

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA,  
HELD THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2013

The Honorable Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, met in regular session on Thursday, November 7, 2013, at 6 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, there being present:

President:	Russell
Councilpersons:	Culver, Olshefski, Showers, Kling
Mayor:	Battle
City Administrator:	Hamilton
City Attorney:	Joffrion
City Clerk-Treasurer:	Hagood

President Russell called the meeting to order.

Rev. Wanda Gail Campbell, Minister of Peace in the Beloved Community, led the invocation; Councilman Olshefski led the pledge of allegiance.

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

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council on October 24, 2013, were approved as submitted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Resolutions and Special Recognitions. He recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle asked Ms. Joy McKee and members of the Huntsville Pilgrimage Association to come forward. He stated that this group had just put on the Cemetery Stroll, as well as having done a lot of work in restoring headstones at the

cemetery.

Ms. McKee stated that the persons present with her represented a small number of members of the Huntsville Pilgrimage Association. She stated that this group had put several hours of work into the Cemetery Stroll, noting that six to eight thousand people had attended this wonderful recent event. She asked Mr. Jan Williams to comment on the money that had been raised for this project. She stated that some of the markers in the cemetery were 200 years old, so that, obviously, there would be no families to take care of them. She stated that this money went toward making sure the cemetery remained beautiful. She asked Mr. Williams to give a brief synopsis of what had been done at the current event as far as money at the gate, noting that it was all donation, that it was free to the public.

Mr. Williams stated to Mayor Battle that his group certainly appreciated having Joy and Becky, noting that they had been a tremendous benefit to his group. He stated that his group enjoyed their work as part of Huntsville restoration and preservation, that that was what they were all about at the cemetery. He stated that he believed that this year they had raised approximately \$12,000, noting that they had not yet gotten in all their figures. He continued that they had expenses ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500, so that there would be somewhat over \$10,000 that they could use in the current year. He stated that over the years, he would say it had been

approximately \$300,000 that they had spent. He reiterated that it had been a pleasure for his group to work on this project and stated that they appreciated the City's support.

Ms. McKee stated that this group had Angels of Maple Hill and that the Mayor had helped support this and that it was important for donations to come in through this group as well. She continued that persons could actually have a membership for \$35. She stated that if anyone was interested in this, they should go to Maple Hill's website or the Huntsville Pilgrimage Association's website. She asked persons to please donate generously and to become a member.

Ms. McKee thanked the group for everything they had done and stated that she could not wait to see what new characters they would have for the following year.

Mayor Battle stated that persons who attended the Cemetery Stroll were able to get a real taste of Huntsville history, that they would see many characters from Huntsville history, with re-enactments of history. He stated that this group had also preserved some of Huntsville's history by repairing the 200-year-old markers in the cemetery. He thanked them for the work they did.

Mayor Battle asked Chief McFarlen and Lt. Steve Jones of the Fire Department to come forward, as well as members of their committee, noting that they had a check to present. He stated that this check was to be presented to Ms. Liz Hurley and asked her to also come forward.

Chief McFarlen stated that Lt. Jones had been on his way to the meeting but had been called out for an emergency run, which he was working at this time.

Chief McFarlen stated that he would like to introduce Garnet Jones, Tracy Christa, and Evan Reed, noting that they were on the committee that had worked on this project.

Chief McFarlen stated that each October, Huntsville Fire & Rescue, in conjunction with the Huntsville Firefighters Association, worked to raise funds to support research, et cetera, for breast cancer. He stated that this committee had done tremendous work on this and that he was going to let them comment at this time.

Captain Jones stated that it had seemed that everything that could go wrong with this program in the current year had done so, that they had had logistics issues, financial issues, graphic design issues, et cetera. She stated that they had been very concerned that they would not be able to raise the funds they had become used to donating to the Liz Hurley Fund. She stated that they had been a month behind, and they had been a week late getting the shirts out to the public, but they still had a tremendous product that they were very proud of. She stated that they wanted to thank the Administration for letting them wear the shirts and thank their union for funding the shirts. She stated that they were blessed every year with this project because persons were so touched personally by breast cancer, because of sisters, moms, and aunts, that they

could not keep the t-shirts on the shelf. She continued that it was unbelievable how much this program had grown each year.

Captain Jones stated to Ms. Hurley that they were very pleased to present her a check at this time in the amount of \$17,000, noting that this was just from the sale of the t-shirts. She thanked everyone who had participated in this.

Ms. Hurley stated that this was a tremendous amount and expressed appreciation for it. She stated that it was a great t-shirt. She continued that this was such a great testament to what the firefighters were doing every day out saving lives. She stated that with this \$17,000, Huntsville Fire & Rescue had raised in the last four years \$67,000 for the Liz Hurley Breast Cancer Fund of Huntsville Hospital Foundation. She stated that this money would go toward purchasing a breast density machine and also help to replace an MRI coil, which would be used not only for women but also for children.

Ms. Hurley asked if it was correct that the firefighters were in a competition with the shirt.

Captain Jones replied in the affirmative, stating that the website would be on several places, noting that WAFF would be helping them out, and that it would also be on Facebook. She stated that they had entered their t-shirt in the competition of the International Association of Firefighters and that persons should go on line and vote. She stated that they could see their shirt on line, noting that it was certainly the most fabulous shirt there.

Ms. Hurley asked if it was correct that they were ranking in this competition.

Captain Jones stated that they were most likely third in the ranking, behind some much larger cities. She continued that the competition closed on November 15 and asked persons to vote.

Ms. Hurley asked what would happen if they won.

Captain Jones stated that they would get recognition, that they would have the notoriety of having their shirts out there, that they were going to make a name for Huntsville Fire & Rescue.

Ms. Hurley thanked them for what they did, noting that the city would not be what it was at this time without the work they did.

Mayor Battle stated that perhaps they could get the social media people who were meeting in the city to Tweet this out to everyone so they could get a lot more votes.

Mayor Battle stated that he had a five-year pin to present to Councilman Culver for his five years of service on the Council. He noted that he had these five years on the Council, plus many other years with the City of Huntsville.

Mayor Battle presented the pin to Councilman Culver, congratulating him on this.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution honoring Clifton Miller, 2013 Huntsville Realtor of the Year, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-877)

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

Councilman Kling stated that Mr. Miller had had outstanding achievements and that he was looking forward to presenting the resolution at a future meeting of the Huntsville Board of Realtors.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution congratulating Mrs. Alice Brantley upon her 100th birthday celebration, November 22-24, 2013, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-878)

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

Councilman Showers stated that they were recognizing the 100th birthday celebration of Mrs. Brantley, hosted by her family in Stockton, California, on November 22-24. He stated that he would not be going to California to make this presentation but that they would mail the resolution to the family, resolving the 100th birthday of Mrs. Brantley.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution commemorating the life of Thomas Edward Hereford, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-879)

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

and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers stated that there was the untimely passing of Mr. Thomas Edward Hereford on November 2. He continued that a celebration of his home going would be held on November 8 at the Progressive Union Missionary Baptist Church. He stated that Mr. Hereford had been a respected citizen of the city and had greatly contributed to the community, that he had been a civil rights activist in various ways, and that the city was honored that Mr. Hereford had lived and served in it.

President Russell stated that he had a special presentation to make and asked that all the Council members and Mayor Battle come forward.

President Russell stated that just as with Councilman Culver, there was another person among them who had also been elected five years prior.

President Russell presented Mayor Battle with his five-year pin, on behalf of the Council, all the City employees, and all the citizens of Huntsville.

President Russell congratulated Mayor Battle, noting that it had been a great five years and that he was certainly appreciated.

Mayor Battle expressed appreciation for the recognition.

President Russell stated that items 15.t and 15.x had been deleted from the agenda.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Business with Outside Legal Representation. He continued

that there was a Council decision on the personnel hearing for Mr. Karl Kennemore, Parks and Recreation, held on September 12, 2013. He stated that this matter had been postponed at the October 10, 2013, Regular Council Meeting until this meeting.

President Russell stated that at the October 10 meeting, there had been a motion by Councilman Showers, and then this matter had been postponed. He asked if Councilman Showers would withdraw his previous motion at this time, in order to perhaps make things run more efficiently.

Councilman Showers withdrew his previous motion.

President Russell asked Councilman Showers if he would like to make a motion concerning this matter at this time.

Councilman Showers moved that the Council overturn the findings of the Personnel Committee in the matter of Karl Kennemore.

Said motion was duly seconded by President Russell.

President Russell asked if there was any discussion on this matter.

There was no response.

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 Public Hearings to be Held.

President Russell stated that it was the time and place in the meeting for a public hearing on a resolution authorizing the City Clerk-Treasurer to assess the cost of the cutting and

removing of grass and weeds against certain properties.

President Russell asked Mr. Ken Benion, Director of Community Development, for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Benion stated that the resolution identified 52 properties that were in violation of the City's grass and weeds ordinance. He continued that the properties were identified on Attachment A by the owner and location. He stated that the owners had received written notification, by regular mail, that they were in violation of the ordinance and had been given 14 days to correct the violations. He stated that all 52 owners had failed to respond and that Community Development had issued work orders to cut the properties, at a total cost of \$11,281.61, and an average cost of \$216.96. He stated that Attachment A also identified the date and cost for cutting the properties. He continued that the owners had received a written request, by regular mail, for payment and had failed to respond.

Mr. Benion requested that property assessments be placed on these properties in order to collect these costs. He stated that the owners had been notified of this proposed action and could wish to speak at this time.

President Russell asked if there was anyone in the audience who would like to address the Council on this particular issue.

Mr. Jerome Collins, Greenlawn Drive, Meridianville,

appeared before the Council, stating that he had received one of the notices that had been mentioned as a courtesy copy for a property on which he held a mortgage, 319 South Plymouth. He stated that the owner of this property was Pearline Johnson. He stated that when he had received this notice, he had gone and inspected the property, and he had found that the property had been abandoned. He continued that he had not been able to contact the owner.

Mr. Collins stated that after he had inspected the property, he had called his insurance agent and had been advised that the property could not be insured because of the condition of the property. He stated that this had been on 9/20 and noted that he had documentation to prove this.

Mr. Collins stated that on 9/21 he had hired a person to clean up the property, which this person had done, noting that he had worked for approximately two weeks, two hours a day. He stated that he had pictures of this property before and after this work was done.

Mr. Collins stated that whatever the City had done, they had not cut down the vegetation on this property, noting that he had the documentation to prove that he had paid this person to do this work on two separate occasions. He reiterated that he had pictures before and after. He stated that he also had documentation from his insurance agent showing that the property could not be insured and then that it had been insured on 10/20. He stated that he disputed what the City had done,

if something had been done to this property.

Mr. Collins stated that he did a lot of business in the city, noting that he spent approximately \$30,000 per year on property taxes for properties he owned. He continued that he spent a lot of money for goods and services and hired persons to keep the community safe and productive.

Mr. Collins stated that if he was going to be spending money like this through the City, he would like to see the work that had been done.

President Russell asked if Mr. Collins was basically saying that he did not believe the City had cut the grass on this property.

Mr. Collins stated that he had proof that they had not done so. He stated that they had stated that they had cut the bushes, et cetera. He stated that he had paid a person \$126 to cut things on this property so that he could get it insured.

President Russell asked Mr. Benion if he had proof that Community Development had cut the grass on this property.

Mr. Benion stated that they had before and after pictures, that he would have to go through his files, but he could pull these pictures.

President Russell inquired as to the location of the property under discussion.

Mr. Collins stated that it was 319 South Plymouth and that the owner was Pearline Johnson. He reiterated that he held the mortgage on the property and that it was currently going

through foreclosure because Ms. Johnson had abandoned the property.

President Russell asked if there was anyone else in the audience who wished to address the Council on this issue.

There was no response.

President Russell stated that the public hearing was closed.

President Russell asked Mr. Joffrion if he could make a motion to pass every property except 319 South Plymouth.

Mr. Joffrion stated that once a motion had been made and seconded, it could be amended to delete this particular property.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the City Clerk-Treasurer to assess the cost of the cutting and removing of grass and weeds against certain properties, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-880)

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

President Russell moved to amend the above resolution by deleting the property located at 319 South Plymouth, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

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

President Russell stated that what they would be doing with this would be approving everything in the resolution

except for the property at 319 South Plymouth. He stated that they would ask Mr. Benion to study this matter and provide information to the Council, and then they would act on this at the next Regular Meeting of the Council.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 13-880, as amended, and it was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Battle asked that Mr. Benion meet with Mr. Collins to discuss this matter.

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

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution to set a Public Hearing on an ordinance to amend Article 3, Definitions; Articles 23, 24, 25, 40, and 44, Uses Permitted; and Article 73, Supplementary Regulations, to add regulations concerning mobile food vending units, at the December 19, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-881)

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

Councilman Showers read and introduced Ordinance No. 13-882, amending Article 3, Definitions; Articles 23, 24, 25, 40, and 44, Uses Permitted; and Article 73, Supplementary Regulations, to add regulations concerning mobile food vending units.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to set

a public hearing on an ordinance rezoning property lying east of Highway 53 and on the north side of Mastin Lake Road from Commercial Industrial Park District to Highway Business C-4 District, at the December 19, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-883)

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

President Russell asked if there was any discussion on this resolution.

Councilman Showers asked if there was anyone present from the City who could distinguish between a Commercial Industrial Park District and a Highway Business C-4 District.

President Russell asked Ms. Marie Bostick, Manager of Planning Administration, to answer Councilman Showers' question.

Ms. Bostick stated that a Commercial Industrial Park District allowed a multitude of uses, both commercial and light industrial uses. She continued that there were also restrictions on the size of the properties in a commercial industrial park and a little more intensive landscape requirements. She stated that C-4 was more of the auto oriented, commercial businesses, with less of the light manufacturing types of uses.

Ms. Bostick stated that in this particular instance, the

change was to accommodate future funeral home use.

Councilman Showers asked if grocery stores were permitted in that particular zone, the C-4.

Ms. Bostick replied in the affirmative, stating that grocery stores would be allowed in either of the zonings.

(Councilman Olshefski is not present in the Council Chambers.)

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 13-883, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Olshefski

President Russell stated that the resolution had passed.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 13-884, rezoning property lying east of Highway 53 and on the north side of Mastin Lake Road from Commercial Industrial Park District to Highway Business C-4 District.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance amending the approved concept plan for The Villas at Timbers Edge Planned Development, formerly Timbers Edge Second Addition Planned Development, to change the housing type from 56 quad and duplex ranch condominium units to 53 single-family detached condominiums, and also amending the Unified Control Agreement to reflect the new ownership of the property, at the December 19, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-885)

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. 13-886, amending the approved concept plan for The Villas at Timbers Edge Planned Development, formerly Timbers Edge Second Addition Planned Development, to change the housing type from 56 quad and duplex ranch condominium units to 53 single-family detached condominiums, and also amending the Unified Control Agreement to reflect the new ownership of the property.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance rezoning property lying generally on the west side of King Drake Road and north of Caldwell Lane from Planned Development-Housing District, LUI Rating 37, to Residence 1-A District, at the December 19, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-887)

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. 13-888, rezoning property lying generally on the west side of King Drake Road and north of Caldwell Lane from Planned Development-Housing District, LUI Rating 37, to Residence 1-A

District.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance zoning newly annexed land lying generally north and south of Huntsville Brownsferry Road, east of Mooresville Road and north of I-565, as Residence 1-A District, Residence 1-B District, Residence 2 District, Residence 2-B District, Neighborhood Business C-1 District, Highway Business C-4 District, Commercial Industrial Park District, Research Park Applications 2 District, and Planned Industrial District, at the December 19, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-889)

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. 13-890, zoning newly annexed land lying generally north and south of Huntsville Brownsferry Road, east of Mooresville Road and north of I-565, as Residence 1-A District, Residence 1-B District, Residence 2 District, Residence 2-B District, Neighborhood Business C-1 District, Highway Business C-4 District, Commercial Industrial Park District, Research Park Applications 2 District, and Planned Industrial District.

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

Mr. Jerry Cox, 4029 Telstar Circle, appeared before the

Council, noting that the week-long salute to veterans had commenced. He stated that as a veteran of the United States Army, he wished to recognize the 16 members of the military who had been killed in the war during the month of October, including two Navy sailors; two marines, including a 19-year-old from Wisconsin; and 12 Army soldiers, including one sister-in-arms. He stated further that he would like to recognize Col. Olshefski and Col. Hamilton for their service to the country, noting that his community appreciated them for their cooperation on matters on Patton Road and Gate 10.

Mr. Cox asked that items 15.m., 15.n., and 15.o. on the agenda have Veteran preferences. He stated that he would soon be talking to the City Human Resources to assess veterans' makeup of City employees, to assure that there was proper representation.

Mr. Cox stated that he would also like to salute all other veterans, including his good friend Lyle Voyles.

Ms. Terri Michael, 115 Mill Creek Crossing, appeared before the Council, stating that she wanted to bring some things to the attention of the Council that they might not be aware of. She stated that without strong schools, there could not be a strong community. She continued that she had concerns over the differences in the schools between North and South. She stated that the reason she was bringing this to the Council was because she had been attempting to speak to the School Board and had not been getting anywhere with this, so

that she wanted to make the Council aware of this because the School Board represented the City.

Ms. Michael stated that a year prior she had asked the Board to please implement the form for the Student Harassment Prevention Act of 2009. She stated that they had this form but refused to implement it, and that she had been working with them on this for a year. She stated that a few months prior they had finally put it on line, but noted that the law stated it had to be in the schools, in the office or the counselor's office. She continued that for some reason they refused to do this. She stated that she regularly went around to the schools and inquired concerning this and that none of them had this Student Harassment Prevention form. She stated that this form was crucial in helping keep incidents down in the schools and making sure students were getting the help they needed with the incidents as they came up. She stated that by not doing this, there was no paper trail for the fighting and things that went on in the schools. She stated that she believed what had happened recently at Grissom was a reflection of those policies. She stated that the School Board had attempted to sweep this under the rug and deny it happened, and that it had taken several different stories and a persistent parent for some of the truth to finally come out.

Ms. Michael stated that something else that many persons might not be aware of was that they had a principal, Ms. Hachar, at University Place, that did not have

certification. She stated that Ms. Hachar had been attempting to get this and had not done so, that she had been working on it for more than a year. She stated that she had inquired about this herself with the State and they would not answer her questions as to why she did not have this certification.

Ms. Michael stated, concerning the J.O. Johnson name change, that the stories kept changing as they went along as to why this was happening. She continued that the truth had still not come out on this.

Ms. Michael stated that she had concerns as to the transparency of the School Board and the reflection this would have on the community. She stated that Superintendent Wardynski had come before Channel 48 in August and had talked about Teach for America. She continued that he had stated that he had scores for only seven teachers. She stated that she had in her hand test scores for seven other TFA teachers in four other schools. She continued that she was still working through all the other paperwork she had and that she would come up with the rest of the scores. She stated that in August Superintendent Wardynski had already known that out of the seven people she had the scores for, six had left. She stated that they had paid \$5,000 for these teachers and that TFA had to train them every year. She asked if they had gotten their money back on this, or what had happened to this money.

Ms. Michael stated that she just wanted the Council to be aware of what was going on with the schools. She stated that

they needed to come together and be unified, with strong schools on the North and strong schools on the South, a unified district.

Mr. Casey Brown, 199 Mimi Lane, appeared before the Council, stating that a few months prior he had heard that his school's name was being changed, and that, like for other things he felt strongly about, he had jumped into this with both feet. He stated that with every layer he pulled back, he found out more and more about the city that he did not like. He stated that what they had in the city was segregation and gentrification, across the board, that they had the South being played against the North, and that Central Huntsville was just cleaning up. He asked if they were aware as to how many TFA teachers were at Huntsville High School. He continued that they were merging two failing schools, stripping the kids of their identities and throwing them under one roof, and asked how merging the schools and giving them a new name would improve education.

Mr. Brown stated that 350 persons had marched in the streets and that 1500 persons had signed a petition, but that this was being actively ignored by everyone in the city. He asked who the invisible persons were who had all this power to nullify the folks and the votes in North Huntsville. He stated that these people counted.

Mr. Brown stated that he was proud that he had gone to Johnson, that he loved that Butler existed, that he loved that

the persons in that area existed. He continued that he loved Huntsville. He stated that if persons were elected as leaders of Huntsville, they should want to preserve this. He stated that if they did not like these things being in Huntsville that had always been in Huntsville, they should go and live somewhere else.

Mr. Brown asked that they please tell him how changing this school's name was going to improve education. He asked that they tell him the real reason why they were doing this, stating that he had heard many reasons, a lot of which had been proven false.

Mr. Reggie Hill, 606 Blake Bottom Road, appeared before the Council, stating that in the upcoming Black History Month, he planned to release his first published book, entitled "Silent Warfare: Welcome to the New Slavery." He stated that he would be instructing workshops on topics such as "Human Thought," "Mental Manipulation," "International Sharing," and "Fulfilling Your God-given Purpose."

Mr. Hill stated that he was requesting that the Mayor and the City Council serve as his pilot workshop participants. He stated that his motivation for this was the duplicity of the society in which persons lived, noting that children had lost the understanding of respect and the value of life. He stated that the judicial system and law enforcement had become fearful of the citizens they protected, to the point that one saw justice in the light of prejudice, low morale, and corruption.

He stated that the political leaders had fallen out of sync with the childlike initiative that inspired them to become public servants, and the billion-dollar corporations had taken full advantage of these mental and physical mishaps.

Mr. Hill stated that teachers were the new age farmers, as industry and technology had evolved to eliminate the tradition of a people. He stated that parents were younger, with more unstable household atmospheres, and that the community had become nothing more than an overcrowded habitat for unstable actions.

Mr. Hill asked the Council members if they would take on the challenge of a meeting or if they would let a great opportunity like this pass them by. He stated that everyone started from nothing and that through valuable investments over time, they became what they were. He stated that at the local level, they could mobilize each other to affect the world. He asked if they would accept these opportunities. He asked why, at a time when everyone had become complacent with being the same, they could not be different, why they could not stand out and lead from the front. He stated that if this was one Huntsville, why could they not get on one accord.

Mr. Hill stated that the Council's involvement was needed to diminish the rising rates of violence and crime in the city, that their involvement was needed to assure that the community would engage with City Council meetings. He stated that, more importantly, in this vital time, their involvement was needed

to assure that their Board of Education, that represented the city, was doing what they needed to do. He stated that the city was quite vulnerable at this time for media solicitation and outside involvement that would truly hurt the great name of this good city.

Mr. Hill stated that he was personally requesting, along with several other persons, to have a sit-down meeting with the Council, with the Mayor, with the Board of Education, to truly try to get to solutions that would be beneficial for everyone. He stated that they should understand that they could create solutions, that collectively they could come up with something that would be cohesive for everyone, that they could collectively make decisions that would not only be beneficial for this time but for ages to come. He stated that the Council at this time was representing not only the persons present but children who were not yet born. He stated that God had already blessed each person and it was time for persons to use their abilities and give to bless God.

Mr. Chris Horn, 3305 Barteel, appeared before the Council, stating that he was a citizen of the city and that he would like to follow up on Mr. Hill's point. He stated that he would like to ask Councilman Culver and Councilman Showers whether or not they could form a committee comprised of the City Council and certainly whether they could include the elected officials on the School Board to have a discussion on the issues that had been brought before the Council at this meeting. He stated to

Mr. Joffrion that he did not know whether this would be legal but that he wanted to raise the question as to whether they could sit at the table and have this discussion in a way that was clear and transparent, so that the taxpayers, which the Council represented, could have clarity, understanding, and peace.

Mr. Horn stated that the issue was not just simply the name change of J.O. Johnson High School. He stated that in the current week the City was celebrating heroes and bringing them in from all over the country. He stated that J.O. Johnson was a Brigadier General from Huntsville and that he had commanded a troop that was similar to the Tuskegee Airmen but was on the ground, building airports in Africa. He stated that he had led a troop of primarily African Americans. He stated that this legacy in the history of J.O. Johnson needed to be carried forward, that the name of the school should remain the same. He stated that, in addition, he was asking for some transparency of what had happened in this matter.

Mr. Horn stated that as they moved forward, he was requesting that they also meet to discuss Pulaski Pike and to consider changing the name of Pulaski Pike to J.O. Johnson Highway. He stated that he wanted to understand how they would do this, to change the name of the street where J.O. Johnson would be moving to, and that with that, he wanted to have the conversation about what exactly they were doing with the proposed name change.

Pastor T.C. Johnson, 1800 Sparkman Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that after he had left the prior Council meeting, he had received a call talking about "A Tale of Two Cities." He stated that he had not been disrespectful at the prior meeting, noting that he did not feel he should rain on Mr. Rex Reynolds' parade, that he was more mature than that. He stated, concerning all the accolades that Mr. Reynolds had received, that he was certain the people giving them had believed them, and that he also believed they were true. He stated that it was just that it was not his side of town.

Pastor Johnson stated, concerning Mr. Reynolds' performance over a period of time, that there were concerns from African Americans during his leadership of the Police Department, that there were citation differences. He stated that persons remembered when he was an officer, entering their homes with a weapon drawn, using racial epithets, threatening to shoot them if they moved. He stated that he could not repeat these because there were children present. He reiterated that it was "A Tale of Two Cities."

Pastor Johnson stated that he was certain that the persons whom Mr. Reynolds had served so well and so decently respected him, and that he deserved the honor, but that persons needed to know that this was not true for the whole city. He stated that Mr. Reynolds was seen as someone who perhaps brought back memories of Bull Connor, noting that this was unfortunate for a service person who rendered service to the entire city. He

stated that Mayor Battle had a vision to change the city but noted that before they could do this, they needed to know that this existed. He stated that persons with the powerful voices must recognize that this existed. He stated that persons in his part of town did not go to school with the powerful voices, that they did not go to the Rotary, et cetera, and that everyone was not treated the same as the ones with the powerful voices. He stated that this had to change.

Pastor Johnson stated that this was not just happening in Huntsville, that it was happening in many cities. He stated that, however, he felt Huntsville was a leader city. He stated that the first part of solving a problem was problem identification. He stated that they, for whatever reason, would not identify the problem and then work on the problem. He stated that because the problem did not affect everyone, did not make it not a problem. He stated that it was something they should want to fix.

Pastor Johnson stated that there was a deeper issue with the school issue, noting that he understood the logic of combining the schools because of the small number of students. He stated that, however, it looked like they were forming a black school/white school situation. He stated that if they were serious about equal education, they would be attempting to find a way to bring the students together in the same building. He asked why they were building every school to have the same ratio of segregation appearance. He stated that he felt they

should want to fix this and that if they did fix it, he felt they could fix a lot of communities across the country.

Mr. Aaron Stinson appeared before the Council, stating that he was the Chief Operating Officer for Advanced Technical Finishing, 1003 Orchard Street. He stated that this was a full-service finishing shop, providing metal finishing services to commercial, aerospace, and defense industries nationwide. He stated that they currently employed 31 employees and were in the process of an \$8 million expansion that would support an additional 30 to 40 jobs.

Mr. Stinson stated that in May of the current year, ATF had made an investment in a fluid chiller used to control the temperature of multiple process tanks, at a total cost of \$200,000. He stated that shortly after the installation of this chiller, they began to experience multiple mechanical and electrical failures, with solenoids, breakers, relays, and ultimately catastrophic failure of three compressors that ran the unit.

Mr. Stinson stated that after multiple repairs and warranty claims, it had been discovered that the voltage powering the chiller was exceeding standard operating parameters. He stated that ATF had requested Huntsville Utilities to investigate the electrical service being provided to the main electrical panel of the facility. He continued that after multiple recordings of voltage at various times and intervals, ATF electricians, as well as two independent

electrical engineers, had confirmed exceeding the allowable limits of 10 percent. He stated that these parameters had been established by Huntsville Utilities.

Mr. Stinson stated that ATF had filed a formal claim with Huntsville Utilities on October 9, 2013, and that they had multiple examples of data collected that clearly displayed excessive voltage readings. He stated that Huntsville Utilities had denied their claim, as well as all responsibility in regard to this matter.

Mr. Stinson stated that ATF had incurred approximately \$75,000 in debt associated with this issue, as well as permanent damage to the chiller. He stated that ATF believed, as a long-time customer of Huntsville Utilities and business partner with the City of Huntsville, they were unjustifiably being denied a resolution to this issue, as well as reimbursement of damages sustained. He stated that it was imperative to their company that the electrical service provided by the Huntsville Utilities District was within an acceptable voltage range. He stated that they were simply requesting assistance in this matter, as all their efforts had previously been denied.

President Russell asked Mr. Hamilton to get Mr. Stinson's name and address and a phone number, and that they would contact him.

Ms. Jackie Reed, Jack Coleman Drive, appeared before the Council, congratulating the persons who had received their

five-year pins. She stated that she had been there with them and had enjoyed every minute of it, as she was sure they had.

Ms. Reed stated that it appeared that downtown was on a roll, that they were spending millions of dollars. She continued that the Holiday Inn was being torn down and that perhaps this would free up more property for condos. She stated that Washington Street was causing major traffic problems and asked how much more money they were going to spend on that street. She stated that she would like for someone to tell her how much was really being spent on downtown.

Ms. Reed stated that she still needed to know the amount of the appraisal of the property across the street from the Federal Courthouse before all the bills would come before the Council. She stated that this was City property, that City vehicles parked there every day, and that she was really concerned that they were going to give up this property.

Ms. Reed stated that she assumed they had all noticed her t-shirt and stated that she wanted to touch base on the country. She stated that she had been raised in the country and she was proud of her raising, but that she had prayed to God to bring her to town, that she had prayed she would meet a man that would bring her to the city. She stated that at this time she was on a chicken roll, stating that she wanted the Planning Department to find something better to do than sit and listen to whoever the phone calls were coming from concerning chickens in the city. She stated that she was

saying, "No chickens in the city." She stated that her daughter would like for her to shut-up about chickens, but that she was not going to shut-up about chickens in the city. She stated that she felt they had better things to do.

Ms. Reed stated that the lady who had said the prayer had said something about a quality of life and stated that it would not be a quality of life with chickens in persons' back yards, that there would be hawks, snakes, mice, and rats there. She stated that when persons came in and said they could not afford to buy eggs, she would say that they could not afford to buy the chicken feed, either. She stated that she worked in a restaurant and that she was hearing this all day long, that persons were asking her if they did not have anything better to do. She asked that each of them do a hard study on this. She stated that she was about to appear on "Dale Jackson" and that she was going to pass out the phone numbers for the Mayor's office and the Council's office. She stated that she had been attempting to find out how this had all started and had learned that it was just from phone calls that were coming in. She stated that she wanted the City people to wake up on this matter.

Ms. Reed stated that she had something that she wanted to give to Mayor Battle, noting that it was a chicken. She continued that she wanted Mayor Battle to veto this vote if it were approved.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda

was Huntsville Utilities Items.

President Russell moved for approval of Resolution No. 13-837, Substitute A, authorizing the approval and purchase of metering equipment for FY2014 (BWO 376-2014) (Utilities: Electric), which Resolution No. 13-837 was introduced and postponed at the October 24, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-837, Substitute A)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell asked Mr. Bill Yell of Huntsville Utilities for an explanation of the above resolution, specifically Substitute A.

Mr. Yell stated that they had removed one part from the resolution, being the AMI meters, and that what was now included was the standard, analog meters they used every day, that they had to have for the system so that they could record services used on the electric system

President Russell stated that Councilman Olshefski had recused himself on this matter and would abstain from any vote.

Councilman Kling stated that since this did not include the SmartMeters, he would support it.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 13-837, Substitute A, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Kling, Showers, 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.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution to reappoint James C. "Tony" Smith to the Huntsville Tennis Center Board of Control, Place No. 1, for a term to expire November 28, 2016, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-891)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Scott Harriman to the Huntsville Tennis Center Board of Control, for a term to expire November 28, 2016, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-892)

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 a resolution to reappoint Robert Burton to the Educational Building Authority of the City of Huntsville-Madison Academy, for a term to expire November 12, 2019, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-893)

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 a resolution to reappoint Mike Maples to the University of Alabama in Huntsville Public Building Educational Building Authority, for a term to expire November 13, 2019, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-894)

President Russell 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 Betty Fletcher for reappointment to the Huntsville-Madison County Airport Authority, for a term to expire October 23, 2019.

President Russell nominated Dane Block for appointment to the Huntsville-Madison County Airport Authority, for a term to expire October 23, 2019.

President Russell nominated Ruth Soracco for appointment to the Beautification Board, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Ben Bragg for appointment to the Beautification Board, for a term to expire October 1, 2014.

Councilman Showers nominated Mack Ford for appointment to the Board of Examination and Appeals for Construction Industries, Place 1, for a term to expire September 21, 2015.

President Russell asked if there were any further nominations.

There was no response.

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. 13-895)

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

Councilman Kling stated that he would like to turn the floor over to Mr. Randy Taylor, Finance Director.

Mr. Taylor stated that he had an update to present on the debt issuance. He stated that he had reported to the Council at the prior Council meeting that they would likely be in the market in the current week to price or take orders for the City's debt, and that, in fact, they were in the market on this date. He stated that Mayor Battle had signed the Bond Purchase Agreement which the Council had authorized him to sign, and that in two weeks the Council would have to ratify and approve it.

Mr. Taylor stated that since the Council had last met, Standard & Poor's had issued their rating of the City, and that this was a AAA rating. He stated that Mayor Battle had reported this on the prior day in his State of the City presentation. He stated that this was the sixth time the City had received this AAA rating from Standard & Poor's. He

continued that they had used a means of assigning this rating that was much more intense as far as the City was concerned, noting that they had to supply a lot more data than they had had to in the past, in connection with this new criteria. He stated that they felt really good about being able to retain the AAA rating.

Mr. Taylor stated that they had gone into the market with a AAA rating from Standard & Poor's and Moody's.

Mr. Taylor stated that they felt like they had had a very good sale, noting that the underwriters were Raymond James, Morgan Stanley, Securities Capital, and Joe Jolly. He stated that Public Financial Management, Phil Dotts' firm, had represented the City as financial advisers and were their advocates in working on this. He stated that they had gone into the market in the morning and that there had been a really strong demand for the debt that was out there. He stated that the price they had put on the debt, the interest rate that they had put on, was well received, and that in some cases, there had been so much demand that they had been able to back the rates down a little and lower the cost to the City. He stated that they felt good about this.

Mr. Taylor stated that they had a school portion of the debt of approximately \$77 million and they had the City's Capital Plan component for just under \$25 million. He stated that the interest rates associated with these were 3.6 percent and 3.5 percent, respectively. He stated that, of course,

these rates did not mean a lot, that the question was how well the rates compared to everything else that was going on in the market, noting that persons had options. He stated that they compared their deal to both the index that was available for them to look at and everything that was happening in other select deals that were done that were similar to theirs to which they could make a comparison. He continued that they felt they priced really tight to those, noting that they were much tighter to the index than the prior time they had done a debt issue, in May. He stated that they felt very good about this, that it was where they wanted to be. He continued that it was better than they had in their budget, noting that that was always good, as well. He stated that they could be looking for some more details about this for the next meeting of the Council.

Mr. Taylor stated that at this time he would like to ask Mr. Phil Dotts to make a few comments, noting that he was intimately acquainted with all the technical aspects of this matter.

Mr. Phil Dotts appeared before the Council, stating that he was a partner in Public Financial Management and that they represented the City as financial adviser. He stated that Mr. Taylor, as always, had covered the waterfront very efficiently on this. He stated that the process had started several months prior and that it was driven by the Schools' Capital Plan and the City's Capital Plan, which he noted was a

hallmark of the City and had a lot to do with the ratings they received from Moody's and Standard & Poor's in terms of their financial management.

Mr. Dotts stated that Mr. Taylor had spoken about the new, more intense process with Standard & Poor's and stated that he believed he had perhaps underplayed this somewhat, that it was a lot more intense than they had seen previously. He stated that the company had spent several months working on this, and that they had had to deal with this new process, which he noted was a lot more quantitative. He stated that Mr. Taylor and his staff had done a terrific job answering the questions presented. He stated that they had spent a lot of time preparing for it once they knew what the methodology was, and building their own matrixes to show how it would play out. He stated that they were aware of what the issues would be and he felt they had dealt with them effectively.

Mr. Dotts stated that the oversubscription had been gratifying. He continued that the market had opened up pretty strong on this day, not dramatically but just enough to get in the market. He stated that they were very pleased with the results and they felt that the underwriting syndicate, led by Raymond James, had done a very good job.

Mr. Dotts stated that he would be glad to answer any questions.

President Russell asked if there were any questions for Mr. Dotts.

Councilman Kling asked if Mr. Dotts could give them a ballpark estimate of what percentage of municipalities in the country had a AAA rating such as the City had.

Mr. Dotts stated that there were more than 4,000 rated local government entities in the country, cities and counties, and there were approximately 200 AAA's. He continued that there was only one other AAA municipality in Alabama and that this was Mountainbrook, and that there was one county, being Shelby County, noting that it had been a long time since they had borrowed any money. He stated that he believed it was not so much just the Alabama peer group, but that what was important for the City was to look at how the City compared against other peer cities they tried to emulate and compare themselves to, such as Charlotte, Raleigh, and Austin. He stated that Huntsville was in that rare company and that he felt that was a real testament to the leadership of the City.

Councilman Kling asked, concerning the bond issue that they had just done, how much they had saved the taxpayer by having a AAA rating versus a AA rating.

Mr. Dotts stated he did not have that number at this time, but that the spread would probably be in the range of 10 to 15 basis points, and the amortization would be run over a 20-year period of time, and that it would be, certainly, in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, on a transaction of this size, which totaled approximately \$100 million.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda

was Communications from the Mayor.

Mayor Battle announced the following appointments:

Karen Mitchell to the Huntsville Tennis Center Board of Control, for a 3-year term to expire November 28, 2016.

Jeanne Moorer to the Huntsville Tennis Center Board of Control, for a 3-year term to expire November 28, 2016.

Mayor Battle stated that the upcoming Monday was Veterans Day. He stated that the City started its Veterans celebration about a week earlier and went about a week longer than anywhere else in the country. He stated that the Veterans Day Parade would be on Monday and that the theme was "Courage, Sacrifice, and Duty - We Honor Those Who Serve." He stated that the parade would start at 11 o'clock and would honor the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Vietnam War. He stated that General Dennis Via was the commander of the Army Materiel Command and would be the Grand Marshal of the parade, noting that he was one of 14 four-star generals in the U.S. Army. He continued that they were very glad he was a member of the Huntsville Community.

Mayor Battle stated that they would like to welcome the Wounded Warriors to the city for the Heroes Week activities, noting that these were veterans who were wounded in service to the country. He stated that they would be participating in numerous activities in the city, noting that they would be attending the Veterans dinner on the following evening and would have activities through the weekend and be at the

Veterans Parade on Monday, where they would be honored.

Mayor Battle stated to Ms. Joy McKee that he understood she had an e-cycling event coming up on Saturday, November 16, at Joe Davis Stadium, from 9:00 to 1:00. He stated that they would be collecting all old electronics, along with any item that contained mercury, noting that this was a way to make sure these items were safely disposed of, in support of National Recycling Day on November 15. He thanked Ms. McKee for doing this, noting that they had had some great successes with this in the past.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from Council Members.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he would like to thank Jerry Cox and Lyle Voyles for attending the meeting and stated that he appreciated Mr. Cox's remarks concerning veterans, as well as his remembrance of military personnel.

Councilman Culver stated that he would like to compliment Mayor Battle, not only for his five years of having served the city but also for his recent State of the City address, noting that each year this address had gotten better. He stated that Mayor Battle's leadership was certainly appreciated.

Councilman Culver stated that he would like to comment on the annual program for homeless individuals. He stated that this would be held on November 23 at the Macedonia Church, located on Dupree-Worthey Road. He stated that Mr. Tommy Brown always provided them with four or five buses and drivers and

that they picked up persons, children and families, from the Downtown Rescue Mission, the Breaking Free Rescue Mission, the Salvation Army, and First Stop. He stated that this was not just a matter of feeding the homeless, that they had been working this particular program for some time and that, basically, what they did was to provide care packages, blankets, coats, and school supplies. He stated that this was not just one meal and sending the persons on, that it was providing items such as a warm blanket and a nice coat, which he noted was a tremendous help to homeless individuals. He stated that this event usually started about 9:30 in the morning and ended at 2:30 or 3:00 in the afternoon.

Councilman Culver stated that he was unable to adequately express how appreciative persons were of veterans, the men and women who had fought so that others could enjoy the freedoms they had. He stated that he was happy to learn that this remembrance had been extended this year, that they were starting a week earlier and going a week later. He stated that he was certainly planning to participate in a lot of the programs. He continued that persons just wanted to take the opportunity at this time of the year to express their appreciation to all veterans.

Councilman Kling stated that he had been in meetings with various neighborhood groups in West Huntsville and that he felt they had a great team and he was proud to work with them. He stated that Holiday Homes had had a meeting recently that he

had attended, noting that this was an association that had really worked to improve possibly the largest geographic area of any neighborhood association. He stated that this area basically went from Bob Wallace to Drake Avenue and it was a large area to cover. He stated that the turnout for the meeting he had attended had been good and there had been very good communication. He stated that one of the things that had been brought up, which he believed the Police Department had taken care of, was a problem with persons leaving their garbage cans out on the street. He continued that he believed some friendly reminders had been passed out from the Police Department as a result of the concerns that had been expressed.

Councilman Kling stated that earlier in the day, he had met with Michelle McMullen, noting that she was a great neighborhood advocate. He continued that he understood good progress had been made at the Mirabeau Apartment complex with Mr. Greenberg working to take it over, noting that he believed Council members could recall the history of that facility. He stated that Mr. Greenberg appeared to have a good record, that one of the projects he had done in the past was the restoration of the old Russel Erskine Hotel. He stated to Mayor Battle that he was aware his real estate experience had been put to test in getting this project re-routed, but that it looked like it was on the right track at this time and some good things were happening.

Councilman Kling stated that at 9 a.m. on the following

Saturday, he would be on Triana Boulevard with the Merrimack Neighborhood Association and that they would be picking up garbage and trash. He stated that anyone who would like to join in on this would certainly be welcomed.

Councilman Kling stated that he was proud to live and work in a city that recognized and honored the veterans for the great sacrifices they had made for the freedoms that persons took for granted.

Councilman Showers stated that he also wanted to congratulate the veterans for their service to the city, the state, and the nation.

Councilman Showers stated that on the prior evening on University Drive in the Northwoods Community, a vehicle had run into a resident's home, but that, thankfully, there had been no injury to the resident. He asked Mr. Hamilton if he would facilitate a meeting of Mr. Kramer, Director of Traffic Engineering; Mr. Tom Sisco, who dealt with street calming; and Mr. Jeff Easter, Director of Facilities.

Councilman Showers stated that this area had been discussed previously, that a lot of work had been done on this approximately two years prior, and a lot of commitments had been made about the crossing on University Drive and the fatalities of those who were crossing illegally. He reiterated that he would like for Mr. Hamilton to facilitate this meeting of the persons he had mentioned, as well as Mr. Michael Lundy, who directed the Housing Authority. He stated that he felt it

was time for them to go beyond the talking to putting something in place concerning this matter.

Councilman Showers stated that on the following day he would be bringing greetings on behalf of the City, the Mayor, and the Council members at Girls, Inc., noting that they were holding their regional conference in the city, at Embassy Suites. He stated that Ms. Stephanie Malone directed this program in the city.

Councilman Showers stated that on November 16, the 30th Annual Beautillion Ball, sponsored by the Fun-Set Social and Charity Club, would be held in the North Hall of the VBC.

Councilman Showers stated that earlier in the meeting, there had been the resolution commemorating the life of Thomas Edward Hereford and stated that Mr. Hereford's final services would be on the following day.

Councilman Showers stated that he had attended the news conference, along with Mayor Battle, for the Geo-Energy-Cyber Summit at the Chamber earlier in the week.

Councilman Showers stated that he, along with Mayor Battle and other Council members, had attended Mr. Rex Reynolds' retirement reception.

Councilman Showers stated that on the past Sunday, the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights movement, he had attended "Letters from Birmingham Jail" at Lee High School and stated that this was a wonderful experience.

Councilman Showers stated that he had attended the Mayor's

"State of the City" address and stated that Mayor Battle was certainly at his best, noting that everyone had left this event in good cheer, based on Mayor Battle's comments about the state of the City of Huntsville. He stated that he was also glad he resided in the city, that he was delighted to be a part of this great community.

Councilman Showers stated that he had attended the ribbon-cutting of the Association of Energy Engineers, Huntsville Chapter, held at the Redstone Federal Credit Union Building, noting that he was delighted with the way the city was moving in this arena. He stated that energy technology was on the cutting edge and that he was glad to say that Huntsville would be the beneficiary of this particular new and upcoming opportunity, economic development at its best.

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

President Russell moved for approval of Ordinance No. 13-844, amending the Code of Ordinances by adding Section 2-158, authorizing the City of Huntsville to accept payments by credit card, which ordinance was introduced at the October 24, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-844)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

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

Councilman Showers moved for approval of Ordinance

No. 13-845, amending Section 16-15 of the Code of Ordinances to establish a pretrial diversion program, which ordinance was introduced at the October 24, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-845)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

Councilman Culver stated that related to this particular matter, he had stated to the Council previously that he would recuse himself from any involvement on this ordinance, after having learned that some parts of this particular diversion program could be administered by Recovery Services, which was an organization for which he did consulting work on occasion. He stated that for that reason, he would be recusing himself on this vote. He continued that he had already contacted the Ethics Division, just to inform them as to what had happened up to this point on this matter and what was happening at this time.

President Russell called for a roll-call vote on Ordinance No. 13-845, and the following vote occurred:

AYES: Olshefski, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Culver

President Russell stated that the ordinance had passed.

President Russell moved for approval of Ordinance No. 13-846, amending Chapter 3, Article II, Section 3-27 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Huntsville, Arts and

Entertainment Districts, which ordinance was introduced at the October 24, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-846)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

President Russell asked Ms. Bostick for an explanation of the changes included in the above ordinance.

Ms. Bostick stated that the Council might recall that in May, when the original amendment had been approved, it had actually established the Entertainment District, and there had been a series of public meetings with different stakeholder groups, and that their recommendation at that time was for limited days and limited hours, to determine how this would work and to make sure it was all working out, and that they had a program for the actual arts element of the district. She stated that this had been a great success over the summer, after having gone into effect in mid-June. She stated that the Arts Council had done a great job of programming events, noting that they had the Art Stroll during that time, as well as the Greene Street Market. She stated that there had been a lot of activity on the streets and that it appeared to be very successful.

Ms. Bostick stated that toward the end of September, they had done a couple of surveys and that she would comment on the results of these surveys. She stated that they had done three different groups: a Facebook survey, the public sector, from which they had had 169 responses; the Stakeholder group, which

were members of various downtown organizations, including business owners that did not hold alcohol licenses, and that out of 189 in this, 83 had participated; and they had 17 businesses which actually held retail alcohol licenses and participated in the Arts and Entertainment District, and that approximately 60 percent of these businesses had responded in the survey. She continued that they had had a good response in all categories.

Ms. Bostick stated that one question had been "How do you rate the impact?" and that in all three categories, it had been Very to Extremely Positive, with the business owners being unanimous in answering Very to Extremely Positive. She stated that whatever group it was, the percentage was 75 percent or more.

Ms. Bostick stated that in the new Meridian group, they had asked the same question, and it was again Very to Extremely Positive, noting that the numbers were a little less. She stated that there was a little less activity in the Meridian District, noting that it was only 10 acres and there was not as much going on in that area. She stated that, however, the impact was still seen as Very to Extremely Positive.

Ms. Bostick stated that these groups were asked what they liked most about the districts, and that the top answer in all categories was "Brings more people downtown." She stated that the businesses were again at 100 percent. She stated that after that there was a little bit of difference, depending on

what group you were looking at, but that there was a lot of consistency as well. She stated that "Increasing business for downtown merchants" was listed, as well as "Activity in the downtown area."

Ms. Bostick stated that the groups were asked what they liked least about the districts, and they had unanimously said "Limited days and limited hours." She stated that there was a significant drop off after that, as far as percentages, as to what they liked least about the districts.

Ms. Bostick stated that, considering all this, what they were proposing was that the district hours and days be modified. She stated that the hours were currently Thursday and Friday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., noting that the district could be opened, upon request, for special events. She stated that what they were proposing was Thursday from 5 to 11 p.m. and Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from noon until 11 p.m., and still having the opportunity to request that the district be opened for special events.

Ms. Bostick stated that they had had another meeting with the original Stakeholder group to discuss these modifications, and that they had had support throughout this group. She stated that everyone was real excited about having consistency, especially on the weekends, for marketing, and to be able to catch the tourism industry and the conferences as they came into the VBC.

Ms. Bostick stated that they also had a couple of changes

they were recommending on the original district boundary. She stated that the Meridian District was not being proposed to change, but that for the Quigley District they were proposing to add the Summit Building, which she indicated on a map, and the southeast corner of Monroe and Clinton, and the SpringHill Suites.

Ms. Bostick stated that these were all of the recommended changes.

Councilman Kling stated that he wanted to get some clarification concerning this. He asked if the farmers' market that had been established had had livestock added.

Ms. Bostick replied in the negative.

Councilman Culver asked Ms. Bostick if he could get a copy of the comments she had just made. He stated that he had been contacted by Gunter'sville in reference to the Entertainment Districts. He stated that he was happy to note that there were a number of businesses that did not sell alcohol but participated in the Entertainment District. He asked Ms. Bostick if that was correct, the percentages she had given.

Ms. Bostick stated that the businesses were included in the Stakeholder group, as far as the category, noting that they were in the district and did not sell alcohol, but they had responded to the survey.

Councilman Culver stated that he was aware they were referring to the Downtown Entertainment District, but noted that they also had an Entertainment District in Providence. He

stated that he lived in this area, and that contrary to what persons might think, concerning that there would be loud noise, et cetera, going on every night, that it just did not happen that way. He stated that this was a good way to give persons an alternative source of entertainment while generating more revenue for the City.

President Russell called for the vote on Ordinance No. 13-846, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers moved for approval of Resolution No. 13-872, authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Special Employee Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Brenda M. Martin, which Resolution No. 13-872 was introduced and postponed at the October 24, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-872)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver.

President Russell stated that the last time the Council had discussed this matter, there had been an amendment by Councilman Kling that had been passed, removing some language from the resolution.

President Russell called for a roll-call vote on the above resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers

NAYS: Russell

President Russell stated that the resolution had passed.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda

was New Business Items for Introduction.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 13-896, amending Section 25-132 of the City of Huntsville Code of Ordinances, prohibiting the operation of commercial vehicles on certain city streets between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.

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

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance declaring property as surplus and authorizing donation of said property to the City of Elkton, Tennessee, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-897)

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

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-898)

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 an ordinance to amend Budget Ordinance No. 13-360 by changing the authorized

personnel strength in various departments and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-899)

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 authorizing the acceptance of donations, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-900)

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 a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Beason & Nalley, Inc., for the Fiscal Year 2013 independent audit, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-901)

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 declaring property as surplus and to be sold at auction, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-902)

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 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Pearce Construction Company, Inc., for construction services of the New Fire Station No. 6, located at 2810 Drake Avenue, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-903)

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 a resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept a grant from the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency for the sustainment of Haz-Mat 2, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-904)

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 a resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept a grant from the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency for the sustainment of Alabama Heavy Rescue 1, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-905)

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 a resolution authorizing the Mayor to modify the agreement with Brown and Caldwell for Engineering Hydrologic and Hydraulic Modeling Services and Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) Submittal for a Portion of Beaverdam Creek 2 and its tributaries, Project No. 65-12-DR06, by Modification No. 1, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-906)

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 a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Tetra Tech, Inc., for Engineering Design Services for Dallas Branch Sanitary Sewer Relocation, Project No. 65-13-DR06, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-907)

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 a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement for Construction between the State of Alabama and the City of Huntsville regarding Improvements on SR-1, US-431, from South of CR-242, Sutton Road, to North of CR-250, Old Big Cove Road, to include the Intersection at CR-271, Caldwell Lane, in the City of Huntsville, Project STPHV-STPAA-0001(577); Project Reference Number 100056632 (Supplemental Agreement 1), as

follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-908)

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 a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke PNC Bank Letter of Credit No. 18799559 for Cross Creek Phase III Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-909)

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 a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Travelers Indemnity Company Letter of Credit No. BE0931542 for Stonemark Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-910)

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 a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Professional Services Contract between the City of Huntsville and Columbia Telecommunications Corporation, dba CTC Technology & Energy, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-911)

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 a resolution authorizing the Mayor to amend the FY2013 State of Alabama Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Program application, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-912)

President Russell 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 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an advertising contract with The Huntsville Times, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-913)

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

Councilman Showers stated that for the prior several years they had discussed Speakin' Out News having some business with the City, that they had discussed this and that commitments had been made to do business with this entity. He asked if Speakin' Out News was getting any of the advertisement business of the City.

Mr. Taylor stated that he could not answer that question, that he would have to ask for Mr. Hagood's assistance on this.

He stated that what was under consideration was not legal advertisements but advertising the City would purchase for other things.

Mr. Hagood stated that the only thing they used Speakin' Out News for at the present time was during elections, noting that they did all the election notices through them.

Councilman Showers asked if there was any reason why they could not get a portion of the advertising that was under discussion in the resolution on the floor. He stated that he was not asking that they get 100 percent of this, but just to be included in some of the advertising.

Mayor Battle stated that they had been using Speakin' Out News on a regular basis in the Engineering Division when they put out requests for services. He stated that they had commenced doing this four years prior, to assure that they had minority participants in their bid process.

Councilman Showers stated that Mayor Battle had just stated that they were committed to doing business with all the entities on their procurement list. He asked if this meant that Speakin' Out News would get some portions of the City's advertising.

Mr. Taylor stated that some of the things they had to advertise required that they be in a newspaper of local circulation. He continued that this was with respect to some of the advertisements they had with respect to certain projects, et cetera. He stated that they had to use

The Huntsville Times for this because they met that criteria. He stated that, as the Mayor had stated, they used Speakin' Out News in cases where they could do so. He stated that he could not tell Councilman Showers the volume of that at this time. He reiterated that they did have to use The Huntsville Times for some of the advertisements they were required to run for public notices and such.

Councilman Showers inquired if this would be true even if Speakin' Out News was capable of doing this. He questioned if they could get any of that part of the business.

Mr. Taylor stated that their circulation statistics did not meet the requirements of "a newspaper of local circulation." He continued that they did use Speakin' Out News for some of the needs of the City, but noted that he was not in a position at this time to state exactly what this was.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Taylor to research this matter and let the Council know where the matter stood.

Mr. Taylor stated that he would do so.

Councilman Kling stated that occasionally he read the Speakin' Out News and that he believed he had seen advertising notices for things pertaining to Community Development grants, and also that he had seen Police Department hiring and recruitment ads from time to time. He stated that he did not know how regular this was or how much was being spent, but that he had seen such items in that newspaper.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution

No. 13-913, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers moved for approval of a request for authorization to advertise to the General Public and fill one (1) budgeted position of Fleet Services Technical Assistant, at a rate higher than minimum salary if necessary, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

Councilman Kling stated that he had a comment to make concerning this item, as well as items 15.n and 15.o on the agenda. He stated that someone had raised giving veterans a preference on City positions and stated that he felt that would certainly be appropriate to do, within the guidelines of the City. He stated that there were most likely some restrictions they would have to consider, but that he felt this recruitment would certainly be a positive thing if they could do that.

President Russell asked Mr. Joffrion if he would comment on this matter.

Mr. Joffrion stated that he was aware there was a lot of interest in pursuing an approach such as that, but stated that, unfortunately, under State law, they did not have any statutory authority to provide preferences for any particular classification of individuals. He continued that they would not be able to show a preference for veterans or any other group in hiring practices.

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

Councilman Showers moved for approval of a request for

authorization to advertise to the General Public and fill one (1) budgeted position of Equipment Technician II, at a rate higher than minimum salary if necessary, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling, and was unanimously approved.

Councilman Showers moved for approval of a request for authorization to advertise to the General Public and fill one (1) budgeted position of General Services Support Clerk, at a higher than minimum salary if necessary, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver, and was unanimously approved.

Councilman Culver read and introduced an ordinance declaring approximately 2.26 acres of property at Fern Bell Park as surplus and conveying it to the Huntsville City Board of Education for the purpose of relocating Whitesburg School, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-914)

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

President Russell asked Mr. Joffrion why this property was being declared surplus. He stated that he was aware there had been discussion of the City buying property at Grissom and Johnson. He asked if they were giving this property they owned to the School System.

Mr. Joffrion stated that they were doing so. He stated that the only property that was actually owned by the City in

all of the Fern Bell Park complex was the two fields that were closest to Whitesburg Drive. He continued that the remainder of the property that was used by the City for recreational purposes was actually owned by the School Board. He stated that they were rebuilding Whitesburg School, and that they needed access to the subject property in order to relocate the school. He stated that at such time as they built the new school and demolished the old school, the vacant land would be turned over for use by the City, to incorporate into the recreational program. He stated that they anticipated getting back as much land as they were conveying to the School Board at this time. He continued that the School Board needed to have title to this property in order to build the new school, noting that they would be using their capital money that had been borrowed for this purpose.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Joffrion if Whitesburg School would be rebuilt on the same footprint it was on at this time.

Mr. Joffrion replied in the negative.

Councilman Showers asked if it was going to be relocated.

Mr. Joffrion stated that it would be at the same site, in the same area of property, but they were going to build the new school while the old school was being used, and then when the new school was completed, they would tear down the old school.

Councilman Showers stated to Mr. Joffrion that he had been close to the issue of building new schools and asked if it was correct that a statement had come from the School Board that

any schools that were relocated or rebuilt, the names of such schools would not change.

Mr. Joffrion stated that he could not answer that question.

Councilman Showers asked if there was anyone on the Council that could answer this. He asked Mayor Battle if he had any recollection of that statement being made by the Board.

Mayor Battle replied in the negative, stating that he had not been attending the Board meetings.

Councilman Showers stated that he had been attending the Board meetings, because the issue of Johnson High School was in the heart of his district. He stated that the statement had been that schools that were going to be rebuilt, or relocated, the names would not change. He continued that, of course, Johnson was going to be completed in 2016-2017, and that they were all aware of the concerns of citizens who had an interest in Johnson High maintaining its legacy. He continued that a committee had been formed and had submitted a name other than Johnson for the new school.

Councilman Showers stated that he was concerned that the Board would have made a statement that none of the names of the schools that were going to be rebuilt or moved would be changed, but, yet, there had been a recommendation from a committee that Johnson's name be changed.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Joffrion if he would check on that and determine if that statement was in the Board records.

Mr. Joffrion stated that he would do so.

President Russell called for the vote on Ordinance No. 13-914, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution creating the Liquor & Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-915)

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

Councilman Showers asked about the creation of this Liquor & Lodging Tax Advisory Committee. He asked who made up this committee and who selected the members of it. He continued that he wanted the names of the persons on this committee, if this had been done.

President Russell stated that he could not name the individuals, but noted that it was made up of a representative of the City of Huntsville, the Von Braun Center Board of Control, the Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Huntsville Sports Commission, and a portion of the Hotel Industry.

Mayor Battle stated that David Delisser was the City's appointee, that he believed Judy Ryals represented the Convention & Visitors Bureau, Steve Maples or Brandi Quick represented the Civic Center group, Ralph Stone represented the Sports Commission, and Imran Hussain represented the

Huntsville-Madison County Lodging Association.

Councilman Showers inquired as to the rationale for creating a Liquor & Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

President Russell stated that the Council had held a work session on this, and that this was basically what had been discussed in the work session. He continued that the Hotel-Madison County Lodging Association had come to them and asked them to increase the lodging tax by 1 percent, and that this committee was to let these groups make a recommendation to the City Council on how this money should be spent.

Mayor Battle stated that one of the things was that when they were going out and seeking business, they had to put in bids, which would be sealed bids. He stated that every time they had to put in a sealed bid, this came through the City Council and they had to vote on it, so that it would be public record. He continued that it would not be ratified until it came back to the City Council. He stated that if they put in a sealed bid and it was public knowledge, then the persons they were competing against could use this information to their advantage.

Mayor Battle stated that this would give them a little bit of leeway in this process. He continued that they did have to come back through the Council to get it ratified, but that this would give them a little framework to work through this process.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution

No. 13-915, 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 two Utility and Drainage Easements, Lots 9 & 10, Monte Sano Court Phase II, Plat Book 35, Page 76 (3725 Railway Avenue & 4118 Shelby Avenue: Lanier and Ordway), as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-916)

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 an ordinance authorizing the vacation of a portion of a 10-foot Utility and Drainage Easement, Lot 5, Block 1, Parkway Estates 5th Addition, Plat Book 3, Page 89 (Mallard Road: Jones), as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-917)

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, commenting on the national debt and the City economy, stating that money was being borrowed, that it did not matter about a

AAA rating. She stated that persons were having their hours cut from 40 hours to 28 hours because of Obamacare, because they had to cut the insurance. She stated that a lot of companies and corporations were going to this, that money was going to get tight, that the health care was going to rip everybody off. She stated that the City should tighten its belt and lay back and quit spreading out and thinking that they were so big and so much better than everybody else. She stated that she did not care what other cities had, such as chickens and entertainment districts and trolley cars and trains. She stated that they should just be Huntsville, that they should get their own identity and stop running up and down the streets trying to be like every Tom, Dick, and Harry all around the country.

Ms. Reed questioned the Entertainment District extending its days and hours and starting at 12 noon. She stated that persons could now drink on the streets from 12 noon until 11 p.m. She questioned what the young people would become with all of this going on, noting that she had a problem with walking and drinking on the streets.

Ms. Reed urged the Council not to allow the chicken ordinance to come into effect. She continued that if they did this, they should just pull up the city limits, that Huntsville would not need a mayor, that they could just put "Madison County" on everything and turn them all loose, let them drink and bring their chickens to town and just do what they wanted

to do.

Mr. Jerry Cox again appeared before the Council, stating that he wished to comment on the Huntsville Shuttle Bus System. He stated that a friend of his, who had passed away, had been a very strong advocate of the shuttle system and that he had taken up her effort, although to a much lesser degree than what she had been doing.

Mr. Cox stated that he could report at this time, one year after the Council had approved major changes to the Huntsville Shuttle Bus System, which had included changes in the routes, et cetera, that these changes had gone way beyond, in his opinion, all expectations. He stated that he did not know if any of the Council members had ever ridden a shuttle bus, but noted that Mr. Brown and his team, especially the drivers, were very professional, very kind, and very helpful. He stated that being an old railroad man, one of the important things to him had been on-time departures. He stated that they had about a 95 percent on-time departure rate, noting that the system had had enormous improvements. He stated that he hoped they had long-range plans, of approximately six months, of increasing the shuttle bus to running on Saturdays. He stated that that would be a major help to the residents of the city.

Mr. Cox stated that the longer hours and the improvement in the routes had certainly been great for this program. He stated further that he did not know this for certain but that he understood the ridership might have increased as much as

100 percent. He stated that the persons who rode the shuttle buses were excellent people to get to know, to talk to and to listen to.

Mr. Cox stated that he did not know what the Council's assessment of this was one year into the new system but noted that, in his opinion, it was fantastic.

Mr. Chris Horn again appeared before the Council, inquiring as to whether the J O J Alumni Association, which he noted was an incorporated entity, would be allowed to assist in terms of collecting information regarding the minutes of the School Board that were being requested. He stated that it was their understanding that some of the language Councilman Showers had been speaking of might not be in the minutes but might be in the video itself. He stated that they would like to be able to at least be a part of helping with this.

Mr. Horn stated that his second concern was to get a better understanding for the citizens, to understand how their tax dollars were actually co-mingled into some of the capital acquisitions or anything to do with the School Board. He asked how the tax dollars were being spent, noting that they just wanted to know if there were rules that were equitable that had to be followed. He continued that they wanted to know if there was any responsibility concerning the tax dollars that were coming down the pike to the School Board. He asked if they played by separate rules versus the rules the City played by,

if the rules the Huntsville City School Board played by were different or if there was some type of disparate impact that might be inequitable. He reiterated that they wanted to be able to get an understanding of how the tax dollars were actually used. He stated that they would like to meet with the City at some point in order to be able to do this.

Mr. Reggie Hill again appeared before the Council, stating that he had some questions. He stated that on the agenda, in Sections 9.a. and 9.b., there were Board nominations made and approved. He inquired as to what deemed a City committee to be established and if a committee could be proposed by a citizen or a community. He inquired further as to how the Board members for these committees were selected. He inquired as to how many community awareness committees were currently in action in the City of Huntsville.

President Russell stated that the City Council established committees. He continued that all the boards and commissions of the City were listed on the City's website and that it would be easy for a person to go to this site and look. He stated that they normally had the resolution establishing them, how they were established, and how many members there were.

Mr. Hill asked if this stated what deemed a committee to be established.

President Russell stated that he believed it stated what the purpose was.

Mr. Hill stated that he was not referring to existing

committees but was asking what deemed for a City committee to be established.

President Russell stated that any of the Council members could bring forward to establish one, and the Council, by a majority vote, could establish a committee.

Mr. Hill asked if a citizen would need to propose such to a Council member.

President Russell stated that he believed it would be best to work with a Council member on that.

Pastor T.C. Johnson again appeared before the Council, stating that he had asked for some information at the prior meeting of the Council, noting that he had submitted this and had not read it into the record because he had been advised that he did not have to read it. He continued that he had not yet received this information.

President Russell stated that this was being worked on and inquired of Mr. Joffrion if he was aware of when this might be ready.

Mr. Joffrion stated that he believed it was almost done, that, in fact, he thought it had actually been given to Pastor Johnson. He continued that he would check with Chief Morris on this.

Mayor Battle stated that he had to address something that Pastor Johnson had said, when he had mentioned Rex Reynolds and Bull Connor in the same sentence. He stated that this was not the Rex Reynolds he knew, noting that they might have to agree

to disagree on this. He stated that the Rex Reynolds he knew had worked for him for five years, that he oversaw the City Administration, and that he oversaw more minority hiring than had ever been done in the City and more minority promotions into prominent positions than had ever been done. He stated that Mr. Reynolds was a person who had high integrity and that he was very fair across the board. He stated that when Mr. Reynolds had retired, there had been persons from North, South, East, and West, and that some were black, some where white, who had attended that retirement because of respect for Mr. Reynolds. He stated that he had not been able to let this lie, because from what he had seen, this did not reflect anything he knew about Mr. Reynolds.

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

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PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK-TREASURER