The special meeting of the Northport City Council convened at 12:00 p.m. on December 22, 2011 at the Northport City Hall, located at 3500 McFarland Blvd. Upon roll call, the following were found to be present: President Tunnell, Councilman Webb, Pro Tem Logan, Councilman Acker, and President Tunnell. Those absent and failing to vote, Councilman Harper. Also present were City Administrator Scott Collins and Mayor Bobby Herndon.

Motion by Pro Tem Logan, Second by Councilman Webb to approve the Agenda for the December 22, 2011 Council Meeting. Roll call vote was as follows: Pro Tem Logan, Yes; Councilman Webb, Yes; Councilman Acker, Yes; President Tunnell, Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Ms. Carolyn Trent from 2928 Hawthorne Circle, Tuscaloosa, expressed her concerns about the annexation for a fitness center. Her concerns are the traffic volume and the lighting of the facility. She presumes the hours of operation will be from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and she is worried about the lights from the facility shining into her back yard. Ms. Trent was also concerned about the traffic volume entering and exiting on Watermelon Road from the facility.

Mr. and Mrs. John Quarles from 721 Old White Lane had concerns with drainage, traffic and lighting of the facility. He asked that there be some kind of buffer installed to block the facility from Greenbriar, so that people will not be able to see into their backyards and homes from the facility. Director of Planning, Katherine Ennis explained that all these items are considered in the site plan review.

Ms. Mary Cartee representing Northridge Fitness addressed some of the issues that citizens had with the annexation of the facility. She said the land will be graded and not be on the hill that exists now and the drainage issues will be stabilized and will meet Northport’s standards.

Motion by Pro Tem Logan, Second by Councilman Acker to approve Ordinance 1769 Annexing Property into City Limits at 4286 Watermelon Road. Roll call vote was as follows: Pro Tem Logan, Yes; Councilman Acker, Yes; Councilman Webb, Yes; President Tunnell, Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mr. Mark Martin from 808 Old White Lane, had concerns with the C-3 zoning for the property located at 4286 Watermelon Road. He would like it to be zoned C-2 so that in the future it can’t be sold and used for veterinary clinic, restaurant, automobile wash, etc. Director of Planning, Katherine Ennis explained that for long range planning purposes, it is the goal to put like zoning districts in the same areas, and the primary commercial zoning districts along this corridor are C-3.

Mr. Jack Nicholson from 715 Old White Lane also had concerns with the rezoning. He said he would like for it to be zoned at C-2 instead of C-3 so that it will restrict what can be built there in the future.

Mr. Brock Corder with the Builders Group discussed the layout of the facility.

There was discussion about revising the zoning to a C-2 (Neighborhood Commercial) instead of a C-3 (General Commercial) due to the possibility of future development on this property.

Motion by President Tunnell, Second by Councilman Acker to approve Ordinance 1770 Rezoning property from RS-1 (Single Family Residential) to C-2 (Neighborhood Commercial) at 4286 Watermelon Road. Roll call was as follows: President Tunnell, Yes; Councilman Acker, Yes; Councilman Webb, Yes; Pro Tem Logan, Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.
Motion by Pro Tem Logan, Second by Councilman Acker to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote was as follows: Pro Tem Logan, Yes; Councilman Acker, Yes; Councilman Webb, Yes; President Tunnell, Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

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William Tunnell, President

ATTEST:

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Scott Collins, City Administrator