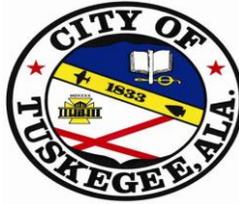


CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA
OFFICIAL MINUTES: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2nd TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021



The City Council of the City of Tuskegee met in **Regular Session on Tuesday, May 11, 2021** at 5:33 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.** Repeated 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 Members were present.

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA.**

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to accept the agenda as circulated with the following additions: add Street Patching; presidential Medal of Honor for Fred Gray, Black Wall Street Commemoration, and 2nd Bond Issue. Council Member Whitehead seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** (April 27, 2021 & May 3, 2021):

A. **Minutes for April 27, 2021:**

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to accept and approve the minutes for April 27, 2021 as circulated with any necessary changes and/or corrections. Council Member-at-Large Lee seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

B. **Minutes for May 3, 2021:**

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to accept and approve the minutes for May 3, 2021 as circulated with any necessary changes and/or corrections. Council Member Whitehead seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

7. **CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Oscar Austin RE: Garbage/Trash Pick-up in the City

8. **MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.** Mayor Lawrence "Tony" Haygood, Jr.

A. City Council Work Session:

1. Resolution Supporting Lupus Awareness Month (May)

B. Moton Field Municipal Airport:

- 1. License
- C. Red Tails Scholarship Foundation (*tables May 3, 2021*).
- D. Announcements.

9. **TU SGA /OTHER AGENCIES, ETC. COMMUNICATIONS.** *Camesha Tucker, Student at TU*

10. **CITY MANAGER’S COMMUNICATIONS.** Derrick E. Swanson, Temporary Acting City Manager.

- A. Chief’s Presentations:
 - 1. Police Dept. – Loyd Jenkins

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to support National Police Week and memorializing of Office Daniel Motley who died in the line of duty. Council Member Whitehead seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

- 2. Fire Dept. Willie Smith

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to accept the Fire Dept. Report with commendations. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

- B. Council Updates / Concerns:
 - 1. Resolution: Black Wall Street Commemoration (J. Ford)

- C. Street Maintenance Report.

- D. Financial Report. (Frankie L. Williams)

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to receive the Financial Report as circulated and presented by Ms. Frankie L. Williams, Finance Director. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

- E. Head Start Report (Mia Hutcherson, Interim Executive Director)
 - 1. Executive Director’s Report (Apr 2021)
 - 2. Monthly Summary of Meals and Snacks (Apr 2021)
 - 3. Enrollment & Attendance Report. (Apr 2021)
 - 4. Revenue & Expenditures Report including Credit Card Report (Apr 2021)
 - 5. Education/Disabilities Report (Apr 2021)

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to accept and receive the Head Start Report as presented by Mia Hutcherson. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

- F. Moton Filed Municipal Airport Report. (Nikki Jordan)

Motion was made by Council Member Whitehead to receive the Airport Report presented by Airport Manager, Nikki Jordan. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

- G. Ordinance: Regulating & Forbidding the Operation of All types of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), Golf Carts and Low Speed Vehicles on Public Streets within the City Limits of Tuskegee and Police Jurisdiction

- H. Announcements.

11. **ORDINANCES:**

A. Ordinance No. 2021-04. Regulating & Forbidding the Operation of All Types of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), Golf Carts and Low Speed Vehicles on Public Streets within the City Limits of Tuskegee & Police Jurisdiction. (1st Reading)

12. **RESOLUTIONS:**

A. **Resolution No. 2021-67.** Ratifying the action of April 27, 2021 appointing Mia Hutcherson as Executive Director of Head Start Program

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to adopt and approve resolution no. 2021-67 as ratifying action taken during the April 27th Regular City Council Meeting. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-67

A Resolution ratifying the Selection of Mia Hutcherson as the Executive Director of the Tuskegee-Macon County Head Start Program

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Tuskegee ratifies the selection of **MIA HUTCHERSON** as the permanent executive director of the Tuskegee-Macon Head Start program, effective as of the adoption of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council acting in its capacity as the board of directors of the Tuskegee-Macon County Head Start program, shall ratify and adopt a change in policy whereby the ultimate decision and selection for the executive director of Head Start going forward shall be under the exclusive authority of the City Council of the City of Tuskegee in its capacity as the board of directors of Tuskegee-Macon County Head Start program and any current policy in conflict with this resolution is hereby cancelled, annulled, and repealed effective upon the adoption of this resolution.

ADOPTED and APPROVED this 11th day of May, 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. 2021-68.** Supporting May as Lupus Awareness Month.

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to adopt and approve resolution no. 2021-68 as stated supporting May as Lupus Awareness Month in the City of Tuskegee. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-68

Resolution Supporting May as Lupus Awareness Month in the City of Tuskegee

WHEREAS, more than five million people worldwide suffer from the devastating effects of lupus, and each year another 100,000 men, women and children will be diagnosed with this disease; and

WHEREAS, lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that causes inflammation of various parts of the body particularly the skin, heart, joints, and kidneys; and

WHEREAS, lupus research shows that 1.5 million Americans have been diagnosed with lupus, which strikes women about nine times more frequently than it does men; and

WHEREAS, according to research, lupus is most prevalent among African American women, followed by other women of color, including Hispanics, Asians, and Native-Americans; and

WHEREAS, while lupus is not infectious, rare, or cancerous, it affects more people than cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, sickle cell anemia, and cystic fibrosis; and

WHEREAS, although lupus ranges from mild to life threatening and thousands of Americans who have lupus die each year, the majority of cases can be managed with proper treatment; and

WHEREAS, Lupus impacts more than just the life of the patient; it affects the patient's family, friends, coworkers, employers, and community; and

WHEREAS, Existing public information and programs about Lupus in the United States remain inadequately disseminated and insufficient in addressing the needs of specific diverse populations and other underserved groups; and

WHEREAS, the Lupus Foundation of America, was founded as a nonprofit organizations to alleviate suffering for lupus patients through patient and family services, achieve early dedication of undiagnosed cases, through awareness promotion and achieve the eradication of lupus by supporting lupus research; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis and proper treatment are critical to the improvements of the quality of life and survival rate of lupus sufferers; and

WHEREAS, increased public awareness, education and research are the key to winning the battle against lupus.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Mayor Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr. and the City Council of the City of Tuskegee, that we recognized May 2021 as Lupus Awareness Month and extends heartfelt wishes to the Lupus Foundation of America for success in their core objectives for future research.

ADOPTED and APPROVED this 11th day of May, 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

C. Resolution No. 2021-69. Commemoration of Black Wall Street in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to adopt and approve resolution no. 2021-69 as stated supporting the Black Wall Street Commemoration in the City of Tuskegee. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-69

Recognizing the forthcoming Centennial of the 1921 Tulsa Oklahoma Race Massacre

WHEREAS, in the early 20th century, de jure segregation confined Tulsa's Black residents into the "Greenwood District", which they built into a thriving community with a nationally renowned entrepreneurial center known as the "Black Wall Street". During that time, White supremacy and racist violence were common throughout the United States and went largely unchecked by the justice system; and

WHEREAS, reports of an alleged and disputed incident on the morning of May 30, 1921, between two teenagers, a Black man, and a White woman, caused the White community of Tulsa, including the Tulsa Tribune, to call for a lynching amidst a climate of White racial hostility and White resentment over Black economic success; and

WHEREAS, on May 31, 1921, a mob of armed White men descended upon Tulsa's Greenwood District and launched what is now known as the "Tulsa Race Massacre"; and

WHEREAS, Tulsa municipal and county authorities failed to take actions to calm or contain the violence, and civil and law enforcement officials deputized many White men who were participants in the violence as their agents,

directly contributing to the violence through overt and often illegal acts. Over a period of 24 hours, the White mob's violence led to the death of an estimated 300 Black residents, as well as over 800 reports of injuries; and

WHEREAS, the White mob looted, damaged, burned, or otherwise destroyed approximately 40 square blocks of the Greenwood district, including an estimated 1,256 homes of Black residents, as well as virtually every other structure, including churches, schools, businesses, a hospital, and a library, leaving nearly 9,000 Black Tulsans homeless and effectively wiping out tens of millions of dollars in Black prosperity and wealth in Tulsa; and

WHEREAS, in the wake of the Tulsa Race Massacre, the Governor of Oklahoma declared martial law, and units of the Oklahoma National Guard participated in the mass arrests of all or nearly all of Greenwood's surviving residents, removing them from Greenwood to other parts of Tulsa and unlawfully detaining them in holding centers; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma local and State governments dismissed claims arising from the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre for decades, and the event was effectively erased from collective memory and history until, in 1997, the Oklahoma State Legislature finally created a commission to study the event; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2001, the commission issued a report that detailed, for the first time, the extent of the Massacre and decades-long efforts to suppress its recollection; and

WHEREAS, none of the law enforcement officials nor any of the hundreds of other White mob members who participated in the violence were ever prosecuted or held accountable for the hundreds of lives lost and tens of millions of dollars of Black wealth destroyed, despite the Tulsa Race Massacre Commission confirming their roles in the Massacre, nor was any compensation ever provided to the Massacre's victims or their descendants; and

WHEREAS, government and city officials not only abdicated their responsibility to rebuild and repair the Greenwood community in the wake of the violence, but actively blocked efforts to do so, contributing to continued racial disparities in Tulsa akin to those that Black people face across the United States. The pattern of violence against Black people in the United States, often at the hands of law enforcement, shows that the fight to end State-sanctioned violence against Black people continues; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Tuskegee and states the following: (1) the year 2021 marks the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre; (2) acknowledges the historical significance of this event as one of the largest single instances of State-sanctioned violence against Black people in American history; and (3) honors the lives and legacies of the estimated 300 Black individuals who were killed during the Massacre and the nearly 9,000 Black individuals who were left homeless and penniless.

ADOPTED and APPROVED this 11th day of May, 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. 2021-70. Nominating Fred Gray for the Presidential Medal of Honor.

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to adopt and approve resolution no. 2021-70 as stated supporting the nomination of Fred Gray for the Presidential Medal of Honor. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

E. Resolution No. 2021-71. Commendations to the Chamber of Commerce on its 50th Anniversary.

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to adopt and approve resolution no. 2021-71 as stated giving commendations to the Chamber of Commerce on its 50th Anniversary. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2021-71

A Resolution Supporting the 50th Anniversary of the Tuskegee Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Tuskegee should salute those organizations that, through the extraordinary efforts of their members, have improved Tuskegee and contributed enormously to its economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Tuskegee Chamber of Commerce is one such estimable organization that is celebrating fifty years of excellence within its community; and

WHEREAS, wholly dedicated to the advancement of the noble precepts of commercial, industrial, agricultural, educational, recreational, civic, and general interests without pecuniary profit to any individual member, the members of the Tuskegee Chamber of Commerce have worked selflessly and diligently to improve their community; and

WHEREAS, the 28 members of the Chamber and a group of loyal ambassadors have joined together to ensure that the chamber continues to be an outstanding place to live, work, and raise families; over the last five decades, their work has contributed greatly to bringing about a high quality of life that is enjoyed by the citizens of Tuskegee today; and

WHEREAS, the Tuskegee Area Chamber of Commerce is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. The Chamber of Commerce is an organization that was founded in June 1971 by a progressive group of inter-racial business leaders; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Ford, Council Member and former Mayor of the City of Tuskegee planted the seeds that blossomed into the Chamber. He was active in the organization and he supported Charles "Cliff" Johnson as the first Chamber President; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, a number of civic-minded individuals have served as Chamber President, including Hon. George Clay, Robert L. Davis, Charlie E. Hardy, Charles H. Thompson, Hon. Deborah H. Biggers and the late Loretta Jones Alexander and the current president is Roland Vaughan who began serving as president in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Tuskegee finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the members and staff of the Chamber of Commerce for fifty years of demonstrated dedication to their community; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Tuskegee, that we join the members and staff of the Tuskegee Chamber of Commerce in celebrating 50 years of Excellent Service to the community, we thank them for their service to the citizens of Tuskegee and extend to them our wishes for every continued success.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Tuskegee, Alabama, this 11th day of May, 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

13. **CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATIONS.**

1. Lenora Goode RE: Thank you to City Manager and City Council

14. **OTHER BUSINESS / EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to make patching a priority in the City of Tuskegee. Council Member Whitehead seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

7:43 PM Motion was made by Council Member Whitehead for council to enter executive session. Council Member Ford seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

7:53 PM Motion was made by Council Member Whitehead for council to end executive session. Council Member-at-Large Lee seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

Motion was made by Council Member Ford to authorize the City Manager to respond to the Golden Parachute Proposal regarding Pine Manor (Salem Nursing Home Building). Council Member Jackson seconded the motion and all members voted aye. Mayor Haygood declared the motion carried.

15. **ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further matters to come before the Council at this time, Council Member Whitehead moved to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Mayor Haygood declared the meeting adjourned.

CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA

Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Fartima B. Clark, City Clerk