



MINUTES NO. 2018-11-WS

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

CITY COUNCIL OF

THE CITY OF MADISON, ALABAMA

OCTOBER 30, 2018

The Madison City Council met for a joint public work session with the Madison Board of Education and the Triana Town Council on Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at 6:00 pm in Main Board Room of the School System Central Office, Celtic Drive, Madison, Alabama. The purpose of the joint work session was discussion of proposed ad valorem tax referendum election for school purposes.

The work session was called to order at 6:00 pm by School Board President Ranae Bartlett. Following the called to order, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Bartlett.

Madison City Council Members Officials in attendance:

Mayor Paul Finley	Present
Council District No. 1 Maura Wroblewski	Present
Council District No. 2 Steve Smith	Present
Council District No. 3 Teddy Powell	Present
Council District No. 4 Greg Shaw	Present
Council District No. 5 Tommy Overcash	Present
Council District No. 6 Gerald Clark	Present
Council District No. 7 John Seifert	Present

Other City representatives in attendance were: Director of Development Services Mary Beth Broeren, City Attorney Megan Zingarelli, Deputy City Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Thomas, City Administrator Marc Jacobson, Fire Chief David Bailey, and City Clerk-Treasurer Melanie Williard.

Introductions:

Board President Bartlett introduced members of the School Board and Triana Town Council that were in attendance.

Council President Overcash introduced Mayor Finley and Council Members in attendance.

Maintaining Excellence:

School Superintendent Robby Parker outlined accomplishments achieved by the school system during the first 20 years since forming the school system. Superintendent Parker advised that when the system was formed there were approximately 5,000 students. The current student population of the school system is over 11,300. Since May, 428 new students have registered in the system.

Also in the first 20 years, the system has undertaken 9 building projects including 2 renovations at Bob Jones High School.

Superintendent Parker outlined the challenges facing the system with overcrowding.

Former School Board Member & Growth Committee Chair, Dr. Terri Johnson outlined the project enrollment over the next years and advised that the growth of the system is happening faster than anticipated.

Superintendent Parker outlined what will be needed to maintain the excellence of the system.

Deadlines and Legislative Calendar Information:

Board Attorney Woody Sanderson outlined the process to obtaining approval for the City to conduct an ad valorem referendum election and the amount of millage that the Board will be requesting and the amount each mill will generate in revenue. It was noted that without the tax increase, the Board will be unable to borrow additional funds to keep up with the growth of the system until 2034. The system will be out of room by 2022.

Attorney Sanderson advised that the required notices will be published in the Madison County Record on October 31 and in the Huntsville Times on November 2. It is anticipated that the City Council will hold a public hearing on this referendum at their November 13 Council meeting.

Response to Growth:

Director of Development Services Mary Beth Broeren gave an overview of a proposed growth policy and related implementation actions for the policy. It was stated that this policy is advisory not mandatory as it will not be included in the city code or zoning ordinance. Ms. Broeren advised that the current population of the City is approximately 49,000.

Mayor Finley thanked the Town of Triana for their participation in the work session and their willingness to work as a team with the City and School Board on this project.

Discussion:

Discussion was held regarding getting the information out to the public regarding the need for the increase to the ad valorem tax and what the tax will be used for and that this will be a team effort on the part of the Board of Education, Madison City Council and the Town of Triana Council.

It was stated that the Madison City Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed tax increase at their November 13 Council meeting.


Representatives from the Town of Triana advised that the growth of their community is because of their participation in the city school system.


Board President Bartlett advised that representatives would stay after adjournment to answer any questions that those in attendance might have to ask.

Having no further business, the work session adjourned at 7:54 pm

Signatures on following page.


Minutes No. 2018-11-WS, October 30, 2018, read, approved and adopted this 13th day of November, 2018.



Council Member Maura Wroblewski
District One


Council Member Steve Smith
District Two


Council Member Teddy Powell
District Three



Council Member Greg Shaw
District Four


Council Member Tommy Overcash
District Five



Council Member Gerald Clark
District Six


Council Member John Seifert
District Seven

Concur:


Paul Finley
Mayor

Attest:


Melanie A. Williard
City Clerk-Treasurer