

**HUNTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting - April 14, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**City Council Chambers, Municipal Building**  
**Huntsville, Alabama**

**Members Present:** Mr. John Meredith, President  
Dr. Jennie Robinson  
Mr. Bill Kling  
Mr. Devyn Keith  
Ms. Frances Akridge

**Mayor:** Mr. Tommy Battle  
**City Administrator:** Mr. John Hamilton  
**City Attorney:** Mr. Trey Riley

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President Meredith called the meeting to order at the time and place noted above.

Minister Vernon Spearman of Body of Christ Ministries led the invocation; Councilmember Akridge led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Approval of the Agenda.

President Meredith asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda.

Councilmember Kling moved to approve the agenda, which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith and was unanimously approved.

President Meredith stated the next item was Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council on March 24, 2022, were approved as submitted.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Mayor: Special Recognitions.

President Meredith recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle asked Ms. Amanda Garrett to come forward.

Mayor Battle stated that Ms. Garrett was present to accept a proclamation for the National Children's Advocacy Center.

Mayor Battle stated this was a proclamation from the City of Huntsville, a National Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation. He stated that it recognized all the fine work the Children's Advocacy Center did, not only throughout Huntsville and Alabama but throughout the nation. He stated that they protected children, made sure they were safe. He stated that in 1985, when Bud Cramer had started this, he had started it as a way to make sure young people had rights and protection. He stated that these centers did this on a day-to-day basis, and he thanked Ms. Garrett for the work they did.

Mayor Battle presented the proclamation to Ms. Garrett, and he asked her to tell them a little bit about the Center.

Ms. Garrett stated that April was Child Abuse Prevention Month, and people would probably see their pinwheels all over town, blue pinwheel gardens, and she stated that they hoped this would prompt people to think about the kids in their care, and maybe have a conversation with the children in their lives, and maybe say a prayer for the kids in the community so they would not have to go through this.

Ms. Garrett thanked Mayor Battle and the Council for the recognition.

Mayor Battle stated this was also the month when they recognized Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Week and the contributions of the local volunteers who were improving the community. He stated that there were a lot of these volunteers in the audience. He asked Scott Erwin, Manager of Community Development, to come forward, noting that he administered the Community Development Block Grants, and he was in charge of all the big activities. He continued that the people who did the real work on this were sitting in the audience.

Mayor Battle asked Mr. Erwin to comment on this.

Mr. Erwin stated it was always an honor in April of each year to celebrate National Community Development Week and highlight many of their projects which the Block Grant funds actually helped fund. He stated they were declaring this as CDBG and Community Development Week within the community and joining communities across the nation as this was celebrated. He stated that in the last three years, they had received more than \$6 million in funding to support this program, and some of this funding went toward public services, economic development, and facility improvements.

Mr. Erwin stated that one of the programs they were most proud of was their Deferred Maintenance Rehabilitation Program, which was under the leadership of Rodney McCallie and Rob Peavy. He stated this was a very dedicated group of employees of the City who were changing lives each and every day.

Mr. Erwin stated that a couple of years prior, he and Mayor Battle had discussed how they could strengthen the neighborhoods, that they were discussing solutions and remedies, and Mayor Battle had asked him to make sure they would work with older neighborhoods and strengthen those neighborhoods, in linking with the Generosity Foundation. He asked Joe Mackenzie to come forward, stating that he was the Executive Director of the Generosity Foundation.

Mr. Erwin stated that it was resolved in the proclamation that they applauded the volunteer efforts of the community and recognized the Generosity Foundation, on behalf of all the volunteer groups and individuals who had so graciously volunteered their time and talents for citizens and neighborhoods.

Mr. Mackenzie stated he appreciated the opportunity to share a little bit about what had been happening in the city. He stated he would first like to thank the Council and Mayor Battle, as well as Mr. Erwin. He stated the Generosity Foundation

was just a small organization that activated thousands of people to love their neighbors genuinely and authentically. He continued that they did this through lots and lots of things, but fixing homes had been a great discovery, and they could not do it without the City.

Mr. Mackenzie stated that in attendance with him were Pastor Michael Hamilton, who led The Becoming Church, and Pastor Tim Ashley, who led the HopeTown Church. He stated that before they had even launched their churches, they had brought their entire teams out to work on the homes they were doing with Community Development. He stated that also in attendance was Joel Banyai, who led their Car Guys group. He stated that in 2020, Mr. Banyai had asked how he could help, and he had told him that a single mom had been charged \$900 to change one spark plug. He stated that Mr. Banyai had said they had to change that, and he had thought they were just going to run diagnostics, but 50 guys and 270 cars later, it was incredible what Mr. Banyai had been able to do, just through volunteers.

Mr. Mackenzie stated they were just getting started, that there were so many more churches and groups not represented, and this would not be possible if thousands of people did not find just a little bit of time every week to be someone's genuine friend. He stated it had been incredible.

Mr. Mackenzie stated that every Monday night, they had a dinner night in the Northwoods community, at 6 p.m. He stated they would be coming back together on April 25th, and he invited people to come and hang out with them. He stated that, also, on every first Saturday, they had so many opportunities for people to serve their neighbors, from cars to homes to lawns to meals to painting, and just tables to sit at and build genuine relationships. He asked people to come and join them.

Mr. Erwin stated that one of the things that made Huntsville so special was the volunteer nature of the people, and he stated that under Rodney McCallie's leadership

and Rob Peavy's leadership, the prior year they had recruited more than 700 volunteers from the community, serving over 8,000 volunteer hours.

Mr. Erwin stated that one special volunteer had stood out, that he had been alongside most of those volunteers, and he worked a full-time job, and he never said no. He asked Scott Stevens to come forward, representing all the volunteer groups, the individuals who had so graciously volunteered their time and talents for the citizens and the neighborhoods.

Mr. Erwin asked Mr. Stevens if he would like to comment.

Mr. Stevens expressed appreciation for being honored with this recognition, noting he was so glad he was able to minister to the community, that he could serve the elderly and serve the needy. He continued that it was such a privilege to just touch these persons' lives. He urged everyone to participate in this, noting that everyone had their own gifts. He stated he was always looking for more volunteer opportunities, in the city or wherever.

Mayor Battle asked Rodney McCallie and Rob Peavy to come forward also. He stated there was no program in the city of Huntsville he was more proud of than this program. He stated this program had started because they had Code Enforcement people going out to neighborhoods, and they would find someone with peeling paint, with a gutter coming down, or a yard overgrown, something like that, and they would have to give them a ticket because they had standards they wanted the community to stay up to, to live up to. He stated they would have to give these persons tickets, and a lot of them would say they were elderly and on a fixed income, and they could not afford to do what needed to be done, that they did not have a way to do it.

Mayor Battle stated they had started keeping a list of the people who were really in need in the community that they were actually giving tickets to. He continued that these persons had to get their houses up to standards, because there

were certain standards. He stated that they had kept a list of these people, and then they had said they could do this a little bit better, and they had started calling on faith groups and community groups, that they had started calling on volunteers they knew, and the program had grown from giving someone a ticket to actually giving them a solution, and saying that this was a way they could fix their house.

Mayor Battle stated that Mr. McCallie and Mr. Peavy had set up this program, and they went out a lot themselves. He stated they went out to these people's houses, and they made sure the houses were painted or the yard was taken care of, et cetera, through volunteers and all that work. He stated that was what the CDBG money was for, to make a better community.

Mayor Battle thanked Mr. McCallie and Mr. Peavy for the work they did on a day-to-day basis. He also thanked Mr. Erwin and the entire Community Development group, stating that they had put this program together, that they had done it because they saw a need in the community, and this was a great way to address that need and make sure everybody was taken care of and everybody was part of Huntsville's success.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Announcements and Presentations.

President Meredith stated that the City of Huntsville Municipal Offices and the Municipal Court would be closed on the following day, April 15, in observance of Good Friday, and they would reopen on Monday, April 18. He stated that Animal Services would also be closed on the following day, but they would reopen on Saturday, under normal operating hours.

President Meredith stated that on the following Wednesday, April 20, the Council would be holding a Work Session, in Council Chambers, at 5 p.m., concerning allowing citations for possession of minor amounts of marijuana.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Public Hearings to be Held.

President Meredith stated it was the time and place in the meeting for a public hearing on a resolution for PAK Holdings, LLC, d/b/a Huntsville Brews Cruise, for the issuance of a special shuttle license, which hearing was set at the March 24, 2022, Regular Council Meeting.

President Meredith recognized Ms. Quisha Bryant, Director of Parking and Public Transit.

Ms. Bryant stated that this public hearing was on the application of Mr. Patrick Armour, who she noted was in attendance at this meeting, to operate the Huntsville Brews Cruise. She stated the plan for the business was to operate one special shuttle that would provide prepaid transportation services for adult guests on scheduled tours to visit local breweries within Madison County. She stated that Mr. Armour had completed the application process, passed the background check, and they were before the Council at this time for a public hearing.

President Meredith stated the public hearing was open, and he asked if anyone in the audience would like to address the Council on this particular issue.

President Meredith stated that seeing none, the hearing was closed.

Councilmember Kling read and introduced a resolution for PAK Holdings, LLC, d/b/a Huntsville Brews Cruise, for the issuance of a special shuttle license, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-227)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Robinson and was unanimously adopted.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Public Hearings to

be Set.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on the rezoning of 16.36 acres of land lying on the north side of Hegia Burrow Road and east of Oscar Webster Road from Residence 1 District to Residence 2 District, at the May 26, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-228)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling and was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced Ordinance No. 22-229, rezoning 16.36 acres of land lying on the north side of Hegia Burrow Road and east of Oscar Webster Road from Residence 1 District to Residence 2 District.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on the rezoning of 24.47 acres of land lying on the east side of Kirby Lane and north of Hwy 72 West from Residence 2-A District to Highway Business C-4 District, at the May 26, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-230)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith and was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced Ordinance No. 22-231, rezoning 24.47 acres of land lying on the east side of Kirby Lane and north of Hwy 72 West from Residence 2-A District to Highway Business C-4 District.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on the rezoning of 14.33 acres of land lying on the east side of Research Park Blvd and north of Corporate Drive from Research Park District to Highway Business



C-4 District, at the May 26, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-232)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling and was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced Ordinance No. 22-233, rezoning 14.33 acres of land lying on the east side of Research Park Blvd and north of Corporate Drive from Research Park District to Highway Business C-4 District.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on the rezoning of 51.38 acres of land lying on the north and south sides of Bankhead Pkwy and east of Gaslight Way from Residence 1-A District to Planned Development - Housing District, LUI 37, at the May 26, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-234)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith and was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced Ordinance No. 22-235, rezoning 51.38 acres of land lying on the north and south sides of Bankhead Pkwy and east of Gaslight Way from Residence 1-A District to Planned Development - Housing District, LUI 37.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance amending Zoning Ordinance, Article 75, Alcoholic Beverage Establishment Regulations, Section 75.3, Permitted Establishments by Districts, to remove brewpubs as a permitted establishment; and Section 75.6, Brewpub Areas, to update the established boundary of the brewpub areas; and Article 92, Board of

Adjustment, Section 92.5.3, Permitted Uses as Special Exceptions, to add Brewpubs (within brewpub areas), at the May 26, 2021, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-236)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Kling.

Councilmember Kling asked if they could get a brief explanation of this item, noting that he was aware this was just setting the public hearing.

Mr. Thomas Nunez, Manager of Planning Services, appeared before the Council. He stated that this was an expansion of Brewpub areas. He stated he would give a formal presentation on this at the May 26, 2022, Regular Council Meeting. He stated this was to revitalize and have some additional investment in the Brewpub areas, and moving this from Brewpubs to Special Exceptions, to notify the public within 500 feet.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-236, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced Ordinance No. 22-237, amending Zoning Ordinance, Article 75, Alcoholic Beverage Establishment Regulations, Section 75.3, Permitted Establishments by Districts, to remove brewpubs as a permitted establishment; and Section 75.6, Brewpub Areas, to update the established boundary of the brewpub areas; and Article 92, Board of Adjustment, Section 92.5.3, Permitted Uses as Special Exceptions, to add Brewpubs (within brewpub areas).

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on the vacation of a portion of a right-of-way along Davis Circle at the May 12, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-238)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling and was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced Resolution No. 22-239, consenting to the vacation of a portion of a right-of-way along Davis Circle.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced Ordinance No. 22-240, vacating a portion of a right-of-way along Davis Circle.

President Meredith stated the next item was Agenda Related Public Comments.

President Meredith stated that this portion of the meeting was reserved for persons wishing to address the Council on matters relating to the specific content of items on the meeting agenda. He stated that persons could sign up to speak on the Public Comments Roster prior to the meeting. He asked that when called, speakers approach a microphone and state their name, home address, and city of residence. He stated that each speaker could address the Council for three minutes. He stated that speakers shall refrain from entering into dialogue with Council Members or City staff and from making comments regarding the good name and character of any individual.

Mr. Ken Moultrie, 1809 Gaslight Way, addressed the Council, having signed up to speak concerning "Rezoning of land 22-0286."

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Mayor Comments.

President Meredith recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle stated that they had another proclamation on the Council agenda earlier in the meeting, and he thought they had kind of presented it along with the CDBG. He stated this was the Fair Housing Month Proclamation. He stated that

approximately 10 years prior, there was some consternation in the community, and some articles had hit the paper, and on a visit to the HUD office in Birmingham, they had said, "You had better be careful; you are getting closed to Fair Housing." He continued that they had started talking about that with them and had told them that their community supported fair housing, that they thought fair housing was something that was very important, that people of all walks of life should be able to live where they wanted to live and should have the opportunity of fair housing.

Mayor Battle stated that from that day on, each year they had passed proclamations during Fair Housing Month, proclamations that talked about Huntsville's desire to make sure the world knew they believed in fair housing. He stated that the Board of Realtors also passed a resolution concerning this each year. He continued that when they had first started, the Chamber of Commerce had also, that it was a groupwide, community effort to make sure the world knew that Huntsville, Alabama, supported fair housing.

Mayor Battle stated that this proclamation had been presented, and he just wanted to make sure everyone understood it was a very important proclamation to them, and it was an important part of their life on a day-to-day basis, that they wanted to serve everybody.

Mayor Battle stated that the prior week, he was in Colorado Springs at the National Space Symposium. He stated there had been some questions about Space Force, some things having to do with that, and it was an interesting conversation, and it all kind of came down to collaboration. He stated that as they had said time and time again, they were partners with Colorado Springs with many missions that came out of Redstone Arsenal, and they would continue to be partners with them and to work with them. He stated they knew that whatever happened out of Space Command, it was something that was very important to the world, and it was

very important to the United States. He stated that their ultimate goal was to make sure that Space Command could protect their assets in space and protect the United States of America, and whether it was done from Huntsville or from somewhere else, they wanted to make sure that was the final goal of that Commission and the final goal of that Command as it was set up. He stated they would work with many different communities as they got into this process, and if Space Command ended up moving to Huntsville, they would be working with each of those communities and partnering with them. He stated that was the gist of their statement when they were out there.

Mayor Battle stated that the prior week, they had the Paralympics in the city.

Mayor Battle stated he would leave this meeting about 7 o'clock because they were having the roll-out of the CX-50 Mazda, at the Mazda dealership, and the President and Vice President of Mazda would be present for the event. He stated they hoped to have a good conversation with them, that they were very important to them, that they were half of the Mazda Toyota manufacturing facility in Greenbrier and a big portion of the city's economy.

Mayor Battle stated that Governor Ivey had announced Restore our Roads 2 earlier in the day. He continued that she had announced three of the projects they were going to be working on with Restore our Roads. He stated this had been a collaborative effort, that they had the Legislature, the House and the Senate, to unanimously back this plan. He stated they had worked with the Highway Director over the last half year, and they had worked with the district office for at least a year, on the programs and projects that needed to come out of this. He stated this really broke down to doing infrastructure and making sure that as the population grew, the roadways grew, and they would be able to get people from one location to another.

Mayor Battle stated that people would notice that this was a regional effort,

that they had worked with the City of Madison and the Madison City Council, as well as the Madison County Commission and the County Commissioners. He stated that two of these roads were in other cities, but they helped to bring traffic into the city of Huntsville and bring people from those cities to the workplaces in Huntsville and then get them back home. He stated that every day they had 110,000 people who came into the city of Huntsville and worked, and they had to get home each day, so they had to have the roadway system to do that. He stated that, also, there were 60,000 people who left Huntsville and went to other communities.

Mayor Battle stated that Restore our Roads 2 was very important to them, and it had been a collaborative effort of the entire North Alabama delegation and all the government in Madison County. He stated they appreciated the Governor coming through on this date and solidifying some of the projects they so desperately needed in the North Alabama area.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Council Member comments.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Robinson.

Councilmember Robinson stated she had been gone for six weeks, taking care of her mother and sister in Texas, and she thanked everyone for their concern and their thoughts and prayers during that time, noting that it was very much appreciated. She stated that thanks to technology, she had been able to watch the Council meetings, and to also participate in a lot of other things she had not been able to attend in person. She continued that one of these was a groundbreaking, and she was really sorry to miss the groundbreaking, but she had gotten to stay dry. She stated it was a wonderful event, and she thanked Mayor Battle for committing to send land back to Big Spring Park, noting that was her favorite part of the presentation.

Councilmember Robinson stated she had also been able to participate in the

Ditto Landing Master Planning project, noting there was a lot of great discussion. She stated she wanted to give a shout-out to Brandi Quick, the Executive Director of Ditto Landing, for a great session, with lots of really good planning and good ideas. She stated this was a great partnership between the City, the County, and the Ditto board, which was a very engaged board, with great folks leading the process.

Councilmember Robinson stated she had also had the opportunity to connect with the South Huntsville Main Business Association as they continued to move forward. She stated that they had some requests that might be seen at future meetings of the Council.

Councilmember Robinson stated one of the things they had been able to put together while she had been gone was plans for her second Town Hall of the year, to be held on April 25, at 6:30 p.m., at the Sandra Moon Complex, with the focus being on the Sandra Moon Complex. She stated that work was commencing on the interior of the main building, and there were updates on some work that was going to be done on the exterior. She stated that at her Town Hall meeting, the speakers would be John Hamilton; Allison Dillon-Jauken of Arts Huntsville; and Matt Mandrella, the City's new Music Officer. She asked that people please join her for this event, noting that she certainly planned to be there.

Councilmember Robinson thanked all the people who had worked very hard to put together the Legistar software for the Council. She stated that Kelly Schrimsher; Belinda Sons, in the City Clerk-Treasurer's office; and Kathie Rooker, in the Council office, had worked many, many hours on it. She stated she thought this was a fabulous program, and she thanked them for not giving up on it.

Councilmember Robinson stated that she would be leaving town again on the following Monday, so she would miss the Employee Longevity Banquet. She stated a lot of people would be honored at that event, noting that she had seen the names of

some good friends on the list. She stated she wanted to extend her thanks to everyone who had served the City for so many years, noting that their service was certainly appreciated.

Councilmember Robinson wished everyone a Happy Easter.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Kling.

Councilmember Kling welcomed Councilmember Robinson back, noting that she had been missed. He stated they understood her circumstance and supported her 100 percent. He stated that, to her credit, it should be pointed out that she had been very diligent in keeping up with things, courtesy of modern technology. He stated that anything they could do to help, they would certainly be glad to do so.

Councilmember Kling stated he thought the groundbreaking announcement was outstanding, that when the time came, Big Spring Park East would be expanded. He stated he thought that was a great thing for the community, that Big Spring Park was a citywide park, and it was a great thing to have, that it would be a legacy that would live on after the Mayor and the current Council members had left City Hall.

Councilmember Kling stated that the Midyear Budget Review would be coming up in a couple of weeks, noting that at the last meeting he believed they had started kicking around ideas on how any extra money could be spent. He stated that one idea he wanted to put on the table was to look at basically doing what other communities had done, and whatever extra money they had that they could somehow turn into a type of a bonus that they could give on a per-employee basis to each of the City employees, so that everyone would get an equal bonus. He stated they were all aware of the challenges many of the employees had to go through during the pandemic, with many being on the front lines in dealing with the public, and perhaps being a little bit more at risk than they would normally like to have happen. He continued that inflation, according to the national news, sat at 7 percent, the highest since 1981, and,



of course, everyone was aware they were dealing with \$4 per gallon gas and \$8 a pound hamburger.

Councilmember Kling stated that he believed Birmingham had recently done a 5 percent bonus for their employees, and Mobile had done a 2.5 percent bonus for their employees. He stated this was something he would like for them to take a hard look at, noting they wanted to take care of their employees. He stated they had a good package, but they wanted to do everything they could, noting there was competition to get good employees, and they wanted to keep their employees.

Councilmember Kling stated he had been getting calls of concern about the Church Street road project. He stated he had been asked about industrial-sized rock being in the median and on the rights-of-way in a portion of the Church Street construction, especially the part between Pratt Avenue. He stated he would like to have someone make sure that the contractor would get all that rock out, so it would be on a par with what they would normally expect for any of their other road projects' rights-of-way.

Councilmember Kling stated he would be having his monthly Town Hall on the following Monday evening, at the Public Library, at 6 p.m., in Meeting Room A, and he invited persons to come and talk about whatever they would like to talk about.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Keith.

Councilmember Keith stated to Councilmember Robinson that they had certainly missed her and their prayers were with her and her family.

Councilmember Keith stated he had taken a trip to New York about a month prior, noting that Mr. Crawford had come before the Council and challenged them to follow him to New York to find out about some of the crisis management that was going on there. He stated that as recent history had shown, there were a number of things they were experiencing in New York that Huntsville had not experienced, but

there were perspectives to take from a very involved day.

Councilmember Keith stated that one of the perspectives was the integration of individuals inside the community, to have connections between the community and the police. He stated they had supported programs such as that, and they had shown wonderful opportunities for them to continue to do so. He stated he would definitely find some time over the summer to sit down with Mr. Crawford and his group and have a conversation concerning this, opportunities where they would create pipelines for individuals from certain communities, just people who spoke community language, noting that sometimes that would actually be a foreign language. He stated that they wanted to have those people to be able to call, especially when the police had de-escalation issues, so they could have advocacy inside the community. He stated this did not always have to come from conversations at City Hall, and that they would continue to give advocacy and support to the police officers.

Councilmember Keith thanked Mr. Crawford, noting that it had been a great meeting, to say the least, and they could contour a lot of those things to fit the city of Huntsville, and he was excited to be alongside them in supporting this, especially in his district.

Councilmember Keith stated they had a wonderful pre-Easter event, and he had really enjoyed it. He stated that Parks & Recreation had done a wonderful job on this, and he thanked everyone who had supported it. He stated he believed they had more than 200 kids, and it was a great event.

Councilmember Keith stated that the Work Session on the following Wednesday was very important, noting that they would share a perspective of information. He stated that the City Attorney, Mr. Riley, had been amazing on this, and President Meredith had been involved in this process for seven or eight months. He stated they would have a comprehensive deep dive on perspective about

misdeemeanor marijuana possession and the effect it had on the community of Huntsville as a whole and progressive reform steps he believed they should take to make sure the City was not being punitive, but equitable and effective in their assessment of what it was to keep the public safe and not create excessive impact on individuals in specific communities.

Councilmember Keith stated it was important that they would make decisions with consideration of information, and that was what the upcoming Work Session was for, that it was not to propose anything, not to have anything on the table, but some data would be received, all the way up to legislative opinions, so they could consider things they should do in Huntsville. He stated that as they were the star of the state, he thought they should also have the star of the state make a step in a progressive manner, to give an example of things they could do better, for their citizens and their police.

Councilmember Keith stated they would not have the opportunity for public comment at the upcoming Work Session, that that opportunity would come later, noting that this was a very serious issue. He stated this was for information, to give a holistic perspective of things he believed they could do better, to support the police officers and the citizens at the same time.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Akridge.

Councilmember Akridge stated there were so many things that were fantastic about the city. She stated they had recognized Community Development and all the hundreds of volunteers who contributed 8,000 hours just in 2021, and she stated this had a monetary value, and it meant more than just the hours the people contributed, that there was what it did for everybody's heart.

Councilmember Akridge stated she was inviting people to join her in mid-May, on a date to be decided, noting that she was giving a challenge, especially to people of

the Cove, whether it would be Hampton Cove, River Ridge, or whatever it might be, over the mountain, to join her in May to attend some of the Deferred Maintenance Workdays. She stated that people could call the City Council office, at 256-427-5011, and they would take their name and number and get them involved with a workday, hopefully one that she would be doing as well, so they could get to know each other even better.

Councilmember Akridge stated that not only had they shown compassion in that regard, but they had actually been deemed a Compassionate City, by resolution in 2013, by the Compassionate Action Network Charter for Compassion. She stated that in that, it was really clear that citizens themselves were the solution for problems and for making life better on their block and in their city. She stated she was proud of learning about this resolution, and she stated to her colleagues that they might want to reaffirm this, noting that they could talk about that together. She stated it still stood that they were considered a Compassionate City. She stated they had seen some evidence of this, that they saw evidence in the Community Foundation and the money they collected and invested in the city, and they saw it in Community Development, and in people just helping each other through neighborhood networks.

Councilmember Akridge stated that it had also occurred to her, especially during this Easter week, about the need for hope in the world. She stated that many of them had been thinking about Ukraine. She stated that people in the Cove had been in contact with her, and they had been in touch with friends who lived in Ukraine, and they were begging persons to please do whatever they could do, whether it would be financial or to sign an affirmation on the Compassionate Action Network's webpage, or to send donations to the U.S./Ukraine Foundation. She stated that every bit helped. She stated she was asking that they all keep their home city of Zhytomyr in their thoughts. She stated it was in the middle of Ukraine, and it had a very strong

history of space exploration, that, in fact, it was the place where one of the first aerospace engineers who created rocket science came from.

Councilmember Akridge stated that on the prior Tuesday evening, there had been a meeting of the Huntsville Police Citizens Advisory Council, and it was very well attended, at the Sandra Moon Center. She stated that many people were aware of what was going on with the partnership with the police, and they wanted that to continue. She stated that the next meeting would be held on June 14, to be held in an area in Councilmember Kling's district, at a location to be announced. She stated that these meetings were for everyone throughout the city, and she stated that if someone wanted a certain topic to be addressed, that, for instance if de-escalation was something someone was interested in, and they were willing to have conversation about how everyone needed to learn to de-escalate, not just the police but even themselves, then they should turn that request in to the HPCAC, and they would certainly arrange for it.

Councilmember Akridge stated the meetings started with a topic, but then they broke out into small groups, and that was where relationships got started. She stated that community police officers were participating, and there were other subject-matter experts in the Police Department there. She stated that these one-on-one relationships would not happen in one meeting, but they would happen over time. She urged everyone to keep June 14th on their calendar and plan to come to the next Huntsville Police Citizens Advisory Council meeting.

Councilmember Akridge stated to Mayor Battle that she was happy to hear he had found money, through the State, for more roads. She stated that 110,000 people going to all the companies they had brought to the city were a lot of people in the workforce, but, yet, she could not help to think that her husband was in the Navy, and the Navy Yard was building ships, and hundreds of thousands of people had

gone into that Navy Yard, and they had gotten on a bus and had gone back to decentralized areas, where they could either get their cars or other buses.

Councilmember Akridge asked why they were not spending some of this money on decentralized commuter efforts, why Polaris and Mazda Toyota were not putting buses on the road to get people to those places. She stated that continuing to put cars on the roads was a step backward in the way they needed to be thinking about transportation. She stated that, fortunately, the Planning Department had a consultant looking at a special kind of bus, but it could not just be up to them, that they needed partnerships. She stated that transportation was one of the biggest barriers to employment, and they could not expect everybody to get a car, that it cost six or seven thousand dollars a year to own a car.

Councilmember Akridge stated they needed to have this money put into decentralized commuter spaces, or as they called it in Washington, D.C., Park-N-Ride. She asked that Mayor Battle and Mr. Davis start thinking about this, noting that it was critical for a healthier community and a more vibrant workforce.

President Meredith stated he would be at HudsonAlpha on April 25th, at 5 p.m., for what they were calling the "Double Helix Walk and Talk," and at that time he would be available for constituents and any citizens of the city of Huntsville who wanted to come out and meet him face-to-face and discuss any issue they would like to discuss, at their leisure. He asked persons to please take advantage of the access that event would provide.

President Meredith stated he also wanted to talk about Governor Ivey's announcement, noting that she had announced three local major road projects, and he was proud to say that two of those three projects were within District 5, the widening of Highway 72 West, from Providence to Nance Road, along with the widening of I-565 from County Line Road to Wall-Triana Highway. He stated that

this represented a \$100 million investment within District 5 roadways. He stated they wanted to thank the Governor for this, noting that they really appreciated the fact she had identified them as worthy of getting those statewide funds.

President Meredith stated that Ms. Brenda Martin was another person he wanted to recognize, noting that she had been a long-serving pillar of the community and she had been honored by the President of the United States with the President's Lifetime Volunteer Service Award, noting that this award was the highest civilian award bestowed by the President of the United States, in recognition of volunteerism in America. He stated that Ms. Eula Battle had also been presented this award.

President Meredith stated he had the pleasure of touring several nonprofits, community-based organizations, over the past three weeks, that he had been at the Free Dental Clinic, and he was blown away by the services that were offered there, and he was shocked that they also provided some services that were not dental related but still within health care. He stated they had seen that some of their patrons needed some other medical services, and they had stepped up to help provide those services.

President Meredith stated he had also had the privilege of touring the facilities of Big Brothers Big Sisters and hearing more about their programming and what they did to empower certain populations within the city, providing Big Brothers and Big Sisters to appropriate children. He stated this was a wonderful organization, and he was so happy for what they did to better the lives of citizens within the community. He stated he had also had the privilege of touring Girls, Inc., and he stated that what they did was phenomenal, such as providing STEM resources to the young ladies there. He stated that kids as young as K-3 were actually doing STEM education, learning the science and mathematics that could take them to some of these great jobs they had in aerospace and aviation in the city.

President Meredith stated he had also toured the Senior Center, and he stated that the depth and breadth of programming offered in that facility was just tremendous. He stated that everything, with the exception, he believed, of the gym there, was free of charge. He stated this was not a comprehensive list, but it included woodworking, weaving, sewing, and nutrition. He continued that they had a gym, and there was a pool, and there were card rooms, and a cafeteria. He stated that three days a week, in the cafeteria, there was a band to entertain the guests. He stated they also provided daycare services, not just for seniors but for folks who had disabilities. He stated this was a wonderful facility, and if persons were eligible to be a member, he would highly encourage them to join and take advantage of the programs offered, noting that this was free.

President Meredith stated he had the privilege of being invited to lunch at the Hatch Group, a nonprofit, community-based organization that provided workforce training programs for the culinary and hospitality industries. He stated they were very hospitable, and the food was excellent. He stated that if persons knew someone who was looking to break into those industries, he would highly encourage them to look into that group as an opportunity to get involved in those industries.

President Meredith stated he had also had the privilege of delivering two speeches to young folks, one at Drake State Community and Technical College, for Library Week, specifically, as well as a speech for the Suits for Scholars program. He stated that normally when addressing young folks, one's mission was to try to inspire them, but he would have to admit that in both of these cases, he was the one who had found inspiration in them. He stated those were great programs, that the opportunities and course work available at Drake State were fantastic, and the scholars, the young men and women who were graduating seniors this year from Huntsville City Schools, were just amazing. He stated that many of them had to



overcome significant hardships, but they had the self-esteem to fight through it, that they had encountered adversity and had risen to the occasion, and all of them had great futures lined up before them.

President Meredith stated he had the pleasure of attending the Huntsville Ballet's performance of The Firebird, and he wanted to say they had some very talented people in Huntsville involved in dance. He stated they were phenomenal, and that equally phenomenal was the innovation displayed through The Firebird by the choreographers. He stated that dance was actually a pretty rigid thing, but they had managed to bend some of those normal rules and put together a program that was astonishing.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Akridge.

Councilmember Akridge stated she had forgotten to mention, in terms of wishing everyone a Happy Easter, to keep Ukraine in their thoughts because of the tradition of the decorated eggs she was displaying. She stated this was called "Pysanka" and was a very long tradition. She asked if persons were inspired to decorate eggs, to consider doing this style and to think about Ukraine as they did it.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Finance Committee Report.

Councilmember Keith read and introduced a resolution authorizing Expenditures for Payment, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-241)

Councilmember Keith moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith and was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Keith read and introduced a resolution authorizing travel for Councilmember Devyn Keith to Queens, New York, March 31 - April 3, 2022, for training from the LIFE Camp of Queens, New York, on a comprehensive approach to

community violence, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-242)

Councilmember Keith moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Robinson and was unanimously adopted.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Board Appointments to be Voted On.

Councilmember Kling read and introduced a resolution appointing John Beard to the Bingo Review Committee, to fill a vacancy due to the resignation of Brenda Miller, for the remainder of a vacant 2-year term to expire April 8, 2023, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-243)

Councilmember Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Robinson and was unanimously adopted.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Robinson.

Councilmember Robinson stated she had known Mr. Beard for a long time, and he was going to be a very well-qualified and very active member of the Bingo board.

Councilmember Kling stated that Mr. Beard had an outstanding financial background, doing audits and the like.

Councilmember Kling stated that they were very fortunate to have Mr. Beard in attendance at this meeting, noting that he was so interested in this position that he and Mrs. Beard were in the audience.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Beard, and he thanked him for being in attendance at the meeting.

President Meredith stated the next item was Board Appointment Nominations.

President Meredith stated that Councilmember Kling had nominated Janice Johnson for appointment to the Health Care Authority of the City of Huntsville, Place 1, to fill a vacancy due to the resignation of Bhavani Kakani, for the remainder of a vacant 6-year term to expire April 15, 2023.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Akridge.

Councilmember Akridge stated that she would like to be added as a co-sponsor of Ms. Janice Johnson to the Health Care Authority, when they voted on this at the next Regular Council Meeting.

President Meredith asked if there were any board nominations from the floor.

There was no response.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Legal Department Items/Transactions.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced an ordinance authorizing the vacation of Utility and Drainage Easements, Lot 1, Novare Madison Mixed-Use Project, Lime Quarry Road (Madison Apartment Residences, LLC), as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 22-244)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith and was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced an ordinance authorizing the vacation of a 10-foot Water Line Easement, Lot 1, Novare Madison Mixed-Use Project, Lime Quarry Road (Madison Apartment Residences, LLC), as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 22-245)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith and was unanimously

adopted.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Unfinished Business Items for Action.

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of Ordinance No. 22-221, amending Article IV, Division 2, Procurement, of Chapter 2, Administration, of Ordinance No. 96-864, to increase the financial interest and small purchase thresholds from \$1,000 to \$5,000, which ordinance was introduced at the March 24, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 22-221)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling.

President Meredith recognized Ms. Penny Smith, Director of Finance.

Ms. Smith stated that what was before the Council was just a simple resolution, noting that in review of some of the procurement policies, they were looking at the thresholds for small purchases, and that definition was at \$1,000, and they felt that needed to be raised to \$5,000, given the environment they were in and the increases in prices. She stated they did not want to put an undue burden on the departments in procuring their three quotes, and things such as that, that were surrounding these small purchases.

Ms. Smith stated they felt this was an internal control administrative burden that they could kind of waive. She continued that this would raise that threshold from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

President Meredith asked if there was any discussion.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Akridge.

Councilmember Akridge asked if this meant staff could make purchases, under the structure Ms. Smith already had, without having to come to City Council for permission to proceed.

Ms. Smith stated that these purchases had never come to City Council for that reason, unless they were associated with a specific contract. She stated these purchases were already made by the departments, that they just had to acquire three quotes, and things like that. She continued that instead of them acquiring those for items from \$1,000 up to a biddable item, it would be moved to \$5,000 to the bid limit. She continued that from \$1,000 to \$15,000 was where they had had to obtain this, and with this it would move from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

(Councilmember Keith is no longer present in the Council Chambers.)

President Meredith asked if there was any further discussion.

President Meredith stated that Councilmember Keith had stepped out of the Chambers momentarily.

President Meredith called for the vote on Ordinance No. 22-221, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Akridge, Robinson, Kling, Meredith

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Keith

President Meredith stated that the motion had carried.

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of Ordinance No. 22-222, amending the prices for lots in Cummings Research Park, which ordinance was introduced at the March 24, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 22-222)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Shane Davis, Director of Urban and Economic Development.

Mr. Davis stated that this ordinance would adjust the prices for which the City sold lots in Research Park by 10 percent. He stated this had been through the

Research Park Board and had their approval and recommendation to move forward on this with the Huntsville City Council.

President Meredith asked if there was any discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Ordinance No. 22-222, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Akridge, Robinson, Kling, Meredith

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Keith

President Meredith stated that the motion had carried.

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of Ordinance No. 22-223, declaring certain equipment surplus and to be sold at public auction, which ordinance was introduced at the March 24, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 22-223)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Hamilton stated that this was standard, that generally about quarterly they would bring before the Council obsolete equipment that was ready to be cycled out of the system. He stated that at this time, it was eight vehicles and four pieces of equipment that they needed to take to auction.

President Meredith asked if there was any discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Ordinance No. 22-223, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Akridge, Robinson, Kling, Meredith

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Keith

President Meredith stated that the motion had carried.

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of Ordinance 22-224, declaring property as surplus and no longer needed for a municipal purpose and authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City and Broadway Westside Square, LLC, for the purchase of same, which ordinance was introduced at the March 24, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 22-224)

Said motion was duly seconded by President Meredith.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis stated this was a 1500-square-foot piece of property, .03 acre of land, that was appraised. He stated it was on Fountain Circle, just outside of City Hall. He stated that behind the historic bank building, there was a parking lot, and the driveway needed to be modified to accommodate its continued use, along with a new City Hall. He continued that they were declaring this property surplus, and the landowner of the bank was purchasing it, at the appraised value of \$56,000.

President Meredith asked if there was any discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Ordinance No. 22-224, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Akridge, Robinson, Kling, Meredith

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Keith

President Meredith stated that the motion had carried.

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of Ordinance No. 22-225, declaring property as surplus and no longer needed for a municipal purpose and authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City and Glenn Cope Homes, Inc., for the purchase of same, which ordinance was introduced at the March 24, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 22-225)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis stated that this was a piece of property located on the west side of the new Church Street alignment project that had been completed a few years prior, on the north side of Pratt Avenue. He stated that the piece Councilmember Kling had spoken about was the last phase on the south side, which came into downtown. He stated that the Church Street alignment between Pratt and Oakwood had occurred several years prior. He continued that this was a small remnant piece of property, that it was less than three-tenths of an acre. He stated it was a remnant tract left over from the right-of-way acquisition to build that project. He stated the adjoining landowner had requested to purchase this sliver of property so that development could occur. He stated this was currently vacant land. He stated they would be selling it at the appraised value, and the appraised value was \$39,300.

President Meredith asked if there was any discussion.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Robinson.

Councilmember Robinson stated that in real estate it was all about location, and what was interesting to her with this was this was 0.3 acre for \$39,000. She asked Mr. Davis if that was correct.

Mr. Davis stated there were two tracts, two remnant tracts, and one was one-tenth of an acre and the other one was one-eighth of an acre. He continued that if they were combined, it was just under three-tenths of an acre. He stated that with the shape and location of them, that even with combining the two, they did not create a developable lot, per the zoning, so they were true remnant tracts of undevelopable property, without the acquisition of some more property, which would mean the City would need to acquire the adjacent landowner's property, and they had no desire to



do that.

Councilmember Robinson stated that would explain why this 0.3 acre was going for \$39,000, and they had 1500 square feet going for \$56,000, that it was just the nature of it.

Mr. Davis stated that was correct, that it was the type of zoning, the location. He stated this was the appraised value.

(Councilmember Keith is present in the Council Chambers.)

President Meredith asked if there was any further discussion.

President Meredith that Councilmember Keith was now present.

President Meredith called for the vote on Ordinance No. 22-225, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Consideration or Action.

President Meredith asked if there were any items any of the Council Members wished to hold from the consolidation.

After discussion, President Meredith stated that items 20.e, 20.g, 20.i, 20.j, 20.n, 20.r, 20.s, 20.v, 20.w, and 20.x would be held from the consolidation.

Councilmember Robinson moved for consolidation and adoption of the following items, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling and was unanimously approved:

Resolution authorizing travel expenses, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-246)

Resolution authorizing the acceptance of donations, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-247)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreements with the low bidders meeting specifications as outlined in the attached Summary of Bids for

Acceptance, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-248)

Ordinance amending Budget Ordinance No. 21-867 by changing appropriated funding for various departments and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 22-249)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Highland Wake Construction, LLC, to provide construction services for the Von Braun Center, Propst Arena Exterior Ceiling Improvements, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-251)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Utility Agreement for a Federal Aid Project between the City of Huntsville and the State of Alabama, for Winchester Road, Project No. 65-09-RD03 and ALDOT Project No. STPHV-8556(601), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-253)

Resolution authorizing the City Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Progress Bank Letter of Credit No. 9001384600 for Olde Cobblestone Phase 8 Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-256)

Resolution authorizing the City Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Progress Bank Letter of Credit No. 9001384200 for Olde Cobblestone Phase 8 Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-257)

Resolution authorizing the City Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Bank Independent Letter of Credit No. 30016388 for the Retreat at Abbingdon Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-258)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the

City of Huntsville and Nelson Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc., for Development and Implementation of Update to Transit Improvement Plan, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-260)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Facility Use Agreement between the City of Huntsville and the Huntsville Sports Commission, Inc., for the John Hunt Park Sand Volleyball Complex, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-261)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute Modification No. 1 to the agreement between the City of Huntsville, Alabama and Community Action Partnership of Huntsville/Madison and Limestone Counties, Inc., as adopted and approved by Resolution No. 21-257, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-262)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Special Employee Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Kelly Jo Gunn, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-265)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Special Employee Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Charles Hawk, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-266)

President Meredith stated the Council would now consider the items held from the consolidation.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Investment Advisory Agreement between the City of Huntsville and PFM Asset Management, LLC, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-250)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling.

Councilmember Robinson stated she had asked for this to be held so they could look through the compensation. She stated it was based on assets under management, and she asked what were the "assets under management," and what was that going to be.

President Meredith recognized Ms. Smith.

Ms. Smith stated that this agreement was not with PFM, their financial advisors, that it was with PFM Asset Management, which was PFM's investment advisory group.

Ms. Smith stated this was for the debt borrow they had done for City Hall. She stated they had borrowed \$90 million, and some of that had already been spent, to pay the vendors. She stated that the remainder amount would be invested, according to a schedule. She stated that on page 2 of the agreement was the compensation, on the initial \$25 million and the next \$25 million. She stated that as the money was spent down on the project itself, the compensation would change, because they would not be managing as many asserts, that this was an agreement that, basically, they worked their way out of, so as the City spent this down for the new City Hall, they would have less and less assets to manage in the investment.

President Meredith asked if there was any discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-250, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Barge Design Solutions, Inc., for Engineering Design Services for Mill Creek Action Activity, Project No. 71-22-SP27, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-252)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution,

which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis stated that this was a streetscape design project for Governors Drive, between just east of Seminole Drive and west to the Clinton Avenue intersection. He stated that the grass median through that corridor had some trees, although most of them had been cut down due to disease. He stated this was part of the Mill Creek Neighborhood Action Plan that Scott Erwin and his team and the Huntsville Housing Authority had gone through. He stated there was actually another item on the agenda for that project, to get more granular into the final planning design, as to what the future would be for that project.

Mr. Davis stated that one of the things HUD liked to see as they got into an implementation grant was, as a portion of the planning funds, what could they identify to kickstart that interest. He stated that one of the things that had been identified by the neighborhood, through the public meetings and Community Development and the planning group, was to rehabilitate that portion of Governors Drive.

Mr. Davis stated this was the design for that, that there would be new street trees, landscaping, sidewalks, decorative street lamps, a banner program, essentially from almost Memorial Parkway to Clinton Avenue. He stated it would start at the first bridge west of the Parkway, which was just east of the Seminole Drive intersection, and it would go west to Clinton Avenue. He stated that it was pretty much the entire stretch of that grass median along Governors Drive.

President Meredith asked if there was any discussion.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Kling.

Councilmember Kling inquired as to the timetable for this project.

Mr. Davis stated some preliminary sketches had been done for the planning

process, that they were going through that, and they had gotten approval from HUD to use the funds, that Mr. Erwin had received that letter. He stated that the fall or spring would be when they would need to plant the trees, so there would be a better opportunity for them to live. He stated it was on a fast track, that the funding was in place, the match funds were in place, that they just needed to get a design and get the project bid, with the Council's approval.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Akridge.

Councilmember Akridge stated she was on the committee that had looked at the corridor, and they had envisioned new zoning, so that the buildings would be closer to the sidewalk, that there would be more activity of people and then parking along it. She asked if this included the new parking on the perimeter.

Mr. Davis replied in the negative. He stated that Governors Drive was a State right-of-way, so all they would be doing would be upgrading behind the curb, with new sidewalks, and new lighting, and then the raised median in the middle of the right-of-way with new plantings, new street trees, new shrubbery, and landscaping.

Mr. Davis stated that what Councilmember Akridge was speaking of was the actual redevelopment that was in the Mill Creek plan. He stated that would occur as they moved forward, that there was actually a contractor, with UDA, in attendance at this meeting, to take what was originally completed and give something to the public, something very rough, that was just conceptual, to take from what they had heard from the public and what they wanted to move forward and get that much more granular, for setting rights-of-way, streetscapes, parking areas, any structured parking, and having the street cross sections that were designed for that construction.

Councilmember Akridge stated that it would be cross sections, as far as a plan.

Mr. Davis stated it would be internal to the property, on-street parking, whether it would be parallel, angle, the actual locations and square footage.

Mr. Davis stated that would have a public process going forward. He stated that the first phase would start this, and it would get public as they moved forward, with public meetings and public input.

Councilmember Akridge stated that at this time, it was really dangerous to try to cross. She asked if they would be looking at pedestrian crossways at that location.

Mr. Davis replied in the affirmative. He stated they were working with ALDOT. He stated they had just resurfaced there, and they had done some ADA improvements at the intersections. He stated that this project would build new sidewalks, with ADA ramps, and ALDOT would help them with the crosswalks.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Keith.

Councilmember Keith stated he always got Governors confused, and he asked for some clarification. He asked if the State was Governors.

Mr. Davis replied in the affirmative.

Councilmember Keith stated he recalled that at one time there was a conversation concerning signage. He asked if there was nothing at Seminole, literally at Seminole, if all they were doing at this time was the median.

Mr. Davis stated it was in the State right-of-way along Governors Drive. He stated the UDA plan would start going up and down Seminole and what he would call "side streets."

Councilmember Keith stated he was confused on what he considered Governors, the median, and what he considered, like, the actual street. He asked if they came up with a design layout, Mr. Davis could bring it before the Council.

Mr. Davis stated the entire process was scheduled to be completed the end of August, so in a couple of weeks they would have some schematics, and he would bring that before the Council.

President Meredith asked if there was any further discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-252, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Kling read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Miller & Miller, Inc., for construction services for John Hunt Park Kids Space Phase II Renovation, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-254)

Councilmember Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Robinson.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Hamilton stated that what was before the Council was the construction contract that resulted from a competitive bid for the rebuild of Kids Space and the additional improvements for that entire section of John Hunt Park. He stated that the contract was for the rebuild of Kids Space and the expansion and rebuild of the supporting parking lot, as well as the restroom facilities that would support all the venues that would be in that area. He continued that it was all the site work, the site lighting, and area fencing.

Mr. Hamilton stated this was the same area that would have the skate park, and he wanted to be real clear that this contract did not include the actual skate park. He stated that the skate park was being done 100 percent through private donations. He stated that certainly coordination had to occur between the private project of building the skate park and this, for the surrounding area, so one of this contractor's requirements was to coordinate with the contractor that did the skate park. He stated that would be happening simultaneously. He reiterated that he wanted to make it clear that the skate park was being done by private donations, and he stated they would certainly encourage people to engage with the Community Foundation if they



wanted to participate in that project. He stated that what was before the Council at this time was the rebuild of Kids Space, that entire area and not just the playground.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Robinson.

Councilmember Robinson stated she was super excited they were rebuilding Kids Space. She stated it had been there for decades, and it certainly needed to be done, that it was a much-loved feature of John Hunt Park. She asked if it would be in the same location.

Mr. Hamilton replied in the affirmative, stating that it was in the same location, but it would actually be a little bit bigger, so the footprint would be extended a little bit, and there would be all new fencing and lighting, and things around it, as well.

Councilmember Robinson asked if this was a \$6.7 million project.

Mr. Hamilton stated that was the total contract.

Councilmember Robinson stated that was a lot for a playground, but it was going to be a really nice playground, a big playground, and there was also the lighting and the parking and the fencing and the bathrooms, and everything else.

Mr. Hamilton stated that one point that was important to emphasize was that while Kids Space was a great community project several decades prior, and a lot of private money had been donated to participate with the City in it, and there was a lot of volunteer labor for construction, that, unfortunately, it was mostly made out of wood, which had a lot of maintenance issues and things with it. He stated that also because of the nature of that construction and the time when it was constructed, they had not known as much as they knew at this time about accessibility challenges that children might have in playgrounds. He stated they had made a lot of progress as a nation in providing those kinds of opportunities. He stated that Kids Space at this time was not ADA compliant, that it did not meet the needs of children with mobility

challenges or with intellectual disabilities.

Mr. Hamilton stated what they had designed was a very substantial playground. He stated that it actually was a nod toward some of the history of Huntsville, as well as a look to the future, and it brought in elements that were a nod toward a lot of the geographical features and things. He stated it was an interesting design, and they had been very purposeful in making sure it had all the features needed for it to be fully accessible to any children, regardless of what their challenges might be.

Councilmember Robinson asked if it was correct that this was a 430-day contract.

Mr. Hamilton stated that was correct.

Councilmember Robinson stated that was a long time for Kids Space to be shut down, so people needed to be aware of that and be patient with it.

Mr. Hamilton stated that was correct, but that once they got the contractor mobilized, they could work through detailed timelines. He stated that a lot of times, in these kinds of projects, there were portions that could be opened and made accessible before the full project would be complete. He stated they would be able to have those kinds of conversations with the contractor to see what they could do in this regard, and they would get more details out once the mobilization occurred.

Councilmember Robinson stated this was one of the agenda items that actually had the cover sheet filled out, with the amount and details on it. She thanked whoever had done that, noting that there were a number of cover sheets that did not have that, and that information was very valuable.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Akridge.

Councilmember Akridge asked Mr. Hamilton who had participated in this design.

Mr. Hamilton stated that the landscape architect was the official designer and the architect of the entire project, and the Parks & Rec staff had also participated in this, along with consultants from the playground manufacturer, who could actually give them what the options were.

Councilmember Akridge questioned if they should have included some parents of children with disabilities, whether that would be visual or otherwise.

Mr. Hamilton stated that the Parks & Rec staff had engaged with the users of that playground, as well as the others, quite a bit. He stated that, also, they had spent hundreds of hours with the parents who had helped design the playground in the Hampton Cove area, and all of that information was the same as would apply for this park.

Mr. Hamilton stated that what they found with the playgrounds was that there was a specific menu of choices, that they had actually already done all of those studies, so they had consultants that could actually make sure they were putting together the right things. He stated that the Parks & Rec staff were not doing this in isolation, that there were a lot of conversations with user groups when they did any of these sorts of things, that this was just one example of many.

President Meredith thanked Mr. Hamilton for mentioning the ADA compliance. He stated he was aware that Parks & Recreation went out of its way to make sure children who had disabilities could utilize the facilities in the parks, and it was greatly appreciated.

Mr. Hamilton stated that applied to everything they did, that, obviously, as they were dealing with the growth of the community, and as they looked at the Capital Plan, that over the last few years and years into the future, they were committing a good bit of capital into improvement and expansion of recreational facilities. He stated that some of this was building all new things, but it also included a lot of

projects, over the next few years, that were renovating and modernizing existing facilities. He stated that facilities that were 10 or 20 years old were built under a different set of standards, when they had not known as much as they knew at this time, and that was a big part of the redo of these facilities, to bring them up to modern standards.

President Meredith asked if there was any further discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-254, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement for Public Right-of-Way among the City of Huntsville, IMI Huntsville, LLC, and ProCOG, LLC, and acceptance of a Statutory Warranty Deed pertaining to the same, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-255)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis stated this was an item that was brought up in the Cummings Research Park Master Plan Update, that they had heard from employees of the Park, wanting better access, or quicker access, from the north end of Bridge Street, for lunch, and just different things, without having to go all the way out to Old Madison Pike or Eagle Drive.

Mr. Davis stated they had been working with the owners of Bridge Street, IMI Huntsville, and IMI had agreed to purchase the right-of-way. He stated this was about a 200-foot extension, which was all that was needed from Odyssey Drive into what was Governors West. He stated that Governors West crossed Old Madison Pike and actually went up the west side of Bridge Street, along Belk, and terminated and

became a private street over to the west. He stated that if they thought of the north/south, between the new multi-family and the new hotel and Bridge Street proper, where the road made a 90-degree turn and turned private, it would continue north to Odyssey Drive, about 200 feet, and this would give a northern entrance into Bridge Street for park users.

Mr. Davis stated that IMI had agreed to purchase, and the landowner to the north had agreed to sell, so this was a tri-party contract, where the landowner would sell the right-of-way to Bridge Street, and Bridge Street would donate it to the City, and the City would construct, out of Research Park funds, the small, 200-foot extension to provide this new connectivity to Bridge Street.

President Meredith asked if there was any discussion.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Akridge.

Councilmember Akridge stated that two weeks prior, they had approved a contract to build it, she thought. She asked if that was a different right-of-way they had done from the board.

Mr. Davis stated they had approved a contract to start the design for that small 200 feet. He stated they would still have to bid the project and bring before the Council the construction contract at some point. He stated this was essentially accepting the donation of right-of-way.

Councilmember Akridge asked if this was the real estate part of what they had under design already, and they would eventually see a contract for building it.

Mr. Davis replied in the affirmative. He stated that the resolution before the Council at this time was really just their accepting the right-of-way. He stated there was no cost to the City in approving this resolution.

President Meredith asked if there was any further discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-255, and it was

unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Randy Means & Associates, Inc., as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-259)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Hamilton stated that what was before the Council was an agreement for the City to engage Randy Means & Associates for some training for the Police Department, as a component of their in-service training for the current year. He stated this was a little bit of a unique arrangement. He stated he would first say they had used Randy Means previously, that he was well known by law enforcement communities throughout the country, that he did a lot of training.

Mr. Hamilton stated that in this particular case, the Madison City Chief, who had also previously used Mr. Means for training at his prior assignment in Virginia Beach, had already engaged him and scheduled him to come to do training for Madison City, and he had then offered to share the cost, to go into a bigger venue and include HPD officers in the training as well.

Mr. Hamilton stated that some of this training was focused on supervisors, lieutenants and above, mainly focused on disciplinary systems and the culture of organizations, and another component was constitutional rights and constitutional law enforcement, which would be open to all of the officers. He stated this would become a part of their in-service training program for the current year, in partnership with Madison City.

Mr. Hamilton stated that what was before the Council was 50 percent of the

cost, and Madison City would be covering the other 50 percent.

President Meredith asked if there was any further discussion.

Councilmember Akridge asked if this was part of a planned-out series of training. She stated she had concerns about a previous training because it was just one day. She asked if this would be part of other related topics.

Mr. Hamilton stated that, obviously, disciplinary systems and constitutional law enforcement were really important topics, and there were components of that that were routinely taught. He stated that if they looked at the training plans for in-service training, it was not duplicated every single year, but bringing these kinds of experts and this type of training into the department year over year over year was absolutely part of the plan.

President Meredith asked if there was any further discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-259, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Keith read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Urban Design Associates, Ltd., for additional services related to the Mill Creek District Master Plan Update, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-263)

Councilmember Keith moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Robinson.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis stated that, as he had briefly commented on a previous item, this was a planning contract with UDA. He stated that this company had done a lot of master planning for them, with MidCity being one, and the Downtown Master Plan, and some other private-type master plans throughout the city.

Mr. Davis stated this was for the Mill Creek Redevelopment Plan. He stated they had gone through almost a year-long process with HUD and the Housing Authority, and they had done a really good job of finalizing a report that followed HUD guidelines. He stated they had not put out a lot of visuals, as to what things would really look like, that it just kind of had the mix of uses, what he would call the math behind the plan, the number of units, the square footage of retail, and putting it all in the proper places. He stated that what this would do would be to bring that more granular, that it would identify park space and provide a schematic scale, or design, of what that park space should have in it, as far as uses and programming abilities, and it would also provide the scale of buildings, with architectural standards they would like to see as they started bringing in private business partners to implement the plan. He continued that there would be the street network and the streetscape, a cross section of what those streets would look like, providing renderings.

Mr. Davis stated this was what the public had been asking for. He stated that they were, like, "We are behind this, but what will it look like?" He stated they would take a 2-D drawing and turn it into a 3-D drawing to show what it would look like. He stated there was excitement for the redevelopment, but there was also some nervousness, as to what it would be, if it was too much, if it was too big. He stated this would help answer those questions, and they would be able to provide that publicly, that there would be public meetings that would go through this process.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Kling.

Councilmember Kling asked if there was a way that whatever design they came up with could be posted on the internet. He stated that, of course, there would be citizens coming to public meetings, but if it was posted on the internet, it would be accessible, where people who might not be able to get to the meetings could see it.



Mr. Davis stated that the final product would actually be what they would put in RFPs to solicit private development to meet a standard for the redevelopment of this property. He stated it would be a living document on their website, and it would be a tool they would use to ensure that level of quality as redevelopment occurred.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Keith.

Councilmember Keith stated that Mr. Davis and his team had done a great job on this, and the decision they had made to transition to this company was absolutely needed. He stated there was confusion, including with him, as to what was considered the State line, what was considered inside the redevelopment, and what was the actual potential of the redevelopment levels, and those were answers they could not get previously. He stated he was saying this with respect. He stated that they absolutely needed to give something tangible to the public because everybody kept saying to him that they were talking about Mill Creek and they wanted to know what it was, what it looked like, and who it affected. He stated that visuals told a much better story than a bunch of words.

Councilmember Keith stated this was twofold. He stated what he was about to say he was saying for himself, that he did not want to speak for the other Council members. He stated that they absolutely needed to identify a development that was comparable, in a city like Huntsville, that they could visit and get a tangible view for themselves. He stated they had talked about that, and they had to identify it.

Councilmember Keith stated he believed UDA needed to sit down to get the perspective beforehand, and then the Council members could speak on behalf of this, at town halls, et cetera. He stated this was a big deal, and he was not going to say they needed to know how to handle it perfectly, but he thought now that the City had taken the lead in a lot of ways, they had a better sense of telling the story.

Mr. Davis stated that one of the reasons they had chosen UDA was that when

he had sat down with Mr. Erwin and Mr. Madsen, he had challenged them internally, saying they had to go further than they had gone, that they had a plan, but it was not understandable. He continued that they understood it from a technical standpoint, but for the general public, they had to do more, and that was what they were doing at this time.

Mr. Davis stated they had looked at different planning firms, that they had not just picked up the phone and called UDA. He stated UDA had done dozens of these throughout the United States. He continued that part of this process would be bringing in the public. He stated that UDA understood the rules, and they understood this community very well, due to the amount of work they had done for them. He stated that it came to this natural fit of someone who could show past experiences in cities the size of Huntsville, and some even larger, and they knew the HUD rules, and they knew what HUD would need going forward, and they also understood how to get the private investment started because they had partnered with cities all the way through that process, and they would be displaying that and explaining that throughout this process.

Councilmember Keith stated this was a major call, and that for them to have made that decision was a perfect call.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Akridge.

Councilmember Akridge asked Mr. Davis to clarify this. She stated when they did a master plan, there were already existing zones set up, and UDA could not change the zones. She asked if they did not already have a plan, by the fact that there were certain zones in the whole area. She asked if they were specifically asking UDA to only look at the old Butler Terrace site, the Johnson Tower site.

Mr. Davis stated they were taking the Mill Creek Plan they had spent almost a year on with the public, between Clinton, Governors, the creek, and almost coming

back into Governors, that triangular piece that HUD had approved, to move forward with redevelopment, and the Housing Authority had agreed to do that, and the neighborhood in that community had agreed to be part of that, and that was very public. He stated that what they had gotten out of that was pretty much unit counts and where they could be, not to scale but just colored zones that they might be referring to. He continued that the red zone was market rate, and the yellow area was a mixed-income rate, and they thought they could put 1500 units, or 200 units, in those, noting that he was making up the numbers. He stated that was as far as that plan went.

Mr. Davis stated that what they wanted to do at this time was to take that acreage, in that view, and really start getting it granular, to say they would lay out the street network that worked, and they would lay out the public open space, the park portion, that worked, and how that tied into their greenway system, and once they got the public amenities out of the way that everyone would benefit from and the street network, to start, really to scale, putting in the streetscape design, whether that would be bike lanes, greenways, decorative streets, and then do massing plans, whether it would be a two-story building or a five-story building, and what that building must look like. He stated it would be starting to create some standards because the next phase would be the implementation plan, meaning they were going to tear something down and build something back. He stated they should be front and center, as Councilmember Keith had said, in the discussion of what that would look like.

Mr. Davis stated that the plan they had done to fit HUD, of a one-to-one replacement, having mixed income, they had checked those boxes. He stated it had nothing to do with the style and the character and the density that would be there, that that was what they were doing in this phase.

Councilmember Akridge asked if she owned a building in that vicinity if that

plan was going to tell her she had to do something different to her building.

Mr. Davis replied in the negative, stating that this was only on the Housing Authority property in that Mill Creek Plan.

Councilmember Akridge stated that was what she thought, that she just wanted to hear it, for the public.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Keith.

Councilmember Keith stated, concerning the conversation that was happening outside, that there was the perception they were gentrifying the majority of this area. He stated he was going to be very open about this, in consideration of the people he had grown up around and family members who lived in Butler Terrace. He stated they were tearing down public housing, that African Americans were being pushed out, and what was going to move in were individuals who were in the middle class and who did not mirror what was originally there.

Councilmember Keith stated that understanding had tangible fear, that it had a tangible perspective, and it had gravity. He stated that the only way they had a chance to make an impact, to increase the diversity of the area, and to keep the culture of the neighborhood and have value to all Huntsville citizens would be to be at the front and to have conversations with the original development, which was about to happen. He stated he did not want anyone to forget that what they decided to do would have generational impact.

Councilmember Keith stated that when he was a kid, he would come down for Big Spring Jam and be at his uncle's house, who lived right there in Council Court. He stated that at this time, where his uncle had lived was a Publix. He stated that the perspective that the landscape of a place could change in the matter of a decision was happening at this time. He stated he wanted to make sure his fellow Council members knew that the value of this decision was that they got a chance to contour

the neighborhood to consider culture and community in ways it had not been and to make sure they stayed with the perspective that was happening in the metro areas, especially in the African American disenfranchised community, on gentrification.

Councilmember Akridge asked what she had said that made Councilmember Keith think she was not in favor of diversity. She stated there were private property owners out there who had interest in changing their use, and she wanted to make sure that people who already owned property knew they were not impeding them by doing something with UDA.

President Meredith stated he not believe that was the case with Councilmember Keith.

Councilmember Akridge stated that it seemed to be a vehement reaction to her questions about private ownership, and she wanted private owners out there, whom she happened to know, to understand that this was not going to impede them, that it was not going to change the zoning the City put on them. She stated that, quite frankly, she thought they were behind the curve, that people were buying property and changing things at this time.

President Meredith stated that was understood, and he stated that what had been said did not have anything to do with Councilmember Akridge's previous comments.

President Meredith stated he would like to emphasize that there should be no applauding during the meeting.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis stated that the sole purpose of this contract was to prevent what was some speculation in the community. He stated they did not want that to happen, that they wanted people to know there was going to be redevelopment of this site, but it was not displacing anyone, that it was going to give better living conditions, better

opportunities. He stated that with the HUD plan, it was hard to visualize that, and they were taking that plan and putting it more granular, so that people could believe and trust, by saying, "This is what will be built." He stated that everybody was represented.

Mr. Davis stated they did not want any more confusion on this, noting that there had already been confusion, and they were trying to clarify that confusion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-263, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution in support of the Tennessee RiverTowns program and becoming part of the Tennessee RiverLine, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-264)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Robinson.

Councilmember Robinson stated they loved to do partnerships in Huntsville, and this was an opportunity to support another really tremendous public-private partnership. She stated that Ditto Landing had been invited to become part of the Tennessee RiverTowns program, and then to become part of the Tennessee RiverLine. She stated that the Executive Director of Ditto Landing, Brandi Quick, was in attendance at this meeting. She stated this was an application to become part of the RiverLine trail system.

Councilmember Robinson stated she just wanted to call this to everyone's attention. She stated that the RiverLine was a water trail system that she thought might be analogous to the Singing River Trail's ground trail system, only this water trail system was 625 miles long.

Councilmember Robinson stated that Ditto Landing would become one of the river towns associated with that RiverLine. She stated they were one of the first communities invited to participate. She stated there was no obligation from this on the part of the City, but the City would be able to support the effort, as they already were with the master planning process.

Councilmember Robinson stated that one really interesting piece of this was that this was actually part of the graduate program, planning program, of the University of Tennessee, and it would be providing support for specific pieces of the Master Plan, in particular some of the landscape architecture that was involved, and also encouraging interaction of the community with the river, and then providing opportunities for other RiverTown communities to collaborate to talk about recreational possibilities.

Councilmember Robinson stated she thought it was worth recognizing what they were doing with this resolution, to support a really intriguing project that would potentially impact the entire region.

President Meredith asked if there was any further discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-264, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Special Employee Agreement between the City of Huntsville and James McFarlen, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-267)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith.

President Meredith recognized Councilmember Akridge.

Councilmember Akridge asked what Mr. McFarlen would be doing, and she

stated she would like the same information for the next two items on the agenda.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Hamilton stated that for items 20.v and 20.w, the answer would be the same, that both of these gentlemen had served as dispatchers in the Police Department previously, and they had both left in good standing in the recent past, and they had both agreed to come back on a part-time basis, to assist with some manpower shortfalls they had specifically within the dispatch section, until they would be able to fill those vacancies.

Councilmember Akridge stated she was grateful to Mr. McFarlen and to Mr. Gandy for being willing to do that.

President Meredith asked if there was any further discussion.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-267, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Special Employee Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Jason Gandy, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-268)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kling.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-268, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilmember Robinson read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Special Employee Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Kitty Whitworth, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 22-269)

Councilmember Robinson moved for approval of the foregoing resolution,



which motion was duly seconded by President Meredith.

President Meredith recognized Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Hamilton stated that Ms. Whitworth had served for quite a few years in the Police Department, and she had retired a couple of years ago and had since been back on a part-time basis, to assist with administrative support within the SOD, Special Operations Division, and most specifically assisting with processing and special event permitting.

President Meredith asked if there was any discussion.

Councilmember Akridge stated she was grateful to Ms. Whitworth.

President Meredith called for the vote on Resolution No. 22-269, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Introduction.

President Meredith read and introduced Ordinance No. 22-270, amending Chapter 3, Article II, Subsection (c) (1) of Section 3-30 (MidCity Arts and Entertainment District Ordinance) of the City's Code of Ordinances, to modify the MidCity Arts and Entertainment District.

President Meredith read and introduced Ordinance No. 22-271, declaring certain equipment surplus and to be donated to Huntsville Crime Stoppers.

President Meredith stated the next item on the agenda was Second Roster Public Comments.

President Meredith stated that this portion of the meeting was reserved for persons wishing to address the Council on matters relating to City business, whether or not such items were on the meeting agenda. He stated that persons could sign up to speak on the Second Public Comments Roster prior to or during the meeting. He asked that when called, speakers approach the microphone and state their name,

home address, and city of residence. He stated that each speaker could address the Council for three minutes and that speakers shall refrain from entering into dialogue with Council members or City staff and from making comments regarding the good name and character of any individual.

President Meredith stated that City business did not include campaigning and speakers should refrain from making any political references.

Ms. Jackie Reed, Jack Coleman Drive, addressed the Council, having signed up to speak concerning "Gov't Issues."

Mr. Michael Jennings, 3815 Millbrae Drive, addressed the Council, having signed up to speak concerning "Showers Center."

Ms. Felicia Dangerfield, 1021 Parklane Street, addressed the Council, having signed up to speak concerning "Police."

Mr. Kwesi Curry, 104 Spinnaker Ridge Drive, addressed the Council, having signed up to speak concerning "Dress Codes."

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned.

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PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK-TREASURER

**(Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. on April 14, 2022.)**