

**Bessemer, Alabama**

**February 4, 2020**

**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, February 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Central Time. The meeting was called to order by Council Cynthia Donald who was Chairman of the meeting. Upon roll call, the following Council members were found to be present: Councilors Jarvis Collier, Ron Marshall, Jesse Matthews, Donna Thigpen, Latricia Crusoe and Cynthia Donald. Absent: Councilor Kimberly Alexander. Finance Director Kela Pryor stated that a quorum was present and the meeting was opened for the transaction of business.**

**Councilor Donna Thigpen opened the meeting with prayer and everyone recited the pledge of allegiance.**

**Councilor Collier stated that Bessemer Tigers Football player (Elijah Giles) will be competing against nine other 8U players in the nation. Councilor Collier asked everyone to go and vote for Elijah Giles on a link that will be provided by Mr. Seth Holloway of the Bessemer Cutoff News and the Western Star.**

**Councilor Crusoe stated that she attended a meeting concerning the moving of UAB West and she is looking forward to meeting with UAB West Board members. Councilor Crusoe stated that after receiving more information concerning UAB West they will come back with an update.**

**Councilor Matthews stated that the Executive Committee of the Alabama League of Municipalities met last Thursday, January 30, 2020 with the local delegation of Jefferson and Shelby County. Councilor Matthews stated that the focus was local authority, public safety, municipal and economic vitality.**

**Councilor Crusoe made a motion to place agenda item numbers 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12 on the consent agenda. Councilor Thigpen seconded the motion and upon roll call the following votes were recorded: Ayes: Councilors Collier, Marshall, Matthews, Thigpen, Crusoe and Donald. Nays: None: The motion carried.**

**The council approved the minutes from January 21, 2020.**

The council approved a liquor license a Retail Beer license type 050 and Retail Table Wine 070 for Chevron located at 1228 18<sup>th</sup> Street North.

**RESOLUTION NO. 013-20**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO  
EEFS COMPANY, P.C. CIVIL AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS**

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WHEREAS, the City of Bessemer retained the engineering services of EEFS Company, P.C., Civil and Structural Engineers, including the services of Ron Gilbert as City Engineer; and

WHEREAS, EEFS Company, P.C., has submitted invoices for services rendered in the month of November 2019 totaling the sum of Thirty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Three and 13/100 Dollars (\$36,373.13) herein attached as Exhibit "A", and the City Council of Bessemer, Alabama having reviewed the invoices have determined that payment is in the public interest; and

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 that the City Council hereby authorizes payment and appropriates the sum of Thirty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Three and 13/100 Dollars (\$36,373.13) to EEFS Company, P.C., Civil and Structural Engineers.

This resolution shall become effective upon its due adoption as required by law.

ADOPTED this the 4th day of February 2020.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 014-20**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT  
OF INVOICE FROM JACKSON HARRIS, P.C.,  
FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2019**

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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 2019 in the amount of Six Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Seven and 50/100 (\$6,497.50) 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 the City of Bessemer hereby approves and authorized the payment of the sum of Six Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Seven and 50/100 (\$6,497.50) Dollars to Jackson Harris, P.C., in accordance with the attached invoice.

ADOPTED this the 4<sup>th</sup>, day of February, 2020.

**RESOLUTION NO.: 015-20**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT  
OF INVOICE FROM JACKSON HARRIS, P.C.,  
FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 2019**

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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 2019 in the amount of Six Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Seven and 50/100 (\$6,237.50) 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 the City of Bessemer hereby approves and authorized the payment of the sum of Six Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Seven and 50/100 (\$6,237.50) Dollars to Jackson Harris, P.C., in accordance with the attached invoice.

ADOPTED this the 4<sup>th</sup>, day of February, 2020.

Councilor Matthews made a motion to appoint Ms. Elvira Kidd to the GUSC Board.

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

recorded: Ayes: Councilors Collier, Matthews, Thigpen, Crusoe and Donald. Nays:

Councilor Marshall: The motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 012-20**

##### **A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELVIRA KIDD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GOVERNMENTAL UTILITY SERVICES CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BESSEMER, ALABAMA**

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WHEREAS, a vacancy presently exists on the Board of Directors of the Governmental Utility Services Corporation of the City of Bessemer, Alabama due to the resignation of Alphonso Patrick; and

WHEREAS, upon review of the resumes received for the appointment to fill the vacancy, the City Council of the City of Bessemer desires to appoint Elvira Kidd to the Board of Directors of the Governmental Utility Services Corporation.

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, that the City Council of the City of Bessemer hereby appoints Elvira Kidd to the Board of Directors of the Governmental Utility Services Corporation of the City of Bessemer, Alabama for the unexpired remaining term ending at 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 2025, or until her successor is duly appointed.

ADOPTED this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

Councilor Thigpen thanks Ms. Pryor for filling in for City Clerk Wanda Taylor due to illness. Councilor Thigpen stated that Ms. Pryor did a wonderful job.

Councilor Crusoe stated that she would like an update from the mayor concerning the sidewalks on Dartmouth Ave. between 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Street. Councilor Crusoe stated that she also would like an update on the demolition of a property on Martin Street. Councilor Crusoe requests an update of demolition lists for District 7 for mayor's assistant Mr. Toraine Norris.

**Councilor Matthews stated that Powder Plant Road was cleared of debris and he hopes that they can continue to keep this area monitored. Councilor Matthews stated that he was cruising through his district and he noticed a few things that needs attention i.e. lights on Alabama Splash Adventure Parkway, lighting on Flint Hill Road (between 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue & Parson Road), center line striping, etc. Councilor Matthews stated that in the Pipeshop area the mouths of the pipes are blocked.**

**Councilor Donald announced citizen's participation and the following citizen appeared before the council.**

**Ms. Nancy Wright 2826 Berkley Avenue congratulates Mayor Gulley on the State of the City Address. Ms. Wright stated that as a Trustee for Bessemer Public Library she thanks Senator Priscilla Dunn for presenting a check in the amount of \$9,058.00 to the Library. Ms. Wright stated that a structure at 2826 Arlington Avenue burned and it has been vacant for a long time. Ms. Wright stated that she wants to know the protocol to have the structure demolish.**

**Mr. Brandon Lackey Chief Program Officer (The Foundry Ministries) 1804 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue No. stated that Bessemer is his home and it has been since he was 11. Mr. Lackey stated that the Foundry loves Bessemer. Mr. Lackey stated they have expanded their services to 6 other area codes they still considers Bessemer to be their home. Mr. Lackey stated that they are approaching 50 years ministering here in Bessemer. Mr. Lackey stated that unfortunately he is here today because of misinformation or commentaries on social media about The Foundry. Mr. Lackey stated that they do not serve and he wanted to emphasis that. Mr. Lackey stated they don't do medical addictions or detox and they don't provide clinical behavior or mental health services, also they do not provide emergency or overnight shelter. Mr. Lackey stated that they do not accept sex offenders or do not provide services to people that are a known danger to themselves or others. Mr. Lackey stated that they provide 150 pack snack meals to children in the Bessemer City Schools over the weekend that has been identified as the greatest risk of going hungry over the weekend. Mr. Lackey stated they work with the Bessemer Housing Authority and they provide a free community meal every month. Mr. Lackey stated that they are the oldest faith based recovery center here in the southeast.**

**Councilor Marshall stated that he is proud that The Foundry is in Bessemer and proud that they have made Bessemer their home. Councilor Marshall stated The Foundry has help residents in District V that were in need. Councilor Marshall stated he has never heard a negative word spoken against The Foundry. Councilor Marshall stated that he is glad to have The Foundry in the city of Bessemer.**

**Councilor Donald stated that she volunteered for many years with The Foundry and enjoyed working there with the participants and again she says thank you for making Bessemer your home.**

**Councilor Matthews made a motion of adjourn.**

**Wanda Taylor  
City Clerk  
City of Bessemer**

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**Presiding Officer**