

REGULAR MEETING ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL

JULY 5, 2011

The Ashland City Council met for a regular meeting on July 5, 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, Fire Chief Joel McMath, Code Enforcement Officer Terry Raughton, Maintenance Supervisor Lester Robinson, Officer Joseph Stanford, Stanley Allen, Rhonda Freeman, Scott Freeman, Chuck Freeman and Wesley Ledbetter of Alabama 100.

Librarian Tina Nolen was absent.

Mayor Fetner called the meeting to order and Council Member Echols gave the invocation.

Council Member Boddie moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the following. Under New Business – Item No. 4, Approval of donation to the Clay County Arts League; Item No. 5, Approval of Body Armor Policy for the Police Department; Item No. 6, Appropriation to the Ashland Baseball for Youth; and Item No. 7, New contract with Animal Rescue Foundation of Sylacauga. This motion was seconded by Council Member Beale and all votes were unanimous.

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

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

Under informational items, Stanley Allen of Roanoke spoke of trying to get the cities of Ashland, Lineville and Roanoke together to hire an attorney to try and repeal the State Act that removed these three municipalities from holding wet/dry referendums. Mr. Allen stated that he was representing the citizens of Roanoke and that he would like to meet with citizens of Ashland and Lineville,

It was discussed whether to add the loss of sales tax revenue to the City's insurance policy. It was asked that this be placed on the next agenda for consideration.

Under committee reports, Council Member Echols asked that the police department be visible during a tournament that will be held this Saturday at Westside ballfield.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Thompson asked the status of the Streetscape projects. Code Officer Raughton reported that everything was still the same.

Council Member Boddie asked permission of the other council members to send a letter requesting funding for the urban park to be built on the south side of the square. Permission granted.

Council Member Boddie also asked that Jennifer Alam be contacted to take photos of the Little League team leaving Ashland on Friday to be put on the website.

Council Member Beale reported that the telemetry on the water tanks were now online and can be monitored so that tanks do not empty out or overflow.

Council Member Beale also reported that tests have been run on the discolored water, but that all tests stated that the water was not dangerous, but potable.

City Clerk Foster did not report.

Chief Davis reported that the new Dodge was in the shop getting outfitted with the equipment that has been received, bulletproof vests have been ordered for the department, the click-it or ticket grant has been increased and these funds will be used for officers' overtime and the Drug Task Force grant has been approved.

Chief McMath did not report.

Supervisor Robinson reported on the Birding Trail meeting that he attended on this date, 31 North sidewalks have been concreted, the limb truck is back in service, a sample of numbering has been placed on the front door of City Hall, signs for the Birding Trails closing have been ordered, an estimate has been received from Graves Fabricating on the repairs to the awning on 77 North, and changing tables have been completed in the restrooms at the ballparks and the park.

Code Officer Raughton reported that the 2nd Avenue Project was almost complete with the completion of landscaping on the Bowen property, the water drainage project at the school was almost complete and deeds were ready from the city attorney for the pump station location at the new school.

Under new business, Council Member Echols moved to approve the bills received since the last meeting in the amount of \$7312.68. Council Member Boddie seconded the motion and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Boddie made a motion to accept the resignation of Officer Jason Gentry effective June 30, 2011. This motion was seconded by Council Member Thompson and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Beale made a motion to open the position of police officer. This motion was seconded by Council Member Thompson and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Boddie made a motion to donate \$300.00 to the Clay County Arts League. This motion was seconded by Council Member Echols and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Thompson made a motion to adopt a written Body Armor Policy for the police department. This motion was seconded by Council Member Beale and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Thompson made a motion to appropriate \$3650.00 to the Ashland Baseball for Youth. This motion was seconded by Council Member Echols and all votes were unanimous.

Under item number seven (7), permission was granted to Code Officer Raughton to negotiate a contract with the Animal Rescue Foundation or other similar shelters.

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

Mayor

Attest: _____