



Work Session Minutes of the City Council

281 James D. Nabors Drive
Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex
Monday, July 17, 2023 --- Meeting at 4:30 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Alexander City held a work session on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Complex, 281 James D. Nabors Drive, Alexander City, AL 35010. Councilors Tapley and Eric Brown was recorded as being absent.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Colvin. The opening prayer was led by Council President Colvin and Councilor Chris Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present included Romy Stamps, Finance Director; Drew Meacham, Public Works Director; Fire Chief R. McAlister; Kathy Railey, Human Resources Director; Kristin Joiner, Assistant City Clerk/HR; Chris Hardy, Gas Department; Kasey Kaschak, Parks & Recreation Director; Jackson Hatton, Airport Manager; Piper Barnett, Records Clerk; Police Captain Tuck; Jennifer Harp, Garver; Stephanie J. Southerland, City Clerk.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION:

Kasey Kaschak addressed the council regarding the work being done at the Thomas C. Russell Airport and the necessity for closure during this timeframe. The Airport Advisory Committee has met and discussed the full closure.

Mr. Fred Dobbs argued that the airport closure is difficult for business groups and the closure will affect the City of Alexander City in the loss of fuel sales. He would like to see the airport open during daylight hours, or partial closures at different times and an adjustment in hangar rent.

Councilor Chris Brown stated that there is enough runway that would accommodate most aircraft.

Jennifer Harp, representative of Garver, informed the council body that bids have been let and awarded and the suggested changes would affect the cost considerably as well as the length of time in completing the work. There are no additional FFA grant funds available to pay for other closure options. This project includes a lightning arrestor system, and hopefully will deter future storm damage.

Council President Pro Tempore Hardy asked how far along is the work and if we could get a cost estimate for the changes.

Ms. Harp responded that they are about seven (7) days in and hopes that the project will be completed before the forty-five (45) day estimate. The FFA does not allow use of the runway with equipment on site.

Jackson Hatton reported that the work must be done and there is no good time to do it.

Kasey suggested the possibility of giving the hangar tenants a reduction in the rent due to the closure timeframe.

Amanda Thomas gave an economic development update on the proposed new Benjamin Russell High School, The Legacy, The Pines, Holiday Inn Express, and the downtown water lines project. Board of Adjustments has two (2) new members. The Historic Preservation Commission is meeting July 19. The Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Regulations and Subdivision Regulations update process is ongoing. State of the City is this Thursday.

Councilor Keel stated that the supporting documents are not legible.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: Council President Pro Tempore Hardy made a motion to adjourn, Councilor Keel seconded the motion. There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned (4-0) at 4:59 p.m.

~~APPROVED:~~

FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

~~Stephanie J. Southerland~~
City Clerk

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~~Audrey "Buffy" Colvin, President~~
Alexander City, City Council