

October 2, 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, October 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Central Time. The meeting was called to order by Council President Cleophus King who was Chairman of the meeting. Upon roll call, the following Council members were found to be present: Councilors Cynthia Donald, Ron Marshall, Chester Porter, Donna Thigpen, David Vance, Jesse Matthews and Cleophus King. Absent: None. City Clerk Wanda D. Taylor stated that a quorum was present and the meeting was opened for the transaction of business.

Mr. Winsor opened the meeting with prayer and everyone recited the pledge of allegiance.

Councilor Porter thanks everyone who came out to Field Day on Saturday 29th, 2018 and a special thanks to the Streets and Sanitation Department for the wonderful work they did cleaning up and cutting the grass.

Councilor Matthews stated that he was fortunate to bring greetings to Greater 14th Street Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday September, 30th, 2018 for the installation of Pastor Jiles Burgines III.

Councilor Matthews stated that Ms. Mara Pearl Rembert passed away and her funeral will be Saturday, October 6th, 2018.

Councilor Marshall stated that the Insurance Committee, Mayor Gulley, Councilor Donald and himself meet with Mr. Bruce Pettway (City of Bessemer's Insurance Consultant). Councilor Marshall stated that Blue Cross increased the rate to 8.69%. Councilor Marshall stated that regardless of the rate increase the city is still able to provide the employees with an excellent health plan at minimal cost. Councilor Marshall stated that for a single employee the increase will be \$4.23 per pay period and the family will be \$10.91 per pay period. Councilor Marshall stated that the rate increase will take effect on the first pay period in October. Councilor Marshall stated that there aren't any changes in the plan.

Councilor Donald made a motion to place agenda items number 5, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 on the consent agenda. Councilors Marshall and Matthews seconded the motion and upon roll call the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Donald, Marshall, Porter, Thigpen, Vance, Matthews and King. Nays: None. The motion carried.

The following agenda items were approved by the council:

The council approved the minutes from August 21, 2018.

Granted Extensions			
Address	Owner	Status	
1. 2829 Arlington Avenue	Ward Rebecca (R/S With Deed)	Cut by Owner Abated 10/02/18	
2. 5486 Flint Hill Circle	Ye Sai E & Dong Xing Xing	Cut by Owner Abated 10/02/18	

Report of Costs

Address	Owner	Report of Cost
1. 904 5th Avenue North 1517 14th Avenue North	White Mancell	\$450.00
2. 1503 Avenue I	Vatany Bezhad	\$350.00
3. 1021 Avenue J	Burrage Alton H	\$450.00
4. 120 Rayfield Drive	Foster Denise & Carroll Trace	\$450.00
5. 1404 26th Street N 1029 10th Avenue North	Williams Paul Shane	\$550.00
6. 2831 11th Avenue North	King Pearleen M	\$300.00
7. 1106 14th Avenue North	Karcher David A	\$525.00
8. 1106 13th Avenue North	Long Margaret Louise & Evelyn Pruitt & Vera Nance	\$500.00
9. 1102 13th Avenue North	Dunn Willie Loyd	\$350.00
10. 1405 25th Place North	Thrasher Bulinda & Thrasher Fred	\$350.00
11. 715 30th Street 3117 Holbrook Avenue	Thrasher Fred E &	\$350.00
12. 1117 Avenue H	Poole Henrietta & Demetrius	\$300.00
13. 1103 Avenue J	Nollie Evita & Kenyatta Gates	\$375.00
14. 1121 Avenue J 1915 Granville Avenue	Wright Bernard	\$375.00
15. 1103 Avenue J	Patterson Peggy J	\$450.00
16. 1121 Avenue J 1915 Granville Avenue	Cole Johnny R	\$550.00
17. 1121 Avenue J 1915 Granville Avenue	Tarter Susan R (D)	\$550.00
18. 1121 Avenue J 1915 Granville Avenue	Mitchell Mauhkina	\$375.00

ADOPTED this the 2nd, day of October, 2018.

RESOLUTION NO.: 1327-18

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT
OF INVOICE FROM JACKSON HARRIS, P.C.,
FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2018

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bessemer, Alabama retained the services of Gregory L. Harris of Jackson, Harris, P.C., as attorney for the City Council at a rate stated in accordance with Resolution No. 040-15 adopted on January 20, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Attorney Gregory L. Harris has submitted an invoice for services rendered for the month of August 2018 in the amount of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Twelve and 50/100 (\$8,512.50.00) Dollars.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BESSEMER, ALABAMA, at a regular meeting duly assembled, a quorum being present, that the City Council of the City of Bessemer hereby approves and authorized the payment of the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Twelve and 50/100 (\$8,512.50) Dollars to Jackson Harris, P.C., in accordance with the attached invoice.

ADOPTED this the 2nd, day of October, 2018.

A Weed Nuisances Hearing was held for the following weed properties.
August 21, 2018 Weed Hearing

	Address	Owner	Status
1.	2431 7th Avenue North	Lee Teresa	Cut by Owner
2.	613 23rd Street North	Barron Natha Mae Heirs of	No Action
3.	608 23rd Street North	Davis Christopher	No Action
4.	509 23rd Street North	Bowe Balleria Denise	No Action
5.	507 23rd Street North	Oakes Rosa & Eddie Sparks	No Action
6.	604 22nd Court North	Hinton Flora Mae	No Action
7.	1330 8th Avenue North	Nash Herbert	No Action
8.	1328 8th Avenue North	Williams Melton Jr Heirs of	No Action
9.	1318 8th Avenue North	Fluker Glenda Jean Extrx	Cut by Owner
10.	604 7th Avenue North	MJM Realty II Inc	No Action
11.	617 7th Avenue North	Brown Eva &	Cut by Owner
12.	646 7th Avenue North	Silas Brenda Levert	Cut by Owner
13.	714 6th Avenue North	Hunter Willie Lee	Incomplete
14.	723 6th Avenue North	Hunter Willie James	No Action

15.	817 6th Avenue North	Johnson June Samuel Stokes Jerome (R/S With Deed) C/O Stokes Jerome (R/S With Deed)	No Action
16.	3304 Arlington Avenue		No Action
17.	2130 Exeter Avenue	Eatman Louise (A)	No Action
18.	2317 Clarendon Avenue	Williams Leontyne & Rodgerick	Cut by Owner
19.	2217 Berkley Avenue	Wilson Carolyn H	Incomplete
20.	1711 Holbrook Avenue	Bridges Mario L	No Action
21.	817 18th Street South	Baughan David G	No Action
22.	813 18th Street South	Smith Bennie F	No Action
23.	31 Center Street	Catholic Mary L	No Action
24.	10 Main Street	Wilson Barry	No Action
25.	15 Main Street	Teele A Project LLC	Incomplete
26.	31 Shade Street	Lewis Tiffany Lavariss	No Action
27.	310 Norwood Avenue	310 Norwood LLC	Incomplete
28.	2214 15th Street North	Wells Lakita D (D)	Incomplete
29.	1908 16th Street North	Green Tracy Heirs of	No Action
30.	1921 Short 12th Street North	Nolen Louis D & Gloria J	Cut by Owner
31.	1923 Short 12th Street North	Dunn Willie L & Tracey L	Cut by Owner
32.	1808 Long 12th Street	Hutto Linda Faye (A)	No Action
33.	453 Carriage Hills Drive	Finley Estella M	Cut by Owner
34.	406 Warren Street	Harris Mary Ann	Cut by Owner
35.	1818 Exeter Avenue	JHB1 Properties LLC C/O Reven Housing Alabama LLC	Cut by Owner
36.	725 Center Street	Pitts Margaret	Incomplete
37.	730 Center Street	Joslyn Jack Adam Drew	Incomplete
38.	119 7th Street South	Smith Richard Dale	No Action
39.	301 Elmore Street	Anderson Martha C Trust	Cut by Owner
40.	401 8th Street South	Lollypop LLC	Cut by Owner

Councilor Thigpen made a motion to delete item #14. Councilors Donald and

Marshall seconded the motion and upon roll call the following votes were recorded: Ayes:

Councilors Donald, Marshall, Porter, Thigpen, Vance, Matthews and King. Nays: None.

The motion carried.

Item #14. Resolution authoring the payment of invoice for Jackson Harris, P.C., for the month of September, 2018.

City Attorney Shan Paden stated that the city of Hoover offered a 20 million dollar incentive to UAB West to move to Hoover. Attorney Paden stated that the city of Bessemer plans to contest the moving of UAB West and the first battle will be fought before the Certificate of Need Board in Montgomery. Attorney Paden stated that Mayor Gullely requested him to search for a firm that is competent to handle such matters before the Certificate of Need Board. Attorney Paden stated that he recommended to the mayor and council that they retain the law firm of Hand Arendall Harrison.

Councilor Matthews stated that the mayor and council stand united in keeping UAB West in the city of Bessemer. Councilor Matthews stated that they are going to fight to keep UAB West here in Bessemer. Councilor Matthews stated that the citizens here in Bessemer have need of the hospital. Councilor Matthews stated that the city of Bessemer does not need a mental health facility. Councilor Matthews stated that we must stand, fight and pray together to keep this hospital here.

Councilor Marshall stated that the mayor and council have been discussing and strategizing this issue. Councilor Marshall stated that they want to approach the situation strategically by taking the first step with the Certificate of Need. Councilor Marshall stated that there are probably some people here tonight that have strong emotional connection to the hospital. Councilor Marshall stated that UAB West Hospital has been a foundation to this community. Councilor Marshall stated that citizens from all surrounding areas have come to UAB West. Councilor Marshall stated that they are going to do everything they can to retain the hospital here in Bessemer.

Councilor Thigpen stated that she grew up in Oak Grove and Bessemer Caraway or Bessemer Memorial what the name was at that time, and that was the hospital where they received their services. Councilor Thigpen stated that we need this hospital on this side of town and that this isn't the first time that Hoover tried to get a hospital and they were turned down. Councilor Thigpen stated that they are going to fight to keep them here.

Councilor Donald stated that both of her parents have cancer and she will fight to the end to keep UAB West here in the city of Bessemer.

Councilor Porter stated that they are going to do everything within their power to keep the hospital here in the Marvel City. Councilor Porter stated that as it relates to health care every second counts. Councilor Porter stated that when you look at the overall growth of the city you need the hospital to stay here. Councilor Porter stated that to all citizens the fight is on.

Councilor Thigpen stated that transportation is a big issue and the city of Bessemer has bus service even if it goes to exit one, transportation will not be an issue for the city of Bessemer. However if the hospital moves to Hoover then it will be an issue.

Councilor Matthews stated that UAB West purchased 40 to 50 acres to build a new facility in Hoover. Councilor Matthews stated that 40 to 50 acres are available for purchase right past McAdory High School and they can rebuild there if they must rebuild and this will keep them in the city of Bessemer.

Councilor King stated that this is a community fight throughout the West Jefferson County area. Councilor King stated that they are planning a public hearing so that the citizens and surrounding communities can join in the fight to keep the hospital here. Councilor King stated that some tough decisions are going to be made but he is confident that the decision will be made in the best interest of the people.

Councilor Matthews made a motion to authorize the mayor to enter into an agreement plus engagement with Hand Arendall and Harrison Sale LLC. Councilors Porter and Marshall seconded the motion and upon roll call the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Donald, Marshall, Porter, Thigpen, Matthews and King. Nays: None. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO.1328-18

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR EXECUTE ENGAGEMENT LETTER FROM HAND ARENDALL HARRISON SALE LLC REGARDING REPRESENTATION IN CONNECTION WITH MEDICAL WEST HOSPITAL

WHEREAS, the City of Bessemer, Alabama (the "City") desires to obtain legal representation in connection with the UAB Medical West matter (the "Issue"); and

WHEREAS, Hand Arendall Harrison Sale, LLC has submitted an engagement letter to the City agreeing to represent the City regarding the Issue based on hourly billing rates as established from time to time; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the City finds that engaging Hand Arendall Harrison Sale, LLC to represent the City in connection with the UAB Medical West matter is in the best interest of the City.

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 Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute the engagement letter provided by Hand Arendall Harrison Sale, LLC to represent the City in connection with the UAB Medical West matter based on hourly billing rates as established from time to time.
2. That the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to take such additional actions as are necessary and appropriate to the accomplishment of the purposes of this resolution.
3. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 2nd day of October, 2018.

Councilor Donald thanks the street and sanitation department for cleaning up trash along Dartmouth Avenue. Councilor Donald stated that people are riding around with a bag of trash tied to the rear of their vehicle. Councilor Donald stated that they saw the individual and Chief Roper of Bessemer Police Department was notified. Councilor Donald stated that if you see someone doing this please get their tag number and report it. Councilor Donald stated that over 23 bags of trash were picked up on Dartmouth Avenue, Carolina Avenue and Fairfax Avenue. Councilor Donald stated that if you see this happening anywhere in the city please call the police or contact the mayor's office.

Councilor Porter invited everyone out to the Real Men Wear Pink Event on October 14, 2018. Councilor Porter stated that admission is \$10.00 and all proceeds will benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Councilor Porter stated that the event will be held at the Bessemer Civic Center at 4:00 p.m.

Councilor Thigpen stated that they had a great time today at the ground breaking for Amazon. Councilor Thigpen stated that Governor Ivey was in attendance along with Greg Canfield, Gary Palmer, Roger Smitherman, Rep. Louise Alexander, 4 Jefferson County Commissioner, city council members, Mayor Gulley and several people from Congresswoman Sewell's office. Councilor Thigpen stated that it was a great turnout and one of the largest developments in the city of Bessemer.

Councilor Thigpen stated that Habitat for Humanity will be building 10 homes in District 4 on Thursday morning starting at 7:30 a.m. Councilor Thigpen stated that the volunteers have to put in work and the homeowner gets credit for the amount of hours you volunteer.

Councilor Matthews stated that Amazon will start out with \$15.00/hour wages.

Councilor Matthews stated that will significantly impact the pockets of the employees.

Councilor Matthews stated that Amazon is the largest economic boom since the Mercedes plant. Councilor Matthews stated that Amazon presented a \$10,000.00 check to Bessemer City High School for their STEM Program.

Councilor King stated that a runoff election will be held on October 9th, 2018.

Councilor King stated that City Council Districts 1, 2 and 3 and school board 1, 5 and 7 are in a runoff. Councilor King stated to encourage all your family members to go out and vote.

City Clerk Wanda Taylor stated that the voting machine testing for the runoff election will be held Friday, October 5th, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at Jefferson County General Services Department in Tarrant, Al.

Councilor King asked everyone to pray for Councilor Vance's mom, he had to leave the meeting to take her to the hospital.

Councilor Thigpen made a motion to move the planning session to October 16th, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. and move pre-council to 10:00 a.m. and move council meeting to 11:00 a.m. and certify the election at noon. Councilors Marshall and Matthews seconded the motion and upon roll call the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Donald, Marshall, Porter, Thigpen, Matthews and King. Nays: None. The motion carried.

Councilor King announced citizen's participation and the following citizens appeared before the council.

Mr. Windsor stated that the VA has a place on the 4th floor at UAB West and he was wondering if the VA has a say if the hospital moves or not. Mr. Windsor stated that the basketball goals at the Recreational Center are leaning because the goals were not placed in the ground but bolted. Mr. Windsor stated that this is something that needs to be looked into. Mr. Windsor stated that the bathrooms at the Recreational Center on the outside are always locked.

Mr. Robert Crawley 1603 Clarendon Avenue stated that he was born and raised in Bessemer. Mr. Crowder stated that UAB makes Birmingham stand out and if Bessemer keeps a hospital here the city will expand and grow. Mr. Crawley stated that if makes him feel good to know that he can go right up the street to UAB West. Mr. Crawley stated that having to travel a long distance for medical care is terrible when your heart is giving out

and you need emergency care. Mr. Crawley stated that it is important that we keep the hospital here and fight for it.

Mrs. Carolyn Pickens Coleman 725 Gramor Drive stated that she was at a town hall meeting this morning and they stated that they had 2 offers on the table for the hospital, one from Hoover and one from Bessemer and they are going to take the best one. Mrs. Coleman stated that she was a candy stripper and she worked in the intense care unit at the hospital and when to come funding for indigent cities there are charitable apps that takes care of that. Mrs. Coleman stated that if you accept a certain amount of indigent people you are entitled to federal and state money. Mrs. Coleman stated that we need the hospital and when you say you all are going to fight, our eyes are on you.

Mr. Manuel Fitts 1517 West Smithfield Lane stated that he has two houses in Bessemer and was born and raised in Bessemer. Mr. Fitts stated that one problem he has is with one of his houses in Bessemer; the house next to his property has been condemned and snakes and rats are running from the house and he wants to know when the house will be demolished.

Ms. Linda Means 2105 Long 14th Street stated that she driving down 15th street and right besides BP gas station there are two house with a lot of debris in the yard and because of this the area looks bad.

Ms. Rosie Kelly 1618 Clarendon Avenue stated that there are people from out of town coming to Bessemer. Ms. Kelly stated that there are people riding around town between 5 and 6 checking out the city because they know that Bessemer is on the move. Ms. Kelly stated that it's not just Amazon coming to the city but other businesses coming here. Ms. Kelley stated that we would be a fool to allow UAB to move our hospital to Hoover and something has to be done. Ms. Kelly stated that all property owners in Bessemer need to keep their properties up because we don't want what happen in Massachusetts to happen here. Ms. Kelly stated that the slum areas in Massachusetts were all bought up and now you can't buy a piece of property now because it will be in the millions. Ms. Kelly stated that we must all stick together.

Mr. Cecil Morris 1811 Berkley Avenue stated that he recently retired from the State of Alabama Department of Corrections after 33 years. Mr. Morris stated that he is here to offer his services to the city. Mr. Morris stated that he recently stated “Making Him Know Ministry” and he can come out and talk to the young people to let them know what life is like in prison. Mr. Morris stated that he would love to come out to speak to youth groups to make it known that prison is not where they want to go.

Ms. Dorothy Exford 100 Alabama Avenue stated that the city came out and cut tree limbs beside her home and their truck became stuck. Ms. Exford stated that in order to get the truck unstuck they had to get another truck to pull it out, however in doing so they left a deep trench on the side of her house. Ms. Exford stated that they also ran over the water meter causing damage to it and now it’s no long readable. Ms. Exford stated she thought they would come and fix the trench they created but they did not and because of this she has water accumulating on the side of her house. Ms. Exford stated that she wants the city to come out clean up the alley from tornado debris and fix the trench that they created.

Ms. Annette May 812 Monte Ray Drive stated that that she works with the VA here in Bessemer. Ms. May stated that VA caters to areas that has growth. Ms. May stated that they lost a doctor because they said Bessemer doesn’t have growth. Ms. May stated that if the city looses UAB West then VA would probably leave as well.

Mr. Ron Hutchins stated that his neighbor’s tree shadows his house and he just had his backyard refurbished. Mr. Hutchins stated that his neighbor’s tree is leaking sap all over his backyard and he’s spent too much money to have it ruined and he wants to know what he can do about it. Mr. Hutchins stated that he understands that the tree is on private property.

Ms. Carol Smith 2532 12th Avenue North stated that the mayor, council and especially Councilor Chester Porter do a great job in keeping the city of Bessemer clean and she thanks them for that. Ms. Smith stated that the streets and sanitation department does an excellent job in keeping the trash pickup. Ms. Smith stated that on 12th Avenue the street was a two way, however they conducted a survey and everyone but she was in favor of making the street a one way. Ms. Smith stated that last year an accident took place on 12th Avenue because of excessive speed, the car flipped. Ms. Smith stated that if

that street had remained a two way it could have involved more cars, but it was only a single car accident. Ms. Smith stated that last week it was a similar accident and she was like to say even though she was out voted she feels like that it was a pretty good decision.

Councilor Porter stated that he would like to give Ms. Smith a shout out. Councilor Porter stated that Ms. Smith, kids from the neighborhood and him trimmed Crape Myrtle Trees along 12th Avenue. Councilor Porter stated that Ms. Smith is always outside picking up trash and keeping 12th Avenue and 24th Street clean.

Ms. Mason 100 Alabama Avenue stated that rain water settles in the front and back yard. Ms. Mason stated because of the way the street was paved the water runs down in their yard. Ms. Mason stated that they came out and asks for pictures and she gave the pictures of the standing water.

Ms. Shirley Garrett 2413 Way north stated that she has a puddle in front of her yard. Ms. Garrett stated that the standing water is on city property and it is a haven for mosquitoes and it smells. Ms. Garrett stated that she wants someone to come out to see what could be done.

Ms. Clidie B. White 5275 Flinthill Trace stated that she spoke to Councilor Matthews about a house in her community that needed the grass cut, and the city workers came out and cut the grass but it was so high that they need to come back and cut it again.

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

