



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Monday, April 8, 2024

Council Meeting - 5:00 PM
CENTER POINT CITY HALL

MINUTES

A. Call to Order

President Collins stated the meeting was illegally called because she was not asked if the meeting could be scheduled. She was notified about the meeting when the clerk sent the email. The city clerk received a request from two council members to call a special meeting for April 8, 2024.

President Pro-tem Moore stated that President Collins agreed to the meeting via email. She expressed concerns about the council proceedings' lack of transparency and efficiency. She requested a meeting to re-elect officers because things had become difficult. She ran for office because she wanted to make a difference.

Councilwoman Jones initially contacted Mayor Scott about a special meeting because of the unwelcome atmosphere.

President Collins stated it is disheartening that you choose to handle things this way instead of contacting me directly.

B. Invocation

Pastor Charles Parker, Center Point Church of Christ, led the invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

D. Roll Call

Councilwoman Copeland, Councilwoman Jones, Councilwoman Moore, Councilman Williams and President Collins

E. Approval of Agenda

F. Discussion/Action

All items designated as "Consent" are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. NO separate discussion of these items will be permitted unless a Councilmember, the Mayor, or citizen interested in further discussion or hearing so requests, if so, such item (s) will revert to its normal place on the Agenda Order of Business.

F.1. Elect Council Officers

Councilwoman Moore said it is not personal but about moving the city forward. I ran for office because I wanted to make a difference. The council has not been operating cohesively as it should. Most of the council would learn about council business or events via social media. "We do not always have to agree, but we can remain professional and communicate effectively," she stated. The Council President's responsibility is to lead the council meetings and ensure the council is aware of the business that affects the council. There have been numerous times items were blocked from being added to the agenda. You acted as the gatekeeper, and only items you approved were added to the agenda. The council has a right to be notified of all items to be considered and decides whether to approve them. Your actions hindered the democratic process.

Councilwoman Jones stated she initially contacted Mayor Scott about an emergency call meeting because the atmosphere during council meetings had changed. She noted that the atmosphere had become unwelcoming, and the last council meeting created a hostile work environment.

President Collins stated she has experienced snide remarks while speaking but has dealt with it. She stated she had conversations with the three councilwomen, asking if they had an issue. Each one stated they didn't have an issue. Yet I am met with a nasty attitude at each meeting. It's quite disappointing to learn that the presence of my family at a single council meeting has caused you so much harm that you would go so far as to try to remove me from the office of council president.

Did you feel intimidated and unsettled when my big family was present at the organizational meeting or inaugural ball in 2020? Why, on last Thursday did you suddenly feel intimidated and unsettled?

Is it because you were blindsided and didn't know that my family witnessed your unprofessional behavior the entire meeting?

For months, I've had to endure the nastiness of 3 women on this board and now labeled as a bully because of my family's presence at a public meeting.

The very last work session we had, discussing the 2023-2024 financial budget I experienced real intimidation, bullying, and leaving a meeting feeling unsettled. Tiffany Moore shouted at me because you didn't like a facial expression, and as you're shouting, Tameeka Vann is rubbing and holding Ebonee Copeland back as if she is about to fight, and Sharon Jones is sitting across from me with the meanest mug in her face as if y'all were about to whoop somebody butt. All of this happened in a business meeting.

I'll never forget that day because I now have to take anxiety medicine before I come into the doors of this building for a council meeting. Those are the real effects of intimidation, bullying, and feeling threatened and unsettled. Where was

All items designated as "Consent" are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. NO separate discussion of these items will be permitted unless a Councilmember, the Mayor, or citizen interested in further discussion or hearing so requests, if so, such item (s) will revert to its normal place on the Agenda Order of Business.

the decorum at this work session?

You stated on Thursday that I was attempting to assassinate your character and that you only put positivity out so it can return to you. Where was the positivity during the entire meeting last Thursday? Your behavior was so insultingly mortifying that even your colleague suggested we edit the video before posting to the public. How in the world did public service come to this??

Your intimidation, bullying, and chicanery won't stop my impact, my connection, and my love for THIS community. I've endured this piss poor behavior from you individuals for too long. Your tactics to belittle, undermine, destroy, and cripple me and my good works won't prosper.

This motion to remove me from office is improper- pursuant to the Code of Alabama Title 11 Chapter 44D-4

Councilwoman Moore, we desire to elect new council officers. According to statutes and Roberts Rules of Order, we can elect new officers anytime.

After much discussion and advice from the city attorney, Councilwoman Moore motioned to vacate the Council President's chair. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones. President Collins called

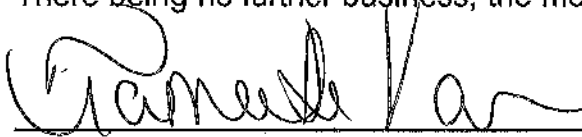
Yes: Copeland, Jones, Moore

No: Williams, Collins


The motion failed due to a lack of 2/3 votes.

G. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting stood adjourned.



Tameeka Vann, City Clerk

Approved: 

D.M. Collins, President

Date: 6/21/2024