

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 06, 2024

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 5:30 P.M. in the Ashland City Hall Auditorium with Mayor Larry J. Fetner presiding. Council Members present were Dianne Ballard, Bobbie J. Steed, Kim M. Cain, Annette F. Gaither, and Tommy Cantrell. Also present were City Clerk/Administrator Chelsey Wynn, Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Robin Catrett, Assistant Police Chief Shanon House, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, Fire Chief James “Jimmy” Lee, Mike Brewer from East Alabama Commission, Pam Kemp, Dorie Hagan, and Ray Stansell with the Clay Times Journal.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn called roll and deemed a quorum present.

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

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

Council Member Gaither made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous regular meeting. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Informational:

1. Plan Clean-Up Day- Mayor Fetner and Council Members discussed options for Clean-Up Day that had to be cancelled due to a scheduling conflict with Central High School of Clay County. Mayor Fetner advised he would like to see the Council and Staff do a clean-up day. Mayor Fetner requested the clean-up day to be within the next few weeks. Mayor Fetner requested everyone to think of a day. Council Member Cain suggested waiting until fall when the temperature drops, and each Council District could form a team and have a competition.

2. Law Day- May 9, 2024, at 12 P.M. at the Clay County Farmers Market- Mayor Fetner made all Council Members aware of Law Day.

3. Second Saturday on the Square- Pam Kemp addressed the City Council concerning starting Second Saturday on the Square. Ms. Kemp said she has spoken with Mr. Johnnie Sentell and got lots of information. Ms. Kemp requests the city to help with shutting down the square for the event. The first event would be Saturday, June 8, 2024. Ms. Kemp advised she has not made a plan for litter and requested the city to provide trash bins. Ms. Kemp also advised the event would include craft vendors and certain food vendors.

Council Member Cain made a motion to allow the request for Pam Kemp to begin Second Saturday on the Square beginning June 8, 2024, with the city being responsible for closing part of the square. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

4. Mayor Fetner and Council Members discussed the Robinson Building located next to Ashland City Hall. Council Member Gaither discussed repairs needed and the costs of the repairs. Council Member Gaither advised the city needs to decide on either completing the repairs at the high cost estimated or discuss other options for the building.

Mayor Fetner requested the City Council to think about what they would like to do. Council Member Cain requested the total investment the city has in the Robinson Building.

5. Weather Sirens- Mayor Fetner, Council Members, and Maintenance Supervisor Stinson discussed issues with weather sirens and solutions to repair the sirens and other options for weather alerts for Ashland Citizens. Maintenance Supervisor Stinson advised Mobile Communications recommended a total upgrade to the system, which was over \$100,000.00. Maintenance Supervisor Stinson gave options that other counties such as Jefferson County have done instead of repairing the weather sirens which included distributing weather radios to the citizens of Ashland.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner

Council Member Ballard did not report.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain did not report.

Council Member Gaither reported a retirement lunch for Ronald Wideman on May 13, 2024, at 12:00 at the maintenance shop and requested everyone to attend.

Council Member Cantrell did not report.

Assistant Police Chief House reported the command trailer has been wrapped.

Fire Chief Lee reported on calls received since the last regular meeting. May 18, 2024, will be the Stepping Up for Mental Health event at the Fire Department. Chief Lee also reported on regular agenda items.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported on recent work completed.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn did not report.

New Business:

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving the current bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$18,847.92. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to approve the Speed Breaker Procedure. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving to pay ALEA \$1,600.00 for LETS Access and SNAP Entry for Ashland Police Department. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving Court Clerk Robin Catrett and Magistrate Robyn Waters to attend 2024 AMCCMA Court Convention on September 25-28, 2024, pay registration fees, and reimburse travel expenses. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to purchase 2 AED's for Ashland Fire Department from NAFECO at a total cost of \$4,776.00. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to sell previously surplus/sealed bid 2012 Dodge Charger to second highest bidder for \$2,150.00 due to highest bidder not honoring bid. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion to pay Axon Enterprise, Inc. \$5,299.00 for 12 months of Fusosone for the Ashland Police Department. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to give Magistrate/City Hall Aide Robyn Waters a two-step evaluation-based raise effective April 27, 2024. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to purchase generator from Northern Tool for the Mobile Command Unit in the amount of \$5,457.75 (to be reimbursed by Homeland Security Grant) Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to add telescoping mast from Will-Burt North America for the Mobile Command Center for \$3,166.00. (to be reimbursed by Homeland Security Grant) Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to purchase items from Newegg business for Mobile Command Center for \$4,018.92. (to be reimbursed by Homeland Security Grant) Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion to accept Officer Shenandoah McInnish's resignation from full time and reassign him to part-time effective 05/13/2024. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to subscribe to First Net for monthly push to talk radios for the Police Department at a total cost of \$18/radio monthly (\$144/month total for department). Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving a graduation congratulations ad with the Clay Times Journal at a total cost of \$200.00. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous with the exception of Council Member Cantrell who abstained.

Old Business:

Resolutions, Orders, Ordinances, and Other Business:

1. Resolution 05-06-01-2024 Requesting an Attorney General Opinion.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving Resolution 05-06-01-2024 Requesting an Attorney General Opinion. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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

Mayor

Attest