

Bessemer, Alabama

January 15, 2018

The Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama met in regular session in the Council's Chamber at the City Hall in said City on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 10:15a.m. Central Time. The meeting was called to order by Council President Jesse Matthews who was Chairman of the meeting. Upon roll call, the following Council members were found to be present: Councilors Kimberly Alexander, Jarvis Collier, Latricia Crusoe, Ron Marshall, Cynthia Donald and Jesse Matthews Absent: Councilor Donna Thigpen. City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor stated that a quorum was present and the meeting was opened for the transaction of business.

Councilor Ronald Marshall opened the meeting with prayer and everyone recited the pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Toraine Norris (Mayor Gulley's Assistant) stated that on Monday, January 21st 2019, city offices will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Holiday. Mr. Norris stated that garbage will not be picked up.

Mr. Norris stated that on January 28, 2019 Mayor Gulley will be delivering the State of the City Address at Bessemer Civic Center at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Norris stated that this is Human Trafficking Awareness Month and the Mayor's office presents the following proclamation in support of Human Trafficking.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

January 2019

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking is a very real problem facing the world today. Although it can take many forms, including debt bondage, forced marriage, slavery and commercial sexual exploitation, in every case it goes against the core principles of individual freedom and civil rights that our state and nation stand for. The City of Bessemer, Alabama is committed to ensuring that our community remains on the front lines in combating this deplorable crime, and

WHEREAS, Due to its secretive and illegal nature, it is difficult to accurately quantify the extent of human trafficking. However, the U.S. Department of State estimates that anywhere from 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders each year. Most victims of human trafficking are women or children who have been marginalized and isolated from society. The difficulty in grasping the full

scope of this problem can be further compounded because people often turn a blind eye to it, and

WHEREAS, The first step in eliminating human trafficking is to educate others. We must work to ensure that all our residents are aware of this problem and how to spot it. We must work together as a community so that human traffickers are punished and to protect and assist their victims. Through the vigilance and perseverance of our citizens, effective enforcement of justice will someday be a reality, and

WHEREAS, We ask all residents of this community to join us in raising the visibility of this crime whose victims are all too often invisible. Together, we can become more informed about this pressing issue and work to combat its injustices.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kenneth E. Gulley, Mayor of the City of Bessemer do hereby proclaim January 2019, as "Human Trafficking Awareness Month" in Bessemer, Alabama.

Mr. Norris invited Bessemer Police Chief Roper to the podium to address the council concerning the closure of 20/59 bridge and what impact it will have on the city of Bessemer.

Chief Roper stated that on last Thursday he met with the Transportation Engineering Department. Chief Roper stated that once the bridge drops, the commuters traveling in from Tuscaloosa will be rerouted to I459. Chief Roper stated that the city is expecting an enormous amount of traffic. Chief Roper stated that I459 has been under construction; however he was informed that by the time the I20/59 Bridge drops, the work on I459 will be completed so that the traffic can flow. Chief Roper stated that this should go on for the next 14 months.

Councilor Matthews stated that the Jack's Family Restaurant on 18th Street will be demolished in the next couple of days and will be rebuilt in the same location. Councilor Matthews stated that the citizens can visit the other Jack's location: Morgan Road and on Highway 11 across from the Bessemer Civic Center.

Councilor Matthews asked everyone to keep Larry Langford's family in your prayers.

Councilor Matthews asked to keep the 3 officers in your prayers that were killed in the line of duty, Birmingham Police Officer Sgt. Carter and two female officers from other states.

Councilor Marshall stated that the Insurance Committee will be meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 17, 2019 in the Multi-purpose Room.

Councilor Donald made a motion to place agenda item numbers 7, 10, 11, and 12 on the consent agenda. Councilor Crusoe seconded the motion and upon roll call the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Alexander, Collier, Crusoe Marshall, Donald and Matthews. Nays: None: The motion carried.

Abatement of Properties

Address	Parcel ID	Owner
1. 15 Main Street	38-16-3-45-10	Teele A Project LLC
2. 119 7 th Street South	38-16-1-13-13.001	Smith Richard Dale
3. 610 15 th Street North	38-9-1-34-8	Alexander Gwendolyn I
4. 701 Lewis Avenue	38-16-2-10-10	Greymorr, LLC (I/S)
5. 1510 Granville Avenue	38-10-3-22-6.001	Raine N Joy

RESOLUTION NO. 021-19

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER A
LOCATION AGREEMENT WITH HOTB PRODUCTIONS, INC.**

WHEREAS, the City of Bessemer, Alabama (the "City") received an offer from HOTB Productions, Inc. (the "Company") to use the 3rd Avenue North right of way between 18th Street North and 19th Street North (the "Property") in connection with the production of the motion picture currently entitled "Hell on the Border" (the "Production") for rehearsing, photographing, filming and recording scenes and sounds for the motion picture; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined it to be in the interest of the public and the City of Bessemer, Alabama, to allow the Company the use of the Property for two (2) days commencing on or about the 26th day of January, 2019 through the 27th day of January, 2019 under the conditions listed in the Location Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, at a regularly scheduled meeting duly assembled, with a quorum being present, as follows:

1. That the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor to execute the Location Agreement, in such form as the Location Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein.
2. That the Mayor shall be and hereby is authorized to execute such other documents or to take such additional actions as are necessary and appropriate to the accomplishment of the purposes of this resolution.
3. This resolution shall become effective upon its due adoption as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 15th day of January, 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 022-19

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER AN
AGREEMENT WITH TERRACON CONSULTANTS, INC.**

WHEREAS, the City of Bessemer, Alabama (the "City") desires to construct a safe room (the "Project") at the Bessemer Emergency Operations Center; and

WHEREAS, Terracon Consultants, Inc. ("Terracon") was utilized for the geotechnical engineering services and report which provided the recommendations concerning earthwork and the design and construction of foundations, floor slabs, and pavements for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor recommends that the City of Bessemer enter into an Agreement for construction materials testing services on the Project with Terracon, a draft of the Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, at a regularly scheduled meeting duly assembled, with a quorum being present, as follows:

1. That the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor to execute the Agreement for construction materials testing services with Terracon Consultants, Inc. in such form as the Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
2. That the Mayor shall be and hereby is authorized to execute such other documents or to take such additional actions as are necessary and appropriate to the accomplishment of the purposes of this resolution.
3. This resolution shall become effective upon its due adoption as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 15th day of January, 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 023-19

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER AN AGREEMENT WITH TERRACON CONSULTANTS, INC.

WHEREAS, the City of Bessemer, Alabama (the "City") desires to construct a community safe room (the "Project") for the citizens of the City; and

WHEREAS, Terracon Consultants, Inc. ("Terracon") was utilized for the geotechnical engineering services and report which provided the recommendations concerning earthwork and the design and construction of foundations, floor slabs, and pavements for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor recommends that the City of Bessemer enter into the Agreement for construction materials testing services on the Project with Terracon, a draft of the Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, at a regularly scheduled meeting duly assembled, with a quorum being present, as follows:

1. That the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor to execute the Agreement for construction materials testing services with Terracon Consultants, Inc. in such form as the Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
2. That the Mayor shall be and hereby is authorized to execute such other documents or to take such additional actions as are necessary and appropriate to the accomplishment of the purposes of this resolution.
3. This resolution shall become effective upon its due adoption as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 15th day of January, 2019.

Councilor Donald made a motion to table Item 9 to planning session.

Councilor Marshall seconded the motion and upon roll call the following votes were

recorded: Ayes: Councilors Alexander, Collier, Crusoe Marshall, Donald and Matthews.

Nays: None: The motion carried.

Councilor Matthews announced a hearing for the following weed properties.

November 20, 2018 Weed Nuisances Hearing

Address	Owner	Status Report
1. 1121 28 th Street S	Exeter Corporation	Cut by Owner
2. 311 Berkley Avenue	Watkins Leola	No Action
3. 2024 Morgan Road	Serio John J Revocable Trust Terri Serio Bardine & Charles J Serio & Jacqueline	Incomplete
4. 2032 Morgan Road	Goodwin Maurice Eugene	No Action
5. 2185 Headrick Road	Ledbetter Jimmy Wade	No Action
6. 735 Rosemary Lane	Dooley Cariss Christine & Christopner Mitchell L Dooley	Cut by Owner
7. 310 3 rd Ave. East	New Creation Ministry Jonesboro Heights	No Action
8. 210 2 nd Ave. East	Jackson Juanita	No Action
9. 214 2 nd Ave. East	Byron Linda L	No Action
10. 213 2 nd Ave. East	Thomas Vallie III	Cut by Owner
11. 219 2 nd Ave. East	Dial Idella T Extrx	Cut by Owner
12. 105 McClain Str. E	Johnson Julia E	Cut by Owner
13. 600 Somerset Blvd.	Stephens Teco (R/S W Deed) c/o Stephens Teco (R/S W Deed)	Extension Req. (30 days)
14.1900 19 th Str. North	Abercrombie Jimmie W	No Action
15.2332 19 th Str. South	Williams Joe	Incomplete

Councilor Marshall made a motion for those items listed cut by owner be abated and those items listed as no action or incomplete be cut and a 30 day extension giving on Item 13. Councilor Crusoe seconded the motion and upon roll call the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Alexander, Collier, Crusoe Marshall, Donald and Matthews. Nays: None: The motion carried.

Councilor Matthews announced a public hearing for the vacation right of way along Parkwest Drive at the Parkwest Corporate Center Industrial Park and the following citizen appeared before the council.

Mr. Chris Eckroate with Caprine Planning and Engineering Consultants stated that they are requesting to reduce the amount of right way from 68 feet to 60 feet. Mr. Eckroate stated that 68 feet is an unusual dimension and it is a little a typical 60 feet road way right way is more customary. Mr. Eckroate stated that when the park was develop in the nineties it was develop without public roads dedication and over the years a right of way was dedicated. Mr. Eckroate stated that their goal is to get lot 3 back to the original dimension that was conceived in the master plan back in the nineties. Mr. Eckroate stated

that should the vacation be granted they plan on dedicating a utility easement and work with the city of Bessemer.

Councilor Marshall made a motion to move the item. Councilor Donald seconded the motion and upon roll call the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Alexander, Collier, Crusoe Marshall, Donald and Matthews. Nays: None: The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 035-19

A RESOLUTION TO VACATE A PORTION OF PARKWEST DRIVE FOR THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF THE CITY OF BESSEMER

WHEREAS, a petition signed by the owner of all of the lands abutting a portion of Parkwest Drive, situated in the City of Bessemer, County of Jefferson, State of Alabama, requests the vacation of said right-of-ways, has been duly presented to the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, for the assent and approval of said governing body, said petition with map attached being hereto affixed, marked Exhibit "A" and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 23-4-2 of the Code of Alabama 1975 notice of said request for vacation was published in the Western Star, a newspaper of general circulation, on December 19, 2018; December 26, 2018; January 2, 2019 and January 9, 2019 and a hearing was held on the 15th day of January, 2019; and

WHEREAS, said portion of Parkwest Drive is more particularly described in attached Exhibit "B" and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, it appears to the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, that the vacation of said portion of Parkwest Drive is in order and that convenient and reasonable means of ingress and egress is afforded to all other property owners owning property in the vicinity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama, at a regularly scheduled meeting, duly assembled with a quorum being present as follows:

- 1) That the vacation of the hereinabove described right-of-way, being further described in the attached Exhibit "B", is assented to and approved and same is hereby vacated pursuant to the provisions of Section 23-4-20 of the Alabama Code of 1975.
- 2) That the Mayor be and hereby is authorized to present a copy of this resolution, duly certified and correct to the Clerk of the City of Bessemer and that the same may be filed and recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Jefferson County, Alabama, Bessemer Division, with the legal declaration of vacation of said above and foregoing described property.
- 3) That this resolution shall become effective upon its due adoption as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 15th day of January, 2019.

Councilor Matthews stated that the Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Program will be on Monday, January 21st, 2018 at 12 noon, Second Avenue Beulah Baptist Church.

Councilor Matthews stated that the speaker will be Pastor William Scott of Macedonia Baptist Church.

Councilor Donald invited everyone out to the Living Legends Celebration on Friday, January 18, 2019, at the Bessemer Civic Center from 12 noon until 2:00 p.m. Councilor Donald stated that they will be honoring newly elected Jefferson County Sheriff Mark Pettway, Jefferson County DA Danny Carr and Rev. William H. Walker.

Councilor Marshall stated that he is proud to be a member of the city council and he is looking forward to the council moving the city forward and working together in a cordial and respectful way. Councilor Marshall stated that we will not always agree, because we all have different opinions. Councilor Marshall stated that all of our motivations should be to move the city forward. Councilor Marshall stated that when a business is looking to move into a city, they are looking for a stable government. Councilor Marshall stated that they have set the bar and standards high over these last 8 years and has proven to be effective leaders and he expects the same from the council.

Councilor Matthews stated that they have made great strides in Bessemer and since 2010 you can see all the progress they have made. Councilor Matthews stated that they have made economic improvements in all neighborhoods and especially in District 6.

Councilor Matthews announced citizen participation and the following citizens appeared before the council.

Ms. Annie Matthews 315 Lexington Blvd. stated that she is having problems with a drainage pipe. Ms. Matthews stated that whenever it rains water is draining down from Brewer Drive and it is flooding her yard and under her house.

Ms. Gloria Ward 324 Lexington Blvd. stated that a pond in Broadmoor Park overflows. Ms. Ward stated that because of the pond overflowing the resident at 311 Lexington Blvd. has craters in their yard. Ms. Ward stated that the overflow of the water is so terrible that you need boots to get into your car.

Ms. Corinne Parker Dixon 1114 14th Avenue stated that she lives next door to an abandon house that has a large storage shed in the backyard. Ms. Dixon stated that homeless people are living in the abandon house. Ms. Dixon stated that her neighbors are complaining and she was wondering if anything can be done about this situation.

Mr. Edgar Sanders Jr. 4667 Carriage Hills Drive stated that he wants to offer his services to the kids in this community. Mr. Sanders stated that he wants to be a mentor and help mothers and fathers who don't have help. Mr. Sanders stated that he is 74 years old and he has nothing to do but to dedicate his self to help his people. Mr. Sanders stated that he is available to help now.

Mr. Robert Smith stated that he has moved to Bessemer and he is available to help where it's needed. Mr. Smith stated that he is a certified planner and he has worked with the Planning and Development with Jefferson County Commission and Director of Housing of Lawson State College. Mr. Smith stated that he is not looking for a job; he just wanted to inform the city of his talents and he is willing to use to help the city grow. Ms. Smith stated that he brought his daughter Ms. Raquel Smith who is a cancer survivor with him and she too has moved to Bessemer.

Ms. Raquel Smith Founder of Pink Tops a Nonprofit 501C stated that they have a Pink Dumpster at Moore's Coal Yard. Ms. Smith stated that they collect recyclables (water bottles, drink bottles, makeup containers) anything in a circle form that they can recycle. Ms. Smith stated that her organization is to educate young people about breast cancer. Ms. Smith stated that she wants to work with the city of Bessemer to place a pink receptacle on the north side of Bessemer close to the recycle center and on Morgan road. Ms. Smith stated that if we come together and recycle we can keep the earth clean and save lives.

Councilor Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Donald seconded the motion and it carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Wanda D. Taylor
City Clerk**