

Council Meeting
August 3, 2015

Members Present: Mayor Buddy Duke, members Butch Fausett, Greg Paige, Michael Purvis, Chandler Hill and Jody Greene.

Others Present: John Flythe, Rhonda Rowe, Tim Tanner, Chad Castleberry and members of the public and press.

Invocation was given by Councilman Hill.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Hill made a motion to approve the minutes of July 20, 2015 as presented. Councilman Fausett seconded with all in favor.

Ord #15-02: This ordinance, amending Section 10-1 (game rooms), under Amusements and Entertainments of the code of ordinances, was read for the second time. City attorney Tim Tanner advised the council a decision also needed to be made concerning the number of days of suspension regarding offenses of the ordinances. Councilman Paige made a motion to approve the ordinance and to include a suspension of up to 30 days for the 1st offense violation and up to 60 days for the 2nd offense. Councilman Hill seconded. During discussion, Councilman Purvis questioned the allowance of alcohol sales in game rooms. After a call of the votes, all voted in favor of the ordinance with Councilman Fausett casting the only opposing vote. He noted his sole reason for being in opposition was due to the operating hours extending over into Sunday.

Meeting Time Change: Councilman Paige made a motion to table this item stating he had surgery about 1 & ½ weeks ago and due to recovery has not had time to investigate this request and has been unable to discuss this with other members of the council. He added that he would also like to discuss this with staff since this change had been made several years ago with one reason being that they could leave at an earlier time in order to go home to families. Councilman Hill seconded. The decision was unanimous.

Resolution #15-12: This resolution, pledging the city's support of public medical facilities and committing up to a \$2 million investment over a twenty year period, was presented to the council. Councilman Purvis declared a conflict of interest and recused himself from any discussion. Councilman Fausett made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Paige seconded. There was no opposition.

Alabama Road Project Discussion: City Manager John Flythe stated there has been some discussion within the community concerning the Alabama Road project and he wanted to clarify that in a meeting held over a year ago with the city, county and dept. of transportation at the county commissioner's

office, the proposed by-pass road was discussed. Over the past few years there has been over \$200,000 spent in engineering fees on the proposed by-pass road and this project was in process long before the Wal-Mart discussions began. At that meeting, the DOT made it very clear they would not participate with any assistance concerning a road that would service a commercial establishment. Recently, the city council voted in support of a document that, if we agreed to, assured Wal-Mart would locate here. This retail establishment should bring to our community as a whole, through sales taxes and ad valorem taxes, an estimated amount greater than \$1.5 million per year. The DOT is now concerned with the city improving the existing Alabama Road and not proceeding with the Alabama Road by-pass project. We are looking at proceeding with this project around 2017. They are concerned there will be a problem with traffic trying to exit Alabama Road and turning west as well as the traffic exiting the interstate and trying to get in the left hand turn lane to turn onto Alabama Road. Years ago, when the Williams family expressed their traffic concern at the time the DOT was reconstructing the interstate exchange, the DOT assured there would be no problem with their plan. Now it seems there is.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Rhonda P. Rowe, City Clerk

Luther L. Duke III, Mayor

Date

Date