

REGULAR MEETING ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 19, 2012

The Ashland City Council met for a regular meeting on March 19, 2012 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, Maintenance Supervisor Lester Robinson, Ryan Nelson, Officer Cecil Chappell, Brian Andrews and Ray Stansell of the Clay Times-Journal.

Code Enforcement Officer Terry Raughton was absent.

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

Council Member Thompson moved to approve the agenda with the following additions: Item No. 3 under Informational Items – Discussion of red light issues; Item No. 4 under New Business, Replacement of culvert at city cemetery and Item No. 5, Purchase of property. This motion was seconded by Council Members Steed and Boddie and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Echols moved to approve the minutes of the previous planning meeting. Seconded by Council Member Beale 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.

Mayor Fetner asked that Ashland Head Start be allowed to use Williamson Ballfield for an Easter egg hunt on Friday, April 6 at 10:00 A.M. Council granted permission. It was asked that the facility be left clean due to city employees being off that day and ballgames scheduled.

Mayor Fetner spoke about events or activities that were being planned during the month of April to coincide with Alabama PALS Spring Cleanup during the month of April.

A discussion was held on what to do at the intersection of County Road 31 North and 2nd Avenue North and Courthouse Square. The old traffic lights are no longer serviceable and the cost to upgrade them is substantial. It was decided at this time to use stop signs.

Under committee reports, Council Member Echols allowed Chuck Freeman to speak concerning the replacement of a pitching mound at Williamson Field and other repairs that were needed. It was decided that the maintenance department try to repair the pitching mound before the purchase of a new one. The list of other repairs was given to Supervisor Robinson.

Council Members Steed, Thompson and Boddie did not report.

Council Member Beale reported that he had been in contact with someone concerning a possible grant to purchase a fire truck, property and help with the repairs at the Wynn Building. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday of this week at the Wynn Building.

Clerk Foster did not report.

Clerk Bennett reminded everyone to make sure they completed their ethics form on time.

Chief Davis reported that the new police car would be ready for pickup on Thursday. He also reported that the COPS Grant had been updated for submission.

Chief McMath reported that complaints had been made concerning residents burning leaves, etc. and were letting them smolder throughout the day and night. He asked that the City consider doing burn permits and try to regulate the burning in the City.

Supervisor Robinson asked permission to replace a culvert at the City cemetery (permission granted), asked who he needed to speak with about lowering the water at the Watershed so that they could work on the boat ramp, the Urban Park walls have been stuccoed but now would need painting, streetscape is going slowly and asked permission to use mulch to replace pine straw when needed (permission granted).

Ryan Nelson reported that the Sewer Project was ahead of schedule and they should be off Alabama Highway 9 this week. He will be requesting approval of a change order at the next meeting. He also agreed with Supervisor Robinson that the Streetscape Project was moving slowly.

Council Member Echols moved to approve the bills received since the last meeting in the amount of \$60133.15. Council Member Boddie seconded the motion and all votes were unanimous.

Fire Chief McMath opened bids for a brush/rescue truck for his department. A "No Bid" was received from Emergency Vehicles, Inc. 703 13th Street, Lake Park, FL 33403 and 5 Alarm Fire Apparatus 1060 Bayou Blue Road, Houma, LA 70364. The bid from Williams Fire Apparatus 774 Idaho Road, Ashland, AL 36251 was received in the amount of \$124,945.00 with a delivery date of 90-120 days from receipt pf Ford chassis. This bid will be reviewed for specifications. No vote was taken.

Council Member Beale made a motion approving Mayor Fetner as voting delegate at the Alabama League of Municipalities convention to be held in May. This motion was seconded by Council Member Echols and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Thompson made a motion granting permission for the Maintenance Department to replace a culvert in the City cemetery due to erosion. This motion was seconded by Council Member Boddie and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Thompson made a motion to give Council Member Beale the authority to discuss the purchase of property located on Tyson Road with the landowner and a possible option for property. This motion was seconded by Council Member Echols and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Boddie made a motion to approve Resolution No. 03-19-01-2012 authorizing Mayor Fetner to renew the service contract with L.P. Campbell Company in the amount of \$5500.00. This motion was seconded by Council Member Thompson and all votes were unanimous.

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

Mayor

Attest: _____