CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA OFFICIAL MINUTES: SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JAN. 26, 2021



The City Council of the City of Tuskegee met in Special Session on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 5:39 PM in the LM Gregg Auditorium at the Municipal Complex located at 101 Fonville Street, Tuskegee, Alabama.

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER**. Mayor Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr.
- 2. **INVOCATION.** Recited the Lord's Prayer in Unison.
- 3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Repeated in Unison.
- 4. **ROLL CALL.** Fartima B. Clark, City Clerk.

PRESENT

Mayor Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr.
Council Member-at-Large Frank Christopher Lee, II
Council Member Norma McGowan Jackson
Council Member Johnny Ford
Council Member Orlando R. Whitehead

All Council Members were present.

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA.**

Motion was made by Council Member Whitehead to accept the agenda as circulated with the following additions: add item G) Annexations (Lilly Lane, Mindingall Road, County Road 67 & from Ellison Avenue to Washington Avenue); item H) Virtual Council Meetings (via Zoom); add Resolutions for Meloneze Robinson, William Goode, Len Patton, and Charlie Johnson (Mayor Pro-Tempore, Luverne, AL cousin of Johnny Ford) and commendations for General Russell Davis and Terrence Adams. Council Member-at-Large Lee seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

- 6. **DISCUSSIONS:** Derrick E. Swanson, Temporary Acting City Manager / Tony Haygood, Mayor.
 - A. Moton Field Municipal Airport.

Motion was made by Council Member Ford for council to authorize the City Attorney to develop a 2-year hangar lease agreement with a reasonable amount regarding the Red Tails Scholarship Foundation. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

B. Determination of Meeting Dates/Times.

Motion was made by Council Member Whitehead for council to have its regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month with the work session beginning at 5:00 PM and the Council Meeting beginning at 5:30 monthly. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried. (an ordinance will be prepared to ratify the action taken during this meeting at the February 9, 2021 meeting)

C. Airport Manager (Nikki Jordan): Set Day/Time for Review.

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to set a Special Work Session on February 9, 2021 at 4:00 PM to perform the review on Airport Manager, Natalkka "Nikki" Jordan. Council Member Whitehead seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

- D. SEASHA, Inc.: zoning property regarding gas station at/near that area. (zoned as Agriculture Open) Motion was made by Council Member Whitehead to move forward with the recommendation from the Planning Commission and to later move forward with zoning the property at/near SEASHA, Inc. as commercial. Council Member Ford seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried. (discuss again at the 02/09/2021 council meeting)
 - E. Approval of the U.S. Armory Reserve Building lease to UBT. (*tabled until February 9, 2021*)
 - F. Salem Nursing Home Building.
 - G. Annexations. (Lilly Lane, Mindingall Road, County Road 67 & from Ellison Ave. to Washington Ave.)
 - H. Virtual Council Meetings. (via Zoom)

Motion was made by Council Member Ford for the City of Tuskegee to partner with the non-profit organization to and to move forward with the grant application for the purposes of redoing the building at Henderson Park. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted age. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

I. Announcements.

7. **RESOLUTIONS:**

A. Resolution No. 2021-36. Approving Vehicle Stipend for Temp Acting City Manager, Derrick Swanson. Motion was made by Council Member Ford to approve and accept resolution number 2021-36 as stated approving a vehicle stipend for Temp. Acting City Manager, Derrick Swanson. Council Member-at-Large Lee seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 36

Resolution Approving a Monthly Vehicle Stipend for the Temporary Acting City Manager

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Tuskegee, Alabama that a monthly vehicle stipend has been allocated and approved for the Temporary Acting City Manager in the amount of Four Hundred & 00/100 dollars (\$400.00) per month.

DIVISION 1.NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Tuskegee, Alabama as follows:

- 1. That the Temporary Acting City Manager, Derrick E. Swanson shall receive in addition to other allowances and compensation, the sum of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400) monthly to be used as a travel allowance as previously approved and adopted by the Council; and
- 2. That the Temporary Acting City Manager and City shall comply with all laws, regulations, rules, and provisions related to travel allowances for governmental officials in the State of Alabama.

ADOPTED and APPROVED this the 26th day of January, 2021.

CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA
/s/ Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr.
Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:	
s/ Fartima B. Clark	
Fartima B. Clark, City Clerk	

B. Resolution No. 2021-37. Celebrating and Remembering the Life of Meloneze Robinson, deceased. Motion was made by Council Member Jackson to approve and accept resolution number 2021-37 as stated Celebrating and Remembering the Life of Meloneze Robinson, deceased. Council Member-at-Large Lee seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-37

Celebrating & Remembering the Life of Meloneze D. Robinson, deceased (April 19, 1921 – January 18, 2021)

WHEREAS, of all beautiful things in life, the most beautiful, is character, and she who possesses a beautiful character is worthy of notice. A beautiful life is the fruit of a beautiful character. She, of whom we speak is Meloneze D. Robinson. Meloneze was born on April 19, 1921 to the late Mack and Julia Fenn in rural Clayton, Alabama. She was one of eight siblings who survived; three were stillborn; and

WHEREAS, Meloneze's early church affiliation was with Mt. Silla in Clayton, Alabama. She later became an active parishioner at Greenwood Missionary Baptist Church in Tuskegee, Alabama where she was a member of the Borough-Williams Flower Club. She maintained the flowers inside and on the grounds of the church for many years until her health failed; and

WHEREAS, Meloneze was a master of many skills, but one that may not have been known to many is that she made all her own clothes. They were high quality and very distinct, with fine fabrics, beautiful threads, and gorgeous embellishments. Ms. Robinson was a dynamic, centenarian, adventurous, motor cyclist, George Washington Carver Festival soldier and she cared for Dr. George Washington Carver at the end of his life. Fifteen (15) years later she patented a surgical device after assisting with amputations at the former Tuskegee Veterans Hospital; and

WHEREAS, as Mayor and on behalf of the City Council of the City of Tuskegee, we recognize a life well lived; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by me as the Mayor of the City of Tuskegee and the City Council of the City of Tuskegee as follows: (1) that the above recitals are true and correct; (2) that we mourn the death of Meloneze D. Robinson and express sympathy to her son, Edward Robinson; her grandsons, great granddaughters and a host of extended family members, and a host of friends and caretakers.

ADOPTED and APPROVED this 26th day of January, 2021.

CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA
/s/ Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr.
Lawrence "Tony" Haygood, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Fartima B. Clark

Fartima B. Clark, City Clerk

C. Resolution No. 2021-38. Celebrating and Remembering the Life of William "Pete" Goode, deceased. Motion was made by Council Member Jackson to approve and accept resolution number 2021-38 as stated Celebrating and Remembering the Life of William "Pete" Goode, deceased. Council Member-at-Large Lee seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-38 Celebrating & Remembering the Life of William "Pete" Goode, deceased (February 22, 1956 – January 20, 2021)

WHEREAS, of all beautiful things in life, the most beautiful, is character, and he who possesses a beautiful character is worthy of notice. A beautiful life is the fruit of a beautiful character. He, of whom we speak is William "Pete" Goode; and

WHEREAS, with a lasting gratitude for his exemplary life, his tireless and unselfish labor among us; the good he did, the things he taught and the inspiration we imbibed; we dedicate this hour; and

WHEREAS, William was born on February 22, 1956 in Tuskegee, Alabama to the late Otis "Pete" Goode and Willie Ruth Goode (Pollard); and

WHEREAS, he was educated in the Macon County Public School System. He was a graduate of Tuskegee Institute High School class of 1974. He was a proud member of the T-town Players Baseball Team. He was loved by many and a good Samaritan to all; and

WHEREAS, he is preceded in death by his father, Otis Goode, mother, Willie Ruth Goode, wife, Clara Goode, brother, Eddie Goode and sisters: Willie Bell Goode, Annie Ruth Goode and Linda Tyson; and

WHEREAS, as Mayor and on behalf of the City Council of the City of Tuskegee, we recognize a life well lived; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by me as the Mayor of the City of Tuskegee and the City Council of the City of Tuskegee as follows: (1) that the above recitals are true and correct; (2) that we mourn the death of William "Pete" Goode and express sympathy to his son, Eric Goode, brothers, Arthur Goode, LeRoy Goode, and David Lee Goode, and his sister, Wregenia Roberts and a host of other relatives and friends.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 26th day of January, 2021.

CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA
/s/ Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr.
Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:
/s/ Fartima B. Clark
Fartima B. Clark, City Clerk

D. Resolution No. 2021-39. Celebrating and Remembering the Life of Len Patton, Jr., deceased. Motion was made by Council Member Jackson to approve and accept resolution number 2021-39 as stated Celebrating and Remembering the Life of Len Patton, deceased. Council Member Ford seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-39 Celebrating & Remembering the Life of Len Ward Patton, Jr., deceased (November 2, 1940 – January 30, 2021)

WHEREAS, of all beautiful things in life, the most beautiful, is character, and he who possesses a beautiful character is worthy of notice. A beautiful life is the fruit of a beautiful character. He, of whom we speak is Len Ward Patton, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, with a lasting gratitude for his exemplary life, his tireless and unselfish labor among us; the good he did, the things he taught and the inspiration we imbibed; we dedicate this hour; and

WHEREAS, Len was born on November 2, 1940 in Milstead, Alabama to the late Len W. and Algirtha Patton. He professed and accepted Christ at an early age and united with Solomon Chapel AME Zion Church in Tuskegee. He received his early education at Chambliss children's House Elementary School on the campus of Tuskegee Institute. He graduated from Tuskegee Institute High School in May 1979 and thereafter he decided to further his education and completed Auto Mechanic School in New York; and

WHEREAS, he was an active member of The Friends of the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site, Inc. and served faithfully as Co-Chair of Transportation, the Bid Whiz Card Group and was just a very active member of the Town of Franklin; and

WHEREAS, he spent his first adult years in Hasting on the Hudson, New York where he met and married Lona White. To this union three children were born. He returned to Tuskegee in the early 1970s and reunited with his home church, Solomon Chapel AME Zion Church where he served faithfully until his death; and

WHEREAS, he united in marriage with the "love of His Life", Magdalene K. Sears. During the 45 plus year of marriage, they reared his wife's two children. He retired in 2004 from the Veterans Administration Hospital after 20 years of dedicated service. He worked in the air conditioner and refrigeration shop that was managed by his brickyard playmate, Luvonia Hoffman; and

WHEREAS, as Mayor and on behalf of the City Council of the City of Tuskegee, we recognize a life well lived; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by me as the Mayor of the City of Tuskegee and the City Council of the City of Tuskegee as follows: (1) that the above recitals are true and correct; (2) that we mourn the death of Len Ward Patton, Jr. and express sympathy to his wife, Magdalene, two sons, Len, III (Shareefah) and Christopher R. Sears; his daughters,

Lynette (William) King, Tondalaio Sears and Lorna Franklin, his grandchildren, great grandchildren, godson Obediah Threadgill IV; goddaughter, Ronnetta Howze; sisters: Rosa P. Smith, Thelma P. (John) Copeland, Hazel P. Major and Christine Dawson; sister-in-laws: Ruth McIntosh, Arlene & Emma Kennedy, numerous cousins, nieces and nephews and a host of dedicated families and friends.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED	this 26th	day o	f January,	2021

CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA
/s/ Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr.
Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Fartima B. Clark

Fartima B. Clark, City Clerk

E. Resolution No. 2021-40. Celebrating and Remembering the Life of Charlie Johnson, deceased.

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to approve and accept resolution number 2021-40 as stated Celebrating and Remembering the Life of Charlie Johnson, deceased (Mayor Pro-Tempore, Luverne, Alabama). Council Member-at-Large Lee seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-40

Celebrating & Remembering the Life of Honorable Charlie C. Johnson, deceased Former Mayor Pro-Tempore, Luverne Alabama

WHEREAS, of all beautiful things in life, the most beautiful, is character, and he who possesses a beautiful character is worthy of notice. A beautiful life is the fruit of a beautiful character. He, of whom we speak is the Honorable Charlie C. Johnson; and

WHEREAS, as former Mayor Pro-Tempore of Luverne, Alabama, the Honorable Charlie C. Johnson, as an elected official, served not only his community, and his city, but also his state and country. With a lasting gratitude for his exemplary life, his tireless and unselfish labor among us; the good he did, the things he taught and the inspiration we imbibed; we dedicate this hour; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by me as the Mayor of the City of Tuskegee and the City Council of the City of Tuskegee as follows: (1) that the above recitals are true and correct; (2) that we mourn the death of Honorable Charlie C. Johnson and express sympathy by honoring his life and saluting his service with his surviving immediate family.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 26th day of January, 2021.

CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA
/s/ Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr.
Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Fartima B. Clark

Fartima B. Clark, City Clerk

8. **ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further matters to come before the Council at this time, Council Member-at-Large Lee moved to adjourn at 6:42 PM. Mayor Haygood declared the meeting adjourned.

	CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA
ATTEST:	Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr., Mayor
 Fartima B. Clark, City Clerk	