

**Minutes of the Westover City Council Meeting
April 5, 2016**

A regular session of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Westover, Alabama was held in the City of Westover, City Hall in Westover, Alabama at 6:30 p.m. on April 5, 2016, at the regular place for such sessions.

- I. Call to Order:** Upon roll call, the Mayor declares a Quorum present and the session open for transaction of business.
- II. Roll Call: In attendance are:** Mayor McLaughlin, Councilors; Riggins, Ingle, Tyler, Champion-Fisch and Crisman.
Absent: None.
- III. Invocation:** Patrick Kennedy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Communications:**
 - A.** Mayor McLaughlin notes that the Explorers participated in a competition with other Explorers from across the state last Saturday, April 2, 2016. Our Explorers did well and the Mayor extends his thanks to those who participated and assisted in the event and notes that he is proud of them.
 - B.** The Mayor requests the reading of the Proclamation regarding Parental Alienation Prevention Week. Read by Clerk Mallory.
 - C.** The Mayor welcomes Kenneth Paschal, President of the Alabama Family Rights Association (ALFRA), to the meeting.
 - 1.** Paschal thanks the Mayor and Council for allowing him to speak and for recognizing alienation as a form of child abuse. He encourages everyone to participate in “Bubbles of Love Day” on April 25, 2016 and to share their photos. Paschal emphasizes that participation is the key to awareness and notes that local support is a key to communicating acceptance to children. Paschal provides handouts on the ALFRA and Bubbles of Love as well as providing bubbles for the Mayor and Council members.
 - D.** Mayor McLaughlin introduces Patrick Kennedy, candidate for Circuit Judge. Kennedy reminds all in attendance that he is in a run-off in seven days and encourages voting and support. He provides some background on his experience and current position and thanks Mr. Paschal for his hard work and involvement.
 - E.** Mayor McLaughlin requests the reading of the Proclamation regarding National Service Recognition Day. Read by Clerk Mallory.

- F. The Mayor informs those present that the entire CAPZO training, five days total, is approximately \$700.00 in response to a question posed by Councilor Ingle at a previous meeting.
- G. Mayor McLaughlin reminds all in attendance that a reception welcoming the new City Clerk, Marie Mallory, will be held immediately following tonight's meeting.

V. Reading and approval of the minutes.

- A. **Motion to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2016 meeting of the Westover City Council** – Motion by Councilor Riggins, 2nd by Councilor Champion-Fisch.

- 1. Discussion: Councilor Riggins requests clarification on revisions made to the Planning Commission section of the minutes. Clerk Mallory explains an error in naming the responsible party was corrected.
- 2. **Vote; all in favor. Motion passes.**

VI. Treasurer's Report: Clerk Mallory; Report should be available at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

VII. Reports of Standing Committees:

- A. **Annexation and Development:** Councilor Riggins; No report.
- B. **Education and Public Relations:** Councilor Tyler; Spoke with contact at UNA regarding receiving information on holding classes at Westover City Hall but has not received the packet of information yet.

Reminds those in attendance that the Senior Program meets tomorrow, Wednesday, April 05, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Guest speaker Becky Brasher from Harrison Regional Library will be presenting and lunch will be provided. All seniors are welcome.

- C. **Subdivisions and Zoning:** Councilor Champion-Fisch; The Committee continues the review and approve zoning applications within the city.
- D. **Parks and Recreation:** Councilor Campion-Fisch; Spring has brought a lot of welcome traffic into the park. New bark will be down within the month.
- E. **Library:** Councilor Tyler; No report.
- F. **Public Safety:** Councilor Ingle; Provides the Mayor, Council and Clerk with the April PSP schedule and notes that new volunteer, Gary Moore, will begin patrolling this month.

- G. Public Health:** Councilor Crisman; Provides handouts on Mosquito Week and the Zika virus. Informs those present that mosquitos are a primary cause of death each year. While the Zika virus is unlikely to be an issue in Alabama, mosquitos, and the other diseases they carry, are likely and common here. The Councilor reminds attendees that mosquitos reproduce in standing water and suggests eliminating all standing water in yards. He notes that mosquitos are responsible for heartworms in animals and reminds those present to take care of their pets.

Councilor Champion-Fisch requests that the handout be placed on the internet for easy public access.

VIII. Reports of Special Committees:

- A. Nuisance Abatement Committee:** Councilor Ingle; No report.

IX. Reports of Officers:

- A. Governmental Utilities Services Corporation:** Councilor Riggins; No report.

- B. Planning Commission:** Commissioner Lane; No report.

- C. Historical and Beautification Board:** Councilor Tyler; No report.

- D. City Attorney:** Mr. Frank C. Ellis, Jr.; Absent; No report.

- E. Board of Zoning Adjustments:** Chairman Stamp; No report.

- F. City of Westover Fire Department:** Chief Morris; Informs those present that the letters regarding the Fire Department were mailed out last week and that the number of emails and phone calls he has received reflect that the letter has been delivered. The message that the Fire Department wants to communicate is that they are simply attempting to help the citizens. Fire coverage is being offered as a service and is not required by anyone. The Chief invites anyone with questions for the Mayor and / or Council regarding the Fire Department and / or annexation to attend the April 19, 2016 City Council meeting which will include a time for discussion on the matters.

Councilor Champion-Fisch asks Chief Morris if a press release regarding the new ISO fire department rating is available or if there is an alternative method for individuals to evidence the score. The Chief states that the information is available via social media and notes that most insurance companies are already of aware of the rating. However, he suggests that individuals contact their insurance company to ensure awareness. The rating will be officially in place as of May 01, 2016.

Councilor Crisman asks Chief Morris if he intends to provide a press release to media outlets and the Chief states that he and the Mayor intend to do so after the April 19, 2016 City Council meeting.

Mayor McLaughlin notes that the ISO score and information is in the letter that was sent out and is available on the City website.

Councilor Champion-Fisch asks Chief Morris about the status of the weather sirens. The Chief states that Chief Shirley is our representative and has reported to Chief Morris that the materials needed to get the siren at the City Park working are on back order and are expected in within a couple of weeks. The siren in the Carden Crest area is believed to be working but will be tested tomorrow.

X. Old Business: None reported.

XI. New Business:

A. Motion to prepare a resolution to participate in the 2016 “Back to School” Sales Tax Holiday August 5-7, 2016 – Motion by Councilor Riggins, 2nd by Councilor Champion-Fisch. No discussion. **Vote; all in favor. Motion passes.**

B. Motion to establish an advisory committee to engage the United States Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics Administration U.S. Census Bureau – Motion by Councilor Riggins, 2nd by Councilor Champion-Fisch.

1. Discussion: Councilor Ingle requests clarification of the motion. Mayor McLaughlin explains that it is intended to encourage active engagement with the census bureau. Councilor Riggins adds that this would enable the Council to sit down with the bureau’s geographic mapping team and create maps that include population in order to provide more accurate information for the census. This involvement could ensure that all individuals within the city limits with other city addresses would be included in our population count. Councilor Champion-Fisch notes that this will also assist with revenue issues pertaining to city addresses. Councilor Crisman offers support for the use of GIS maps and discusses the current challenges of the address situation within our city limits and helping people understand where they live.

2. Vote; all in favor. Motion passes.

XII. Reading of petitions, application, complaints, appeals, communications, etc.; None.

XIII. Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders and Other Business:

- A. A resolution supporting CAPZO training** – Mayor McLaughlin requests a reading of the resolution. Read by Clerk Mallory. Motion to adopt by Councilor Riggins, 2nd by Councilor Tyler. **Vote; all in favor. Passes.**

XIV. Council Comments:

- A.** Councilor Tyler thanks those who assisted in preparing the reception for the Clerk tonight and Chief Morris for providing the cake.
- B.** Councilor Tyler notes that Mayor McLaughlin called WBRC during the recent tornado watch to inform them that the Westover storm shelter was open and that the station did announce it and gave the correct address.
- C.** Councilor Ingle mentions that the 2nd Annual Westover Reunion is being planned for May 21, 2016 and invites anyone to attend.

- XV. Motion to Adjourn** – Motion by Councilor Tyler, 2nd by Councilor Ingle. **Vote; All in Favor. Motion passes.**

Meeting followed by a reception to welcome Clerk Mallory.

Submitted by:

Marie M. Mallory, City Clerk / Treasurer

Mark McLaughlin, Mayor