

REGULAR MEETING ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL

JUNE 20, 2011

The Ashland City Council met for a regular meeting on June 20, 2011 at 5:00 P.M. in the Ashland City Hall Auditorium with Mayor Larry J. Fetner presiding. Council Members present were Zeola D. Echols, Bobbie J. Steed, Gail E. Thompson, Rebecca G. Boddie and Mike Beale. Also present were City Clerk Charles E. Foster, Asst. City Clerk Donna J. Bennett, Police Chief Benny Davis, Code Enforcement Officer Terry Raughton, Maintenance Supervisor Lester Robinson, Officer Joseph Stanford, Librarian Tina Nolen, Jeremy Nash, Ryan Nelson and Ray Stansell of the Clay Times-Journal.

Fire Chief Joel McMath was absent.

Mayor Fetner called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Council Member Thompson moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the following. Under New Business – Item No. 5, Hiring of Leigh Ann Mask as police dispatcher; Item No. 6, Acceptance of resignation from Jason Gentry effective June 30, 2011; Item No. 7, Opening of police officer position; Item No. 8, Purchase of bullet proof vests for the police department with grant funding; Item No. 1 under Resolutions, etc., Approval of Resolution approving Change Order No. 4 in the contract for water and street improvements on 2nd Avenue South funded through CDBG SM-CE-PF-09-039 as proposed by Nelson & Company and authorizing the Mayor to sign Change Order No. 4 on behalf of the City of Ashland and Item No. 2, Approval of Resolution approving the application for a grant under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program through ADECA and authorizing the Mayor to sign any and all documents to obtain grant. This motion was seconded by Council Member Beale and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Boddie moved to approve the minutes of the previous planning meeting. Seconded by Council Member Thompson and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Thompson moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Seconded by Council Member Echols and all votes were unanimous.

Under informational items, Mayor Fetner spoke briefly on the uniform numbering of the city buildings/facilities. Maintenance Supervisor Robinson will get samples of lettering for door fronts.

Under committee reports, Mayor Fetner reported that he was trying to get in contact with Jane Ross of Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood concerning ALDOT's refusal to use crepe myrtles and the delay on the project.

Council Members Echols and Steed did not report.

Council Member Thompson asked about the signs that were left behind by the construction company that has been working on 2nd Avenue South. Code Officer Raughton reported that all signs have been removed.

Council Member Boddie asked about the water shortage over the past weekend. It was explained that all tanks were empty and it was being looked into.

Council Member Beale thanked the Ashland Housing Authority and East Central Alabama Gas for all their assistance on the 2nd Avenue South Project.

City Clerk Foster did not report.

Chief Davis reported that equipment has been ordered to outfit the new Dodge patrol car. Chief Davis asked that signs be placed at the entrances to the Birding Trail showing trail closing time. It was decided that signs would state closing at dusk. Repairs had to be made on the 2007 Chevrolet Impala at a cost of \$799.00. Chief Davis explained that his officers would be removing all electronic equipment from their vehicles after each shift due to the extreme heat which can cause damage.

Supervisor Robinson reported that the Birding Trail at the watershed was being worked on with the help of volunteers from SIFAT, Birding Trail at park almost complete (will be adding benches), mulching all shrubbery with pine straw, drop at Harris Plumbing will be poured at the same time that the sidewalk repairs are made, limb truck is in Wedowee at East Alabama Trucking to be repaired, the City is currently borrowing the City of Lineville's limb truck, Graves Fabricating should have an estimate on the repairs to the posts and awning to be submitted to the insurance company.

Code Officer Raughton gave his opinion on the letter received from the animal group who wants the City to be a collection drop-off for animals for the county, Wynn Building roof leaking again, and he along with Lester had attended a storm & safe room seminar in Tuscaloosa.

Librarian Nolen reported that the library had received a donation from the Housing Authority and that Dee Perkins would be at the library this summer to teach children the game of chess.

Council Member Thompson moved to approve the bills received since the last meeting in the amount of \$3020.27. Council Member Echols seconded the motion and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Boddie made a motion allowing Chief Davis to attend the AACOP's Summer Conference in Orange Beach August 1-4 with a registration of \$200.00. This motion was seconded by Council Member Echols and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Echols made a motion to place Chief Davis and Brett Thompson on the Broadband Board. This motion was seconded by Council Member Beale with motion passing by a majority. Council Member Thompson abstained.

Council Member Thompson made a motion to reschedule the next regular meeting to July 5 @ 5:00 P.M. due the 4th of July holiday on Monday. This motion was seconded by Council Member Echols and all votes were unanimous.

Upon the recommendation of Chief Davis, Council Member Echols made a motion to hire Leigh Ann Mask as night shift dispatcher at a rate of \$8.21 per hour and to begin as soon as possible. This motion was seconded by Council Member Beale and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Thompson made a motion to table a decision on Item No. 6 due to the lack of a written resignation. This motion was seconded by Council Member Boddie and all votes were unanimous.

There was no motion made for Item No. 7.

Council Member Thompson made a motion to purchase bullet proof vests for the police department under a 50/50 match grant with a cost to the City of \$2096.50. This motion was seconded by Council Member Beale and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Thompson made a motion to approve a Resolution approving Change Order No. 4 in the contract for water and street improvements on 2nd Avenue South funded through CDBG SM-CE-PF-09-039 as proposed by Nelson & Company and authorizing the Mayor to sign Change Order No. 4 on behalf of the City of Ashland. This motion was seconded by Council Member Boddie and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Beale made a motion to approve a Resolution approving the application for a grant under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program through ADECA and authorizing the Mayor to sign any and all documents to obtain grant. This motion was seconded by Council Member Boddie and all votes were unanimous.

There being no further business, Council Member Thompson moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Council Member Beale and all votes were unanimous.

Mayor

Attest: _____