

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA,
HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015

The Honorable Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, met in regular session on Thursday, March 12, 2015, at 6 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, there being present:

President: Russell
Councilpersons: Showers, Robinson, Culver, Kling
(Culver not present for entire meeting)
Mayor: Battle
City Administrator: Hamilton
City Attorney: Joffrion
City Clerk-Treasurer: Hagood

President Russell called the meeting to order.

Pastor Robert Somerville, Awareness Ministries, led the invocation; Councilman Kling 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 February 12, 2015, were approved as submitted.

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

President Russell recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle asked Kenny Anderson to come forward, stating that they would be doing the presentation of the STAR 99.1/CAFY Young Citizen of the Month.

Mr. Anderson asked the other persons who would assist in the presentation to come forward. He also asked Anfernee Jones, the STAR 99.1/CAFY Young Citizen of the Month, to come forward.

Mr. Anderson stated that each month they were privileged to be able to select a Youth of the Month on behalf of STAR 99.1 and CAFY, which he noted was Community Awareness For Youth. He stated that at this time they were happy to announce that the youth who had been selected for this honor for the month of March was Anfernee Jones. He stated that Anfernee was an 11th grader at Bob Jones High School who ran track for the school. He continued that he attended the Triana Cumberland Presbyterian Church of America, where he was president of the Youth Department, secretary of Sunday School, and sang in three of the church's choirs. He stated that Anfernee worked part time at Taco Bell and stayed busy working at the Triana Police Station, Town Hall, and the Public Library. He stated that Anfernee had also worked at the J.E. Williams Boys & Girls Club, and that he had been involved in community service for at least five years.

Mr. Anderson introduced Anfernee to the Council and the audience.

Mr. Anderson stated that at this time some of the team

members had presentations for Anfernee.

Ms. Sara Crocker of the Human Relations Commission stated to Anfernee that it was a pleasure to have the opportunity to make this presentation to another wonderful young student. She stated that on behalf of the Human Relations Commission; the Mayor; the Multicultural Affairs Officer, and also the CAFY Chair; the Huntsville Police Department; STAR 99.1; and Huntsville Utilities, it was her pleasure to present a certificate to him. She stated that it read as follows: "CAFY/STAR 99.1 and the Human Relations Commission of the City of Huntsville are proud to honor Anfernee Jones as the CAFY/STAR 99.1 Young Citizen of the Month."

Dr. Harry Hobbs stated that on behalf of Huntsville Utilities and its CEO, Mr. Jay Stowe, they would like to make presentations to Anfernee. He made several presentations to Anfernee, noting they were for his mind, body, and soul.

Mr. Buzz Stephens of STAR 99.1 congratulated Anfernee, stating that he also had a presentation at this time. He stated that what Anfernee was doing at this time in his life was a step toward leadership, noting that he worked as a manager at the radio station, as Program Director, and that he looked for the things in new hires that Anfernee was standing for at this time. He urged him to keep doing what he was doing at this time, noting that everyone was proud of him. He made a presentation to Anfernee and congratulated him.

Mayor Battle presented Anfernee a coin from the City and

thanked him for being a part of this program, noting that he was very much appreciated.

Mr. Anderson stated that he wanted to let persons know that they could nominate a youth to be a Young Citizen of the Month by going to "mystar99.1.com." He stated that presentations such as this were held once each month.

Mayor Battle asked Mr. Steve Ivey of Parks and Recreation to come forward, noting that there were some young people to be recognized for their accomplishments.

Mr. Ivey stated that he was proud at this time to present the championship teams from the first annual City of Huntsville Post-Season Basketball Tournament. He stated that they would have these teams come forward and be recognized by the Mayor and the Council and presented with t-shirts.

Mr. Ivey asked James Gossett to come up to recognize the champions.

Mr. Gossett introduced Coach Fletcher and his 8-and-Under Girls Team.

Coach Fletcher and the team members came forward to be recognized and were presented t-shirts and congratulated.

Mr. Gossett asked Coach Green to come forward with his 8-and-Under Boys Team. He stated that this team was from the Metro League.

Coach Green and the team members came forward and were presented t-shirts and congratulated.

Mr. Gossett asked Coach Campbell and her 10-and-Under

Girls Team from Lakewood to come forward.

Coach Campbell and the team members came forward and were presented t-shirts and congratulated.

Mr. Gossett asked Coach Patton and his 10-and-Under Boys Team from Metro to come forward.

Coach Patton and the team members came forward and were presented t-shirts and congratulated.

Mr. Gossett asked Coach Greer and his 12-and-Under Girls Team to come forward.

Coach Greer and his team members came forward and were presented t-shirts and congratulated.

Mr. Gossett stated that Coach Greer was a City of Huntsville employee and that he spent a lot of time volunteering with young people and they really appreciated what he did.

Mr. Gossett asked Coach Lacy to come forward with his 12-and-Under Boys Team.

Coach Lacy and the team members came forward and were presented t-shirts and congratulated.

Mr. Gossett stated that this First Annual City of Huntsville Post-Season Basketball Tournament had been very successful, that the participants had had a great time, and that they looked forward to doing this every year. He stated that approximately 100 teams had participated in this, across five different age groups, both boys and girls.

Mayor Battle asked Mr. Terry Hatfield, Director of Public

Works, to come forward, along with Commissioner Steve Haraway and Mrs. Haraway. He stated that Commissioner Haraway was a Madison County Commissioner in the Western section, District 2. He stated that Commissioner Haraway had been a great partner with the City, that if the City needed some assistance, he was always there. He continued that he was aware this was a family affair, as Mrs. Haraway would be receiving all the calls while Commissioner Haraway was out working with the City.

Mayor Battle thanked Commissioner Haraway for this partnership. He recognized Mr. Hatfield to comment on something that was very special in this regard.

Mr. Hatfield stated that Commissioner Haraway and Mr. Hamilton had been involved in doing some projects for the City and County on resurfacing. He stated that Commissioner Haraway wanted to get some of the roads done, as did the Mayor, and that they had had several projects they had done jointly.

Mr. Hatfield stated that Commissioner Haraway had contacted him recently inquiring if the City could use some money and that he had answered that they absolutely could. He stated that he believed Commissioner Haraway would like to make a presentation at this time.

Commissioner Haraway stated that he appreciated the opportunity to appear before the Council. He stated that in the past he had worked with the City on some road projects, with Slaughter Road being one of these. He continued that they

had also worked on some traffic light projects on Zierdt Road, and that there were some future projects that they had discussed working on together.

Commissioner Haraway stated that the Madison County Commissioners had tax dollars to spend in their districts and that he had some money available at this time and had spoken with Mr. Hatfield concerning this and they had then found a project which they felt would benefit a lot of the district. He continued that at this time he would like to present the City a check to assist with this. He stated that the check he was presenting to Mayor Battle was to assist with the paving of Wynn Drive, noting that he believed this would benefit a lot of persons in the district.

Mayor Battle stated that this was a \$50,000 check and thanked Commissioner Haraway for this.

President Russell stated that the Council would consider item 15.d on the agenda at this time, in order to accept this donation.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-134)

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

Mayor Battle asked Mr. Greg Patterson to come forward, noting that he had just retired as Director of Parks and

Recreation.

Mayor Battle stated that for many years Mr. Patterson had been a public servant in the area, from his days as a football coach to sports director to Director of Parks and Recreation. He thanked Mr. Patterson for the great job that he had done for the City.

President Russell stated that at this time he would like for the Council to move to the presentation on the Partnership for a Drug Free Community's New Teen Program by Executive Director Deborah Soule, noting that Ms. Soule had a high school student present with her who needed to attend a play practice at Lee High School. He stated that after that they would go to the item concerning Coach Doss and also try to get his students out at a reasonable time.

President Russell recognized Ms. Deborah Soule.

Ms. Soule stated that for many years she had stood before the Council and had told them they were her organization's lifeline. She stated that at this time she wanted to make the Council aware that there was a very serious drug problem in the community, being prescription drug abuse. She continued that this was the fastest growing drug problem in the country, and that not only was there a problem with prescription pills but there was also a problem with heroin. She stated that knowledge and education was the best way to fight something such as this.

Ms. Soule stated that what they had done to attack this

problem was to develop a teen program called "Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders," TYTL. She stated that these were high school students from the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades, and that they were trained advocates to prevent prescription pill abuse and the rise of heroin.

Ms. Soule stated that she had brought two students to speak to the Council and provide some information, noting that if they were aware of this problem, they could prevent it or decrease it. She stated that everyone needed to know what was going on concerning this in the country and in the city.

Ms. Soule stated that at this time she would introduce one of their team members who would give some statistics concerning this problem. She stated that she had provided the Council members an envelope containing all the information they needed to be aware of concerning this matter, including statistics, et cetera. She asked that they read over this information and be aware of the matter. She stated that her organization was doing their best concerning this, that they were working very closely with the Huntsville Police Department, and that they were already making a difference, that they were speaking before youth groups and churches.

Ms. Soule stated that at this time she would like to introduce Akesia Ransaw.

Akesia Ransaw appeared before the Council, stating that she was a junior at Columbia High School. She stated that TYTL members were committed to prevent prescription pill abuse and

the rise of heroin. She stated that they did this through a social media campaign, including Twitter, Facebook, et cetera. She stated that her group was appearing before the Council at this time to inform them about prescription pill abuse, the fastest growing drug epidemic in the country, as well as the re-emergence of heroin.

Akesia stated that many teens believed that taking prescription medication without a doctor's prescription was not dangerous. She continued that the Center for Disease Control had recently reported that 46 persons died from an overdose of prescription pain pills every day. She stated that 12- to 17-year-olds abused prescription drugs more than ecstasy, heroin, crack, and meth combined.

Akesia stated that educating the public was an effective method to prevent prescription pill abuse. She stated that working as a TYTL member had made her realize how education and awareness was a key to a drug-free lifestyle.

Ms. Soule stated that at this time she would like to introduce Devan Davis, who was an extraordinary young man who had been with her since he was in the 9th grade.

Devan Davis appeared before the Council, stating that he attended Lee High School and that he was present at this time to tell the Council about a marvelous program he had been a part of for two years. He stated that this program was TYTL, Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders. He stated that TYTL was under the umbrella of a Partnership for a Drug Free Community.

He continued that this was an organization that aimed to prevent drug abuse, by education and awareness.

Devan stated that TYTL was a youth group that informed its peers of drug abuse in order to prevent future drug abuse. He stated that prescription pill abuse was one of the fastest growing epidemics in America. He continued that 46 persons were dying from an overdose of pain killers every day. He stated that the price of prescription pills on the street had gone up, so that the cost of prescription pills was more expensive and heroin was cheaper. He continued that, therefore, the persons who had been abusing prescription pills were at this time becoming heroin abusers. He stated that 114 persons had already died in Birmingham, and that what was happening in Birmingham, with people dying from abusing heroin, was also happening in Huntsville.

Devan stated that the tactics TYTL was using to prevent the teens of Huntsville from going down the same road included one-on-one contact and the social media campaign that Akesia had mentioned. He continued that today's teens loved social media and that they wanted to communicate with them in the best way possible. He stated that they also spoke at youth groups in schools and churches, that they had town forums, that they spoke at civic groups, because they realized that punishing teenagers for abusing drugs would not solve anything because as soon as the adults would leave, they would just come back into contact with more of it. He continued that sometimes a teen

just needed a listening ear.

Devan stated that the members of TYTL were recommended by high school administrators, counselors, and principals. He stated that they would soon be sending out more applications for interested, civic-minded, high school students, and that they would like to ask that persons encourage more teens to sign up for TYTL for the 2015-2016 year.

Devan stated that if anyone had any questions for him, to please ask.

President Russell asked if any of the Council members had any questions concerning this matter.

There was no response.

President Russell thanked the organization for their presentation, stating that they had done an excellent job.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda the Council would consider was Other Special Recognitions. He stated that there was a recognition of Coach Jack Doss and the J.O. Johnson High School Boys Basketball Team, winner of the Class 5A Boys State Championship held in Birmingham, Alabama.

President Russell recognized Councilman Showers.

Councilman Showers asked Coach Jack Doss to come forward.

Councilman Showers asked Coach Doss if his team members were present.

Coach Doss stated that the team members were not able to be present at the meeting, noting that they were working on the following year's State championship team. He stated that also

Tevor Lacey, who would hopefully be NBA the following year, would be playing at 6 this evening and that he had wanted his players to watch him play. He stated that he was a mentor to his team members and had worked with them during Christmas. He stated that he wanted his team members to understand that they could use basketball to get a college education and be successful.

Coach Doss stated that his team members had asked him to thank the Council and the Administration for their support.

Councilman Showers stated that it was quite a feat for the basketball team to be the 5A Boys State champions for the State of Alabama.

Councilman Showers stated that this was the 8th championship team that Coach Doss had coached.

Councilman Showers stated that he had certificates for all the coaches that were accompanying Coach Doss, as well as the team members.

Coach Doss stated that it started with the support of the principal, Mr. Eric Jones, who was also accompanying him.

Councilman Showers stated that he would like to ask the principal, Mr. Jones, to recognize the coaches, and he would present the certificates. He stated that on behalf of Mayor Battle and the other Council members and 160,000 caring citizens of Huntsville, he wanted to congratulate them for this outstanding achievement.

Mr. Jones stated that they certainly appreciated the

recognition at this time and recognized the athletic director, the assistant principal, and the other coaches on the podium. He stated that Coach Doss at this time had won the most state championships in the State of Alabama.

President Russell stated that the Council would go back to the regular agenda at this time and that the next item for consideration was Resolutions for Adoption Only.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution honoring Laura B. Ford Clift for her volunteerism and service to the community, during the 2015 Honoring Our Elders Celebration, sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation, to be held at Jackson Center on March 14, 2015, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-127)

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 honoring Mary E. Wiggins Lane for her volunteerism and service to the community, during the 2015 Honoring Our Elders Celebration, sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation, to be held at Jackson Center on March 14, 2015, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-128)

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

honoring Reverend James Lane for his volunteerism and service to the community, during the 2015 Honoring Our Elders Celebration, sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation, to be held at Jackson Center on March 14, 2015, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-129)

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 honoring Gen.(Ret.)James Link for his volunteerism and service to the community, during the 2015 Honoring Our Elders Celebration, sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation, to be held at Jackson Center on March 14, 2015, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-130)

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 honoring Judy Link for her volunteerism and service to the community, during the 2015 Honoring Our Elders Celebration, sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation, to be held at Jackson Center on March 14, 2015, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-131)

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 honoring Pinkie High for her volunteerism and service to the community, during the 2015 Honoring Our Elders Celebration, sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation, to be held at Jackson Center on March 14, 2015, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-132)

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

Councilman Showers stated that the persons mentioned in the above resolutions would be honored at the event to be held at the Jackson Center on March 14, 2015, and that since he would be out of town at that time, Councilman Culver would be making the presentations. He thanked Councilman Culver for doing this.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution congratulating Captain Curtis Sanders upon his retirement after 30 years of service to the Madison County Sheriff's Department, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-133)

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

Councilman Showers stated that he would present the resolution, on behalf of the Mayor and the Council, at the celebration that would be held on March 27, 2015, at the Cahaba

Shrine.

President Russell stated that item 9.a.11 had been withdrawn and items 15.k, 15.n, 15.u, and 16.b.1 had been deleted from the agenda.

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 rezoning property lying on the south side of Winchester Road and west of Shields Road from Neighborhood Business C-1 District to Highway Business C-4 District, at the April 23, 2015, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-135)

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

Councilman Showers read and introduced Ordinance No. 15-136, rezoning property lying on the south side of Winchester Road and west of Shields Road from Neighborhood Business C-1 District to Highway Business C-4 District

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance zoning newly annexed property lying north of Zierdt Road and on the east and west sides of Arnett Road as Residence 1-B District, at the April 23, 2015, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-137)

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

Councilman Showers read and introduced Ordinance No. 15-138, zoning newly annexed property lying north of Zierdt Road and on the east and west sides of Arnett Road as Residence 1-B District.

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

Ms. Pat Tumminello, 2102 Chambers Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that at this time she wanted to request postponement of the vote on renaming Hundley Drive until further study had been done. She stated that this was item 15.ff, Ordinance No. 15-190, on the agenda.

Ms. Tumminello stated that the Hundley family was among Alabama's earliest pioneers, that they had come to Huntsville in 1815, before Alabama became a state. She stated that Hundley Drive had been named for Huntsville residents Oscar Hundley and his wife, Bossie O'Brien Hundley. She stated that Oscar Hundley was Huntsville City Attorney, and a member of the Alabama House of Representatives and the Alabama Senate. She continued that he had been appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1907 to be the District Judge of the Northern District of Alabama. She continued that he was also credited with being the author of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Huntsville. She stated that he and his wife had been

instrumental in bringing Catholic education to Huntsville in 1901. She stated that many of Huntsville's citizens, Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and children of all races, had benefitted from this benevolence for over 114 years.

Ms. Tumminello stated that Bossie O'Brien Hundley was a suffragette, campaigning for women's right to vote, and attending, sponsoring, and planning demonstrations, marches, and rallies throughout the state and across the nation. She continued that she was President of the Birmingham Equal Suffrage Association, and that as chief strategist, she had led the 1915 lobbying effort before the Alabama Legislature. She stated that while the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote, was ratified in 1920 by a two-thirds majority of the states, it was rejected by Alabama. She continued that the ratification had been officially accepted in Alabama in 1953, after being the law of the land for 33 years. She stated that, nevertheless, Mrs. Hundley's efforts, combined with the efforts of others, had benefitted every man, woman, and child, regardless of race, color, or creed, living in the United States.

Ms. Tumminello stated that while driving through downtown Huntsville earlier in the day and pondering on what she would say at this time, she had observed some memorials: on the Square, to law-enforcement officers who had made the extreme sacrifice; the Veterans Memorial; the memorial sign for the students who had lost their lives in a tragic bus accident.

She continued that the list went on and on. She stated that streets being named in honor of our forebearers were also memorials and that a memorial should never be taken from the honoree.

Ms. Tumminello stated that the Hundley family deserved to be remembered because of what they did for the City and the State, and in the case of Mrs. Hundley, for the nation.

Ms. Tumminello stated that she was appearing before the Council at this time to request the restoration of this memorial. She asked if it was honorable to disenfranchise one person for the sake of another. She asked if there was any way a compromise could be reached in this situation, such as calling the street "Hundley-Lowery," or with so many new streets being constructed in Huntsville, if another street could be used to memorialize Dr. Lowery.

Ms. Tumminello thanked the Council for their attention and stated that she hoped they would give this matter consideration.

Ms. Jackie Reeves, 4932 Cove Valley Drive, Owens Cross Roads, Alabama, appeared before the Council, stating that she was appearing before the Council as the President of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society, and also as a member of the Hundley family.

Ms. Reeves stated that, as Ms. Tumminello had stated, the Hundleys had been in the area since 1815, since before Alabama statehood. She stated that she would also like to request that

the Council reconsider the proposal to remove the Hundley name from the street sign. She stated that with all the contributions of Oscar Hundley and his ancestors and descendants, it would seem that it would be a good idea to keep it there. She stated that the home that Oscar Hundley had built on Madison Street was at this time known as the "Johnnie Cochran Firm," and that the name of the building he had for his business on South Side Square had been changed to the "Harvie Jones Building." She continued that the street name was the only thing that was left and asked that the Council reconsider the proposal to change the name. She stated that she believed a compromise could be reached on this matter.

President Russell stated that this matter would be discussed later in the meeting.

Ms. Jackie Reed, Jack Coleman Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that the snow had put everyone down for a few days, but that they should not blame that for the condition of the roads because they were already a mess before the snow, that they had been in that condition for many, many years.

Ms. Reed thanked the City employees for all the overtime they had worked and for doing everything they could to make the citizens happy. She stated that she would be looking for them to have a 3 to 5 percent raise when the time came to do the budget. She stated that she would hold the Council's feet to the fire on this.

Ms. Reed stated that she did not know how many persons

were interested in the school desegregation plan. She continued that she had been the last person to speak earlier in the day to the Judge hearing this matter. She stated that many persons had not gotten involved with the school system. She stated that all persons in the city were God's people. She continued that the school matter had separated the city more than anyone was aware, that it had separated neighborhoods, children, persons who had attended school together, that it was a mess. She stated that they had to stop the race card in the city and connect and get together.

Ms. Reed stated that they should not be busing the children up and own the roads and building schools like shopping centers, to the tune of \$65 million. She stated that shutting down Butler High School was a big mistake. She stated that former Mayor Spencer had taken 200 students from Butler in order to build the Slyman Brothers a school. She stated that all this should be looked into. She continued that she did not see many persons at the meetings concerning the school system, but she had seen President Russell there.

Ms. Reed stated that how the city had been separated was a big thing and reiterated that it needed to be kept connected and together.

Ms. Reed stated that there were several issues on the agenda for this meeting, and that one of them had to do with John Hunt Park. She stated that they should not be giving that property away and asked why they were tearing down Joe Davis

Stadium. She stated that they should not be doing anything in John Hunt Park if the public was not aware of what was going on. She stated that she understood that the Aquatic Center, the Scruggs Center, and Joe Davis Stadium were coming down.

Ms. Reed stated that there was a lot of robbery going on at the YMCA on Weatherly Road, that a friend of hers had had her car broken into and her purse had been stolen. She stated that she would like to see police officers going undercover and catching the persons involved in what was going on on Weatherly Road.

Captain Stephen Jones, 2606 Artie Street, appeared before the Council, expressing appreciation for the brief opportunity to address the Council at this time. He further thanked the Council for allowing the time for them to share the details of their request at a previous work session of the Council on February 5. He stated that they felt this time had been very beneficial in helping all parties present to have a better understanding of the responsibilities, the vast amount of hours on duty, and the relatively low hourly pay compared with other public safety employees in the City of Huntsville.

Captain Jones stated that as they approached the end of a process that had been ongoing for almost one year, they wanted to express their sincere appreciation to the members of the Huntsville City Council for the unwavering support that had been shown to Huntsville Fire & Rescue employees throughout this entire process.

Captain Jones stated that it had never been their intention during their pursuit of salary parity to create competition between Huntsville Fire & Rescue and the Huntsville Police Department. He continued that their focus had been about the ideals, responsibilities, and the call to service they shared. He stated that they knew that both departments were on the same team, working together to provide the citizens of Huntsville with the utmost level of safety, protection, and service that they deserved and had come to expect.

Captain Jones stated that as they neared the completion of this process, they understood the high emotions involved in their request, and that they realized that the pressure placed on them must also mirror the same level of pressure placed on the Council members. He stated that with this in mind, they respected and appreciated the steadfast commitment to the principles of right and wrong, fairness and equality, and just treatment of all Huntsville City employees and residents.

Captain Jones stated that in their attempt to gain base wage parity, they would also like to recognize the community of Huntsville as a whole. He stated that the community had given them a phenomenal amount of encouragement in the equality they were fighting for and that they appreciated the positive support they had received.

Captain Jones stated that he would like to again thank the Council for their unfaltering convictions as they continued to progress toward their goal of base wage salary parity.

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Brasfield & Gorrie LLC for the construction of a water treatment plant and intake facilities in Marshall County, Alabama, (Utilities: Water), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-139)

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

President Russell asked for a presentation by Huntsville Utilities concerning this resolution.

Mr. Jay Stowe, President and CEO of Huntsville Utilities, appeared before the Council, stating that he would be talking about three items, and that the specific one before the Council at this time was authorization for the Mayor to execute the contract for the water plant.

Mr. Stowe stated that this was a project that had had a 10-year journey. He continued that starting in 2006, the Council had approved each step of this journey, that they had approved contracts and different parts of the project, commencing with the site selection in 2006, and then preliminary engineering in 2007. He continued that they had put an option on the property on Guntersville Dam Road in 2008. He stated that in 2007, they had expanded the South Parkway

Water Treatment Plant in order to push out the cost of this project as long as they could. He stated that in 2009 they had purchased the property, and that in 2010 they had entered into a contract to design the plant. He continued that they had gone through the rate increase in order to have the funds to pay for the project.

Mr. Stowe stated that they hoped to commence this project within the upcoming few months. He stated that the project was a 24-million-gallon water treatment plant and that the contract was with Brasfield & Gorrie. He continued that this was an \$83,539,000 contract. He stated that this would increase the water capacity in their system by 24 million gallons and provide for the future for their customers, in both public health, public safety, and economic development, so that they would have sufficient water to continue to supply the community.

Mr. Stowe stated that this facility would be very similar to the water treatment plant that had been built in 1984, the Southwest Plant. He stated that this was a continuation of the projects they had worked on since the City and Huntsville Utilities had decided to build the water treatment plant on South Memorial Parkway in 1964.

Mr. Stowe stated that he would answer any questions the Council members might have concerning this matter. He stated that this was another step in the process of planning for the future, in order to have enough water for their customers.

President Russell asked if any of the Council members had questions concerning this matter.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she wanted to ask one question that persons had been asking her. She stated that she was aware of the answer but felt it should be made public. She asked why they were building the water treatment plan so far away from the city.

Mr. Stowe stated that, as he had previously mentioned, nine years prior they had gone through a site selection process to try to determine the best location for the water plant. He stated that the location on Gunterville Lake would actually have the intake on the lake side of the dam. He stated that this was actually the closest plant they had ever built to their system. He stated that the plant they had built in 1964 was farther away and that the plant they built in 1984 was farther away than the distance they were going to have to run pipes to tie back into their system at this time. He stated that this was the least expensive and the best place for water quality for their customers.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that the thing she liked best about this project was that water was such an incredibly valuable resource at this time, and they had seen so many communities, such as Atlanta, that had really struggled. She continued that Huntsville was on a trajectory for growth, and depending on which figures one looked at, perhaps rapid growth. She continued that this was a tremendous investment in the

future of the city.

Councilman Kling asked Mr. Stowe for a ball park figure as to the current water capacity.

Mr. Stowe stated that 96 million gallons was their capacity, and that their peak day was approximately 77 million gallons. He stated that whenever they hit the 80 percent mark was when they needed to start planning and constructing a water plant in order to keep moving forward with economic development.

Councilman Kling asked if there was any ball park estimate as far as when the water treatment plant would be on line.

Mr. Stowe stated that it would be the summer of 2018.

Councilman Kling asked if it was correct that they would not have any problem with losing access to the water, with it being blocked off, with somebody in Marshall County deciding they were taking too much water. He asked if they had unimpeded access.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative. He stated that there was a process that they had already gone through, a permitting process with TVA, the Corps of Engineers, ADEM, and several other groups, in order to ensure that they would have water. He stated that they actually went through this process every several years with the entire water system. He stated that this plant would be very similar to the other two that were on the river, and they should be fine with that.

President Russell asked Mr. Stowe if this was the largest

project in Huntsville Utilities' history.

Mr. Stowe stated that it was the largest project in terms of dollars, but that in terms of scope, it was very similar to the water plants they had built previously.

President Russell asked if, then, this would be a special project.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative.

President Russell asked Mr. Stowe how they had chosen the contractor, noting that he was aware that Brasfield & Gorrie had a great reputation.

Mr. Stowe stated that they had gone through a process of narrowing down, that they had sent invitations for bid out to eight contractors and had prequalified them based on whether they had built plants of similar size and similar scope in the recent past. He stated that they had then narrowed this down to five contractors that had actually met these qualifications, and that they had then accepted bids, and Brasfield & Gorrie had been the low bid. He stated that it wasn't simply the lowest bid, because everybody on the list had been previously qualified.

President Russell asked if it was correct, then, that Brasfield & Gorrie had built a water plant comparable to this water plant.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative. He stated that they had to have done several different projects and had to have been involved with three projects that were \$50 million or more

in the last few years, and also have experience with vertical turbine pumps. He continued that they had met these qualifications.

President Russell stated that he was aware that Mr. Stowe was ultimately responsible for this project but asked who on the staff would be managing the project day to day and what this person's experience was.

Mr. Stowe stated that Mr. Tony Owens, who was present at the meeting, was their Vice President of Operations and had 39 years of experience working with Huntsville Utilities, that he had been involved in the Southwest plant that had been built in 1984. He stated that they also had on their staff an engineer that would be on site full time, and that they had a contract administrator with the engineer that would be on site full time. He stated that it would be a combination of these persons.

President Russell asked if the contract engineer would actually work for Huntsville Utilities or if he was a consultant to advise on whether the project was going well.

Mr. Stowe stated that they would have an engineer that worked for Huntsville Utilities on site full time and that the consulting engineer would have a representative on site full time.

President Russell stated that in the past, as Mr. Stowe was aware, there had been City projects that had not gone well. He stated that the public wanted the Council to be the project

manager on this project and they wanted them to be kept informed. He asked Mr. Stowe how Huntsville Utilities could keep the Council informed concerning this project, if there was a way they could send them monthly reports, or something such as this, so the Council would know if the project was not going so well or if it was going great.

Mr. Stowe stated that they could do that. He stated that they also reported to the Board that the Council appointed and met with them regularly. He stated that they would keep the Council up to date on this.

President Russell asked Mr. Stowe to describe the process by which they would update their Board.

Mr. Stowe stated that they had monthly meetings with their Board and that one of the items on the agenda every month would be what the status was, what the process was, where they stood on the project. He stated that they would also have opportunities to be able to go onto the site to see what was going on, that they would keep them informed every step of the way.

President Russell asked Mr. Stowe if the monthly Board meetings were open to the public and the press.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative.

President Russell stated that, then, the press could cover these meetings and inform the community as to the status of the project.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative.

President Russell asked Mr. Stowe what local governments would have jurisdiction over this facility, noting that it was located in Marshall County. He asked if it was in a city.

Mr. Stowe stated that it was not in a city, that it was in Marshall County, so that the police would be the Marshall County Sheriff. He stated that there were no building permits required. He continued that the permits they would have to follow would be through ADEM, TVA, and the Corps of Engineers. He stated that there was a volunteer fire department in the area.

President Russell asked if there was any concern about the fire department.

Mr. Stowe replied in the negative, stating that there was also a volunteer fire department not far from the city of Grant. He continued that there were other areas that were close by from which they could have assistance.

President Russell asked who would provide the power for the facility.

Mr. Stowe stated that this would be Huntsville Utilities.

President Russell asked if they would provide all the utilities.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative, stating that they would provide water, electric, and gas.

President Russell stated that that was one of his concerns, that they would be in control of that and would not be relying on others.

Mr. Stowe stated that it was all within their service territory. He continued that that would have been a good answer to Councilwoman Robinson's question, as well.

President Russell asked if there were any other questions for Mr. Stowe.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that in their conversation when she had met with Mr. Stowe earlier, they had discussed that there was a connection with Madison County, that this was going to enable them to enter into a partnership with them.

Mr. Stowe stated that they had already entered into a partnership with Madison County, that they supplied 2 million gallons of water per day to Madison County. He stated that this was in the capacity they had discussed previously that they were already supplying. He stated that they could use more than this during the summer, but that on an everyday basis, they used 2 million gallons per day. He stated that this had been part of the planning process.

President Russell asked Mr. Stowe if he had stated that this contract amount was \$83 million.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative.

President Russell stated that he believed the Council had been expecting this amount to be larger. He asked what they had been expecting it to be and what would be done with the delta, and if there was a contingency budget if something were to go wrong, so that the plant would still be built.

Mr. Stowe stated that they had expected the budget to be

more, that they had expected it to be 95 to 100 million dollars. He stated that they also had some system improvements they would be doing with their own crews, in-house, in building some tanks. He stated that back in June or July, the Board had approved \$126 million total for the full project. He stated that there was some pipeline work and some other projects that were going to go along with this. He stated that the plant itself had come in approximately 10 to 15 million dollars less than they had expected. He continued that they should be in good shape on this.

Mr. Stowe stated, concerning the delta, that they had not done the financing for this, that they had wanted to wait until they got the bid prior to doing the bond issue. He stated that this was something that they would be coming back to the Council with in future meetings. He stated, concerning the contingency, that their history was approximately 2 percent or less in change orders, and that they felt confident they would be able to accomplish this in a similar fashion. He stated that they also had cash reserves, so that they would be able to buffer this if needed.

President Russell asked if, in all likelihood, they would get the plant built without a problem from the cash perspective.

Mr. Stowe stated that they did not expect to have any problems.

Councilwoman Robinson asked if Mr. Stowe could go over the

numbers again.

Mr. Stowe stated that the construction for the plant itself was \$83.5 million.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that on another document there was the figure of \$115 million and asked if that was for the entire project.

Mr. Stowe stated that that item was for a resolution to reimburse for bond proceeds. He stated that they were going to start working on projects, and that the method they used to do that was to put in the total amount of the bond, the anticipated bond.

Councilwoman Robinson asked if it would be the plant plus other items.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative.

Councilman Kling stated to Mr. Stowe that he was aware there was a water scale that was already set up to cover rates, et cetera. He asked if it was correct that they did not anticipate any new water rate increases in the future.

Mr. Stowe stated that associated with this project they did not. He stated that they had done this in 2012 and 2013, that they had entered into a five-step rate increase to cover this.

Councilman Kling stated that what he had meant was that nothing would change on that.

Mr. Stowe stated that that was correct, that what had already been presented to the Council as far as the rates would

remain.

Councilman Kling asked if since the project might come in under budget, there was any chance there might be a small rate decrease.

Mr. Stowe replied in the negative, stating that he believed what it would do would be to delay another rate increase and allow them to continue to manage growth.

President Russell asked what this plant would be called, if it would be the "Marshall County Plant," or how the Council should refer to it.

Mr. Stowe stated that they referred to it as the "Southeast Plant." He stated that they had the South Parkway Plant, the Southwest Plant, and the Southeast Plant.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Stowe if there would be a construction manager for the project.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative, stating that the Vice President of Operations, Tony Owens, would be managing the project, and the engineer on site would be their staff member that would be there daily. He stated that the construction manager was the consultant they had had that had designed the plant, from the beginning of the planning, 10 years prior, and that the staff that did the design would be on site working with them.

Councilman Showers inquired as to the name of the firm.

Mr. Stowe stated that it Tetra Tech.

President Russell asked if there were any further

questions from the Council concerning this matter.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-139, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing reimbursement for Huntsville Utilities for the Southeast Water plant and other capital improvement expenditures, as required by IRS regulations, (Utilities: Water), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-140)

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

President Russell asked Mr. Stowe if this resolution was basically reimbursing the bond money.

Mr. Stowe replied in the affirmative.

President Russell asked if there was anything else Mr. Stowe needed to add to this.

Mr. Stowe replied in the negative.

President Russell asked if there were any questions concerning the resolution.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-140, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing approval to construct the Southeast Water Treatment

Plant, (WBS S1W-GWTPCONTRA) (Utilities: Water), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-141)

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 of the above resolution.

There was no response.

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to the Voltage Regulation Program with TVA, (Utilities: Electric), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-142)

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 concerning this resolution.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Stowe if he would explain the above resolution.

Mr. Stowe stated that approximately a year prior, the Council had approved a contract where Huntsville Utilities had received a grant from TVA to manage voltage during peak times in order to save their customers some dollars. He stated that they had reduced the voltage, and that this reduced peak

demands and allowed them to pass the savings on to their customers.

Mr. Stowe stated that this was actually a simple amendment because the retention period for the records was five years in the contract and that it needed to be six years.

President Russell asked if there was any further discussion of this matter.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-142, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing approval to refurbish the exterior of Huntsville Utilities' downtown building, (PR 10177295) (Utilities: Electric), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-143)

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

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

Mr. Stowe stated that this was a purchase requisition, requesting approval so they could pressure wash and clean the brick, replace sealants, and repair exterior brick, just to do general maintenance on the building.

Councilman Kling inquired as to the cost for this.

Mr. Stowe stated that it was \$95,000.

Councilman Kling asked if this was more maintenance, protecting the building, that it was not cosmetic.

Mr. Stowe stated that it was just general maintenance.

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

President Russell thanked Mr. Stowe for his presentation.

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

Councilwoman Robinson read and introduced a resolution to appoint Sharon Olshefski to the Human Relations Commission of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, Place 3, for a term to expire September 22, 2018, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-144)

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

Councilwoman Robinson read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Jeffrey Sanders to the Huntsville-Madison County Marina & Port Authority, for a term to expire July 1, 2019, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-145)

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

President Russell stated that Dr. Sanders was his brother-in-law and he would abstain from voting on this

resolution.

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

AYES: Showers, Robinson, Kling, Culver

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Russell

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution to reappoint James "Tony" Smith to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Council, for a term to expire February 14, 2018, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-146)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Connie Gates to the Animal Services Advisory Committee, Place 5, for a term to expire September 8, 2015, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-147)

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 Lisa Pendergast, DVM, to the Animal Services Advisory Committee, Place 1, for a term to expire September 8, 2017, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-148)

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 Janice Gibbons to the Animal Services Advisory Committee, Place 2, for a term to expire September 8, 2017, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-149)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Fred Rodrigue to the Bingo Review Committee, for a term to expire April 8, 2015, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-150)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Russell Grimes to the Board of Examination and Appeals for Construction Industries, Place 7, for a term to expire September 21, 2017, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-151)

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

and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Thornton Stanley, Jr., to the Board of Examination and Appeals for Construction Industries, Place 8, for a term to expire September 21, 2017, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-152)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to reappoint John Hall to the Board of Examination and Appeals for Construction Industries, Place 16, for a term to expire July 1, 2017, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-153)

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 James "Tony" Smith for appointment to The Educational Building Authority of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, Alabama A&M University, for a term to expire November 10, 2015.

President Russell nominated Kristen Bodeker for appointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

Councilwoman Robinson nominated Byrom Goodwin for reappointment to the Huntsville-Madison County Mental Health Board, Place No. 10, for a six-year term to expire April 1, 2021.

Councilwoman Robinson nominated Joann Moorman for reappointment to the Huntsville-Madison County Mental Health Board, Place No. 11, for a six-year term to expire April 1, 2021.

Councilwoman Robinson nominated Elizabeth Smith for reappointment to the Huntsville-Madison County Mental Health Board, Place No. 12, for a six-year term to expire April 1, 2021.

Councilman Culver nominated Connie Keltner for reappointment to the Huntsville Tennis Center Board of Control, for a term to expire November 28, 2017.

Councilman Kling nominated Joyce LeDuc-Hampton for reappointment to the Bingo Review Committee, for a two-year term to expire April 8, 2017.

Councilman Kling nominated Betty Gaylor for reappointment to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Council, for a three-year term to expire April 14, 2018.

Councilman Kling nominated Barbara Fleming for reappointment to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Council, for a three-year term to expire April 14, 2018.

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

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-154)

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

President Russell asked if there was any discussion of the above resolution.

There was no response.

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

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Randy Taylor, Director of Finance, to present the Finance Committee Report.

Mr. Taylor stated that he could provide a couple of items at this time. He stated that they had the sales tax figures for the month of February, and that the good news was that February was 5.7 percent higher than February of the prior year. He stated that if one combined the five months for the current fiscal year, they were 4.7 percent ahead of the prior year. He stated that this put them in a good position as they were approaching mid year and the report that would be given in approximately a month as to the status of all the income and expenses.

Mr. Taylor stated that privilege license receipts were on track for the year at this time, noting that the filing deadline on this had passed. He stated that property taxes were tracking consistent with what they had expected from the

assessment records. He continued that this was behind the budget but that they had not collected everything, that there were several months remaining for a few of the collections. He stated that, however, most of them were collected by mid year. He stated that it did appear that this would close out somewhat behind.

Mr. Taylor stated that, all things considered, they were in a good position at this time. He stated that he would be providing a full mid-year review sometime in April that would show where they were for the six months.

Mr. Taylor stated that at this time he would like to provide the Council a report on the plans to borrow money for the Capital Plan. He stated that they had intended to do this at the prior meeting of the Council, that they had been working on it for awhile. He continued that it had been a month since the Council had held a meeting, so that they had not had the opportunity to do it.

Mr. Taylor stated that, as the Council was aware, the 2014 Capital Plan and the 1990 Capital Plan had both planned for another round of borrowing for road and other infrastructure projects. He stated that the Council had approved this, and they had been moving forward with borrowing money when it would be in the City's best economic interest to do so.

Mr. Taylor stated that they had been working on this very heavily for the prior several weeks. He stated that the amount

of money they planned to borrow was approximately \$90 million, noting that this would fund both of the plans. He stated that, however, it did not fund everything, noting that there were some projects that did not need funding for a year or two, and that they would hold off on borrowing that and not pay debt service any sooner than was necessary on those projects. He continued that they would set approximately one-third of the bond issue aside.

Mr. Taylor stated that the full details concerning this would be given to the Council when the plan was presented to them. He continued that it basically reflected what they had included in the Capital Plans, and that it included money related to the Polaris commitment, noting that they were not funding this directly with this bond issue, but it did require them to borrow some money for some road projects as a result of this.

Mr. Taylor stated that they were also proposing to borrow money in connection with the new TIF District that they planned to introduce to the Council and the public, and all the parties necessary to be a part of that process, at the next Regular Meeting of the Council. He continued that this was actually a project they had already addressed to some degree in the current Capital Plans.

Mr. Taylor stated that they would also be borrowing money related to the TIF-5 EUL project. He stated that the Council members might recall that all the funding they had used to

build the infrastructure at Redstone Gateway was provided by loans from the developer, noting that the developer had 100 percent of the risk associated with the repayment of that debt. He stated that the property taxes that had been paid to the City for the buildings that were already in place at Redstone Gateway were at this time sufficient enough that the City was obligated to borrow money in the market, as they did for all their other needs, and repay the developer. He continued that this amount would be approximately \$8 million. He stated that the City would have a priority claim on the tax revenues that would be collected with respect to that debt before they would ever have to pay the developer. He stated that this was going exactly as it had been planned, noting that the City owed the developer at this time approximately \$37 million. He stated that the amount of money that had been paid would now be used exclusively to pay the debt the City was proposing to borrow in the next few weeks to repay the developer.

Mr. Taylor stated that there was an action on the agenda of this meeting for the Council to authorize Mayor Battle to sign a bond purchase agreement with the City's underwriters if, in fact, they happened to do this prior to the next meeting of the Council. He continued that this appeared very unlikely at this point since there was a lot to be done in the upcoming two weeks. He stated that it did not appear they would actually need this action, but that they were asking the Council to give

the Mayor the authority to tentatively approve the deal with the underwriters should it be favorable and they would be able to try to price their debt in the markets prior to the next Council meeting. He stated that the Council would have to approve everything officially at a later date, that the Mayor would only give a tentative green light to the process.

Mr. Taylor stated that on the prior day, they had had a teleconference with Moody's Investor Service, one of the rating agencies from whom the City solicited a rating, about this process. He stated further that they had hosted Standard & Poor's, who was in town on this date. He stated that they had wanted the opportunity to see the city and to see some of the things the City talked about in all their financing plans. He stated that they had spent time from approximately 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. with them, showing them the community and providing them all the things they needed.

Mr. Taylor stated that these had been very good meetings, and that Mayor Battle had represented the City very well in the discussions about what they were doing and what was happening in the city and why they could continue to have confidence in the community.

Mr. Taylor stated that they would continue to provide the Council members updates concerning this by email.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Taylor if he would brief the Council again on the project with the State of Alabama, in terms of the road project.

Mr. Taylor stated that perhaps it would be better for Mr. Shane Davis to address the Council on the details concerning this.

Councilman Showers stated that he was wanting to know about the financing and inquired as to where they were on the match amount.

Mr. Taylor stated that the City had established a one percent sales tax a year prior, on March 1, 2014, and had been collecting this money since that date. He stated that at this time it was being collected at a rate of approximately \$3 million per month, or \$36 million per year. He stated that the State's share of the road projects was \$125 million, that the State was matching the City's \$125 million share. He stated that the City was obligated to pay ALDOT \$50 million at the end of the current fiscal year, minus the cost of some projects on which the City was obligated to spend money. He continued that he believed the Cecil Ashburn improvements and the Epworth Drive connector were the two projects. He stated that the City was on track to do this, that they were collecting the money. He continued that they would be borrowing some of the money for these projects, noting that in the transaction he had just been discussing there was \$14 million dollars' worth included.

Mr. Taylor stated that everything was going as planned and the City would be meeting its commitment with the State later in the current fiscal year.

Councilman Kling asked if it was correct that they did expect the State to live up to their share of this agreement.

Mr. Taylor stated that he did not know otherwise, that as far as he knew, all the work in the "Restore Our Roads" program was continuing.

Mayor Battle stated that the Administration had had conversations with Mr. Cooper in the prior week, and that they had every indication that everything was on line, that everything was on track. He stated that there had been some controversy over a billboard and the Highway 72 West Project. He stated that their opinion on this was that they should wait until the legislative session was over, wait until cooler heads would prevail, and then have that conversation. He stated that they had met with the legislature on the previous day to discuss some industrial development processes the City was going through, and that they had advised the same thing concerning this matter. He stated that that was where they were on this process.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Shane Davis to come to the microphone.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Davis if there was anything he needed to share with the Council concerning the commitment of the road match from the State.

Mr. Davis stated that he could advise the Council that all projects were on schedule. He stated that the South Huntsville project would be bid in May. He continued that in

North Huntsville, the Sparkman overpass was actually ahead of schedule. He stated that, as he had shared with the Council previously, they had flip-flopped with the Northern Bypass, transferring from a North Parkway overpass construction of 2016 and the Northern Bypass section being 2017. He stated that, as Mayor Battle had stated, with the legislative session being currently ongoing, they would wait until after that session. He stated that with the short duration of the legislative session, if the project were put back in place, it would not affect the construction schedule for the Highway 72 project. He stated that they were at approximately a 20 percent design phase at the current stage it was in, and that that could certainly be made up within the time frame. He stated that all projects they had committed were currently on schedule.

Councilman Showers thanked Mr. Davis for his report concerning this matter.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from the Mayor. He recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle stated that he would like to make the following appointments:

Fred Coffey to the Board of Zoning Adjustments, for a three-year term to expire March 9, 2018.

Bert Peak to the Board of Zoning Adjustments, for a three-year term to expire March 9, 2018.

Janet Watson to the Planning Commission, for a three-year term to expire March 12, 2018.

Mayor Battle recommended to the Council the appointment of Steve Ivey as Director of Parks and Recreation. He stated that Mr. Ivey had been with Parks and Recreation approximately 39 years and that he had done a great job.

President Russell moved for approval of the appointment of Steve Ivey as Director of Parks and Recreation, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously approved.

President Russell congratulated Mr. Ivey.

Mayor Battle stated that the following Saturday was International Drone Day, or Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Day, at the Rocket City Airfield on Leeman Ferry Road, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with free admission.

Mayor Battle recognized Jay Gates in the audience and stated that he would have the 1927 fire truck ready to go, that it would be in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, which he noted would 11:30 a.m. on the following Saturday in downtown Huntsville. He stated that the Council members were invited to ride in the truck with them if they would like to.

Mayor Battle stated that the free "Spring Burst" Guided Hike Series on the Monte Sano Old Railroad Bed Trail would commence on the following Saturday, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Mayor Battle stated that the BIG Picture Citizens Academy on Transportation would be held at Columbia High School on March 19 at 6 p.m. He stated that the Academy was going along great, that they were approximately halfway through at this

time, and that Planning was doing a great job on this. He stated that this would be community conversation about transportation, including all means of transportation. He invited citizens to attend this event.

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

Councilman Culver stated that he was certainly looking forward to the weekend activities.

Councilman Culver stated that he had a town hall meeting scheduled for March 31, at 6 p.m., at 28659 Cobble Creek Road, noting that although the address was Madison, Alabama, it was within the Huntsville city limits, noting that some of this area had been annexed from Limestone County. He stated that one of the concerns he had always expressed had been that persons who lived in those areas the City had annexed deserved the same City services as did all the residents who lived within the city limits of Huntsville.

Councilman Culver stated that the issues they would discuss at the town meeting included concerns about police services in the area, and that they would need the Chief of Police or whomever he might designate to be in attendance at the meeting. He stated that they would also need the fire chief or his designee, noting that persons were also concerned about fire protection. He stated that he was aware they were doing some long-range planning in these areas, and that perhaps they would be prepared to discuss this at the meeting.

Councilman Culver stated that some other concerns that had been expressed were related to water issues. He stated to Mr. Hatfield that he was not certain if some of this would fall within his department, although he felt certain it would. He stated that some of the areas had water that was standing and that perhaps this could be addressed between Mr. Hatfield's department and City Engineering. He continued that as a result of this, they had great concerns with vector control. He stated that he was aware that the County provided these services, but that although an area was within the city limits of Huntsville, if it was outside Madison County, they typically would not provide these services. He stated that if there were no legal prohibitions, he intended to see if they could solicit their help on this.

Councilman Culver stated that persons had also expressed concerns about trees and other brush and debris, that they had put some things on the highway that weren't picked up. He suggested to Mr. Hatfield that perhaps they could get their knuckle boom truck back out in the area, somewhere in the proximity of Steger Road. He stated that he would check this out prior to the town meeting and get more specificities on it. He stated that, basically, persons were just concerned about all the City services that they apparently were not getting.

Councilman Culver stated that another issue, for which he needed to invite the Probate Judge or one of his designees, concerned the voting precinct. He stated that this was the

extreme western part of the city, but persons in this area were voting at Williams Elementary and Middle School, which he noted was a long distance away from where these persons lived. He stated that this was a concern that needed to be addressed, as well.

Councilman Culver stated to Mayor Battle that if the department heads he had mentioned could be present to help them out in this area of the city, they would certainly appreciate it.

Councilman Culver stated that he would be making this announcement again at the next Regular Meeting of the Council. He reiterated that the town hall meeting was set for Tuesday, March 31, at 6 p.m., at 28659 Cobble Creek Road, Madison, Alabama 35756. He thanked Nicole Jones for her assistance with this.

Councilman Kling stated that some good citizens in the community had recently passed away and he would like to recognize them.

Councilman Kling stated that he would like for the Council and the public to recognize and reflect on the loss of Richard Kramer, a longtime traffic engineer for the City. He stated that he had known Mr. Kramer for many years and that he had helped the City in many areas, particularly related to traffic flow. He stated that they very much appreciated what he had done for the City and that he would be greatly missed.

Councilman Kling stated that he would also like to reflect

on the loss of Mr. Benny Dishroon, whom he noted had been a District 4 representative on the Flood Mitigation Committee. He stated that Mr. Dishroon had done a great job on this and had been a big help to the community and the district and would certainly be missed. He stated that he was very much appreciative of the contributions Mr. Dishroon had made to the community.

Councilman Kling stated that on the following Monday, he would be holding his monthly town meeting, at the Public Library, at 7 p.m. He stated that everyone was invited to attend.

Councilman Kling stated that during the current month, he was conducting a postcard survey, that he had been leaving small postcards in public places and was asking persons to comment on things such as what they thought needed to be worked on, what he was doing well, what he was not doing so well, etc. He stated to Mr. Hatfield that he would be glad to know that there was also a space where people could make note of needed pothole repairs. He stated that they were aware that at this time of the year, they would be getting a lot of potholes and stated that in the spring and summer Mr. Hatfield and his department did terrific work to catch up on this.

Councilman Kling stated that his postcard survey was for self improvement and stated that he was not concerned with what district a person might live in, that if a person had a problem and he could help, he was always happy to hear from persons.

Councilman Kling asked if Dr. Karen Sheppard of Animal Control was present at the meeting.

Dr. Sheppard appeared at the microphone.

Councilman Kling stated that the concern he had might require teamwork between Dr. Sheppard's department and the County Health Department.

Councilman Kling stated that he had just received a letter from a resident of Apollo Drive in the Bailey/Patton Estates neighborhood. He stated that he would use the old adage that "One picture was worth a thousand words" and stated that they had a pigeon problem in this area. He stated that he wanted to see if she could look into the matter, noting that possibly she could get the assistance of Vector Control, the Madison County Health Department. He stated that what he had were photographs depicting this situation, that there was a red car with a lot of white dots on it and a blue car window with a lot of white dots on it. He stated that he would like to turn this information over to Dr. Sheppard and have her determine if she could provide some assistance in this area.

Dr. Sheppard stated that that would be fine, noting that they were currently working with this resident.

Mayor Battle stated that Dr. Sheppard had received a copy of the photos and the letter on the prior Monday.

Councilman Showers stated that he was delighted to announce that with the assistance of Councilwoman Robinson, they had organized the North Huntsville Business Association.

He thanked the staff persons who had been coming to their meetings and making presentations, discussing economic development in North Huntsville. He stated that they had held three meetings, and that there had been a lot of interest from banks, business persons, and interested citizens concerning the future of the northern part of the city.

Councilman Showers asked that Ms. Michelle Jordan, Director of Planning, come to the microphone.

Councilman Showers stated that several of the City department persons had come to their meetings and shared information with them. He stated he would like to thank Ms. Jordan for her recent presentation to this group, noting that she had given a State of the City as it related to the northern part of the city, and that it was very well received. He stated that he would also like to thank the other City employees, managers and directors, who had come and spoken to the group.

Councilman Showers stated that Dr. Clarence Johnson was going to be the individual who would be leading this effort. He stated that Dr. Johnson had an assignment for the next meeting and that he wanted to thank him openly and in person for accepting the assignment to lead the North Huntsville Business Association.

Councilman Showers stated to Mr. Terry Hatfield, Director of Public Works, that he wanted to thank him and his team for how they had handled the recent bad weather in the city, how

they had taken care of the roads, et cetera.

Councilman Showers stated that Elder Johnny Jones would have his 34th anniversary celebration at the Liberty Primitive Baptist Church on the following Sunday.

Councilman Showers stated that Dr. Julius R. Scruggs would be celebrating his 38th pastoral anniversary at the First Missionary Baptist Church, 3509 Blue Spring Road.

Councilman Showers stated that on March 21, the Alabama Democratic Conference would have its annual membership breakfast, on the campus of Alabama A&M University, at the Ernest Knight Center.

Councilman Showers stated that on March 23, the Northwest Church of Christ would hold their 40th Annual State Lectureship, noting that the pastor of the church was John Branch, and the address was 5008 Pulaski Pike.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she would like to follow up on Councilman Showers' comments and thank Terry Hatfield and his staff for the work they had done. She stated that in her district there were some tough roads: Green Mountain, Weatherly, Cecil Ashburn, and Carl T. Jones, and that if these roads were not cleared, persons could not get out. She thanked them for what they had done in this regard. She stated that a number of persons had commented on this and had asked her to pass along their thanks for how this was handled. She stated that she realized the fun part would start at this time because weather such as had been experienced, with ice and snow, would

wreck havoc on the streets.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that the police had also been tremendous in this situation, noting that when everybody was trying to get to work late, at noon, on Friday, she had been out, and that there had been a traffic jam from at least Airport Road to Mountain Gap, and that the police had been doing a tremendous job in trying to help everyone get to where they needed to get safely. She stated that there were certainly many great employees working for the City.

Councilwoman Robinson stated to Councilman Showers that it had been a pleasure working with him in helping to get his business association started. She stated that they had had the third meeting of the South Huntsville Business Association the past week. She thanked Torch Technologies for again hosting the meeting and thanked Mr. Dennis Madsen, Manager of Urban and Long-Range Planning, for attending and discussing some of the economic development opportunities and challenges they had in South Huntsville. She stated that the persons in attendance were very engaged and stated that she looked forward to the next meeting, which she noted would be held on April 14. She stated that she believed Mr. Hamilton would be attending that meeting.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she had been visiting all the City departments and agencies and that she had recently visited EMA and 911 and stated that she could certainly say persons were in good hands with these persons during a crisis.

She stated that, also, she had not even been aware of the Natural Resources Department, and that she had discovered all the things they did. She stated that she had also had a great time with Parks and Recreation and had gotten to see them in action the past Saturday at the kite festival. She stated that this was a tremendous event, and that Parks and Recreation had made it happen. She stated that she had also had the pleasure of seeing this event take place in John Hunt Park and noted that she had seen this in context with the long-range plan for the park and had seen how cool it would be when all the plan was developed and they would have festival areas and not be trying to make do with what they had at this time. She stated that they did great events at this time and would be doing even better ones in the future.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she had also visited with ITS, noting that they were just all over the place, that they managed to patch it all together and keep everyone going, that they were doing a lot of great work in the background all the time.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she had recently had the privilege of visiting with the Chaffee Neighborhood Association, which she noted reminded her of how absolutely critical the neighborhood associations were. She stated that she continued to be impressed with the neighborhoods that had very vital neighborhood associations, noting that she would certainly love to see more of these formed. She stated further

that she hoped the associations that were in existence at this time would remain vital, noting that they did great things in the community.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she and County Commissioner Phil Riddick had been very actively involved working together on the Ditto Plan, noting that they had great staff working on this and that the Ditto Long-Range Plan was coming along really well, and that they had had the opportunity to meet with some of the legislators and review the plan with them. She stated that the big unveil of that plan would be on April 15 at 6 p.m. at Ditto Landing.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that they were going to get community input on this. She stated that persons might recall that the prior summer, one of the BIG Picture events was to get input from the community on what they wanted to see at Ditto. She stated that at this meeting they would be sharing with the community what the Planning Staff had done on this matter and get feedback on it. She stated that she believed they would be looking at a real regional recreation center emerge at Ditto. She stated that this had long been in Huntsville's back yard and that they would now have a place they could be very proud of.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she had spent the prior two days at the Courthouse with the Judge, regarding the desegregation order, noting that she had been wearing two hats, one as a former School Board member and now as someone very

interested in the long-range future of the community. She stated that she had had the opportunity to make comments earlier in the day, and that at this time she would just say what she had said then: "It is time to move forward."

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she believed they needed to get on with this and move toward unitary status in the community, noting that the community would deserve it once they did everything that was to be implemented. She stated that there had been a lot of work done on this, that they had great people working in the school system, and that she looked forward to seeing this put in place.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that the St. Patrick's Day Parade on the weekend would be lots of fun. She stated that there were lots of events going on during the weekend.

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

President Russell moved for approval of Resolution No. 14-956, Substitute A, approving of and assenting to the vacation of, and vacating, a portion of National Boulevard and Meadowbrook Drive, abutting the new Grissom High School Campus, which Resolution No. 14-956 was introduced at the December 18, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, and postponed at the January 22, 2015, Regular Council Meeting and at the February 12, 2015, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-956)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

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

Mr. Joffrion stated that this was a small sliver of land located where the new Grissom High School was being constructed and that it needed to be vacated in order to accommodate that construction.

President Russell asked if there were any questions concerning this resolution.

There was no response.

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

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Introduction.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 15-155, amending Ordinance No. 89-79, Classification and Salary Plan Ordinance, to provide parity of compensation between positions within the Police and Fire departments.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 15-156, amending Chapter 8, Article IV, Taxicabs and Limousines, of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, Code of Ordinances.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 15-157, amending Ordinance No. 89-79, Classification and Salary Plan Ordinance.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 15-158, amending Budget Ordinance No. 14-665 to modify the

authorized strength in various departments.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 15-159, adopting new base map sheets 08-16, 10-02, 11-02, 12-03, and 12-14, to be made part of the official City of Huntsville, Alabama, Zoning Maps.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 15-160, annexing land lying on the east side of Research Park Boulevard and on the north side of Plummer Road.

President Russell stated that there would be a five-minute recess at this time.

(Recess.)

President Russell reconvened the meeting.

(Councilman Culver is no longer in attendance at the meeting.)

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Consideration or Action.

President Russell stated that items 15.k, 15.n, 15.u, and 16.b.1 had been deleted from the agenda and that item 15.d had been considered by the Council earlier in the meeting.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance declaring certain equipment surplus and to be sold at public auction, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 15-161)

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

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-162)

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

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance amending Budget Ordinance No. 14-665 by changing appropriated funding within various departments and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 15-163)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute Modification No. 1 to the agreement between the City of Huntsville and Tyler Technologies, Inc., for software products and services, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-164)

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

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance amending Budget Ordinance No. 14-665 by changing the authorized

personnel strength in various department and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 15-165)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute Modification No. 1 to the agreement between the City of Huntsville and Christopher Professional Enterprises, Inc., for Periodic Bid for Sanitary Sewer Projects-2014, Project No. 65-14-SS04, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-166)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Norfolk Southern Corporation for Proposed Rehabilitation of Abutments and Approaches to the Shields Road Overhead Bridge, Project No. 65-14-BR02, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-167)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the

City of Huntsville and Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc., for Engineering Construction Administration Services for Providence Main Streetscape Improvements, ALDOT Project No. DE-A105(96) and City of Huntsville Project No. 65-09-SP12, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-168)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Trice P.C. Consulting Engineers for Engineering Design Services for Fagan Creek Culvert Extension, Project No. 65-15-DR01, and Streetscape Improvements at Williams Avenue and Monroe Street, Project No. 65-15-SP19, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-169)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Lease Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Roger Martin Farms for the Lease of Farm Land in Cummings Research Park, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-170)

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

and was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Lease Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Roger Martin Farms for the Lease of Farm Land in the southwest corner of Capshaw Road and Wall-Triana Highway, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-171)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute Modification No. 1 to the agreement between the City of Huntsville and Sharp Communication, Inc., for Technical Services for Support and the Installation, Repair, and Maintenance for Network Panels and Appurtenances associated with the City's SCADA Network, Project No. 65-14-SP12, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-172)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Special Employee Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Jessica Lauren White, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-173)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Wal-Mart to install a bus shelter at the L&N Drive Wal-Mart, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-174)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke BancorpSouth Letter of Credit No. 362000842173 for Stonegate Subdivision Phase V, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-175)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to seek a forfeiture of the surety bond issued by Platte River Insurance Company, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-176)

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

and was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to seek a forfeiture of the surety bond issued by Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-177)

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

President Russell moved for approval of a request for authorization to advertise and fill one (1) budgeted full-time Information Technology Manager, at a higher rate than minimum if necessary, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously approved by the Council members present.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Special Employee Agreement between the City of Huntsville and James M. Bush, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-178)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to rescind Resolution No. 15-87 and modify the amount of HOME funds committed to Stratus

Development, LLC, for Lenox Park Senior Housing Community, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-179)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Lease Agreement by and between the City of Huntsville and The Alabama Constitution Village Foundation, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-180)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute Change Order No. 1 to the agreement between the City of Huntsville and Garber Construction Company, Inc., for Chaney Thompson Dog Park restroom pavilion, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-181)

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

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Purchase Contract with the City's underwriters in connection with the sale of General

Obligation Warrants, Series 2015-A; General Obligation Warrants, Series 2015-B; and Taxable General Obligation Warrants, Series 2015-C, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-182)

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

President Russell asked Mr. Taylor if he would provide a brief explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Taylor stated that he would first remind the Council of the process involved with this. He stated that when the City borrowed money in the public market place, they did not borrow the money directly from the lenders, that they would use underwriters as a go-between. He stated that the underwriters purchased the City's debt and then resold it in the marketplace. He stated that only the Council could approve a debt issued by the City and make the final binding commitment to issue the debt and agree to sell the debt to the underwriters.

Mr. Taylor stated that how this process actually happened was that on a particular day, or two, the underwriters would approach their potential customers in the marketplace and obtain bids for the interest rates associated with the debt the City had put out. He continued that the underwriters would then make a proposal to the City as to the terms of the debt issue, and they would agree to purchase it.

Mr. Taylor stated that with the resolution that was before

the Council, they would be authorizing the Mayor to sign this agreement, the proposal the underwriters would provide the City, subject to later ratification by the Council. He continued that the Council would later issue the debt and actually approve the formal contract with the underwriters.

Mr. Taylor stated that because of the way it worked in the buying and selling and pricing in the marketplace, the underwriters needed this authority from the Mayor, saying that this was what the City wanted. He reiterated that this would be presented to the Council at a later date for ratification. He stated that the Council was authorizing the Mayor to do this in the event the pricing event occurred before the next meeting of the Council.

President Russell asked if the Council had any questions concerning the above resolution.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-182, and it was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Littlejohn Engineering Associates, Inc., for Engineering Design Services for Cecil Ashburn Drive Widening, Project No. 65-14-RD07, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-183)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing

resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilwoman Robinson.

President Russell asked Ms. Kathy Martin, Director of City Engineering, for an explanation of the above resolution.

Ms. Martin stated that this was a design agreement with Littlejohn Engineering and it was to design the widening of Cecil Ashburn Drive, noting that this was approximately 3.6 miles, from Donegal Drive to Taylor Road. She stated that they were anticipating a four-lane pavement section with positive separation, which would include eight-foot shoulders that would contain four-foot bike lanes.

President Russell asked Ms. Martin to explain "positive separation."

Ms. Martin stated that this was an area to separate the two directions of traffic, and that when they said "positive," it could be a raised concrete medium, a guard rail, or a cable rail, whatever would be deemed necessary during the design phase to accommodate the curvature of the road, as well as the speed limit on the road.

President Russell stated that many of his constituents were in favor of this project but were concerned about the time it would take to build it, how they would be able to keep the road open while it was being built. He asked if she could inform the Council concerning this process, as to what she believed would happen.

Ms. Martin stated that the project design was due to be

completed in late 2016, and that they were looking at a two-year construction duration. She continued that they were not anticipating full road closure during the construction but that there would be periodic road closures, for blasting and such. She stated that they would attempt to minimize this as much as possible in order to keep the roadway open.

President Russell asked if it would be possible to build two of the lanes elevated so that they would not interfere at all with the original lanes.

Ms. Martin stated that it was possible and that they had discussed this but that until they started the design process, it would be difficult to say on this.

President Russell asked if it was correct that the persons designing this would take everything into consideration, such as making it easier on the citizens, the cost, et cetera.

Ms. Martin replied in the affirmative.

Councilman Kling asked if this project had been done by the State or the City when it was originally built.

Ms. Martin stated that the State had constructed it.

Councilman Kling asked if they were going to run into any complications with the City modifying a State road project. He asked if this had been communicated or if they foresaw any problem with it.

Ms. Martin replied in the negative, stating that Littlejohn was the original designer on the road, that they had done the original plans. She continued that, also, they were

fortunate enough to have the project engineer who worked on this project in their department at this time, and that he would be managing this project, as well.

Councilman Kling asked if there was a ball park estimate, a very general estimate, as far as what the completion date would be and what the cost would be.

Ms. Martin stated that they were anticipating a two-year construction, so that that would be late 2018. She continued that as far as cost, they were anticipating between 15 and 20 million dollars.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that it appeared to her that they did not have enough room on Cecil Ashburn Drive to do this widening project. She continued that they were talking about blasting, so she was assuming they would be moving into the mountain a little more. She stated that there were at this time issues with rocks falling and asked if this was going to create more of a problem concerning this. She asked if they were going to attempt to mitigate this situation while they were doing the road widening.

Ms. Martin reiterated that they were using a lot of the same staff that had originally designed the road. She stated that there would be geotechnical investigation as well as geological investigation to minimize any unforeseen conditions that could arise.

President Russell stated that he assumed the design would account for the bicyclists who would be riding over the

mountain.

Ms. Martin stated that they anticipated an eight-foot shoulder that would accommodate a four-foot bike lane.

President Russell asked if there were any other questions concerning this matter.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-183, and it was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and the low bidder, SJ&L General Contractor, L.L.C., for Jefferson Street Streetscape Improvements, Phase I, Project No. 65-15-SP04, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-184)

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

President Russell recognized Ms. Martin.

Ms. Martin stated that this resolution was to award the low bid to SJ&L General Contractor, L.L.C., for Phase I of the Jefferson Street Streetscape project, which she noted would basically be the construction of a laydown yard and a temporary parking lot for the developer, per the development agreement. She continued that it also included relocation of utilities, as well as installation of drainage infrastructure. She stated

that the intent, per the agreement, was to get the site cleared for the developer to move in and commence construction.

President Russell asked if there were any further questions concerning this matter.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-184, and it was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Sain Associates, Inc., for Traffic Impact Analysis of CityCentre at Big Spring, Project No. 65-15-SP16, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-185)

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

President Russell asked Mr. Dan Sanders of Traffic Engineering for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Sanders stated that what they were doing with this resolution was getting Sain Associates to perform a traffic impact study to account for the development itself, all phases of the proposed development. He stated that this would also include the opening of the Harvard Road Extension, and that the traffic for special events would be accounted for. He continued that the proposed decrease in the number of lanes on

Williams Avenue would also be accounted for in this study.

President Russell stated to Mr. Sanders that he had heard from several constituents concerning this matter and that some were excited about the decreasing of the lanes on Williams Avenue and some were very adamant that it should not be done. He stated that he just wanted to urge them to pay attention to the study, noting that they needed a really good study because persons were not going to believe them however the study came out, that they would have to have the facts to back it up.

Mr. Sanders stated that that was correct and noted that that was the whole point of doing the study. He stated that they would not be making any decisions concerning this at this time, that they would take into consideration the results of the study, what the impact to the intersections in the entire area would be, including as far south as Governors Drive and Harvard Road. He stated that the data and the modeling would speak for itself, and they would have an opportunity to look at it, and that they would certainly brief the Council when they obtained these results.

President Russell asked if the study would capture graduations in the spring and other large events that they realized they had a problem with.

Mr. Sanders stated that it would not capture graduation, which was the largest event at the Von Braun Center. He continued that they had been able to capture the data from the

Elton John concert, noting that that was a large event.

Councilwoman Robinson asked if the study would take into account not only the hotel that was part of the project, but also the second phase, where it would be possible another hotel would be built on the back end, where the pool was located. She stated that this would add 150 or so potential rooms, so that this would put more load on it, as well.

Mr. Sanders stated that the study would account for both phases of the proposed CityCentre at Big Spring project, that it would account for full buildout of that particular project, noting that, however, there was some open land between that and the proposed extension out of the traffic circle. He stated that it was not going to account for anything more than the CityCentre at Big Spring project, but that it would account for all phases of that.

Councilman Kling inquired as to the purpose of the \$79,000 fee they would be paying for this study. He stated that they had been talking about traffic counts and asked if this was not something the department could do.

Mr. Sanders stated that the traffic counts was a separate contract they had done with a company called "Quality Counts." He stated that some of the internal counts their department could take care of, noting that there were just so many intersections they were looking at with this particular study that they needed to bring in some heavy weights. He stated that the department could look at a couple of intersections in

this regard very competently, but that they were looking at 13 or 14 intersections, that they had wanted to get an array of intersections around the area.

Mr. Sanders stated that to answer Councilman Kling's question, the \$79,000 was going to be for the modeling, for the engineering firm to come up and actually make site visits and observations, et cetera, as well as writing the report.

Councilman Kling stated that he was excited about this new development, that he believed it was a great thing, and that they were talking about increasing traffic, they were talking about shops, a hotel, things that would bring persons into the downtown area. He stated that he was aware they wanted to be pedestrian friendly in this area, but asked if rather than decreasing the lane capacity, that with the impact of this \$90 million project they should be looking at increasing capacity.

Mr. Sanders stated that that was one of the things they were wanting the traffic study to look at, what the impact would be if the laneage were reduced, as well as leaving it alone, or possibly making some other improvements which would not reduce capacity to improve pedestrian friendliness.

Councilman Kling asked if they would be looking at such things as brick pavers or perhaps rumble strips, things that would make noise, as far as slowing down traffic, or if this was just basically focusing on the laneage decrease, what the impact of this would be. He asked if there was a Plan B that

was being looked at.

Mr. Sanders stated that the study was mainly going to look at capacity issues, if the roadway segment could carry the traffic. He stated that if they looked beyond the capacity issues, they could make a determination as to whether they could reduce the laneage, or perhaps from the study they would decide that this could not be done. He stated that the other techniques Councilman Kling had mentioned to make the area more pedestrian friendly, such as rumble strips or textured pavers, et cetera, would be discussions that Traffic and Engineering and Planning would have to have, but that that would be separate from the study itself. He reiterated that the study was just a capacity analysis.

President Russell asked if there was any further discussion of the above resolution.

There was no response.

President Russell called for a roll-call vote on Resolution No. 15-185, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Showers, Robinson, Russell

NAYS: Kling

ABSENT: Culver

President Russell stated that the resolution had passed.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and 4site, Inc., for Engineering Design Services for the Grissom High School Campus Master Plan,

Project No. 65-15-SP18, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-186)

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

President Russell asked Mr. Dennis Madsen, Manager of Urban and Long-Range Planning, for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Madsen stated that this was a 12-week preliminary master-planning process, and the cost was \$29,940. He stated that this was a two-prong effort, with the first being to look at programmatic master planning to determine what kinds of pieces could fit in, noting that they had discussed a police precinct, a theater, recreation, and potentially a library. He continued that they wanted to determine if things that they thought might want to go on the location would actually fit and function there. He stated that there was also a physical master-planning process, considering how the things that would land there would actually work together to create something that would be more than a thrown-together collection of functions. He continued that they were also looking at potential parking issues in the area, pedestrian conductivity, and the impact on surrounding development.

President Russell inquired if it was correct that Mr. Madsen was referring to the old Grissom High School campus.

Mr. Madsen replied in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Robinson asked if at some point they could perhaps change the project name, noting that it had created a certain amount of confusion and discussion. She stated that perhaps it could be called the "Bailey Cove Community Complex," or something such as that, in order to differentiate it from the "Grissom" name.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that this was a critical project because it tied in with the Capital Plan they were engaged in with the library, noting that the library would be a part of this community complex. She stated that as they went to donors, everyone always wanted to know what the community complex would look like, noting that they had actually stalled with some donors because they could not provide this. She stated that as soon as this was completed, it would become an important part of the marketing. She continued that it appeared that it would be approximately three months before they would have a product they could share.

Mr. Madsen stated that that was correct, that it would be about the middle of the summer.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that this was very exciting, that she liked the concept of creating these community nodes. She continued that this was a great concept and one that would strengthen the community, noting that she believed they would be doing this in other parts of the city as well. She stated that when they had discussed closing Grissom and moving it to another location, the community had been almost as concerned

about what would go in the location as where the school would go. She stated that this was absolutely critical to the community and that it would be a great asset. She stated that she was looking forward to seeing the design plan.

President Russell stated that he had represented that area for a long period of time, noting that at this time Councilwoman Robinson did so. He stated that the campus was always so jammed with buildings, et cetera, that it gave it a very bad feel to him, that it had terrible curb appeal. He asked if getting rid of some things would be considered, noting that he was not aware of what needed to go, but he knew that it needed a better feel to it. He stated that, also, it was always encroaching on the neighborhood, either with students' cars, metal poles, or balls going everywhere. He asked if all this could be considered in going through this process.

Mr. Madsen replied in the affirmative, stating that a huge impetus would be to make sure that it was not just some things that would be collected on the site without being more considerate of the neighborhood. He stated that there were potential opportunities to create something bigger than the program itself, noting that they could create a quad, or a green, that could become, as Councilwoman Robinson had alluded to, a real centerpiece in the community life of South Huntsville.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she believed one of the most interesting aspects of this they had discussed was that at

this time if one lived in one of the neighborhoods immediately behind Grissom and wanted to get onto the Grissom campus, one would have to drive out to Willowbrook Drive or Blevins Gap Road and then drive to Bailey Cove Road, that there was no way to just walk there. She stated that creating connectivity into the neighborhoods would be a real asset, as well.

President Russell asked if there was any further discussion of this resolution.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-186, and it was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Funding Agreement for HOME funds to Flint River L.P., as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-187)

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

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

Mr. Benion stated that this pertained to the affordable apartments they were placing on Wade Road, off of Highway 431. He continued that this would be 72 units. He stated that they had agreed back in December of 2013 to support this project,

based upon the developer receiving tax credits from the State of Alabama. He continued that the tax credits had been awarded, and that at this time they were working on the funding agreement. He stated that this would be a loan of \$325,000, over a 30-year period, at three percent interest. He stated that they would be using HOME funds from HUD in order to support this project.

President Russell stated that many of citizens had asked him why the City got involved in these types of projects.

Mr. Benion stated that one of the purposes of his department was to increase affordable homes or affordable apartments. He stated that they had put out an RFP back in September of 2013 asking for proposals to support using HOME funds and that they had had two developers to submit proposals. He continued that they had had a committee to look at these, and that the one before the Council at this time was the one that was selected. He reiterated that part of their effort in Community Development was to increase the supply of affordable housing in the city.

President Russell asked if it was correct that what the Council would be approving at this time was just the \$325,000 loan at three percent interest.

Mr. Benion stated that that was correct.

President Russell asked if it was correct that there would be no City taxpayer revenue used on this.

Mr. Benion stated that that was correct, noting that this

was all HOME funds.

President Russell asked Mr. Benion if he believed this would be the best use of the HOME funds.

Mr. Benion replied in the affirmative, noting that this would add 72 units of affordable housing.

Councilman Kling asked Mr. Benion if he could explain, for the public's benefit, the difference between the type of projects Community Development did and the function of the Huntsville Housing Authority.

Mr. Benion stated that the Huntsville Housing Authority was basically a housing manager, noting that they provided housing strictly to persons based upon need. He stated that his department did downpayment assistance for persons who wanted to purchase houses, that they did houses that they subsidized in order to allow persons to purchase houses. He stated that the project that was before the Council at this time was one that they invested money in, with the tax credits, and stated that the developer would have to maintain it at a certain rent in order to make it affordable.

Mr. Benion stated that the Huntsville Housing Authority dealt in a lot of different areas that his department did not get into. He stated that in order to stay in the apartments he had been discussing, a person would have to have a job, whereas the Huntsville Housing Authority considered a lot of different options, as a property manager. He stated that the City would not own these apartments, that they would be owned by the

developer, whereas the Huntsville Housing Authority owned all their units.

Councilman Kling thanked Mr. Benion for his explanation, noting that at times a person asked him the difference between the two and stated that he felt it was good to let the public be aware of this.

President Russell inquired of Mr. Benion as to how much of the HOME funds, approximately, the City received each year.

Mr. Benion stated that it changed each year, with the appropriations from Congress, but that they had received \$458,000 in the past year.

President Russell asked if it was part of the City's agreement with HUD to provide fair housing in the city in order to take these funds.

Mr. Benion stated that in order for the City to receive funds, they had to be in accordance with the Fair Housing Laws.

President Russell stated that the City would still have to be in accordance with the Fair Housing Laws if they did not take these funds, but asked if this required them to have a Fair Housing Plan.

Mr. Benion replied in the affirmative, stating that the City did have a Fair Housing Plan. He stated that if the City was not in accordance with the Fair Housing Plan, it could be required to pay the funding back that it had received for 20 years.

President Russell asked if there was any further

discussion of this resolution.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-187, and it was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Piedmont Recreation Association, Inc., for the installation of improvements and maintenance of certain athletic fields within a recreational complex owned by Piedmont, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-188)

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

President Russell asked Mr. Steve Ivey, Director of Parks and Recreation, for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Ivey stated that this was an agreement with Piedmont Recreation Association, noting that they had a large parcel of land beside their swimming pool, and what they were proposing to do would be to construct a practice baseball field for the International League. He continued that this was also what was being proposed for the Greenwyche neighborhood, noting that they also had a large parcel of land next to their swimming pool. He stated that basically what they were putting in there was a backstop, which would allow for the practice of baseball.

He stated that they also had an agreement that they could practice soccer and football on the fields in the wintertime. He stated that in return, the City would mow the grass in the summertime.

President Russell asked if there were any questions for Mr. Ivey concerning the resolution.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-188, and it was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Greenwyche Club, Inc., for the installation of improvements and maintenance of certain athletic fields within a recreational complex owned by Greenwyche, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-189)

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

President Russell asked Mr. Ivey to return to the microphone.

President Russell stated that he had discussed this proposal with some of the neighbors and that they seemed to be in agreement with this. He continued that he was certainly in favor of it, that he had believed it was a great idea many

years prior. He asked if Mr. Ivey foresaw any problem with the neighborhood, concerning lights or activity late in the evening.

Mr. Ivey stated that there would be no lights on the field. He stated that they had worked with the neighborhood on this, which he noted was the Pool Board, and that they had reached an agreement with them that they could have some time on the field on Sunday afternoons, and such as that, so that the neighborhood would have access to the field. He stated that he believed this would be a win-win for both of them.

President Russell asked if there was any further discussion concerning this resolution.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-189, and it was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance approving the following street name change: A portion of Orchard Street and Hundley Drive from Oakwood Avenue south to Wheeler Avenue to be renamed Dr. Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 15-190)

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

Councilman Showers asked that Ms. Michelle Jordan,

Director of Planning, provide the Council some history concerning the new Church Street.

Ms. Jordan stated that she believed the Council was aware that there had been a flood mitigation project in this area and that it had created a new pathway, that it had taken Orchard Street and Hundley Drive and made a new entryway into Downtown Huntsville. She stated that this new section of road now connected back into the downtown area, from Oakwood and Pratt. She stated that the new road was in place and that she believed Councilman Showers had gotten the idea of creating a new name for this boulevard, and that that was what was before the Council at this time.

Councilman Showers stated that when this re-routing and re-design had been completed, the signs indicated "Church Street," from Oakwood to Wheeler. He stated that town meetings had been held concerning renaming this street, and that there had been no opposition to this. He stated that, however, he had heard clearly the comments made earlier by persons who still had family involvement and memories of Hundley Drive and Orchard Street.

Councilman Showers asked Ms. Jordan if she could tell them where Orchard Street and Hundley Drive were from Oakwood Avenue.

Ms. Jordan stated that they were both in between Oakwood and Pratt and that both roads were residential roads at one point, as the speakers had mentioned earlier. She stated that

they were redesigned and collapsed to some degree as a part of the flood mitigation, and there was a brand-new road. She stated that they did not want to have two sections of Church Street. She continued that after speaking with Councilman Showers, they had felt that a new name might be appropriate, noting that it would not be as confusing as extending the name of Church Street onto this new road.

Councilman Showers asked if Orchard Street and Hundley Drive still remained.

Mr. Shane Davis appeared at the microphone.

Mr. Davis stated that what was now called "new Church Street" had been funded with State funding over MPO dollars, and that it was a realignment of the existing Church Street. He stated that this was a two-phase approach, and that the second phase would be bid the following summer, and that it would start at Pratt and go south into the downtown area, just south of where I-565 crossed Church Street. He stated that per that agreement, because officially it was a re-route, or a repositioning, of Church Street, that was what the project had to be called, so when they had put up signs for the intersection at Oakwood, the project was "Church." He stated that they would still have the old Church Street from Oakwood to Pratt, and the new road would have to have a new name. He stated that Orchard Street still existed, that it could be accessed from Oakwood.

Mr. Davis stated that the new road that had just been

completed took an eastbound trajectory when it crossed Pratt and then went due north, causing it to cul-de-sac a portion of Orchard Street south of Oakwood. He continued that the street that had been Hundley Drive was completely gone. He continued that the acquisitions for the road took most of the commercial properties along the old Hundley Drive. He reiterated that Hundley Drive no longer existed, but about two-thirds of Orchard Street was still in place, from Oakwood south, and then a cul-de-sac had been created just south of the Housing Authority development.

President Russell stated that the previous speakers concerning this matter had suggested a compromise and stated that he would like to hear this so that the Council could consider it.

President Russell asked Ms. Reeves if she would comment on the compromise she had suggested previously.

Ms. Jackie Reeves again appeared before the Council, stating that what they had thought about was that the street could be double named, such as "Hundley-Lowery Boulevard." She stated that to her this was the most obvious and simple thing to do. She stated that another thing would possibly be to let Hundley Street be Hundley Street going onto Oakwood Avenue and find a suitable new street to name for Dr. Lowery. She stated that it was not their intention to do away with the idea of Dr. Lowery having a memorial in the city, which was what the street would be. She stated that this was not their position,

that their position was quite simply that Mr. Hundley's memorial should not be taken from him.

President Russell stated that he would have liked to have had a map so that this area could be indicated to them. He asked Mr. Davis if it was correct that Hundley Drive no longer existed at this time.

Mr. Davis stated that the centerline of the new road, the new Church, encompassed Hundley Drive.

President Russell asked if it was correct that they had paved over Hundley Drive and put Church Street there.

Mr. Davis stated that actually the road was wider than what Hundley Drive had been.

President Russell asked if it followed the exact path of Hundley Drive, noting that he had thought it curved.

Mr. Davis stated that on the northern end, close to Oakwood, it did, and then when one got about midway between Oakwood and Pratt, it went to the east, and then curved back to the west, to connect to Pratt.

Mr. Hamilton stated that he had a hard-copy map and that he could indicate the area if President Russell so desired.

President Russell stated that the Council was going to postpone this item. He stated that it was confusing to the Council members, and it had been confusing to attempt to explain it to constituents. He stated that before the Council made a decision on this, he believed they were going to have to explain it to the public.

Mr. Davis stated that they would have a map of the area displayed at the next Regular Meeting of the Council.

President Russell asked if it was correct that even if there was not a plan to name this street "Dr. Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard," there would not be a Hundley Drive at this time.

Mr. Davis stated that Hundley Drive did not exist at this time. He stated that the road that was being constructed had to be given some name, and that it could be Hundley, it could be Lowery, or it could be a compromise, but the road officially had to be given a new name.

President Russell asked if at this time it was called "Church."

Mr. Davis replied in the affirmative, stating that this was due to the project and its funding agreement. He stated that Phase 2 of the project had actually gotten ahead of Phase 1, and that this was what had just been completed. He stated that it was a realignment of Church Street, starting at the downtown core and heading north toward Oakwood. He stated that the old Church Street, north of Pratt, existed at this time as it always had. He stated that there were several businesses located there, and they did not want to rename that street. He stated that at this time the Council had a new street before it that had to be given a name.

Councilman Kling stated that he had not seen the new alignment that had been discussed. He stated that Mr. Davis had stated that because of the funding agreement, it had to be

called "new Church Street." He asked if the State DOT director or the State legislature, by resolution, had the authority to overturn that.

Mr. Davis replied in the negative, stating that it was a local project, using local MPO funds. He stated that the only thing the State was involved in was the letting of the project, noting that due to the State Highway funds, the letting of the project, or the bidding of the project, had to go through the Alabama Department of Transportation. He stated that it was a local road and the Council had full authority over the road.

Councilman Showers stated that a memorial had been mentioned earlier in the meeting. He stated that the Lowery family had lived on Church Street. He continued that at this time Dr. Lowery resided in Atlanta. He stated that Dr. Lowery had been, and was still, a Civil Rights activist.

Councilman Showers moved to postpone consideration of Ordinance No. 15-190 until the next Regular Meeting of the Council, on March 26, 2015.

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

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

Mr. Davis stated that at the next Regular Meeting of the Council, they would provide a depiction of the existing new road and the old Orchard Street and Hundley Drive overlay.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the

City of Huntsville and Jack R. Morgan Engineering, Inc., for John Hunt Park Area 1A, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-191)

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

President Russell asked Mr. Chris O'Neil, Facilities Project Manager, for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. O'Neil stated that this was a contract for electrical engineering design services for a new restaurant pavilion, future splashpad, parking lot, and walkway area lighting.

Councilman Kling asked Mr. O'Neil if he could explain where this would be located in the park.

Mr. O'Neil stated that the area was located south of Airport Road and east of the south runway, in front of the golf course.

Councilman Kling inquired as to whether this was part of the area where all the trees had been planted.

Mr. O'Neil replied in the negative, stating that that was a different area.

Mr. Hamilton stated that for the John Hunt Park Master Plan, they had divided the overall park into zones. He continued that they could produce a map to show how these zones were labeled, and that as various parts of the park were developed, they would be labeled in this manner, so that it would specify the particular zone.

Mr. Hamilton stated that in the particular area under discussion, if one was traveling west on Airport Road and made a left-hand turn, going toward the golf course, the way this road curved, it essentially created a triangular-shaped piece of land that was wedged in between Airport Road and the golf course. He continued that at Memorial Parkway, it narrowed down to a point where the little rocket was. He stated that it was essentially that triangle of land.

Mr. Hamilton stated that at this time it was planned to have a splashpad, a playground, some walking trails, a picnic pavilion, things such as this. He stated that the Council had previously approved a contract for some of the engineering work, the design, and that this was the electrical engineering work.

Councilman Kling asked if the rocket would be preserved or destroyed, or if it would be part of the park.

Mr. Hamilton stated that it would be part of the park and that there had been some discussion as to whether there would be a more prominent location for it. He stated that they might come before the Council with a proposal to move it to some place where it would be more accessible for the public to view it, but that that was to be determined.

Councilman Kling stated that it was kind of a landmark and that, of course, since this was the Rocket City, he thought it would be sad for it to be done away with.

Mr. Hamilton stated that if it were to be moved, it would

be just to another location in the park where it would be more prominent. He continued that at this time, it was in a good location as it was.

President Russell asked if there was any further discussion of this matter.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-191, and it was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a cost-sharing agreement among the City of Huntsville, Alabama; the City of Madison, Alabama; Madison County Commission, Alabama; the U.S. Army Garrison, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama; and LW Redstone Company, LLC, for an upgrade of the siren warning system, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-192)

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

President Russell asked Mr. Jim Pockrus of EMA for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Pockrus stated that this was an agreement among the City of Huntsville; the City of Madison; Madison County; Redstone Arsenal; and COPT, Corporate Office Properties Trust, to pull together and install a new activation system for outdoor warning sirens. He stated that the one that was in place at this time was more than 20 years old and that it was a

Motorola system that used all analogue radios. He stated that they had been advised by the ITS Department that they needed to turn all of these off and go to digital because they were costing the City too much money to maintain.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she understood the cost savings on this would be significant and would help pay what the City's contribution would be. She asked Mr. Pockrus if that was correct.

Mr. Pockrus replied in the affirmative.

President Russell asked if there was any further discussion of the resolution.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 15-192, and it was unanimously adopted by the Council members present.

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

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance authorizing the vacation of a portion of a Utility and Drainage Easement, National Boulevard and Meadowbrook Drive, abutting the new Grissom High School Campus, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 15-193)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution

consenting to the vacation of a right-of-way, Lot 1, Block 1, Anderson Property Subdivision, 2500 Jordan Lane NW, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-194)

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

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance authorizing the vacation of a right-of-way, Lot 1, Block 1, Anderson Property Subdivision, 2500 Jordan Lane NW, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 15-195)

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

President Russell read and introduced a resolution consenting to the vacation of a right-a-way, Mahogany Row, Timberbrook Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 15-196)

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

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance authorizing the vacation of a right-a-way, Mahogany Row, Timberbrook Subdivision, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 15-197)

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

Mr. Joffrion submitted the following deeds for approval:

(DEEDS)

Whereupon, President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing deeds, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers, and was unanimously approved by the Council members present.

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, expressing appreciation to President Russell for asking the questions he had asked of Mr. Jay Stowe of Huntsville Utilities. She stated that they should always recall the \$50 million overrun on the jail and that she was glad to see they were making persons accountable at this time. She stated that they did not want any more lawsuits, noting that she believed they had not completely settled the jail lawsuit. She continued that sometimes she would like to be informed concerning this.

Ms. Reed stated that she had seen many streetscape projects on the agenda and asked why the public was not being informed as to the dollar figure that was involved with these. She asked if they could tell the public how much the Jefferson Street streetscape would cost.

President Russell stated that he would have to get the figure for Ms. Reed, noting that it was on the internet but he just did not have it available at this time.

Ms. Reed stated that when they were handing the developers all of this money, the public needed to know what the dollar figure was.

Ms. Reed stated that there was \$75,000 to do a traffic study on Williams Avenue, trying to go to two lanes. She stated that they had paid \$6.8 million for the Holiday Inn property and that now it had cost more than \$100,000 to tear it down. She stated that they would be doing a streetscape there, although that was not on the agenda at this time. She asked how many millions they were going to give this developer.

Ms. Reed stated that the public needed to know the value of some of the property the City was giving away, noting that they were giving the city away. She stated that they should stop it, that they could not afford it, that they were borrowing money by the millions. She stated that every time they borrowed money, it cost money.

Ms. Reed stated that she would like to see some of the figures concerning the streetscape projects, as well as the figures concerning the Scruggs Center and the Aquatic Center. She stated that she was still fighting that, just as she was fighting the closing of Butler High School. She stated that she did not want the Scruggs Center and the Aquatic Center to be torn down, noting that many persons used these properties.

She stated that the City had given the developer a 99-year lease, at \$144,000 a year. She stated that the Council members needed to use some common sense.

Mayor Battle stated that the Jefferson Street project had been all put together in a development agreement, and that it had been discussed by the Council and approved, that all the expenditures had been approved. He stated that everything had been discussed out in the open, and that everything had been discussed about the development agreement. He stated that the full Council had passed the development agreement and that he believed Ms. Reed had been in the audience when it had been discussed as to what would be put into it.

Ms. Pat Tumminello again appeared before the Council, expressing appreciation for being allowed to speak previously. She stated that she had seen some things on the agenda and asked if there was a place she could go to on the internet and enter a project number and read about a project.

President Russell stated that the agenda was posted on the internet, and that on almost every Wednesday, one could go and click on an agenda item, and it would have all the background information, that all the contracts would be there. He stated that they did not print them because they were quite lengthy, but that one could look at them on the internet.

Ms. Tumminello stated that she had gotten an education in City government, that this was her first Council meeting.

Ms. Tumminello stated that she wanted to advise the

Council that when they looked at the City map that was going to be provided, they would see that Hundley Drive was a very short street, and that there was a little curve and it took in Orchard Street. She stated that Orchard was the street that actually ran from Oakwood to Pratt. She stated that she did not know why Hundley Drive was ever involved in the project in the first place, that it appeared to her that it cost more money to do it in that way than it would have been to do a straight street. She stated that Orchard Street had been Mr. Grace's lane to his orchard, if one went back in history, and that it would not have mattered at all whether that street was renamed, et cetera, because it was nothing to anyone, that it was Hundley Drive that counted. She stated that she just could not understand why they had made that crazy curve in the roadway.

Ms. Tumminello stated that they would be back at the next meeting of the Council to discuss this matter further, noting that she did believe an equitable compromise could be worked out.

Dr. Clarence Johnson, 3302 Buttrey Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that if they were giving away money, they should give some away in North Huntsville for economic development.

Dr. Johnson stated that the North Huntsville Business Association that was initiated by Councilman Showers, assisted by Councilwoman Robinson, was turning out to be a fairly good

approach, a first step. He stated that they had had their third meeting, and that at the upcoming meeting officers and design would be established. He stated that they had had a great response to the organization of this association and that many businesses had come together in these meetings, along with community members.

Dr. Johnson stated that Ms. Michelle Jordan had been at these meetings, along with others, and had given great insight about a business association. He stated that he understood from Mr. Chad Emerson, as well as Ms. Jordan, that they had to accentuate the positive. He continued that they were considering doing a video or something concerning North Huntsville's assets and properties, things of this nature. He stated that the bank had agreed to be interviewed about why the bank was in North Huntsville and the value of North Huntsville to the bank. He continued that they would be looking at parks, et cetera, and that they wanted the City's GIS Department to give them a map and to accentuate the positives on the map. He stated that they were asking community members, landowners, and businesses of North Huntsville to get involved in this. He continued that they were considering doing a Facebook page, to pursue a media blitz.

Dr. Johnson stated that they wanted Ms. Jordan, Mr. Shane Davis, or whoever, to say to the developers, "Look, this is North Huntsville, and it's worth coming to." He stated that North Huntsville had a tract of land that was a real beauty,

bordered on the south border by MLK Lane, the north border by Bob Wade Lane, and the east and west sides by two tracts that ran from Huntsville to Tennessee.

Dr. Johnson stated that they were looking at doing the things he had mentioned, that this was what they were working toward. He stated that the next meeting for the North Huntsville Business Association would be held on Wednesday, March 18, at 4 p.m., at the Lakewood Baptist Church, 2101 West Mastin Lake Road. He thanked the pastor and the church for allowing them to meet at that location. He invited the Council members and the Mayor, as well as staff, to attend this meeting. He asked also that the citizens in North Huntsville, the business persons, the land owners, and concerned citizens, attend this meeting on Wednesday, March 18.

President Russell asked if there was anyone else who wished to address the Council.

There was no response.

Upon motion, duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK-TREASURER