

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 03, 2023

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 03, 2023 at 5:30 P.M. in the Ashland City Hall Auditorium with Mayor Larry J. Fetner presiding. Council Members present were Dianne Ballard, Kim M. Cain, and Tommy Cantrell. Also present were City Clerk/Administrator Chelsey Wynn, Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Robin Catrett, Assistant Police Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Tony Hubbard, Officer Scott Parish, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Raquil Ward, Librarian Tina Nolen, Fire Chief James "Jimmy" Lee, Ryan Adams with Birmingham Association of Realtors, Karen Caldwell, James Caldwell, Wendy Smith, and Ray Stansell with the Clay Times Journal.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn called roll and deemed a quorum present.
Council Member Dianne Ballard and Council Member Annette Gaither were absent.

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

Council Member Cain made a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving the previous planning meeting minutes. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving the previous regular meeting minutes. Council Member Steed seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Informational:

1. Fair Housing Month Proclamation- Mayor Fetner presented Ryan Adams with Birmingham Association of Realtors a Proclamation Declaring April as Fair Housing Month for the City of Ashland.

2. Mayor Fetner presented a letter of accommodation for community interactions with the citizens and youth of Ashland by Officer Scott Parish.

3. Mayor Fetner and Council Members discussed park design cost from Insite Engineering. Mayor Fetner explained it is a lot of money, but he feels the city should move forward. City Clerk/Administrator Wynn advised the cost of the master plan would be \$15,000.00.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to allow Insite Engineering to move forward with master plan at an estimated cost of \$15,000.00. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

4. Library Hour Change- Librarian Tina Nolen explained the request to change the hours for Ashland City Library.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to amend the library hours as requested by Librarian Tina Nolen. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes unanimous.

Committee Reports

Mayor Fetner thanked the staff, the Fire Department, and the City Council for their work on the Easter Event.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain reported on Clean Up Day scheduled for April 22, 2023.

Council Member Cantrell did not report.

Assistant Police Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Tony Hubbard did not report.

Fire Chief Lee reported on calls received since the last regular meeting. Chief Lee also reported on Clean Up Day. Chief Lee reported on recent training and events attended by the Ashland Fire Department. Chief Lee thanked the City of Ashland for the help with the Easter Event.

Parks & Recreation/ Youth Sports Director Ward reported on baseball season, fencing and a need for replacement pipe at the City Park.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported on new traffic signal installation. Supervisor Stinson also reported on a culvert pipe on 3rd Ave North and that it flooded so much that the side walk was underwater. Supervisor Stinson advised the Maintenance Department cleaned out the culvert. Supervisor Stinson thanked the Ashland Water Department and Ashland Housing Authority for their assistance. Supervisor Stinson also requested the Council please consider the evaluation raise for Mr. Catchings under new business.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn did not report.

Librarian Tina Nolen reported on Rules of Appropriate Behavior for the City Library.

New Business:

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay the current bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$13,271.36. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to accept the resignation of Library Aide Allison Linn effective April 14, 2023. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to accept the resignation of Assistant Library Director Bethany Owens effective April 28, 2023. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to open and advertise for two weeks for the position of Library Aide (2 positions). Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving the general insurance renewal in the amount of \$70,936.28. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving the volunteer fire insurance renewal in the amount of \$5,360.00. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving the lease with Clay County Board of Education. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Parks and Recreation/Youth Sports Director Ward advised the lease no longer includes the softball/baseball fields.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving the purchase of server and installation for City Hall at a total cost of \$6,450.00 from Southern Data Automation. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to give Senior Center Director Jeanette Johnson an evaluation-based raise to Range 8 Step 10 effective March 18, 2023. Council Member Steed seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to give Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson an evaluation-based raise to Range 16 Step 9 effective April 1, 2023. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to appoint Becky Robertson to the Ashland Library Board. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay the Law Office of Gregory M. Varner, P.C. \$2,624.85 for January attorney fees. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay the Law Office of Gregory M. Varner, P.C. \$4,276.63 for February attorney fees. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to give Equipment Operator Jeffery Catchings an evaluation-based raise to Range 10 Step 9 effective April 1, 2023. Council Member Steed seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving the recommendation from the Alcohol Review Board to allow the sell of alcohol for Blue & White Restaurant. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to purchase batting cage nets from Central High School of Clay Council in the amount of \$4,062.42. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Parks and Recreation/Youth Sports Director Ward reported on the need for new batting cage nets for the park.

Old Business:

Resolutions, Orders, Ordinances, and Other Business.

There being no further business Council Member Cantrell made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Mayor

Attest