

Anniston, Alabama

August 28, 2024

The City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, met in Special Session in Room B at the Anniston City Meeting Center in the City of Anniston, Alabama, on Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at approximately 5:31 o'clock p.m.

Ciara Smith, Council Member, prayed the Invocation.

Ciara Smith, Council Member, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Draper called the meeting to order. On call of the roll, the following Council Members were found to be present: Council Members Roberts, Smith, Harris, and Draper; absent: Council Member Jenkins. A quorum was present and the meeting opened for the transaction of business.

Steven Folks, City Manager, was present.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, was present.

Council Member Smith made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

Mayor Draper stated that the purpose of this meeting is to address an issue with the City of Anniston Health Care Authority. He stated that the Health Care Authority of the City of Anniston has worked diligently to secure an insured loan from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. He stated that this loan is much needed to put the hospital back on firmer financial footing, will help with a debt issue, and capital equipment upgrades.

Mayor Draper stated as apart of the loan closing, the City of Anniston is giving up substantial rights to the hospital. He stated that everyone needs to understand that the hospital is an asset to the City of Anniston. He stated that the City of Anniston is the only political leadership that has contributed to the hospital. He stated that the Health Care Authority needs to mortgage the hospital so the loan proceeds can be had. He stated that this is the purpose of the meeting tonight.

Council Member Harris made a motion to read the Ordinance approving the Resolution to Approve the Application of the Health Care Authority for the City of Anniston to Amend Certificate of Reincorporation by title only. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith.

Mayor Draper opened a public hearing to receive comments on reading the ordinance by title only. No one spoke. Mayor Draper closed the public hearing.

And on call of the roll, the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried.

Mayor Draper stated that the City of Anniston has reached an agreement with the Health Care Authority and following the loan closing the Health Care Authority will restructure its board. He stated that this is important, given that the hospital is a City of Anniston asset and the City is giving up substantial rights to the hospital. He stated that the board has agreed to restructure. He stated that it is imperative that the City of Anniston have a greater influence and undiluted influence with respect to the hospital.

Council Member Smith made a motion for unanimous consent for immediate consideration. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts and on call of the roll, the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried.

Council Member Smith made a motion for passage and adoption of the ordinance approving the Resolution to Approve the Application of the Health Care Authority for the City of Anniston to Amend Certificate of Reincorporation. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris and on call of the roll, the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the ordinance was passed and adopted.

Council Member Smith made a motion for passage and adoption of the Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Execute Agreement with the Health Care Authority for the City of Anniston. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts and on call of the roll, the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the council at that time Council Member Harris made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith; and on call of the roll, the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Roberts, Smith, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:38 o'clock p.m.