Anniston, Alabama

December 3, 2024

The City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, met in Regular Session in Room B at the Anniston City Meeting Center in the City of Anniston, Alabama, on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at approximately 5:30 o’clock p.m.

Lagina Fillingim, RMC Foundation, prayed the Invocation.

Lagina Fillingim, RMC Foundation, 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: none. 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 Roberts made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the November 19, 2024, Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith 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 November 19, 2024, regular meeting minutes were approved.

Mayor Draper made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of an ordinance declaring real property to be surplus and authorizing conveyance. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith 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 amended agenda was approved.

Mayor Draper made a motion to approve the consent agenda:

1. Resolution adopting calendar year 2025 administrative fee schedule
2. Resolution Amending the schedule of nominations assigning and designating the positions on each municipal board, commission and authority to specific ward councilmembers and to the office of the mayor and appointing members to the Anniston Museum and Gardens Advisory Board
3. Motion to award the Summerall Development Infrastructure improvements construction contract bid to Vulcan Materials Asphalt and Construction, LLC for the lump sum base bid amount of $1,216,387 along with a reduced contingency of $9,322 for a total lump sum contract amount of $1,225,709.

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

Mayor Draper introduced the ordinance amending Section 7.174: Tobacco Shop Regulations, of the City of Anniston Zoning Ordinance to Include Tobacco Products, Cannabidiol (CBD) oil, Electronic/Liquid Based Smoking or Vaping Products, and which by law, persons under the age of 21 are prohibited from entry. **(1st Reading)**

Council Member Roberts made a motion to read the ordinance by title-only. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts.

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

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

Mayor Draper read the ordinance amending Section 7.174: Tobacco Shop Regulations, of the City of Anniston Zoning Ordinance to Include Tobacco Products, Cannabidiol (CBD) oil, Electronic/Liquid Based Smoking or Vaping Products, and which by law, persons under the age of 21 are prohibited from entry by title only.

Mayor Draper introduced the ordinance designating polling places and polling hours for the Municipal Elections to be conducted within the City of Anniston. **(1st Reading)**

Council Member Harris made a motion to read the ordinance by title-only. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts.

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

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

Mayor Draper read the ordinance designating polling places and polling hours for the Municipal Elections to be conducted within the City of Anniston by title only.

Mayor Draper introduced the ordinance declaring real property to be surplus and authorizing conveyance. **(1st Reading)**

Council Member Smith made a motion to read the ordinance by title-only. The motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts.

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

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

Mayor Draper read the ordinance declaring real property to be surplus and authorizing conveyance by title only.

Council Member Smith made a motion for unanimous consent for immediate consideration of the ordinance declaring real property to be surplus and authorizing conveyance. 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.

Mayor Draper made a motion for passage and adoption of the ordinance declaring real property to be surplus and authorizing conveyance. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith 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 ordinance was passed and adopted. **(24-O-14)**

Council Member Harris made a motion to appoint Justin Hall as Ward 1 council member. (motion failed for lack of a second)

Council Member Roberts made a motion to appoint Steve Thomas as Ward 1 council member. The motion was seconded by Mayor Draper and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Roberts and Draper; nays: Council Member Smith and Harris. The motion failed.

Council Member Smith made a motion to appoint Lewis Downing as Ward 1 council member. 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.

Council Member Roberts stated as we get ready to go into the holiday season, it is important that we check in our love ones. He encouraged everyone to attend the Christmas parade and Christmas tree lighting event on Saturday December 7th.

Council Member Smith stated she is grateful for everyone’s attendance and hopes to see another packed house at the next council meeting.

Council Member Harris congratulated Audrey Maxwell for agreeing to be on the museum board and they are grateful for her willingness to serve.

Mayor Draper stated that he appreciates everyone’s attendance and level of engagement. He stated that it is healthy that that many people applied for the Ward 1 council member vacant seat. He stated that is a good sign and he imagines the upcoming election will be robust.

There being no further business to come before the council at that time Mayor Draper 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 5:52 o’clock p.m.