

MOBILE TREE COMMISSION MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2020 - 4:30 P.M.

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM, 1ST FLOOR, GOVERNMENT PLAZA

MEMBERS

| | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| X | 1 | Dr. Maurice Holt |
| | 2 | Jesse McDaniel, Chair |
| | 3 | |
| X | 4 | Teresa Tessner |
| X | 5 | Evan Cox (arrived late) |
| X | 6 | William Rooks, Sec/Treasurer |
| X | 7 | Terry Plauche, Vice-Chair |

STAFF

| | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| X | Urban Forestry | Peter Toler |
| | Alabama Power | Eric Garrett |
| | Planning & Zoning | Margaret Pappas |
| X | Planning & Zoning | Bert Hoffman |
| | Legal | Cherlina Monteiro |

Mr. Plauche called the meeting to order and called roll.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Plauche opened the floor for a motion to approve the following sets of minutes:

- 1. March 19, 2019;**
- 2. December 17, 2019.**

A motion was made by Mr. Rooks, with second by Dr. Holt, to approve the minutes.

Mr. Hoffman noted that the date was incorrect in the header on pages two and three of the December 17th minutes, and he would have that corrected.

The motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Rooks presented the Treasurer's Report with a beginning balance November 1, 2019 of \$32,774.57 less expenses of \$190.25 each for Mr. McDaniel's and Ms. Tessner's attendance at the AUFA Annual Conference leaving an ending balance of \$32,394.07 as of December 21, 2019.

The Treasurer's Report was entered into the record.

PERMIT REQUESTS

- 1. No applications**

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Committee reports

No committee reports were presented.

B. Urban Forestry update: Peter Toler

Mr. Toler provided a record of work orders completed in December that were either emergencies or ones that interfered with public service. Ms. Tessner asked if Mr. Toler would note which were related to trash service going forward. Mr. Toler agreed to make such notes and further clarified the way the disposition of requests were coded on his report. Mr. Hoffman and Mr. Toler stated that they would send this report to Commission members as an excel spreadsheet in advance with staff reports for future meetings.

Mr. Toler stated that he located the “champion tree list” that he will share with them at the next meeting so that they could locate the trees and possibly create a facebook page.

Mr. Toler stated that he has three certified arborists, Chris Francis, Billy Allen, and Stevie Cain who are now sub-contractors for the City to assist with the backlog in the Forestry Department. Mr. Toler hoped to reduce the backlog within 90 days and to be able to continue to subcontracting program to be proactive with tree trimming in the City. Mr. Hoffman stated that a certified arborist could send a certified letter to a neighbor on behalf of a property owner if the neighbor has a tree at risk of causing damage to another person’s property. If the neighbor then chose not to take care of the problem and the tree did cause damage, then the neighbor could be held liable for damages.

Mr. Toler stated that he would be presenting some educational programs beginning with the March 20th “Trees and the Law” sponsored by the ISA Southern Chapter and Alabama Urban Forestry Association. He hoped that all Commission members would attend.

C. Alabama Power update: Eric Garrett

No Alabama Power update was presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hoffman stated that the Planning Department had lost a secretary and that, per Mr. Toler, the Urban Forestry Department had lost two staff members as well.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.