



**During the Birmingham City Council Meeting on December 4th 2018, the City Council voted on the following items:**

- 1. A Resolution assenting to the vacation of 56,672 square feet of Henrietta Road between 22nd Street South and Red Mountain Expressway AND a 15 foot wide alley (2,955 square feet) off of 22nd Street South, on behalf of George W. Barber, Jr., owner, so that property can be consolidated and the hearing of all interested parties, Case No. SUB2018-00057*

**Was this item approved?** Yes

**What does this mean?** After a public hearing, at which the City Council heard from a representative of property owner George Barber and residents of the Redmont Neighborhood, the City Council was advised to go into Executive Session by the Office of the City Attorney. After they returned, the Council passed the item.

At a meeting of the Redmont Neighborhood Association, residents voted 43-0 to oppose this item. According to Mr. Barber's representative, that vote was due to the incorrect assumption that this stretch of Henrietta Road was being vacated in order to make way for development. Mr. Barber's representative presented the item before the Birmingham Planning Commission's Subdivision Committee, where it passed. Essentially, this stretch of road dead ends in Mr. Barber's property, and is surrounded by his property. While technically public, Mr. Barber's argument is that it is functionally not public.

Mr. Barber will be paying the City a vacation fee of almost \$150,000.

**Next Steps:** For more information, please contact the Office of the City Council at 205.254.2294

*Refer to council agenda Item 6*

**2. An Ordinance to amend Section 1, Subsection (f) of Ordinance Number 17-121, “The City of Birmingham Non-Discrimination Ordinance” to further provide for the composition and appointment of a Human Rights Commission.**

**Was this item approved?** Yes

**What does this mean?** Last year, the Birmingham City Council unanimously passed a pair of nondiscrimination ordinances, becoming the first city in Alabama to add legal protections for those who face discrimination based on a person’s real or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or familial status.

One of the two items created an eleven-member commission whose sole purpose will be to investigate complaints of discriminatory practices and report their noncompliance with a goal being to “conciliate complaints with the consent of all parties,” as is written in the ordinance. If no agreement is reached the person who filed a complaint then must take the issue to the municipal court. On Tuesday, the Council voted to restructure the commission and the terms of those who will serve on the body. Those appointments are expected to be made in the coming weeks. Perhaps most importantly, the amendments changed the number of members from 11 to 15, with the Council still having 9 appointments (one per district).

*Refer to council agenda Item 17*

**3. A Resolution approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement with the Birmingham Board of Education (BOE), pursuant to §16-11-9.1, Code of Alabama 1975, under which the BOE will provide assistance in the sum of \$247,500.00, for the purpose of providing funding for band uniforms consistent**

*with the BOE's authority, as follows: George W. Carver High School in the amount of \$46,000.00; Huffman High School in the amount of \$44,000.00; A.H. Parker High School in the amount of \$37,500; Ramsay High School in the amount of \$60,000.00; and Woodlawn High School in the amount of \$60,000.00, said fund to come from the annual Contributions Board of Education Fund.*

**Was this item approved?** Yes

**What does this mean?**

At the November 26th Budget and Finance Committee meeting, members of the City Council heard from staff at the Birmingham City Schools Central Office about the state of the band programs at the systems seven high schools. School budget cuts due to diminishing student populations hit the fine arts departments hardest, and purchasing new uniforms to replace the 20 year old uniforms many BCS band members wore became a grassroots efforts from boosters and crowd-funding campaigns. The City's funding supplements what had been raised, and now allows the seven high schools to replace their old uniforms with new ones.

*Refer to council agenda Item 19*

For the Full Birmingham City Council Agenda click [here!](#)

### **Announcements and Reminders**

#### **Wednesday, December 5, 2018**

9:00 a.m. – Park Board Meeting – Maxine Herring Parker Board Room, Legion Field, 400 Graymont Avenue West

3:00 p.m. – Joint Governmental Affairs and Public Information Committee and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting – Conference Rooms “D & E”

#### **Thursday, December 6, 2018**

2:30 p.m. – Agenda Meeting – Conference Room “A”

3:00 p.m. – Joint Planning and Zoning Committee and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room-City Hall

#### **Monday, December 10, 2018**

3:30 p.m. – Joint Budget and Finance Committee and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting – Conference Rooms “D & E”

**Tuesday, December 11, 2018**

9:00 a.m. – Pre-Council Meeting – City Council Chambers; 9:30 a.m. – Council Meeting – City Council Chambers

2:00 p.m. – Joint Public Improvements Committee and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting – Conference Room “A”

3:00 p.m. – Joint Economic Development Committee and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting – Conference Rooms “D & E”

Decorum - Any person making profane, slanderous, or inflammatory remarks will be barred from the audience of the city council. (City Code s 2-2-12)

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