

STATE OF ALABAMA )  
COLBERT COUNTY )

Minutes of a Regular Meeting  
of the  
Colbert County Commission  
10/05/2021

The Colbert County Commission met today in regular session at the Colbert County Courthouse. Chairman Bendall called the work session to order at 5:08 p.m. with the regular meeting following at 5:50 p.m., being the time and place previously scheduled for such work session and regular meeting. All Commissioners answered "present" at the call of the roll. Commissioner Tyrus Mansell offered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Bendall declared that a quorum was present for the purpose of the transaction of business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Bendall declared that a public hearing be convened to receive public comment regarding the application of Narayan2021, Inc., for transfer of a Lounge Retail Liquor - Class II (Package) at 12540 Highway 20, Leighton. Chairman Bendall made the call for any persons wishing to speak in favor of the license transfer 3 times; there was no response by anyone wishing to speak in favor of the transfer. Chairman Bendall next made 3 calls for any persons wishing to speak in opposition to the license transfer; there was no response by anyone wishing to speak in opposition to the transfer. Chairman Bendall then adjourned the public hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Bendall announced that the business before the Commission was the approval of the consent agenda. Commissioner Isom made motion to adopt and approve the matters placed on the consent agenda during the work session. The motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Bailey. Chairman Bendall stated that the adoption and approval of a consent agenda comprised of the following items of business was properly before the Commission and stated the matters as follows:

1. Waived reading of September 21, 2021 minutes and approved the same as written.
2. Approved payment of October 5, 2021 bills as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.
3. Approved CDBG-CV Grant, Resolution for amendment for the purchase of a building for EMA / EOC and 911 by adoption of the following Resolution:

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RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022 - 0001

*A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING APPLICATION FOR CDBG-CV  
GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS THROUGH THE STATE OF ALABAMA'S CDBG  
PROGRAM*

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission is completing its application for CDBG-CV program funds through the State of Alabama's Community Development Block Grant program, and

WHEREAS, the Colbert County Commission concurs with objectives, needs, and program activities propose therein, and

WHEREAS, priorities for proposed program activities adopted by the Colbert County commission were determined in accordance with State and Federal guidelines and determinations on eligibility of activities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLBERT COUNTY COMMISSION, that said application shall be designated as the official application for the Colbert County Commission to be submitted to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs upon its completion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chairman is duly authorized to sign said application for and act on behalf of the Colbert County Commission and is further authorized to execute all other documents required for application or disbursement of State of Alabama CDBG funds for the Colbert County Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, should the project exceed total CDBG-CV funding, the Colbert County commission commits to provide local matching funds towards the project's completion.

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4. Appointed Frazier Lanier to act as agent for bond issuance, by adoption of the following Resolution:
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**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022 - 0002**

*A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FRAZER LANIER COMPANY, INC., AS INVESTMENT BANKER FOR COLBERT COUNTY ALABAMA*

WHEREAS, Colbert County, Alabama (the "County"), acting by and through its governing body, the County Commission (the "Commission"), may issue General Obligation Warrants, in order to raise new money for certain capital projects and to refund and retire certain indebtedness heretofore incurred by the County, and

WHEREAS, the County hereby engages The Frazer Lanier Company, Inc. ("Frazer Lanier"), as Investment Banker, to assist the County with the issuance of any such Warrants.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLBERT COUNTY COMMISSION that Frazer Lanier is hereby directed to proceed with preparation of all documents and information necessary to prepare the County to enter the market for the issuance of General Obligation Warrants.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should the County, in its sole discretion, elect not to proceed with the issuance of the General Obligation Warrants, no fees nor expenses shall be charged by Frazer Lanier to the County.

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5. Approved Bond Issue to refinance water treatment plant, with an overall estimated savings to the County of \$389,808.90.
  6. Approved Bond Issue for Justice Center in the amount of 18 million dollars. SSUT funds will be used as security for the bond issue.
  7. Approved Request unused accrued Annual Leave for Jeremy Reaves in the amount of \$579.95.
  8. Approved the following Resolution honoring Sgt. Nick Risner:
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**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022 - 0003**

*A RESOLUTION HONORING THE MEMORY OF SERGEANT NICK REISNER OF THE SHIP FIELD, ALABAMA POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR HIS SELFLESS ACTS OF HEROISM ON OCTOBER 1, 2021*

WHEREAS, Sergeant Nick Risner served the citizens of Sheffield, Alabama as a member of its police force for nine years; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Risner also served his country as a member of the United States Army Reserves for eight years; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2021, Sgt. Risner, along with other members of law enforcement, bravely responded to reports of shots fired and requests for assistance in capturing the fugitive gunman in the city of Muscle Shoals, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Risner, in attempting to capture the fugitive and while protecting the citizens of his community, bravely and selflessly put himself in harm's way and was seriously injured in the course of his duties; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Risner was airlifted to Huntsville Hospital and succumbed to his injuries on October 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Risner is survived by his family and loved ones, including a daughter, Aili; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Risner, his colleagues at the Sheffield Police Department, and their local law enforcement partners who responded to the dangerous and deadly incident on October 1, 2021, are heroes of the highest order to whom the Colbert County Commission and the citizens of Colbert County, Alabama owe a deep debt of gratitude.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLBERT COUNTY COMMISSION honors the memory of Sheffield Police Sergeant Nick Risner for the selfless acts of heroism displayed on October 1, 2021, in risking and sacrificing his life in the line of duty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator be and he is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the family of Sheffield Police Sergeant Nick Risner and to the Sheffield Police Department.

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## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

## REPORTS FROM STAFF

Chairman Bendall announced that the Commission would hear reports from staff. Upon being recognized by the Chair, the following reports were heard by the Commission:

### **County Administrator:**

Administrator Roger Creekmore read a Resolution Honoring Sheffield Police, Sgt. Nick Risner for his selfless act on October 1, 2021 in the line of Duty. Creekmore asked the Commission to confirm that the 5% raise for county employees, is a COLA, Commission confirmed. He announced that on September 24<sup>th</sup> the Sheriff Department hired Jason Brewer as a full-time Deputy with a beginning salary of \$33,428.57. Also hired within the Sheriff's Department were Auston Spires as FT Jailer starting Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> with a beginning salary of \$27,661.00, Dakota Camas as FT Jailer starting September 13<sup>th</sup> as FT Jailer with a beginning salary of \$27,661.00, Josh Roberson as Non-Certified Deputy with a beginning salary of \$29,304.72 and Anthony Mitchell as PT Jailer starting at \$10.56/hr., with no benefits. Mike Booth was promoted to Sargent and Shannon Bowling to Lieutenant with a 5% raise. Mr. Creekmore also reminded the Commission as well as the Department Heads to participate in the Wellness Screening in order to keep the current insurance rates. There was a note read from the Sheriff's Office as well as the Probate office thanking the Commission for the cost of living raise. Judge Rosser expressed his appreciation in person on behalf of his office. Investing in Alabama is putting together a 40 member team for its quarterly meetings in which Administrator Roger Creekmore will represent

Colbert County. Muscle Shoals Holdings has dropped initial asking price on the public safety building adjoining the Chemical Engineering Building previously purchased. All Commissioners consented allow the County Administrator to continue negotiation on the purchase of said building. Commissioner Barnes requested to see documentation regarding PT Jailers beginning hiring pay.

**Chief Financial Officer:**

CFO April Eaton reported that the County is still trying to close out the year and also reminded the Commission and Employees of Flu shots given by the Local Gov. administered on October 6.

**County Attorney:**

Attorney Edgar Black reported that the persons interested purchasing the lot in Listerhill Estates are of the same family and there is no controversy.

**EMA Director:**

No Report

**County Engineer:**

Chief Engineer Jeremy Robison reported that the employees appreciated the cost of living raises. The Department has started its winter mowing and that they are receiving opening bids on SRF projects and is working with the Kelley Group. He will report back recommendations to the Commission.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Bendall informed the Commission that the next item of business was an appointment to the Shoals Economic Development Authority Board. The applicants for the position are Mr. Tony Burns and Mr. Edward Mitchell. The Chairman instructed the Administrator the call the roll by District. Each Commissioner shall vote their preference for the applicants. The vote was recorded as:

District 1.	Abstain
District 2.	Mitchell
District 3.	Burns
District 4.	Mitchell
District 5.	Mitchell
District 6.	Mitchell

Administrator informed the Chair the Mr. Edward Mitchell had received a majority of the Commissioner's votes. Chairman Bendall declared that Mr. Edward Mitchell would be appointed to fill the position.

Chairman Bendall next communicated to the Commission that a vote is to be had regarding the transfer of Lounge Retail Liquor - Class II (Package) License for location 12540 Hwy 20, Leighton. Chairman Bendall asked Administrator Creekmore to call the roll, and a roll call vote was had as follows:

District 1	Aye
District 2	Nay
District 3	Aye
District 4	Aye
District 5	Nay

District 6

Aye

Administrator Creekmore announced that there were four votes in favor and the Aye's have the majority.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bailey congratulates Deputy Daren Green for being Officer of the year. Commissioner Gardiner thanked the Commission for approval The Bond Issuance for the Justice Center and thanked Mr. John Blackwell for suggesting the site to him. He expressed his gratitude that this was being done without a tax increase. Commissioner Mansell thanked Commissioner Gardiner for all that he has done. Commissioner Barnes expressed that he was glad that he was part of the Jail project and stated that the community will be proud of it. Commissioner Bailey commended the Commission for working together as a team and thanked the Commission for approving the Justice Center. Chairman Bendall expressed his sentiments stating that, "Who would have ever believed we'd be doing this! It's an amazing feeling."

Chairman Bendall announced that there was no further business to come before the Commission, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 P.M.

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 1

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 4

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CHAIRMAN

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COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 6