

**MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF HOMEWOOD, ALABAMA**

August 26, 2019

The City Council of the City of Homewood, Alabama convened in Regular Session on Monday, August 26, 2019 at City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

The invocation was given by Councilor Walter Jones, after which the pledge of allegiance was given.

The meeting was called to order by President Limbaugh at 6:04 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following were present: Andy Gwaltney, Britt Thames, Mike Higginbotham, Andrew Wolverton, Walter Jones, Barry Smith, Alex Wyatt, Jennifer Andress, Peter Wright, and Bruce Limbaugh, constituting a quorum of Council members. Also present were: Mike Kendrick, City Attorney; Melody Salter, City Clerk; J.J. Bischoff, Chief of Staff; and Mayor Scott McBrayer. Absent: Patrick McClusky.

At this time, Councilor Thames moved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the Council Meeting of August 12, 2019 and approve them as distributed. Councilor Wolverton seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

At this time, President Limbaugh requested Board openings and nominations.

President Limbaugh stated that the HDRA/IDB At-Large application period for two positions would be reopened until September 23, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

Mayor McBrayer stated that he would hold interviews for the Historic Preservation At-Large position and would appoint someone at the next Council Meeting.

President Limbaugh stated that the Arts Council Ward 2 application period would be reopened until September 23, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

President Limbaugh stated that the Cable Commission Ward 3 application period would be reopened until September 23, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

President Limbaugh amended the published Council Agenda to add the following items to the Committee Referral Agenda: Item No. 31.08.19 – Request for consideration for funding for Landscape Contract – Andy Gwaltney and Britt Thames –

Finance Committee; Item No. 24.05.19 – Request to review/amend West Homewood District Zoning – Mike Higginbotham and Andrew Wolverton – Planning and Development Committee.

Councilor Gwaltney moved for the approval of the Council Agenda as amended. Councilor Wolverton seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

CONSENT AGENDA

09.07.19 Request for the City of Homewood to take over the responsibility of flag displays on Independence Drive – **Mayor Scott McBrayer**

Action Taken: The Finance Committee met on August 20, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend dropping this item and adding to FY 19-20 budget in the amount of \$5500. The motion was made by Councilor Higginbotham and seconded by Councilor Smith.

10.07.19 **Public Hearing held on July 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.** for consideration for a variance to the sign ordinance at 1840 Oxmoor Road – **John Chapman/Greg Cobb, BEZ Dept. (Carried Over 8/5/19)**

Action Taken: The Special Issues Committee met on August 20, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend dropping this item. The motion was made by Councilor Higginbotham and seconded by Councilor Andress.

17.08.19 Request to address noise and trash pickup ordinance violations behind Edgewood restaurants and businesses near Ruby Sunshine Restaurant – **Peter Wright**

Action Taken: The Special Issues Committee met on August 20, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend dropping this item. The motion was made by Councilor Higginbotham and seconded by Councilor Andress.

Councilor Jones moved for the approval of the Consent Agenda. Councilor Higginbotham seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

OLD BUSINESS AGENDA

The first item considered under Old Business was Item No. 12.06.19 – Request to consider agreement between the City of Homewood and Samford University – Councilor Alex Wyatt (Carried Over 8/12/19).

Councilor Thames stated that the Planning and Development Committee met on August 5, 2019 and, after discussion with Buck Brock of Samford University and residents, voted 4-0 to recommend approval of amended agreement and send to Council for Carry Over to the August 26, 2019 Council Meeting.

Councilor Jones stated that he wanted to thank the Planning and Development Committee for working through this and wanted to thank Councilor Wyatt for his work on this because it was a tough assignment to work through. Councilor Jones further stated that though he was not in favor of everything, he felt this was the best plan they could put together through their negotiations.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the Planning and Development Committee's recommendation. There was no response from the Council.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Resolution for the Council's consideration.

Resolution No. 19-126

(A Resolution to enter into an agreement between the City of Homewood and Samford University)

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion from the Planning and Development Committee. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 18.07.19 – Public Hearing set for August 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. for consideration to rezone property at 3021 Firefighter Lane (PID #28-00-07-3-032-011.000) from an R-5 (Attached Dwelling Unit District) to a R-4 (Attached Dwelling Unit District): Applicant: Jason Hale for Owner Willow Homes to permit the development of one new residential house and one existing house renovation comprising of two lots currently within one parcel. Detached dwelling units allowed in R-4 (The Planning Commission had a unanimous vote of 8-0 for a favorable recommendation of the rezone) – Wyatt Pugh – Planning and Development Committee (Carried Over 8/12/19).

Councilor Thames stated that the Planning and Development Committee met on August 5, 2019 and after hearing the Planning Commission's favorable recommendation, voted 4-0 to refer this item to the full Council without recommendation pending the Public Hearing.

Mr. Kendrick stated that the recommendation that he received from the Planning Commission did not have the NPD language in it so he would need to add that.

Councilor Thames stated that the proffer at the Planning Commission level to meet NPD building standards such as set back heights; side, front, and height; and lot coverage requirements were no more than 50 percent.

Mr. Greg Cobb stated that he would get the detailed information to Mr. Kendrick.

President Limbaugh declared the Public Hearing opened at 6:11 p.m.

President Limbaugh asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak in favor of, or in opposition to, this item.

Councilor Andress stated that they had a very vocal group of residents on Lancaster who were passionate about their neighborhood so she wanted to say how much they appreciated how much they had done to do what was right for the neighborhood and everything she heard was positive and supportive.

President Limbaugh asked if they had any idea of how the renovated home would look.

Mr. Jason Hale addressed the Council and replied no. Mr. Hale stated that they had not done much work on it because they were waiting for this process to play out before they evaluated it.

Councilor Smith asked to verify that the existing house that was on the lot was going to be renovated and then the other house would be built adjacent to it.

Mr. Hale replied that this was the original plan but he had not proffered that because they did not know much about the structural integrity of the house but that was the original plan.

President Limbaugh stated that he understood that they would need to do a thorough inspection inside and out.

Councilor Smith asked to verify that if they did the inspection and realized that the foundation was bad that they would then build a similar style house to the one that would be the new build.

Mr. Hale replied yes and stated that they would do their best to fit in which was why they proffered to the setbacks and height restrictions so that even if they did have to build a new home, there would be some guarantees that it would fit within what was in the neighboring community.

Councilor Wolverton asked if the ward residents were happy with this even if the current house came down and something else went up.

Councilor Smith replied yes.

President Limbaugh declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:15 p.m.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding this item. There was no response from the Council.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the first reading of the proposed Ordinance for the Council's consideration at 6:16 p.m.:

Ordinance No.

(An Ordinance to rezone property at 3021 Firefighter Lane (PID #28-00-07-3-032-011.000) from an R-5 (Attached Dwelling Unit District) to a R-4 (Attached Dwelling Unit District))

Councilor Smith moved for the unanimous consent of the proposed Ordinance as read. Councilor Address seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a roll call vote, the votes were: Yeas: Councilors Gwaltney, Thames, Higginbotham, Wolverton, Jones, Smith, Wyatt, Address, Wright, and Limbaugh.

The motion for unanimous consent carried.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Ordinance for the Council's consideration:

Ordinance No. 2756

(An Ordinance to rezone property at 3021 Firefighter Lane (PID #28-00-07-3-032-011.000) from an R-5 (Attached Dwelling Unit District) to a R-4 (Attached Dwelling Unit District))

Councilor Wright moved for the enrollment and adoption and publication according to law of Ordinance No. 2756. Councilor Address seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a roll call vote, the votes were: Yeas: Councilors Gwaltney, Thames, Higginbotham, Wolverton, Jones, Smith, Wyatt, Andress, Wright, and Limbaugh.

The motion carried without dissent.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 09.08.19 – Public Hearing set for August 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. for a variance to the Homewood Fence Ordinance to allow a front-yard fence at 1604 Roseland Drive – Lee Hammonds/Wyatt Pugh/Greg Cobb, BEZ.

Councilor Smith stated that the Special Issues Committee met on August 19, 2019 and, after hearing from Lee and Carolyn Hammonds, voted 5-0 to refer this item back to the full Council without recommendation pending the Public Hearing.

President Limbaugh declared the Public Hearing opened at 6:19 p.m.

President Limbaugh asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak in favor of, or in opposition to, this item.

Councilor Jones asked if there would be a couple of options for the Council to consider.

Mr. Lee Hammonds addressed the Council and stated that there was just one option which they considered to be their lesser ideal option but if they could they would go all the way to the sidewalk to the end of their property but what they were presenting here was pulled back about ten feet off the sidewalk.

Councilor Andress asked if Mr. Hammonds could walk them through the greenery that they have surrounding the fence line.

Mr. Hammonds replied that they had boxwoods on either side of the walkway and climbing roses.

Councilor Smith stated that he had mentioned the open terrace that was on the front of the house that they might consider closing in as well and asked if that was still a possibility.

Mr. Hammonds replied that there was an open patio area that they had talked about screening in.

Councilor Wright asked how big his backyard was.

Mr. Hammonds replied that he did not know the exact dimensions but he would estimate about 30 to 40 feet in depth and 30 to 35 feet in width. Mr. Hammonds stated that their carport cut into some of the fenced in part.

Councilor Wright asked to verify that this did not give him a suitable open area for his son.

Mr. Hammonds replied that it allowed for him to play back there but in addition to the safety issues some of the reason for the request was for a quality of life issue and to create an inclusive environment for him so while it was primarily safety driven they also wanted to allow him to enjoy all that Roseland Drive had to offer and be able to engage with neighbors and with others who were passing by to help in his development. Mr. Hammonds further stated that he did have letters of support from their neighbors as well as his pediatrician.

Councilor Smith stated that a colleague of Mr. Hammonds sent an email in support as well that she would forward for the record.

Councilor Wyatt stated that at the committee meeting there was some talk of possible proffers.

Mr. Hammonds replied that they were just doing this for their family and not for permanency.

Councilor Wyatt asked if they moved they would be willing to take it out.

Mr. Hammonds replied yes.

Mr. Cobb asked if it was ten feet from the property line or the sidewalk.

Mr. Hammonds replied that he interpreted those as the same on the survey.

Councilor Wolverton asked how far it was from the side.

Mr. Hammonds replied that it was two feet from the west side.

President Limbaugh declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:26 p.m.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding this item.

Councilor Jones stated that the reason they struggled with this type of issue was so that neighbors could congregate and get to know one another but when there was a fence they were not able to visit with neighbors. Councilor Jones further stated that he thought the fence was too large so he was struggling with deciding to approve this because it opened up a lot for the city.

Councilor Andress stated that she thought it looked nice and she appreciated the greenery and that it was not pulled all the way up to the sidewalk so she supported it.

Councilor Smith stated that she was also struggling a bit because her fear was the precedent that it would set but this was probably the third request of this type in the last year for this specific reason due to a child who had special needs so it might be something that they needed to think about. Councilor Smith further stated that she understood the Hammonds' desire and need to protect the safety of their son.

Councilor Jones stated that in Ward 3 they were dealing with a situation where a fence was allowed for that particular resident and that resident left three years ago and they had not yet taken care of that fence.

Councilor Smith stated that it actually came down yesterday.

Councilor Gwaltney stated that he had some concerns about how far it was from the sidewalk because he was under the impression from the committee meeting that it would be a little further set back and he also had the impression that the other cases where they had passed from this situation had been closer to the entry point and sidewalk in the yard so it would be back 20 or 25 feet which would meet that need of safety and met their desire for not wanting a fence all the way to the sidewalk.

Councilor Wright asked how they enforced issues once the variance expired.

Councilor Jones stated that Mr. Scott Cook would send them a letter and follow up.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Resolution for the Council's consideration.

Resolution No. 19-127

(A Resolution for a variance to the Homewood Fence Ordinance to allow a front-yard fence at 1604 Roseland Drive)

Councilor Thames moved for the adoption and enrollment of Resolution No. 19-127 with proffer that the fence would only exist as long as the child lived in the house and that the fence be no more than 22 feet from the front of the home on both eastern and western side and 22 feet from the covered porch. Councilor Gwaltney seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried on a vote of 8-2. Councilors Andress and Wright voted no.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 01.08.19 – Request for consideration to release property lien of \$7,500.00 (Res. No. 19-34) for property located at 2531 18th Place S (Mamie L. Fosters), Homewood AL 35209 Parcel ID No. 28-00-07-2-001-090.000 – Melody Salter, City Clerk.

Councilor Jones stated that the Finance Committee met on August 19, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend approval.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the Finance Committee's recommendation. There was no response from the Council.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Resolution for the Council's consideration.

Resolution No. 19-128

(A Resolution to release property lien of \$7,500.00 (Res. No. 19-34) for property located at 2531 18th Place S (Mamie L. Fosters), Homewood AL 35209 Parcel ID No. 28-00-07-2-001-090.000))

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion from the Finance Committee. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 02.08.19 – Request for consideration for budget amendments for FY18-19 Budgets – Berkley Squires/Robert Burgett.

Councilor Jones stated that the Finance Committee met on August 19, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend approval.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the Finance Committee's recommendation. There was no response from the Council.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Resolution for the Council's consideration.

Resolution No. 19-129

(A Resolution for budget amendments for FY18-19 Budgets)

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion from the Finance Committee. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 03.08.19 – Request to set a Bid Opening Date for Wrecker Service Contract – Chief Tim Ross, Police Dept.

Councilor Jones stated that the Finance Committee met and on August 19, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend setting a Bid Opening Date for September 16, 2019 at 4:45 p.m. with a deadline for submissions set at 4:30 p.m.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the Finance Committee's recommendation. There was no response from the Council.

President Limbaugh stated that the Bid Opening would be set for September 16, 2019 at 4:45 p.m. with a deadline for submissions set at 4:30 p.m.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 04.08.19 – Request to set a Bid Opening Date for Animal Control Contract – Chief Tim Ross, Police Dept.

Councilor Jones stated that the Finance Committee met and on August 19, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend setting a Bid Opening Date for September 16, 2019 at 4:45 p.m. with a deadline for submissions set at 4:30 p.m.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the Finance Committee's recommendation. There was no response from the Council.

President Limbaugh stated that the Bid Opening would be set for September 16, 2019 at 4:45 p.m. with a deadline for submissions set at 4:30 p.m.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 05.08.19 – Request for consideration to authorize the Mayor to sign a renewal contract for the lease with the Barber Companies for the West Precinct – Chief Tim Ross, Police Dept.

Councilor Jones stated that the Finance Committee met and on August 19, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend approval.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the Finance Committee's recommendation.

Councilor Wolverton asked how long the contract would be.

Councilor Jones replied three years.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Resolution for the Council's consideration.

Resolution No. 19-130

(A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign a renewal contract for the lease with the Barber Companies for the West Precinct)

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion from the Finance Committee. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 07.08.19 – Request for consideration to repeal Ordinance 2333 (An Ordinance prohibiting a left turn in an easterly direction onto Valley View Drive from Valley Avenue) – Randy Hambley.

Councilor Wyatt stated that the Public Safety Committee met and on August 19, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend approval of repealing the Ordinance.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the Public Safety Committee's recommendation. There was no response from the Council.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the first reading of the proposed Ordinance for the Council's consideration at 6:41 p.m.:

Ordinance No.

(An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance 2333 (An Ordinance prohibiting a left turn in an easterly direction onto Valley View Drive from Valley Avenue))

Councilor Jones moved for the unanimous consent of the proposed Ordinance as read. Councilor Address seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a roll call vote, the votes were: Yeas: Councilors Gwaltney, Thames, Higginbotham, Wolverton, Jones, Smith, Wyatt, Address, Wright, and Limbaugh.

The motion for unanimous consent carried.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Ordinance for the Council's consideration:

Ordinance No. 2757

(An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance 2333 (An Ordinance prohibiting a left turn in an easterly direction onto Valley View Drive from Valley Avenue))

Councilor Higginbotham moved for the enrollment and adoption and publication according to law of Ordinance No. 2757. Councilor Wolverton seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a roll call vote, the votes were: Yeas: Councilors Gwaltney, Thames, Higginbotham, Wolverton, Jones, Smith, Wyatt, Address, Wright, and Limbaugh.

The motion carried without dissent.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 16.08.19 – Request for consideration to authorize the Mayor to sign a liability waiver with Autel Robotics for a UAV donation – Chief Bresnan/Lt. Brandon Broadhead, Fire Department.

Councilor Smith stated that the Special Issues Committee met and on August 19, 2019 and voted 5-0 to recommend approval.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the Special Issues Committee's recommendation. There was no response from the Council.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Resolution for the Council's consideration.

Resolution No. 19-131

(A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign a liability waiver with Autel Robotics for a UAV donation)

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion from the Special Issues Committee. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 19.08.19 – Request for consideration to reconfigure intersection/convergence of Vulcan Road (behind 228 Oxmoor Blvd) – Andrew Wolverton.

Councilor Wyatt stated that the Public Safety Committee met on August 19, 2019 and, after hearing from Randy Hambley, voted 5-0 to recommend adding a stop sign and removing one from the other side of Vulcan Road.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the Special Issues Committee's recommendation. There was no response from the Council.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the first reading of the proposed Ordinance for the Council's consideration at 6:44 p.m.:

Ordinance No.

(An Ordinance consideration to reconfigure intersection/convergence of Vulcan Road)

Councilor Smith moved for the unanimous consent of the proposed Ordinance as read. Councilor Wolverton seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a roll call vote, the votes were: Yeas: Councilors Gwaltney, Thames, Higginbotham, Wolverton, Jones, Smith, Wyatt, Andress, Wright, and Limbaugh.

The motion for unanimous consent carried.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Ordinance for the Council's consideration:

Ordinance No. 2758

(An Ordinance consideration to reconfigure intersection/convergence of Vulcan Road)

Councilor Wolverton moved for the enrollment and adoption and publication according to law of Ordinance No. 2758. Councilor Smith seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a roll call vote, the votes were: Yeas: Councilors Gwaltney, Thames, Higginbotham, Wolverton, Jones, Smith, Wyatt, Andress, Wright, and Limbaugh

The motion carried without dissent.

Councilor Jones asked if signs could be placed to indicate that signs would be changing to help with safety concerns.

COMMITTEE REFERRAL AGENDA

23.08.19 Request for consideration for a timed pedestrian light at Windsor Drive and Lakeshore – **Jennifer Andress – Finance Committee**

- 24.08.19** Request for consideration for Budget Amendments for FY 18-19 budgets – **Robert W. Burgett, Finance Director – Finance Committee**
- 25.08.19** Request for consideration to set a new pole for a small cellular site at 1620 Valley Avenue – **Tim Hawkins/Greg Cobb, BEZ – Special Issues Committee**
- 26.08.19** Request for consideration to place a parking pad in city right-of-way at 1652 28th Avenue South – **Ben Tangye/Wyatt Pugh/Greg Cobb, BEZ – Special Issues Committee**
- 27.08.19** **Request to set a Public Hearing and referral to the Special Issues Committee** for consideration of a variance to the fence ordinance at 201 Woodland Drive – **Terri Johnson/Greg Cobb, BEZ – Special Issues Committee**

Councilor Smith moved for the approval of the Committee Referral Agenda as amended. Councilor Wyatt seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

The next item on the Agenda under Other New Business was Item No. 27.08.19 – Request to set a Public Hearing for consideration of a variance to the fence ordinance at 201 Woodland Drive – Terri Johnson/Greg Cobb, BEZ.

President Limbaugh stated that the Public Hearing would be set for September 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 28.08.19 – Request for consideration of a resolution to adopt transportation plan pursuant to the Rebuild Alabama Act – Berkley Squires/Melody Salter, City Clerk/Robert W. Burgett, Finance Director.

Mr. Kendrick stated that the new gas tax passed by the last legislative session and required the money that the city obtained from that, which was approximately \$110,000.00 to be used for paving only and required the city to post the transportation plan annually by August 31, 2019 so they had a list for Exhibit A which was paving projects that Mr. Berkley Squires proposed to make in the next fiscal year.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Resolution for the Council's consideration.

Resolution No. 19-132

(A Resolution to adopt transportation plan pursuant to the Rebuild Alabama Act)

Councilor Smith moved for the adoption and enrollment of Resolution No. 19-132. Councilor Wyatt seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

The next item on the Agenda under Old Business was Item No. 29.08.19 – Request for consideration of approval of vouchers for period of August 13, 2019 through August 26, 2019 – City Treasurer/Finance Committee.

At this time, Mr. Kendrick presented the following Resolution for the Council's consideration.

Resolution No. 19-133

(A Resolution for approval of vouchers for period of August 13, 2019 through August 26, 2019)

Councilor Higginbotham moved for the adoption and enrollment of Resolution No. 19-133. Councilor Jones seconded the motion.

President Limbaugh asked if the Council had any questions or comments regarding the motion. There was no response from the Council.

On a voice vote, the motion carried without dissent.

The next item on the Agenda under Other New Business was Item No. 30.08.19 – Presentation of Mayor's Fiscal Year 2019-2020 proposed budgets for General, Capital, Debt Service and Special Revenue Funds – Mayor Scott McBrayer.

Mayor McBrayer addressed the Council and stated that it had been another exciting year for the City of Homewood and he wanted to thank Mr. Robert Burgett, Ms. Melody Salter, Mr. J.J. Bischoff, and to all the Department Heads because they had spent a lot of time to put this together. Mayor McBrayer further stated that he thought that this was a good, honest budget that they could be proud of and he looked forward to working with the Finance Committee and full Council through the process. Mayor McBrayer added that he had assigned the General Fund a little over \$13,000,000.00, Committed Assigned to Non-Spendable in the General Fund almost \$26,000,000.00, Assigned

Capital \$5,000,000.00, Debt Service \$17,500,000.00, Special Revenue Growth Restricted, Committed, and Assigned almost \$99,000,000.00, for a total of \$161,000,000.00. Mayor McBrayer further added that for operating results he wanted to give the Council a lot of credit for helping him achieve this because when they started looking at their operating results, this particular model went back to Fiscal Year 2014 and if they took those surpluses, and they could see all the notes on each of the years, for 2017 they had a \$410,000.00 surplus but that was after employee bonuses and moved a half million dollars to Capital.

Mayor McBrayer stated that since 2014 they had the opportunity to give bonuses to employees and after they had the chance to move money over into Capital, they were still averaging almost a half million dollars surplus every single year and this year was looking strong as well and they might finish with a little over a million dollars in surplus so that would really help them when it was time to look at Capital expenses. Mayor McBrayer further stated that regarding Cash Balance on Hand, that Reserve for Economic Uncertainty, which was started in 2008 when he became Mayor, they had a little more than \$11,000,000.00, he thought that should help everyone sleep better at night. Mayor McBrayer added that for the Seven Cent Gas Tax, Debt Service Fund, they had \$17,000,000.00 in it and Capital Projects had \$5,7000,000.00, 911 Fund had \$1,6000,000.00, Jails, Courts, Sales Tax Funds for \$7,3000,000.00, Construction Fund for almost \$52,000,000.00, for a total of \$113,000,000.00. Mayor McBrayer further added that some of the highlights were that this year he had proposed to provide a two percent COLA to the employees for the approximate cost of \$411,142.00 and that also would include Merit Raises of almost \$225,000.00 then he would also be asking for bonuses for employees for obtaining a surplus again.

Mayor McBrayer stated that he did show the city reaching its goal in Employee Wellness Screening and the city was rated as Preferred but because of the Retiree Census they would have to keep a really close eye on that number because if they lost that Preferred Rating it could mean an additional \$300,000.00 in benefits. Mayor McBrayer further stated that for the third consecutive year, the budget balanced without having to utilize a Carry Over Fund Balance as a revenue source and included a budgeted reserve for any contingency of almost \$262,000.00 in case any unexpected expenditures arose. Mayor McBrayer added that the budgeted revenues and budgeted expenses for the upcoming year were \$55,196,094.00. Mayor McBrayer further added that the total budgeted revenues were \$7,300,000.00, Revenue Source Carry Over Fund Balance of \$2,900,000.00 but they would not have to use that if they as a Council decided to delay any of the funding projects that they were proposing so they had total expenditures of \$10,300,000.00 and budgeted revenues of \$7,300,000.00.

Mayor McBrayer stated that the Capital Projects highlights were that they were going to continue the street paving with a proposal of \$1,000,000.00 from the Capital Projects Fund and the new Alabama Gas Tax. Mayor McBrayer further stated that they would continue funding the Greenway and had engineering and construction of the 18th Street Project. Mayor McBrayer further stated that they would be completing the new Public Safety Center which was another \$22,500,000.00 and would continue construction of additional sidewalks, purchasing a new fire engine and for other departments they had clam shell trucks, Tahoes, and a lot of things that they needed to stay on top so he had met with the Department Heads and he was comfortable with what they would be submitting. Mayor McBrayer added that for the budget summary, with the exception of the Board of Education and the General Obligation Warrants, Construction Funds were \$87,600,000.00 and the Construction Fund was for \$41,900,000.00 which was not included in the totals of the previous slide because this represented Carry Over Construction to complete the new Public Safety Center and the Board of Education Infrastructure Improvements through the use of remaining bond proceeds so did not represent new revenues or approved expenditures. Mayor Brayer further added that they also had the West Homewood Park and Pool Project was complete and was also built from those funds.

Mayor McBrayer stated that the school system continued to thrive and Fund 06, Board of Education Property Tax was \$9,200,000.00 so the total contribution to the school system was almost \$18,000,000.00. Mayor McBrayer further stated that copies of the entire budget would be handed out to the Council tonight.

Councilor Gwaltney stated that he wanted to thank the Mayor for his presentation and he was looking forward to working through this with him.

Councilor Thames stated that the Planning and Development Committee would meet on September 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Councilor Higginbotham stated that the Tree Inventory was going on throughout the city and he wanted to encourage residents to allow the people doing the inventory to come onto their property. Councilor Higginbotham further stated that they needed to do this research so they could make good decisions about how they could continue the good things and make better things happen.

Councilor Wolverton stated that the Back to School base was affected by rain but he wanted to thank the Parks Department for edging and putting time into making sure the park was in pristine shape.

Councilor Jones stated that the Finance Committee would meet on September 9, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Councilor Jones further stated that he wanted to thank Mr. Burgett, Ms.

Salter, the Mayor, and Mr. Bischoff and everyone that helped putting the budget together and he appreciated the work by the Department Heads. Councilor Jones added that he would send out proposed dates for the Budget Hearings. Councilor Jones further added that he had several residents on Old Oxmoor Road which was at the backside of Palisades that were having an issue with the dumpsters from three different restaurants, Taco Bell, Popeye's, and Guthrie's used a different company for their dumpster pick up and for the past six months they had been picking up at 3:00 to 4:00 in the morning so Ms. Salter helped him coordinate a meeting with Councilor Abbott and their ordinance stated clearly that if businesses were a certain amount of proximity from a residential area, they could not pick up before 7:00 a.m. but they were not making any progress so he had called the Mayor's office at the City of Birmingham so he was asking for suggestions because he did not know what else to do since this was not in the limits of City of Homewood.

Councilor Andress asked if he had spoken to anyone in Birmingham's Legal Department, if not, Mr. Kendrick had contacts there.

Mayor McBrayer asked for Councilor Jones to send him contact information so he could work on the issue.

Councilor Smith stated that the Special Issues Committee would meet on September 9, 2019 at 4:45 p.m. Councilor Smith further stated that Sunday afternoon she made a call to the Homewood Police Department dispatch for something that seemed suspicious but not necessarily serious and the situation escalated quickly and ended up with a police chase so it made it clear to her how dangerous the Police Officers jobs were because they never knew what they were going to run into when they responded to a call.

Councilor Wyatt stated that the Public Safety Committee would meet on September 9, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. Councilor Wyatt further stated that he wanted to thank the Mayor, Mr. Burgett, and Ms. Salter for their work on the budget. Councilor Wyatt added that he wanted to thank everyone for their support of the Samford agreement and their willingness to work through that process.

Councilor Andress stated that she wanted to thank Mr. Squires, Mr. Alan Ash, the Mayor, and Mr. Bischoff for attending a meeting with Councilor Wright and herself with Spire because they had been dealing with road issues with Spire as they worked on some lines but their goal was to finish by October 1, 2019.

Councilor Wright stated that the Public Works Committee would meet on September 9, 2019 at 5:45 p.m. Councilor Wright further stated that he wanted to thank Councilor Wyatt for his work with the Samford Agreement. Councilor Wright added that he wanted to thank the Mayor for caring so much about the budget and he showed and was important for the city and the process that they now had in the city was really

something to be envied from the Finance Committee spending hours reviewing it to having a Budget Committee who would go through every line item to approve and was a good process to ensure the financial strength of the City continued.

President Limbaugh stated that he wanted to thank Mr. Burgett, Ms. Salter, and Mr. Bischoff for all their work on the budget. President Limbaugh further stated that he had heard nothing but great things about the Library Block Party.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was, on a motion duly made, adjourned at 7:20 p.m.