

TOWN OF
HARPERSVILLE
RICH PAST • BRIGHT FUTURE
FOUNDED 1815

COUNCIL MEETING
Conference Call via Zoom
May 18, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Proper notice of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Harpersville Town Council was given in advance of such public meeting and the notice remained posted throughout the scheduled meeting.

Date: May 18, 2020
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Call via Zoom
Present: Mayor Don Greene
Councilmember Beverly O. Johnson
Councilmember Martin Dates
Councilmember William Rayfield
Councilmember Janet Gill
Not Present: Councilmember Sheila K. Rich

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Greene called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Councilmember Rayfield led the invocation. Mayor Greene respectfully asked for those in attendance on tonight's conference call to recite the Pledge of Allegiance in their heart.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

The following elected officials were present:

Mayor Don Greene
Councilmember Beverly O. Johnson
Councilmember Martin Dates
Councilmember William Rayfield
Councilmember Janet Gill

It was noted for the record a quorum of the town council was present.

APPROVAL OF TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA

Councilmember Dates requested to discuss the equipment needs of the Police Department.

Councilmember Gill made a motion to approve Councilmember Dates' request and the town council agenda for May 18, 2020. Councilmember Rayfield seconded the motion. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously by those members of the council present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the regular council meeting minutes from May 4, 2020. Councilmember Dates seconded the motion. Mayor Greene called for a roll call vote:

Don Greene, Mayor	<u>Yes</u>
Beverly O. Johnson, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Martin Dates, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Sheila K. Rich, Councilmember	<u>Not Present</u>
William Rayfield, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Janet Gill, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>

APPROVAL OF INVOICE REPORT

The Town Clerk/Treasurer presented the invoice report. Councilmember Gill made a motion to approve the report as submitted. Councilmember Rayfield seconded the motion. Mayor Greene called for a roll call vote:

Don Greene, Mayor	<u>Yes</u>
Beverly O. Johnson, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Martin Dates, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Sheila K. Rich, Councilmember	<u>Not Present</u>
William Rayfield, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Janet Gill, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>

DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police Department:

Police Chief Jimmy Macon stated the resurfacing project of U.S. Highway 280 is progressing well. He asked all citizens to slow down and exercise caution.

PROCLAMATIONS BY THE MAYOR – None

PUBLIC HEARING – None

REQUEST(S) TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL – None

OLD BUSINESS / RESOLUTIONS / ORDINANCES / ORDERS and OTHER BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS / RESOLUTIONS / ORDINANCES / ORDERS and OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Resolution 2020-05-18-01** for consideration to extend the lease agreement between the Town of Harpersville and Cardwell Golf dba The Meadows Golf Course at Harpersville was introduced by Mayor Greene.

Mayor Greene noted this is a two-year extension to the original lease agreement. He stated numerous unforeseen circumstances occurred during the construction phase of the golf course. He said he anticipates the golf course to be running at full capacity later this summer.

Councilmember Gill moved to adopt Resolution 2020-05-18-01 and Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Greene called for a roll call vote:

Don Greene, Mayor	<u>Yes</u>
Beverly O. Johnson, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Martin Dates, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Sheila K. Rich, Councilmember	<u>Not Present</u>
William Rayfield, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Janet Gill, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>

The motion to adopt Resolution 2020-05-18-01 passed by a unanimous roll call vote of those members present and the mayor declared the same passed.

2. **Resolution 2020-05-18-02** for consideration to authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the Town, to enter into an agreement with Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging (M4A) was introduced by Mayor Greene.

Mayor Greene stated M4A is an organization that provides tremendous services and aid to the seniors in the Harpersville community. He said the agreement is for FY2021 and is similar to the one approved last year.

Councilmember Gill moved to adopt Resolution 2020-05-18-02 and Councilmember Rayfield seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Greene called for a roll call vote:

Don Greene, Mayor	<u>Yes</u>
Beverly O. Johnson, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Martin Dates, Councilmember	<u>Yes</u>
Sheila K. Rich, Councilmember	<u>Not Present</u>

William Rayfield, Councilmember Yes

Janet Gill, Councilmember Yes

The motion to adopt Resolution 2020-05-18-02 passed by a unanimous roll call vote of those members present and the mayor declared the same passed.

3. Discuss equipment needs of the Harpersville Police Department

Councilmember Dates stated he recently spoke with Mayor Greene and Chief Macon regarding the safety of our police officers. He suggested equipping certified police officers with Taser devices and pepper spray. He said a pistol should always be the last weapon an officer ever has to use. He added a Taser and pepper spray is a proven non-lethal form of defense for police officers.

Chief Macon noted the police department has two Tasers in its inventory but one has malfunctioned and the department only has one working device. He said seven devices are needed to equip the certified officers on staff. Councilmember Gill and Councilmember Johnson asked about the price of each unit. Chief Macon said a refurbished model with a one-year warranty costs approximately \$600. Chief Macon stated he thought he placed this expense on the police department's budget requests for FY2020. Mayor Greene clarified and said it was placed on the five-year plan but for FY2021.

Councilmember Gill asked Councilmember Dates how he felt about delaying the purchase until FY2021. Councilmember Dates stated he was comfortable postponing the purchase. It was the consensus of those members of the council present to move forward with the purchase of pepper spray during FY2020.

Further discussion followed between Chief Macon and the town council regarding the structure of the police department.

COUNCIL AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Greene reported on the following items:

1. Asked all members of the town council to spread the word about Census 2020 and encourage Harpersville citizens to participate.
2. Stated he received a quote for exterior painting of the police department building and should receive a quote soon for new windows. It was the consensus of those members of the council present to paint all exterior woodwork white.
3. Reported the application closing date for the position of Manager of Streets, Landscape & Maintenance is May 19, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. He asked for Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Rich to review the applications as soon as possible so interviews can be scheduled.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The 2020 Census is happening now. You can respond online (my2020census.gov), by phone (844-330-2020), or by U.S. Mail.
2. Harpersville Town Offices will be closed Monday, May 25, 2020 in observance of Memorial Day.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the consensus of those members of the council present to return to in-person meetings beginning on June 1, 2020.

With no other business before the council, Councilmember Gill moved to adjourn the conference call and Councilmember Dates seconded the motion. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously by those members present and the conference call was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of May 2020,


Jonathan Seale, Town Clerk/Treasurer


Don Greene, Mayor

