

WORK SESSION MEETING

JUNE 27th, 2017

The Bessemer City Council met in work session on Tuesday, June 27th, 2017 at 3:00PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Proper notice was given.

Call to Order

Mayor Becky S. Smith called the meeting to order.

Members Present

Mayor Becky Smith, Council Members: Donnie Griffin, Alfred Carpenter, Kay McCathen, Dan Boling, Joe Will and Howard Jones were all present. Also present were City Manager, James Inman, and department heads.

McGill Associates Presentation-Public Works Building

Doug Chapman, McGill Associates Senior Project Manager, presented Council with engineering plans for the new Public Works building. The new building will feature more office space for staff, storage for equipment, more exits, and general façade improvements.

By consensus, Council approved the draft engineering plans submitted by McGill Associates.

Department Head Reports

Department Heads gave reports on their department status. Light discussion was held.

City Manager's Report

City Manager, Inman and Special Projects Officer, Greg Thompson addressed City Council about the America's Best Inn located at 1207 Edgewood Road. Inman and Thompson informed Council that the current owners secured the property in 2007, but have done little maintenance to keep the property in good condition.

Light discussion was held amongst Inman, Thompson, and City Council.

City Manager, Inman also addressed Council about the budget year coming to an end and the great work the Police Department has done in the past year.

Appointments of ABC, Bessemer City Downtown Development, & Planning Boards

City Council discussed the applications submitted for all vacant positions on the boards. Mayor Becky S. Smith led the discussion by informing Council that there were 5 positions available on the ABC Board, 3 positions available on the Downtown Development Board, and 1 position available on the Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustments.

By motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, Christopher Hope was appointed to the Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustments for a 3 year term.

By motion of Joe Will and unanimous vote, Pamela Gladney, David Lutz, and Donna Schroeder were appointed to the Downtown Development Board for a 3 year term.

By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, Jim Long and Michael Brooks were appointed to the ABC Board for a 1 year term, Charles Boyd and Robert Crouch were appointed to the ABC Board for a 2 year term, and Michael Meeks was appointed to the ABC Board for a 3 year term. To remain impartial, Council drew names from a hat to determine who received a 1, 2, or 3 year term.

By motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, Charles Boyd was appointed as Chairman of the ABC Board for a one year term, and going forward ABC Chairmen would only be allowed to serve one year at a time. No consecutive terms will be allowed.

Budget Amendments

City Manager, Inman addressed City Council about end of year budget amendments. Some amendments included paving repairs and contracted services. By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the budget amendments were approved. A copy of said amendments are on file at City Hall.

City Council General Discussion

Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. Council member Joe Will inquired about the ABC Chairman process, if Charles Boyd declined to serve as Chairman. City Manager, Inman informed him that Council would appoint someone else willing to serve as Chairperson. Council member Donnie Griffin thanked the City Manager, James Inman and City Clerk, Joshua Ross for making the Board Appointment process so simple. Council member Alfred Carpenter commended the City staff on a job well done on the corner of 7th and Maine Avenue. Mr. Carpenter also commended City Manager, Inman for placing recycling receptacles throughout City offices and facilities. Council member Kay McCathen inquired about any future City projects occurring on Pinchback Avenue. City Manager, Inman informed Ms. McCathen that the City did not have any occurring projects on Pinchback Avenue.

Adjourn

Being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:44 PM by motion of Donnie Griffin and a 5-1 vote, with Dan Boling in opposition.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Y. Hayes, Deputy City Clerk