

The regular meeting of the Northport City Council convened at 6:00 p.m. on April 15, 2019, at the Northport City Hall, located at 3500 McFarland Blvd. The invocation was offered by Councilman Hinton. President Logan led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, the following were found to be present: President Logan, Councilman Hinton, Councilman Davis, and Pro Tem Hogg. Also present was Mayor Aaron and City Administrator Bruce Higginbotham. Absent and failing to vote was Councilman Roberts.

Motion by Councilman Davis, **Second** by Pro Tem Hogg to **approve the agenda for April 15, 2019**. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilman Davis, Yes; Pro Tem Hogg, Yes; President Logan, Yes; and Councilman Hinton, Yes. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Motion by Councilman Hinton, **Second** by President Logan to **adopt Ordinance 1995 rezoning 42.38 acres from AG to RS-4**. Roll call was as follows: Councilman Hinton, Yes; President Logan, Yes; Councilman Davis, Yes; and Pro Tem Hogg, Yes. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Motion by President Logan, **Second** by Councilman Davis to **adopt Ordinance 1996 declaring sales tax holiday (Back to School Holiday)**. Roll call was as follows: President Logan, Yes; Councilman Davis, Yes; Councilman Hinton Yes; and Pro Tem Hogg, Yes. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Motion by President Logan, **Second** by Pro Tem Hogg to **adopt Ordinance 1997 amending Chapter 42 of the Northport Municipal Code pertaining to Health and Sanitation**. Roll call was as follows: President Logan, Yes; Pro Tem Hogg, Yes; Councilman Hinton, Yes; and Councilman Davis, Yes. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Councilman Davis offered for 1st Reading, Permanent Resolution fixing the cost of demolition and authorizing the filing of a Lien on 5121 Northwood Lake Drive West.

Councilman Hinton offered for 1st Reading, Permanent Resolution fixing the cost of demolition and authorizing the filing of a lien on 1313 20th Avenue.

Pro Tem Hogg offered for 1st Reading, Ordinance amending Section 66-67 and Section 66-70 of the Northport Municipal Code relating to the levy of Sales and Use Taxes in the City.

Pro Tem Hogg offered for 1st Reading, Rezoning .66 acres from RS-3 to O/I located north of 10th Street and west of Main Avenue.

Motion by Councilman Hinton, **Second** by Councilman Davis to **adopt Resolution 19-46 authorizing the City Administrator to execute the renewal of the Pollution Legal Liability Insurance Policy and sign all documents and purchaser requisitions necessary for the renewal of this policy**. Roll call was as follows: Councilman Hinton, Yes; Councilman Davis, Yes; President Logan, Yes; and Pro Tem Hogg, Yes. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Motion by President Logan, **Second** by Councilman Hinton to **adopt Resolution 19-47 adopting the Annual Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Report**. Roll call was as follows: President Logan, Yes; Councilman Hinton, Yes; Councilman Davis, Yes; and Pro Tem Hogg, Yes. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Motion by President Logan, **Second** by Councilman Davis to **adopt Resolution 19-48 declaring certain vehicles surplus and authorizing their disposal and donation of 2 of the surplus vehicles to Stillman College for their specific use as intended**. Roll call was as follows: President Logan, Yes; Councilman Davis, Yes; Councilman Hinton, Yes; and Pro Tem Hogg. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Motion by Pro Tem Hogg, **Second** by President Logan to **adopt Resolution 19-49 requesting the Tuscaloosa County Delegation Introduce Legislation to allow the City of Northport to have the change the hours that alcohol can be sold on Sunday**. Roll call was as follows: Pro Tem Hogg, Yes; President Logan, Yes; Councilman Hinton, Abstained; and Councilman Davis, Yes. **Motion Carried.**

Motion by President Logan, Second by Councilman Hinton to approve the Consent Agenda for the April 15, 2019 Council Meeting.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes, April 01, 2019, Regular Meeting,
2. Bill Listing
3. Travel/Training, 2 employees, Officer Involved Shootings, May 24, 2019, Livingston, AL., \$0-PD
4. Travel/Training, 2 employees, 2019 AACOP Summer Conference, July 29- August 01, 2019, Orange Beach, AL., \$2,524.16-PD
5. Travel/Training, 5 employees, Basic SWAT School, April 29-May 03, 2019, Tuscaloosa, AL., \$0-PD
6. Travel/Training, 1 employee, Financial Record Examination and Analysis, April 16-18, 2019, Birmingham, AL., \$0- PD
7. Travel/Training, 1 employee, Cellular Records Analysis, May 9-10, 2019, Birmingham, AL., \$0-PD
8. Travel/Training, 1 employee, Forensic Interviewing of Children Training, July 22-26, 2019, Huntsville, AL., \$690.50-PD
9. PO Requisition, 2nd Quarter Testing at WWTP, Pace Analytical Services, LLC., \$8,000.00-Utilities
10. PO Requisition, Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Removal, (Bid File 16-25), Denali Water, \$47,000.00-Utilities
11. PO Requisition, Liquid Alum for the Water Treatment Plant, Southern Ionics, \$12,138.00-Utilities
12. PO Requisition, Sodium Bisulfite for WWTP, Southern Ionics, \$5,200.00- Utilities
13. Travel/Training, 25 employees, DISC Assessment, May 01, 2019, Northport, AL., \$2,000.00-PD
14. Travel/Training, 1 employee, Human Trafficking, May 8, 2019, Abbeyville, AL., \$0-PD
15. Travel/Training, 1 employee, Out of the Shadows Summit, May 10, 2019, \$0-PD
16. Travel/Training, 1 employee, FBI Firearms Instructor Recertification Course, Birmingham, AL., \$0 -PD
17. PO Requisition, RSA Payment, \$15,421.65- HR
18. Travel/Training, 2 employees, Water Certification Grade 1-4 Training Class, May 14-15, 2019, \$500.00- Utilities
19. PO Requisition, GIS Services, West Alabama Regional Commission- \$2,820.00-Admin
20. Travel/Training, Opportunity Zones Forum, April 30th-May01, 2019, Auburn University, \$275.00 -Admin
21. PO Requisition, patching entrance to Ervin's, Mallory Burkhalter, \$6,200.00-PW
22. Travel/Training, 1 employee, Alabama Association of Floodplain Managers (AAFPM) Spring Workshop, April 30, 2019, Cullman, AL., \$40.00- Utilities

Roll call vote was as follows: President Logan, Yes; Councilman Hinton, Yes; Councilman Davis, Yes; and Pro Tem Hogg, Yes. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Reports of Special Committees of Council:

Retail Committee:

Councilman Hogg informed the public Aldi's had announced their decision to locate to Northport on Hwy 82 at the Lowe's property. He also stated 35-36 acres remained to be developed on that property. He thanked the Mayor, Council, and members of the retail committee for their hard work on this project.

Administrative Committee:

President Logan asked Mr. Rose, HR Director, to come and give an update on the HR Handbook. Mr. Rose updated Mayor and Council on the progress of the handbook. He stated the committee is working hard to get everyone under one umbrella and on the same page such as the same policy in regard to overtime. Council Hinton commented that after his review this was a very good handbook and would be a great help to employees. Employees could refer to it if needed and policies could be updated and distributed and referred to as needed. It was also very transparent. Councilman Davis thanked Councilman Hinton and Councilman Roberts for their expertise.

Public Comment:

Mr. Jody Jobson, 1534 Bellwood Lane Court, Northport, Alabama, came to the Mayor, Council, and public pleading for an effort to be made in finding a place for children to play in Northport. Northport has a 41-year-old baseball field which is in better shape than it was two years ago but is still in terrible condition. The drains and potholes are bad and there is a sinkhole the City should be concerned with and should go check out. If Northport passes the 1% sales tax, the City should earmark this for recreation. His thoughts are the City can find land and build a modern baseball complex, softball complex, and soccer complex all in one. Mr. Jobson stated that when he was that age the parents, citizens, and elected officials built the Northport Community Center. They had the Community Center and a ballfield. That is where every kid in town went and spent time. They moved the ballfield down to Kentuck and it is now called Warrior Baseball. It has had wonderful success and had up to 1,100 kids playing at one time. According to Mr. Jobson, a few unfortunate things have happened through the year and have impacted enrollment and the numbers dropped down; however, the participation number this year is back up to 615. According to Mr. Jobson, they are exploding. Mr. Jobson feels the City can find it in the budget to find the acreage to build another field to suffice another 41 years, so these kids can play ball. Northport is missing out. It is unbelievable the tournaments that are going on around us in the state and around the state lines and the money that parents are spending on hotels and food while they travel. Right now, Mr. Jobson feels it is important to get Warrior baseball back in tip top shape and then go build 8 or 10 baseball fields.

President Logan interrupted **Mr. Jobson** and asked him if he would be interested in being on a small committee in getting this started. He propositioned Mr. Jobson that if he was felt this strongly about getting a complex or a new recreation area in Northport or asking the City to take some of the 1% sales tax and put it towards park and recreations and directly towards baseball facilities, then would he please be on a committee as a representative as a citizen of the City of Northport?

Mr. Jobson said he would be a part of this committee and thanked the Mayor and Council for their part of this.

Councilman Hogg added that this would be a great addition to the City. He said it would also benefit to the retail component to the City, not only the parks and recreation side of the City. He thanked Mr. Jobson for his comments and said he would love to help on the committee that was mentioned.

Councilman Hinton asked if PARA would be involved in this endeavor? **President Logan** said that this would be the best way to go. Maybe do a Community Parks Initiative. There was general discussion about this idea.

Mayor & Council Member's Business:

Mayor Aaron, Mayor Aaron brought up the idea of a group she had been working with out of Birmingham that deals with areas that benefits cities. This group takes blighted areas and improves them. This Council group ran on the promise of taking the riverfront area and developing it. What she brought forth was wanting to work on the ordinances and see if the City could work on the riverfront development and implement a moratorium from Lurleen Wallace East to the city limits line to the Black Warrior North to Martin Luther King for a period of 6 months.

Motion by Councilman Davis, **Second** by Councilman Hinton **adopting Resolution 19-50 declaring a temporary a moratorium on the area East of Lurleen Wallace Blvd and South of M.L.King Blvd. for a period of six months or less.** Roll call was as follows: Councilman Davis, Yes; Councilman Hinton, Yes; President Logan, Yes; Councilman Hogg, Yes. **Motion Carried.**

Councilman Roberts, District 1, Absent

President Logan, District 2, President Logan relayed information to Mayor, Council and citizens of the MLK critical pathway update. He stated that Northport is 65% complete on receiving in hands submittal but that will be contingent on GEO Tech Reports. As of today, Northport has received information from ALDOT that will allow to complete the 4F process. The 4F process is a requirement that Northport go through the existing property owners that there are no environmental hindrances or if the area may be historic in nature. It is just another step that must be taken. Surveying has been done. Right of Way authorization is one of the next steps. 4F needs to be approved in Montgomery. Ms. Natasha Clay is the point of contact in Montgomery. Once it goes Federal, Congresswoman Terri Sewell has assured that she will push this forward.

President Logan also announced there is no bee ordinance. Bees are not an issue. He also invited everyone to come out to the annual Safety Fair on April 27th, 2019 at the Civic Center.

Councilman Hinton, District 3 Councilman Hinton wanted to make a report that Leland Drive has been paved.

Councilman Davis, District 4 Councilman Davis reported that Northwood Lake Drive West is good to go along with a small cul-de-sac.

Pro Tem Hogg, District 5, Pro Tem Hogg stated that he is neither for nor against the 1% sales tax. He would like to take the next two weeks to come up with a well-developed plan. He does see a lot of good that can come out of this tax. He also sees that every penny is coming out of someone's pocket and that is a huge deal for anybody, for everybody's budget. With that being said, Pro Tem Hogg, challenged the Council to look at the 1% Sales Tax possibility and if they do decide to proceed with it what are the things they need to do with it. As Pro Tem Hogg stated, they do not need to look at the trees; they need to look at the whole forest. They need to look 15-20 years down they road. There is a lot on the table with this possibility.

Pro Tem Hogg also mentioned Kidz and Council that took place last Thursday with Buhl Elementary and Crestmont Elementary. This was the opportunity for local elementary schools to learn about local government. Pro Tem Hogg challenged each Council Member to become more involved in their designated schools. He also thanked Whitney DuBose for her role in making this fieldtrip possible.

Motion by President Logan, **Second** by Councilman Davis **to adjourn the meeting Executive Session at 7:12 p.m. to discuss potential development.** Roll call was as follows: President Logan, Yes; Councilman Davis, Yes; Councilman Davis, Yes; Councilman Hinton, Yes; and Pro Tem Hogg, Yes. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

The Council reconvened at 8:10 p.m.

Motion by President Logan, **Second** by Councilman Davis **to adjourn the meeting.** Roll call vote was as follows: President Logan, Yes; Councilman Davis, Yes; Councilman Hinton, Yes; and Pro Tem Hogg, Yes. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.


Jay Logan, President

ATTEST:



Bruce Higginbotham, City Administrator