of St. Clair. He stated that the right-of-way had been based off of appraisal and damages done in the total taking of two structures, in the amount of \$1.6 million.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 14-208, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between the City of Huntsville and CareHere Management, PLLC, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-209)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Russell.

President Russell asked Mr. Byron Thomas, Director of Human Resources, for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Thomas stated that this was a resolution to enter into the second agreement with CareHere. He continued that this

would allow the City to offer on-site medical clinic services to its employees, dependents, retirees, and elected officials. He continued that it would also provide pharmacy services, an electronic records system, and a wellness program for the employees.

President Russell inquired as to the term of the agreement.

Mr. Thomas stated that the agreement was initially for three years.

President Russell inquired as to how the Council would know if the company was doing a good job.

Mr. Thomas stated that they would be given reporting as often as they needed to make sure that they were monitoring and to make sure the company was doing what they wanted them to do.

President Russell requested that after six months, Mr. Thomas meet with the Council in a work session and keep them apprised of how this was going.

Councilman Showers stated that he had spoken with Mr. Thomas about this issue, noting that he had a concern. He asked Mr. Thomas if there was an urgency to approve this resolution at this time.

Mr. Thomas replied in the affirmative, stating that they would like to get it approved at this time because they wanted to get started with the planning process so they could go ahead and start offering these services to the employees. He continued that also there were some credits that had been built

into the first agreement that had been approved in January, and they could get credit toward this agreement for what had been paid for the health risk assessments. He stated that they would like to go forward with this at this time.

Councilman Showers asked if it would create a problem if the Council deferred the vote on this item for two weeks.

Mr. Thomas replied in the affirmative, stating that they would really like to get started on this and that would just delay the process. He stated that they also wanted to get started with the building, the lease agreement, so they could do the build-out and get that going.

Councilman Showers stated that he was intending to ask to postpone this matter until the next meeting of the Council, but that Mr. Thomas had indicated the urgency, and that if the Council needed to go ahead and implement it, he would agree to go ahead with it.

Councilman Kling stated that he was going to support the resolution. He continued that to him this was kind of an unusual circumstance, noting that Huntsville Hospital was non-profit and this was a for-profit company, and that Huntsville Hospital was local and this was an out-of-town company. He stated that he was aware there were a lot of safeguards built in, but noted that the persons who worked at Huntsville Hospital were 3,000 persons, and they were 3,000 persons who paid taxes in the community. He stated this was a very tough decision, but that he understood the process

Mr. Thomas had gone through with this committee, and he respected that. He stated that he was aware they had a pretty firm agreement worked out with this company, and he would support it. He stated that he believed President Russell had a very good idea about having an update on this matter periodically so they could see how it was working out.

Councilman Kling reiterated that this was a strange situation, noting that Huntsville Utilities had gone in a different direction. He stated that, however, he was aware they had done their due diligence on this, and that he respected their work on it.

Councilman Showers stated to Mr. Thomas that Councilman Kling had just mentioned Huntsville Utilities and asked if the County had not also gone in with them on this.

Mr. Thomas stated that that was his understanding.

Councilman Showers asked how this particular program the Council was considering differed from that particular partnership.

Mr. Thomas stated that one thing about CareHere they were excited about was that this was what they did, that they offered on-site clinics to organizations throughout the country, and that they had numerous clinics. He stated that Mr. Ernie Clevenger, the president of the company, was in attendance at the meeting if the Council would like to hear more about CareHere. He reiterated that this was their niche, this was what they did, that they tried to help organizations

to be proactive about their employees' health.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Thomas if he was saying that the partnership that existed between Madison County and Huntsville Utilities did not provide clinics.

Mr. Thomas stated that he had not stated that, that he was just saying he knew that Huntsville Utilities and Madison County had gone into an agreement for clinic services through Huntsville Hospital. He stated that he could not speak for them, that he was just speaking about CareHere, the company with which they were looking to partner. He continued that they provided on-site clinics, and that that was all they did. He continued that they were excited about all the expanded services they offered.

Councilman Showers stated that he appreciated Mr. Harrison of the Madison County Commission being present with the Council for this meeting. He stated that he represented the County and he was well aware of the relationship between Utilities and Madison County, and the end result.

Councilman Showers asked President Russell if he could ask Mr. Harrison a question.

President Russell stated that it was certainly possible, but he felt it was not the most appropriate thing to do. He stated that he would leave it up to the Council members if they wanted to bring someone else into this discussion. He stated that there was a motion on the table.

Councilman Showers stated that he understood this, and he

just wanted to ask Mr. Harrison a question because he was aware of the partnership between Huntsville Utilities and the County. He stated that he must have misunderstood earlier when he had asked and had understood they were not providing any clinics.

Mr. Thomas stated that perhaps Councilman Showers had misunderstood, that he did not recall he had said that. He stated that he was just saying that CareHere provided on-site clinics throughout the country, and that was their niche, and that was why they were looking to partner with them.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Harrison if under their program they had clinics.

President Russell stated that Huntsville Hospital had clinics. He asked Councilman Showers if he wanted Mr. Harrison to speak.

Councilman Showers replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Bob Harrison, 6420 Green Meadow Road, appeared before the Council. He stated that in response to Councilman Showers' question, he would say that they had entered into an arrangement with Huntsville Hospital and with Huntsville Utilities for the purpose of providing clinical services that hopefully would reduce their overall health care costs. He stated that at one time they had been self-insured but had since gone to local government, under Blue Cross Blue Shield. He stated that they were hoping that this would reduce their health care costs by having the opportunity for one-stop clinic services that would provide primary care for employees, so that

they could go during working hours, one stop, and not only get treatment for minor types of illnesses but get pharmacy services as well.

Mr. Harrison stated that they had not been into the arrangement long enough to determine the practicality and the feasibility of this, noting that it had been less than three months. He stated that, therefore, they were not at a point to say that this was the best thing since sliced bread. He continued that they believed it would be effective in what their primary concern was, which was reducing costs.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Thomas what would be the advantage if three entities went in together: the City, the County, and Utilities. He asked if he could project at this time if that would be in the City's favor if they did that.

Mr. Thomas stated that it would really be difficult for him to speak on something like that without totally evaluating it. He stated that the only thing he could speak on was that with the program they had at this time, they had looked into CareHere as an organization that provided an on-site clinic. He stated that the City of Huntsville had been very proactive in providing wellness programs, and a clinic at this time to its employees. He stated that by partnering with CareHere, it allowed an opportunity to continue to expand their wellness programs and offerings to the employees.

Mr. Thomas stated that he would like for Mr. Clevenger to speak about CareHere.

Mr. Ernie Clevenger appeared before the Council, stating that he was President of CareHere. He thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak. He stated that his company provided on-site care, with physicians, physicians who would be recruited from the Huntsville area, as well as a staff from the Huntsville area. He continued that the providers at the clinic would all be from the Huntsville area. He stated that, also, they integrated this with wellness, that they tried to move behavior. He continued that not only did they deliver efficient care, a lower cost for a lab or a lower cost for a medication, that they tried to move behavior in order to address diabetes, or to address high blood pressure. He stated that they had found that through wellness coaches and dieticians and other things, that when working collectively, together, behavior could be changed, that people could be moved to a healthier spot.

Mr. Clevenger stated that in addition to delivering care efficiently, it was also getting people to move to a healthier spot, which he noted saved considerable money.

Mr. Joffrion stated that he would like to offer a few comments. He stated that Huntsville Hospital had been involved in this process, but they had voluntarily withdrawn from the process. He stated that there was a substantial difference in the scope of services that would have been provided by Huntsville Hospital and what was being proposed in the contract by CareHere.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 14-209, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a lease agreement between the City of Huntsville and DCSC, LLC, for property located at 2227 Drake Avenue, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-210)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver.

President Russell recognized Mr. Thomas.

Mr. Thomas stated that this was an agreement with DCSC to provide clinical space for the CareHere agreement. He stated that the property was located off Drake Avenue, and that was where the clinic would be housed.

President Russell asked if the property had sufficient space for all the big City trucks.

Mr. Thomas replied in the affirmative, stating that there was plenty of parking space.

Councilman Kling asked if this would be new construction or if it was an older building being modified.

Mr. Thomas stated that the building was already there, that the inside would be modified, based upon the needs of the clinic.

Councilman Showers asked if the location was on the south side or north side of Drake Avenue.

Mr. Thomas stated that it was the south side of Drake.

Councilman Showers inquired as to whether it was in the plaza area.

Mr. Thomas replied in the affirmative, stating that it was in Brahan Spring Professional Village, where several other medical offices were located.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 14-210, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Legal Department Items/Transactions.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance authorizing the vacation of a 15-foot Utility and Drainage Easement, Lot 1, Block 37, Huntsville Park, Plat Book 1, Page 216 (3124 Triana Blvd.: Huntsville Park Church of Christ), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-211)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution consenting to the vacation of a portion of Lendon Main Street Right-of-Way, formerly known as Jones Farm Road, Resubdivision of Lot 1 of Jones Farm Southwest, Plat Book 37, Page 72, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-212)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing

resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance authorizing the vacation of a portion of Lendon Main Street Right-of-Way, formerly known as Jones Farm Road, Resubdivision of Lot 1 of Jones Farm Southwest, Plat Book 37, Page 72, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-213)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Non-Roster Communications from the Public.

Ms. Jackie Reed again appeared before the Council, stating that she believed they had gotten the attention of the School Board and the Superintendent and that things would change because of the comments that had been made at this meeting. She continued that she had seen some School Board members and administrative people in the audience.

Ms. Reed stated that she was glad they had named a school after Dr. James Dawson, because he was her hero. She stated that when he stood for something, he stood firm on it, that when he served on the School Board, he meant business. She stated that every School Board member except Mr. Topper Birney had voted to change the name of Johnson High School. She stated that the citizens did not have a voice in this, but that

was what had happened, that all the School Board members except Mr. Birney had voted in favor of it.

Ms. Reed stated that the Council had voted for the 9 percent sales tax because all the surrounding cities had such a tax. She stated that she had heard that Athens had given their employees a 4 percent raise. She continued that they should consider this for the City employees since the other cities around them were doing it.

Ms. Reed stated that three members of the City Council had voted her out of her district after 58 years. She stated that she had begged, cried, screamed, and hollered for them not to do it, but they had done so. She continued that she did not see how they could now sit on the Council and say to do the right thing for the right reason. She stated that they should do the right thing for the right reason in everything they considered.

Councilman Kling stated that he felt Ms. Reed was entitled to a response to her comments.

President Russell recognized Councilman Kling.

Councilman Kling stated, concerning the redistricting process, that the Council members had differing opinions concerning this matter, but noted that the plan the Planning Department had brought out used Jordan Lane and not 14th Street as a dividing line with the Census tracts, and that they had to make their district within 2 percent to 3 percent of every other population, and that this had been followed. He stated

that he supposed something could have been done to accommodate Ms. Reed, but that Ms. Reed was asking to be gerrymandered into his district. He stated that she had just lost him on that one. He continued that he just wanted to state for the record what his reasoning on this had been.

Mr. Reginald Hill again appeared before the Council, stating that he wanted to congratulate Pastor Johnson, as well, and thank him for his 30 years of service to the community.

Mr. Hill stated that he also wanted to thank Councilman Showers and Commissioner Harrison, noting that they had been dedicated and devoted to the community on the north side, which he himself had been a part of since 2005. He thanked them for what they had done in this regard. He stated that they had also made some outstanding investments into his charity that was preparing young people to go forth and make changes in the community.

Mr. Hill stated that he had had the opportunity to serve on a panel that was hosted by Councilman Showers, noting that Mayor Battle had also served on this panel. He stated that he wanted to thank Mayor Battle for putting up with the questions that were asked of him.

Mr. Hill stated that the issue they were suffering with was larger than just education, although that was one of the major things. He stated that Mayor Battle had taken the time to listen and to take the hard questions, whether he agreed with them or not, but that the School Superintendent was not

transparent at all.

Mr. Hill stated that he believed there would come a time when the City Council and the Madison County Commission were obliged to make recommendations to the School Board and to the Superintendent, to say that this was not something that was accepted by the City.

Mr. Hill stated to President Russell that, as President of the Council, he was supposed to represent every single district. He stated that it was ironic to him that after Councilman Showers had stated how they should be coming together, piggybacking off of Councilman Olshefski's remarks, President Russell's remarks had felt like an attack. He stated that perhaps that was his personal interpretation of what it was, but it appeared that they had gone right back to the divide, noting that this was from the leadership. He stated that these were things they would not expect to see if they expected their children, which it had been stated everyone should be advocating for, to benefit. He continued that, personally, he did not believe all the leaders were truly advocating for the children.

Mr. Hill stated, concerning what was going on in the School System, that at this time there were persons who attended Board meetings and went out of town to various workshops, seminars, et cetera, but they were not going into the classrooms. He continued that there were persons who had dealt with these children personally and actually knew their

situation.

Mr. Hill stated that he had been blessed with having the opportunity to work with Huntsville City Schools immediately after he graduated from Alabama A&M, but that because he had become so vocal, he had been terminated from the system. He stated that when children had come up to him and asked him why he had quit and left them, he had had to tell them that he had not done that, that he had been forced out, because what the School System was putting forth was what they had to go by.

Mr. Hill asked what the qualifications were for businesses or organizations to become contractors with the City, to develop certain things. He continued that he believed there were certain businesses or entities that could invest in the north and the west side. He asked what exactly was necessary to qualify. He continued that he believed they needed more entities that would invest in the children. He stated that if they could not depend on the School System to do that, they needed to be able to implement these things themselves.

Mr. Hill commended Councilman Showers for actually being bold enough to say they would take the money away from the School Board. He stated that President Russell had stated that that would not represent the children in his district, but that actually all the children in the city were in his district, since he was the President of the Council.

Dr. Clarence Johnson, 3302 Buttrey Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that he appreciated the opportunity to

speak to the Council. He stated that he believed the School Board issues had been put forth pretty much soundly, the problems as well as the suggested solutions. He continued that, therefore, he would like to address another issue.

Dr. Johnson stated that he had been in several forums where Mayor Battle had spoken about the effects of the 1 percent sales tax increase and how it would generate approximately \$34 million annually, of which \$25 million was contracted with the State of Alabama for the building of roads over the next five years. He continued that this would leave approximately \$9 million from this tax.

Dr. Johnson stated that Mr. Davis and the Council had been discussing economic development. He continued that his concern was that since they would have more money than they had prior to implementing the sales tax increase, if they would see some economic development in North Huntsville. He stated that he understood it had been stated that big business did not want to invest in that area, but that he felt they should put rooftops there and get grocery markets, and things of that nature, to get this started. He stated that he believed that the \$9 million should be inclusive of the north part of the city. He stated that in South Huntsville the money was already generated by the community or benefactors, et cetera. He continued that they were building up the community around Grissom, and that it seemed such an easy task the way it was laid out on Channel 19 a couple of weeks prior.

Dr. Johnson reiterated that the sales tax money was coming from all persons in the city and asked that they please think about the north with this. He continued that it would not be hard to get businesses to come to that area, they just had to take the first steps to do so. He stated that with their money that would be coming forth, he felt that would be a great first step.

Ms. Terri Michal again appeared before the Council, stating that she could appreciate the comments made by Councilman Olshefski and that they sounded good on the surface, but the thing was that when one was actually in the schools, one would have a better understanding about the leaders and Dr. Wardynski. She stated that she got many, many emails from teachers and from students, that she knew so much about what was happening that that was what drove her.

Ms. Michal stated that the truth was they were all trying to work with the system, but that it came across that they were negative, et cetera. She asked if they could not work with the system, what choice they had but to come before the Council with this matter. She stated that they were not going to stop, because this was too important an issue. She continued that this was about the students.

Ms. Michal stated that they talked a lot about the zoning, but that it was about the students and about the attitudes behind what was going on with the zoning. She continued that they did not have the resources in the schools that they

needed, that classes were being cut, that they had substitutes for five, six, seven, or eight weeks at a time, where students could not even get any grades.

Ms. Michal stated that these things were real, that they were really happening. She stated that this was what concerned her and that it worried her as to what the motive behind the zoning was, and the disregard that they had for the students and the parents. She stated that when people did come forward to talk, they were being seen as not working with the system and being negative.

Ms. Michal stated that she would love to have a town hall meeting where people could truly discuss what was happening. She stated that she had been told by a Chamber of Commerce person in a meeting that Teach for America was great and wonderful, and that this person had proceeded to tell her about corporate sponsors, and that they got tutors for the kids, et cetera. She asked them to imagine what the city's lifelong educators could do with those kinds of resources.

Ms. Michal stated that they had to look at Teach for America in the right way, not from the glossy manual and not from what Dr. Wardynski said. She stated that they could never convince her that the ones leading the children should not have more education and certification, that she felt that was a poor choice. She stated that that should not be for Huntsville, not for a city of its size. She stated that they were small enough, but they still had 19,000 applications, and there

should not be one Teach for America teacher, that they were bad for this urban community.

Ms. Michal stated that she appreciated the opportunity to say once again that while programs were being implemented that persons knew were bad for the community, it was hard just to say okay, that they were sure the zoning was fine.

Mr. Gary Taylor again appeared before the Council, stating that he would like to talk about the schools, as well. He stated that on the prior Saturday evening, he had seen Shrek at Grissom, and that it had been a wonderful presentation, that the theater group had done a great job. He stated that on Sunday evening he had seen Godspell at Huntsville High. He stated that the following weekend would be the last production of both of these programs and encouraged everyone to attend.

Mr. Chris Dayton, 1906 Wooddale Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that he felt it was just crazy the way the School Board was running their meetings, noting that he was aware this was not the Council's business. He stated that he felt it was very brave of Councilman Showers to suggest what he had suggested.

Mr. Dayton stated that he had looked at this whole process and, he felt this was undermining how persons felt about being involved in their governance. He stated that he was not certain if persons had looked at the Broad Foundation, which Dr. Wardynski had attended. He stated that it was all-expenses paid, tuition and travel, et cetera, to go six weekends over

10 months, and all of a sudden, you are a superintendent, and they place you. He stated that he had grave concerns about this, about what the agenda was. He stated that he believed they were attempting to privatize public education and make it a real profit market. He stated that he was just not certain this was what they wanted to do, that he believed they should look really hard and close at what they were trying to do with the community.

Mr. Dayton stated that he felt the Mardi Gras parade was a lot of fun. He continued that he could not understand how uptight some persons got when people starting having fun in the city. He stated that another example of this was the Greene Street Market, noting that he believed they had postponed the vote on a variance concerning the pizza situation there. He stated that he did believe they were most likely on the right track with this situation.

Mr. Dayton stated that a consultant had come in and said Huntsville needed to be in touch with what was fun and young. He continued that they were patting themselves on the back about how they had all these young professionals that were staying in the city. He stated that it appeared that every time there was something that was fun, somebody came along and nixed the fun. He asked where the fun was in the city.

Ms. Michelle Watkins again appeared before the Council, stating that she wished to thank the Council members for their comments about the School System, but that she wanted to

reiterate one thing. She stated that the School System was having dialogue with the Council members, as elected officials, that they were not having dialogue with the constituents, and noted that there was a difference.

Ms. Watkins stated that the Council members could go out, and they would meet with them and, also, they would meet with select ministers. She asked who would say, however, that those ministers represented her community. She stated that just because they selected black ministers in Northwest Huntsville they were having conversations with, that the Superintendent was having conversations with, and the Mayor was having conversations with, that did not mean they represented her.

Ms. Watkins stated that everyone thought differently, and that what she was saying was that they were not having dialogue in their community, and that they should have dialogue.

Ms. Watkins stated that they should not ever think for a moment that this was not about the kids. She stated that she was a former educator, that she had taught at Johnson High School, and she had graduated from Johnson High School. She stated that Johnson was near and dear to her. She continued that this was not about a name, that they should not think that for one minute, either. She stated that they were fighting for the curriculum.

Ms. Watkins asked if they knew what Logistics Technology was on the new curriculum for Johnson High. She stated that that was advanced manufacturing, heavy machine operator, that

that was Logistics Technology. She stated that Johnson was going to be a tech school. She asked if this was the best they could offer their kids in North Huntsville.

Ms. Watkins thanked the Council for their time.

President Russell asked if there was anyone else in the audience who would like to address the Council.

There was no response.

Upon motion, duly seconded, it was voted to adjourn.

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK-TREASURER