

**MOUNTAIN BROOK CITY COUNCIL
PRE-MEETING AGENDA**

**PRE-COUNCIL ROOM (A106) CITY HALL
56 CHURCH STREET
MOUNTAIN BROOK, AL 35213**

OCTOBER 14, 2013, 6:15 P.M.

1. Alabama League of Municipalities Quality of Life Award application for our new Municipal Complex – Dana Hazen and Sam Gaston. (See attached information. This item may be added to the formal agenda.)
2. Form committee to draft questions for residents' survey – Sam Gaston.
3. Appoint a member of the governing body to negotiate offer of property donation to the City.
4. Fountain design and materials – Nimrod Long of Nimrod Long & Associates.

2014 Municipal Quality of Life Awards



DEADLINE: Nov. 1, 2013 • Late entries not accepted.

Population Category (select one) under 5,000 5,001-12,000 over 12,001

Municipality City of Mountain Brook
Address 56 Church St. Mountain Brook, AL 35213

Mayor's Signature* _____ Mayor's Printed Name
Lawrence T. Oden, Mayor

Clerk's Signature** _____ Clerk's Printed Name
Steven Boone, City Clerk

Contact Person (main contact for any questions, as well as setting up the video shoot should the project win)
Dana Hazen, City Planner

Contact's Telephone Number 205/802-3821 Email Address hazend@mtb Brook.org

Title of Project _____

** The mayor's signature indicates his/her commitment to attend or appoint a representative to attend the League's Municipal Award Ceremony during the 2014 League Convention in Mobile should your municipality win an award.
** The clerk's signature is his/her certification that the entry submitted was approved by the city council and meets all the entry requirements.*

Remember to include:

- 1,200-word or less typed narrative, double-spaced on white 8.5"x 11" paper. (Include word count at the end).
- Answers to the three questions listed under Entry Requirements. (Typed, 100 words or less per answer.)
- At least three (3) photos depicting the project in your supportive material (see next bullet).
- Up to 10 pages of supportive information such as newspaper clippings, photos, letters from constituents or other items that help document the program submitted on 8.5"x 11" paper, single-sided. Please **DO NOT** spiral bind your entries or use presentation folders.
- One original entry packet and five (5) copies (including supportive information). Include a copy of this form with each of the additional copies.

Entries should be sent **certified mail** and **must** reach the League office by **Friday, November 1, 2013**.
Hand-delivered entries must be received in the League's office by 4:00 p.m., Friday, November 1, 2013.
Entries received after November 1, **regardless of postdate, will be deemed ineligible.**

Mail Entries to:
Municipal Quality of Life Awards • Alabama League of Municipalities • PO Box 1270 • Montgomery, AL 36102

For more information, contact Carrie Banks at 334-262-2566 or via email at carrieb@alalm.org.

Alabama League of Municipalities

Quality of Life Award

”Recognizing successful, innovative projects that improve the quality of life for citizens.”

Population category: over 12,001

Subject Area: Public Service

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### New Municipal Facilities for the City of Mountain Brook

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Background

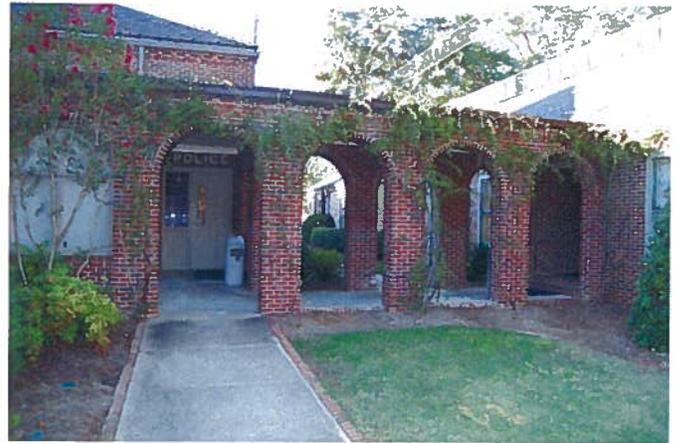


The City of Mountain Brook, incorporated in 1942, conducted its first administrative functions from Taylor Grocery in Crestline Village, which was complete with one gasoline pump and also housed the local post office! Council meetings were held in the back of the store.



In 1951 a new city hall was constructed; subsequently converted to the municipal jail.

In 1967 Mountain Brook's third city hall was built, and over the next 42 years housed services such as City Management, Police, Fire, Revenue, Licensing, Information Technology, Planning, Municipal Court and the Jail.



Eventually it became evident to city officials that city services had outgrown the existing facilities. Also, the aging facility required frequent repairs to keep it viable for city operations. For seven years city officials explored options such as remodeling the existing structures, relocating from city hall to a larger site or rebuilding the municipal complex on the same site.



Remodeling the facilities would have served more as a “band aid” than a lasting solution, with the administrative building’s foundation not able to support a second floor, the fire department building plagued with mold, and the jail literally sitting on “shifting sand.” City hall was “bursting at the seams,”

and with employees working in overcrowded workspaces it was eminent that additional square footage be acquired to accommodate existing services and future growth.



An administrative office literally in the “attic”



Information Technology “Department”

Voila!



Mountain Brook City Hall April 2013

Goals in the Re-Building Process

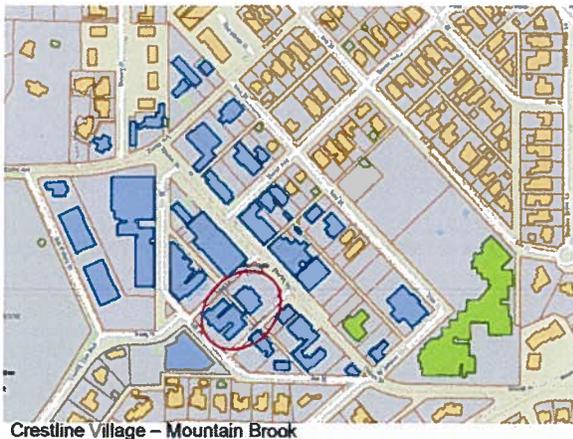
For the new municipal complex to remain on its traditional “mother site” in Crestline Village, serving as the main anchor of the village and the city as a whole.



An aerial photograph depicts the city hall site (since 1951). Compact and landlocked, in the heart of Crestline Village, it originally consisted of two lots with a dedicated alley between them.

The site contains only 40,000 square feet, which led to innovation in design in order to accommodate nearly double the square footage of the existing facility and provide subterranean parking.

To continue to foster the “civic presence” in Crestline Village.



Over the years other “civic” uses have sprung up around the municipal complex, creating a culture of local civic activities, such as the local library, Board of Education and the Chamber of Commerce.

This civic culture has proven to be a valuable convenience to the public, and has set the tone for Crestline Village as a civic “hub” of the city, a gathering place for governmental services, city meetings, and for social activities and events as well. To this end the council voted to remain in the same location as the previous city hall.

To make municipal amenities and services convenient and accessible.



The new city hall layout allows easy access to staff and services in a way that fosters efficiency and is “user friendly.” The City Manager’s office is located front-and-center, making him accessible to the public for general business. The “service mall” conveniently bundles licensing, building inspections and court services in one location.

Police and Fire are highly visible and easily accessed. All previous employee surface parking has been relocated in an underground parking structure, freeing up 50 on-street parking spaces for public use whether conducting business at city hall or shopping in the village.

To provide a pleasant, professional environment for the public to conduct administrative business with the city (applying for licenses, meeting with City staff and City officials, participating in public hearings, attending municipal court, paying fines).

The service mall makes for convenient “one-stop shopping,” the new conference rooms allow for multiple meetings to take place at the same time, and the larger council chamber allows for more individuals to participate in the public hearing process.



To increase the square footage of City Hall, not only to accommodate current functions and staff, but to allow for future growth of public services and employees and to provide a safe, pleasant environment for City employees to work.

The square footage of the complex nearly doubled from 28,000 to 53,000. New facilities are equipped with spacious offices to meet the work-flow needs of current and future staff.



Employee Break Room

There is an office for the mayor, ample conference rooms (both of which were sorely lacking in the old facility), private conference rooms for use by the court (attorneys and clients literally used to meet in a closet) and plenty of public seating in the council chambers. The restrooms and employee break room are modern and well-appointed.

To construct a City Hall facility that would set the architectural tone of Crestline Village; complimenting the traditional style of existing “anchor” buildings, as well as pay homage to quintessential English Tudor style for which Mountain Brook is beloved.

The architects for the new buildings gave special consideration to the scale, massing and materials used, choosing elements that were traditional while utilizing materials that were cost-effective but lasting.



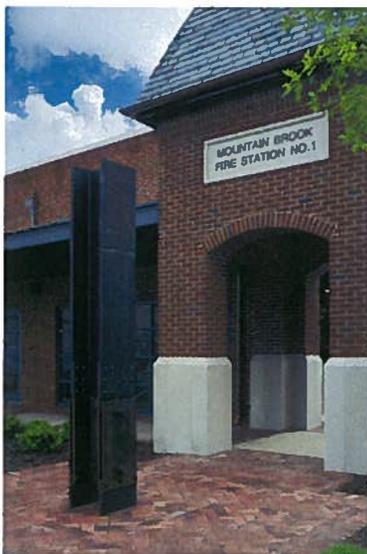
To preserve the city hall courtyard plaza for continued use as an informal public space as well as a formal gathering place for community events.

The facility that served as city hall since 1967 contained a large courtyard with mature trees, a fountain, benches and a giant chess set, and so served as a favorite public open space for children, teens and grown-ups alike. While it was undoubtedly tempting to construct much-needed square footage in place of the previous open courtyard (which accounted for 20% of the municipal site) the council remained firm in its objective to preserve that space as it has historically been much beloved and used by the public. The City went to great lengths to ensure that the six mature trees were protected and maintained, upgraded the chess “board” from vinyl to tile pavers, made provisions for a new fountain and installed all new landscaping. All of these efforts preserved and enhanced the pedestrian scale and friendly atmosphere of Crestline Village.



To engage the community, and incorporate its ideas into the form and function of the new facility.

Local high school students partnered with the Chamber to sell engraved bricks for the courtyard, and a local family donated the new courtyard fountain. Also, a plaza was constructed for a memorial to the City's fallen policemen, and a beam of steel from the World Trade Center Tower (commemorative of the September 11, 2001 attacks) was obtained by the City. The Linn-Henley Charitable Trust donated funds to help with the display costs of the steel beam and a local artist assisted in the design for the artistic display.



Improving Services, Image and Trust in Local Government

A governmental agency's facility is a reflection of the quality of services the public can expect, and it projects onto the public the level of confidence it may have in the abilities of the agency. Public agencies can change the stigmatic "bureaucratic face" of governmental service by providing contemporary modes of interface with the public. Make doing business with "City Hall" a pleasant, efficient and friendly experience by streamlining not only the services provided but the facility in which they are provided. If the facility is handsome and comfortable (inside and out) and lends itself to convenient public service then the public will have confidence in the municipal entity and feel more comfortable in approaching city staff and officials for the services they are entitled to receive!

How well did your program achieve its objectives?

The objectives for this project, as set forth by the City Council, were successfully achieved through a deliberate setting of goals and the means to achieve those goals. There were several snags along the way, but, overall, the building as it exists today meets the vision for a handsome, functional, building that will serve the Mountain Brook Community for decades to come.

Word Count: 62

What makes your program innovative and unique?

The complex houses many distinct city functions and features...yet they fit and function seamlessly, integrated visually but separated functionally. Most departments have separate but functional entrances which distinguish between pedestrian and vehicular traffic while offering easy access to the public.

Also, the new buildings have the look of aged structures and a different architectural view is presented at each encounter. Oak Street presents a classic looking fire station with limestone eyebrow features.



Hoyt Lane presents the Chamber as if a store-front property; whereas Church Street presents as a classic formal City Hall. Literally, there is no "back" to the building.

Word Count: 100

How can other municipalities adapt your program to benefit their communities?

The City has incorporated a funded depreciation policy into its budgeting process. As assets are acquired or constructed, the City includes in its General Fund budget an [expense] transfer to the Capital Projects Fund based on the annual depreciation expense of said asset(s), resulting in the accumulation of funds in the Capital Projects Fund for the future replacement of capital assets. This policy enabled the City to construct its new facility without financing. The benefits of the City's funded depreciation policy are obvious and provide the City with greater flexibility and peace of mind.

Word Count: 94

The Old Mill Reporter

CITY OF MOUNTAIN BROOK
EMPLOYEES' NEWSLETTER

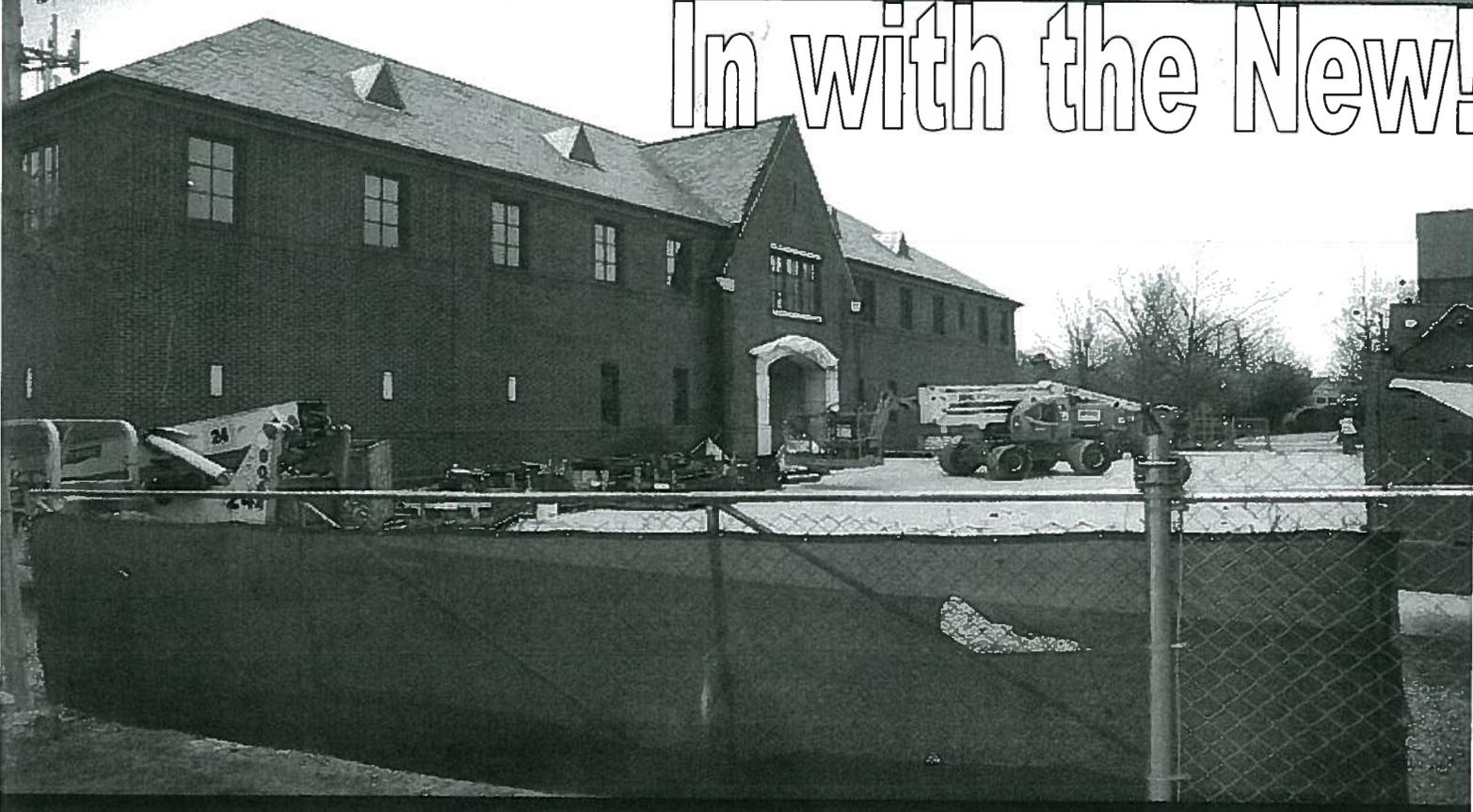


April 2013

Out with the Old,



In with the New!





The Birmingham News/Joe Song

Members of the Mountain Brook City Council and other city leaders tour the Mountain Brook Municipal Complex. Construction on the complex is about 50 percent complete.

MOUNTAIN BROOK

Officials tour city hall site

By William Thornton
wthornton@bhamnews.com

Mountain Brook city officials toured the construction site of the new municipal complex last week, getting a progress report on the project that is still unfinished six months after it was scheduled to open.

Members of the City Council walked through the police, fire and administrative sections of the project, as well as the underground parking lot. Officials with Brasfield & Gorrie Construction, the project's new contractors, pointed out fea-

tures of the buildings.

Last month, Brasfield & Gorrie replaced Taylor & Miree, which had been the contractor since construction began early last year. City officials were told it will take until the end of August for construction crews to ramp up activity on the project. For the past few weeks, Brasfield has been surveying the buildings, getting an inventory of materials and lining up work schedules.

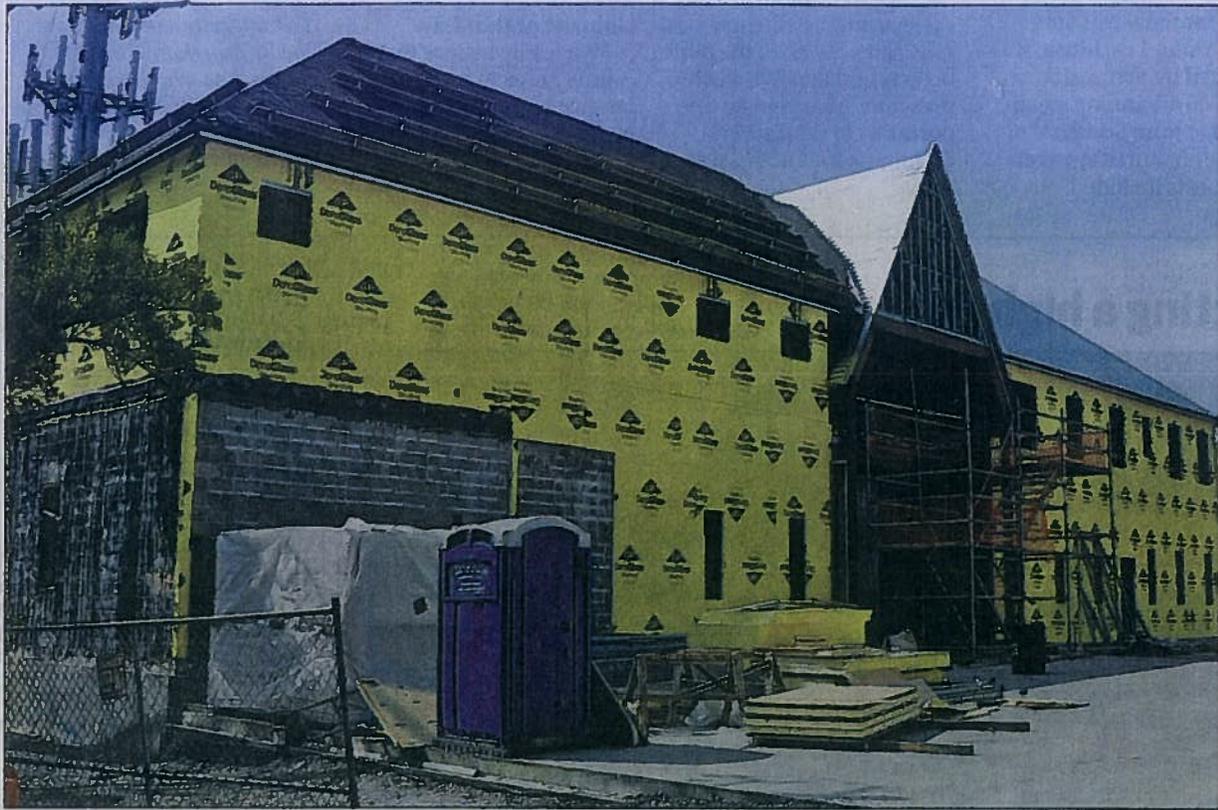
Mayor Terry Oden said the

See CITY HALL, Page 2S



The Birmingham News/Joe Song

Officials with Brasfield & Gorrie Construction pointed out features of the buildings.



Birmingham News/Bernard Tronca

Construction continues on the Mountain Brook police building on Tibbett Street.

MOUNTAIN BROOK MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

On track for a fall finish

Complications slowed new home for city services

By William Thornton
wthornton@bhamnews.com

Mountain Brook's new municipal complex could be finished by late this fall, almost two years after city services moved out of the old City Hall.

John Soule of Brasfield & Gorrie, the city's project manager, said general contractor Taylor & Miree Construction is a little less than half way completed with the project but should be finished by then.

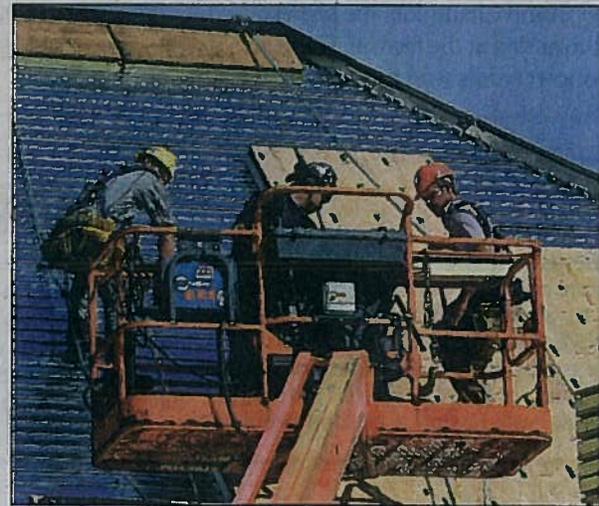
"There will be some time there after to move in and have city employees start occupying the building," he said. "There's still going to be a lot of work getting 911, operations and dispatch running for police and fire. Everybody on the team is working hard to get the city moved in as quickly as they can."

Mayor Terry Oden said city officials had hoped the project would be further along, but still remain hopeful it will be completed soon.

Construction began in January 2011 on the new municipal complex on Church Street, to house the city's administrative, police and fire offices and Fire Station No. 1. During construction, police and fire relocated to Office Park, while administrative offices are at a temporary location on Montclair Road.

The complex has a large main building to house the administrative and Fire Department, and a secondary building on Tibbett Street for police.

The project was originally set to be finished in February.



Birmingham News/Bernard Tronca

Workers attach roofing to the police building at the Mountain Brook municipal complex.

However, the project required more complex utility relocations, which set the project behind.

Soule said workers should begin installing trusses for

See COMPLEX, Page 5

Village Living



Municipal Complex to open this month

City Hall Main Entrance

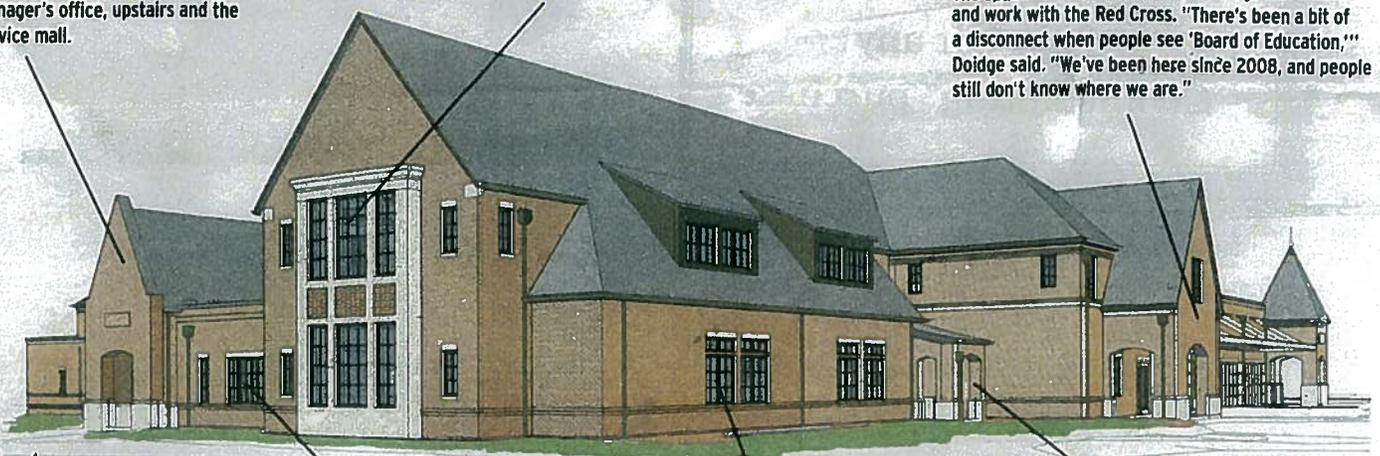
The two-story atrium entrance leads to a large lobby with access to the courthouse, the city manager's office, upstairs and the service mall.

Mayor's Office

For the first time, the mayor of Mountain Brook will have his or her own office to conduct meetings and mayoral activities. "Every other mayor in Jefferson County has an office, and now I can ask someone to meet me at the mayor's office," Mayor Terry Oden said.

Chamber of Commerce

Executive Director Suzan Doidge said this will be the first time the Chamber will have a multi-room office. The space will be used to hold meetings and events and work with the Red Cross. "There's been a bit of a disconnect when people see 'Board of Education,'" Doidge said. "We've been here since 2008, and people still don't know where we are."



Spartan Square/The Fountain

With \$200,000 being donated toward the Complex fountain, the city council held multiple meetings to perfect every detail. Spartan Square features purchased bricks bearing the names of community members.

City Manager's Office

Sam Gaston, the city manager, will work from this office. A brass chandelier from the Jemison family, who developed much of Mountain Brook, will hang here.

City Council and Courthouse

The City Council has a pre-Council chamber directly underneath the mayor's office. The council chambers will double as the Mountain Brook Courthouse and can seat more than 100 people.

Service Mall

The mall area will allow residents to apply for business licenses and permits and pay tickets in one location. It also features access to the second floor for those meeting with the mayor.

By MEGAN SMITH

When the mayor of Mountain Brook moves into his new office this month, he'll be in the midst of several important neighbors.

The new Mountain Brook Municipal Complex, constructed as an effort to centralize services, will house the Mountain Brook Fire Department, City Council, Chamber of Commerce and Courthouse under one roof. The Police Department will be connected by an underground parking lot.

For the past two years, the Police and Fire Departments have been located in Office Park. The mayor has been operating from home, and the City Council and other administrative employees have been working in offices on Montclair Road.

The new all-in-one \$16.5 million Complex will be open in late April. Not only is the building designed for practicality and efficiency, but it also contains elements of history to capitalize on its uniqueness:

► Fire Chief Robert Ezekiel secured an

H-beam from the World Trade Center. The bronze base, designed by metalworker and artist Shea Scully, mimics the structure of the beam and holds it in a vertical position to honor the tower from which it originated.

► The existing police monument depicting an officer holding a child's hand will be placed on Oak Street. The monument commemorates officers who have fallen in the line of duty.

► A 2-foot-by-1-foot time capsule box is air- and water-tight and contains articles

Back View facing Emmet O'Neal Library

Training Room

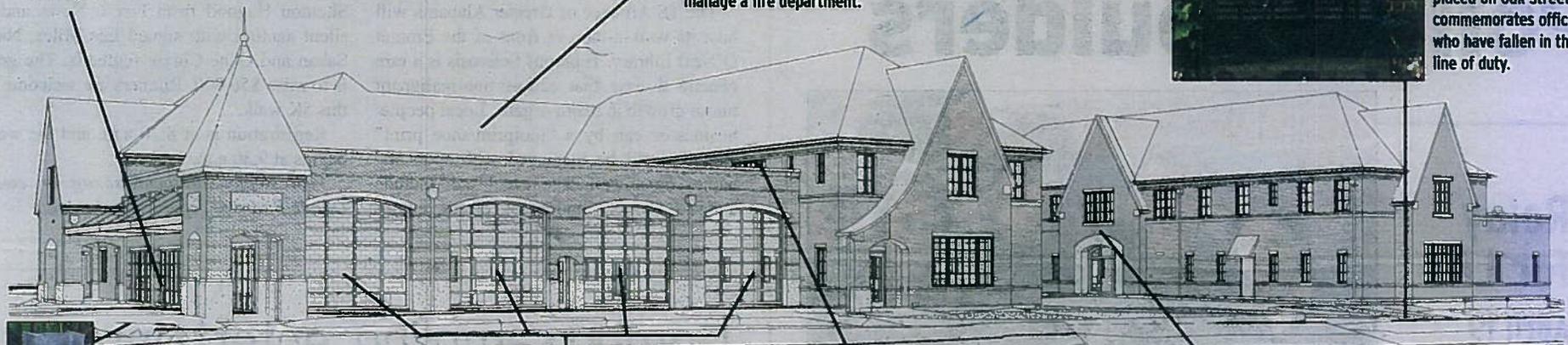
This room will seat 24 people and have built-in projectors for classroom presentations. The room will be used for two hour daily training, as well as certification class and paramedic courses "We've been utilizing churches in the area for classes," Ezekiel said. "We're really looking forward to having our own space."

Fire Station No. 1

Twenty-seven of Mountain Brook fire department's 63 employees will be stationed at Fire Station #1. Nine firefighters will work 24-hour shifts with 48 hour breaks. Fire chief Robert Ezekiel said this is the most efficient way to manage a fire department.



Police Monument
The existing police monument, to be placed on Oak Street, commemorates officers who have fallen in the line of duty.



9/11 Monument

The 84-inch tall, 1,380-pound pound piece is powerfully symbolic. "343 firefighters lost their lives that day running into a building everyone else was running out of," Ezekiel said. "If you took all of the firefighters from Mountain Brook, Vestavia and Homewood and probably even Hoover, you would maybe be equal to that amount." Mountain Brook will hold this year's 9/11 remembrance ceremony with Homewood and Vestavia.

Apparatus Bay

The fire department will have four bays for a pumper apparatus, an apparatus with an aerial ladder, an ambulance and the shift commander's vehicle.

Conference Room

This room will be used for committee meetings, staff meetings, and architects and builders meeting with the fire marshal to discuss fire codes. Ezekiel said this room will definitely be used frequently in the coming months, especially regarding the Lane Park project.

Police Station

The Mountain Brook police department currently has 53 sworn officers and approximately 15 support staff including supervisors, dispatch and animal control. The new police station will have two holding cells and 10 inmate cells. An emergency response shelter in the parking lot has the potential to act as headquarters of disaster relief. "We have an instant command center with everyone in one room," said Ted Cook, police chief.

CITY HALL

from pg 1

concerning historic events occurring in Mountain Brook, including copies of Village Living. The capsule will be located in the wall underneath the monumental stairs in the main lobby.

▶ Spartan Square, the front courtyard beside the city hall entrance has Mountain Brook

designed for Spartan Square.

Security and durability were also key components of the facility's design. Here are some interesting features of the complex:

- ▶ The underground parking lot contains a 280 square-foot backup emergency response center, complete with full-power, emergency dispatch, phones, screens and data for the city manager, police and fire departments in case anything were to damage the above-

mph, F1 tornados and strong Category 2 hurricanes.

- ▶ Security clearance card readers will restrict administrative facilities from the public.
- ▶ The Police Department facility will have select bulletproof windows.
- ▶ The main complex and police department are linked by an underground parking lot, which can serve to keep inmates off the street before and after court.

individual will be in one building again. While the department was under construction, police operated from Office Park, held arrested individuals in jails of neighboring communities and court in Vestavia.

- ▶ The parking lot has approximately 60 parking spots and is for employee use only. Only a few employee vehicles will remain in street-level parking.

◆ MOUNTAIN BROOK

New Municipal Complex Open

By WILLIAM C. SINGLETON III
JOURNAL CONTRIBUTOR

After nearly two years of operating city business from temporary facilities, Mountain Brook city police and fire officials are finally back in one spot.

City officials started moving into the new 53,000 square-foot municipal complex April 24, although at press time Brasfield & Gorrie, the chief contractor for the project, was applying the finishing touches to the Church Street building.

Robert McElroy, senior project manager for Brasfield & Gorrie, said last week that construction is pretty finished except for the front of the municipal building, which will include a fountain and large chessboard and pieces cast in different color stones. The chess pieces will stand three feet tall, he said.

The rest of the building won't be finished until the end of May, McElroy said.

For the past two years, the city's administrative offices occupied rented space off Montclair Road. The police and fire departments set up temporary offices at Office Park Circle off U.S. 280.

The project was initially projected to be completed by February 2012.

City officials said they were glad to finally see light at the end of the tunnel on the project.

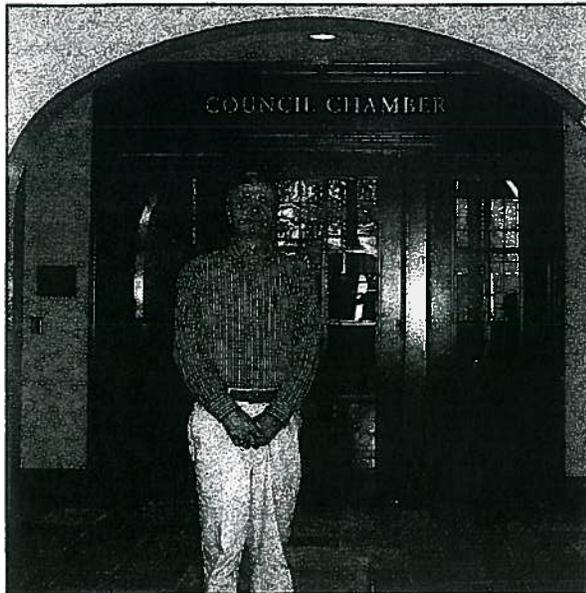
"We've been looking forward to getting the city employees back into a really fabulous facility and getting all this construction out of the middle of Crestline and getting the employees cars parked underneath the building," said Council President Virginia Smith. "It will free up a lot of parking around the village."

The municipal complex has separate buildings for the police and fire departments, including bays for fire vehicles. The Mountain Brook Fire Department has a two-level station at the rear of the complex facing Oak Street. The fire department facility includes 10 dorm rooms for firefighters, a training room and a full kitchen. There is also a day room and a small library in the fire department.

A bridge over the underground parking area separates the police and fire departments.

The Mountain Brook Police Department occupies a facility facing Tibbett Street. The city jail, administrative and dispatch offices are on the ground floor and the offices of police officials and investigators are upstairs. The new police department features an armory, evidence lockers, heavy metal doors and bullet and bomb-proof windows.

The complex comes with an underground parking deck to accommodate more than 60 spots for employees, which is expected to ease



ABOVE: City Manager Sam Gaston stands outside the new Mountain Brook City Council chambers.

LEFT: A statue outside the police department at the new Mountain Brook municipal complex honors police officers who have died in the line of duty. Journal photo by William C. Singleton III



traffic congestion in Crestline Village.

"That will get most of our employee parking underneath and off the street," said City Manager Sam Gaston. "The layout of the building will make it more functional and convenient for our staff as well as the public as they do business with the city."

The \$15.3 million building's design boasts several elegant details, including a stone floor in the lobby and a monumental staircase leading to the second floor. The building includes polished oak finishes throughout and arched doorways on opposite ends of the mall service area, which will be where residents can pay traffic tickets, apply for building permits or take care of other city business.

The Mountain Brook City Council also has a stylish new place to conduct city business, including a stone-topped dais in the council chambers. The council area includes a formal meeting room with the raised dais and an adjacent meeting room.

The mayor's office opens to an outdoor deck.

The elegant design continues on the building's exterior.

"The front part of this building has a lot of beautiful trim to signify the quality of this community," McElroy said.

The council president said that the city accomplished its goals within its budget.

"We really didn't go all out,"

Smith said. "We have a great deal more space. And the public space looks very nice. But when you get behind the public space, the area is very industrial. It's very serviceable and terrific, but it's not fancy."

The mayor said he's pleased with how the new municipal complex turned out, both aesthetically and financially.

"We wanted to make it look nice," Oden said. "And the architects we had were able to do that at a reasonable cost. A lot of it we couldn't believe it either. But they did it. And the nice thing about it is that it's paid for."

William Blackstock Architects designed the complex with the aim to compliment the surrounding village architecture, with red brick, Tudor-style details and a sloping roof line. The company also designed the Vestavia Hills Civic Center.

The city's former municipal complex had about 28,000 square feet of space and was built nearly 45 years ago. The 1967 City Hall was demolished in 2010.

A grand opening for the new municipal complex will be held later this year, city officials said. ♦

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**SUBMIT
REGISTRATION
PACKETS**

► May 15, 4-7 p.m., The Trak
Shak, Homewood

► May 16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., The
Trak Shak, Homewood

► May 17, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.,
Children's McWane Building,
First Floor Lobby, 1000
Seventh Ave. South

► May 18 (Race Day),
7-7:30 a.m., The Trak Shak,
Homewood

SCHOOL

**3rd grader wins
state writing/
drawing award**

winning book will be
the national competition



Highlands School
third-grader Harrison
Coleman, 10, wrote "July
McDonald"

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Gardens gears up for hydrangea sale

ges plants for sale, including
about 30 varieties of hydran-
geas. Aldridge Executive
Director Rip Weaver said
The plants range in size from
quart to 3-gallon containers,
and prices range from \$18 to
\$32, he said.

The main sale is 9 a.m. to
5 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to
noon Saturday.

There also is an early sale
and wine and cheese recep-
tion for members of the gar-
den from 4 to 7 p.m. Thurs-

day.

The annual spring hydran-
gea sale is popular, particu-
larly when the hydrangeas are
in full bloom, Weaver said.

This year, some will be in
bloom, and some will be just
budding, he said.

Last year, all the hy-
ran-
geas were blooming, and
Aldridge had to restock it
apply three or four times
during the sale, Weaver said.

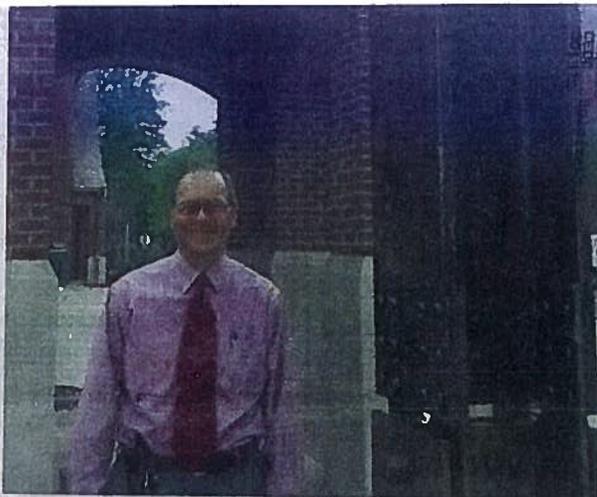
On June 8, Aldridge Gar-
dens will offer a hand-
son

workshop teaching partici-
pants an easy way to prop-
agate hydrangeas for them-
selves. The class fee of \$20 for
members and \$27 for non-
members includes a 56-quart
sterile propagation box,
rooting hormones, potting soil
and peat. Class members may
root up to three fresh hydran-
gea cuttings to take home.

To register for either class
for more information call
Audrey Ann Wilton at 682-
8019, extension 3.



The Penny Mac hydrangea is one of about 30 varieties at
Aldridge Gardens, which is holding its spring hydrangea
sale this weekend. (The)



Fire Chief Robert "Zeka" Ezekiel stands beside the World Trade Center beam that arrived in Mountain Brook last
Wednesday. (Courtesy: Brian Dodge)

MOUNTAIN BROOK

LASTING MEMORIAL

World Trade Center beam arrives, will sit outside fire department

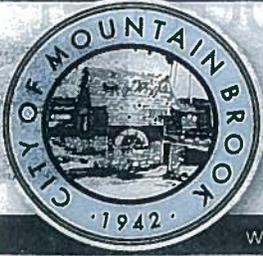
Ana Rodriguez ► arodriguez@al.com

A beam of steel from the World Trade Center Towers — a commemorative relic of the Sept.
11, 2001 attacks — arrived at Mountain Brook's new municipal complex last week.

The 9/11 memorial will sit just outside the fire department headquarters on an adjacent
patio. The design of the space has large windows that will serve as doors to the apparatus bay and
give curious onlookers a peek at the fire trucks.

City officials began their move into the new building after nearly two years of working in tempo-
rary offices. The complex, with 53,000 square feet, is now the home of City Hall, the mayor's office,
the police station, the city jail, Fire Station 1 and the chamber of commerce.

Residents will be able to use the complex to pay parking tickets, apply for building permits and a
variety of other city business-related necessities.



the Reporter

Mountain Brook, Ala.

www.mtnbrook.org

Volume XVIII, Issue 3

MAYORS MESSAGE

Our new Municipal Complex is now a reality. City Administration, the Chamber of Commerce and our Police and Fire Departments are all in a central location, providing a more efficient operation of city business.

The memorial dedicated to our fallen policemen has been relocated in front of the Police Department, and a new special feature has been located next to the Fire Department. It is a steel H-beam retrieved from the wreckage of the World Trade Towers. We acquired this beam from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and used it to create a sculpture to memorialize the many brave people who were part of the tragic and historical event of September 11th. The relocation of the police memorial and the placement of the World Trade Tower beam was made possible by financial assistance from the Linn-Henley Charitable Trust.

There are also some fun features for you to enjoy such

as an over-sized chess set in the front yard of City Hall and Spartan Square, a walk made up of engraved bricks donated by residents. We hope you will visit our new complex and enjoy all that there is to offer.

It is my pleasure to invite you to be a part of the grand opening of our new Municipal Complex which is scheduled for Sunday, August 25th from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. I hope you will join in the festivities and tour our city's buildings.

Sincerely,

Lawrence T. Oden

The Chess Set is Back!

The City has placed the chess set back in front of City Hall. Now there are pavers for the chessboard instead of the plastic board used before.

Come by and play a match with your friends or family.

