

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2026

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 5:30 P.M. in the Ashland City Hall Auditorium with Mayor Larry J. Fetner presiding. Council Members present were Dianne Ballard, Traskey Ford, Jessica Heath, Annette Gaither, and Tommy Cantrell. Also present were City Clerk/Administrator Chelsey Wynn, Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Robin Catrett, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Fire Chief Josh Nelson, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, Robin Heller, and Ray Stansell with Clay Times Journal.

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

Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Ward was absent to attend ongoing basketball games.

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

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

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

Information:

1. Easter Egg Hunt- Fire Chief Nelson discussed the Fire Department is going to proceed with the Easter Egg Hunt and Allen Hamlin at First Baptist Church has offered to assist the Fire Department.
2. Clay County Board of Education Letter regarding hair supplies in Robinson Building.

Council Member Heath made a motion to donate previous surplus hair supplies located in the Robinson Building to Central High School of Clay County Career Technical Program. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous with the exception of Council Member Ballard who was opposed.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner reported on a request from Clay County Hospital concerning the recent law concerning a state tax deduction for donations to the hospital. They have requested a percentage match which is required for the law.

Council Member Ballard did not report.

Council Member Ford did not report.

Council Member Heath did not report.

Council Member Gaither did not report.

Council Member Cantrell did not report.

Police Chief Stanford reported on Officer Huddle medical need to withdraw from the Police Academy. Chief Stanford advised Officer Huddle would like to try again after/if he gets medically cleared. Chief Stanford also reported on regular agenda items including the resignation of Officer Rashad Billingsley.

Fire Chief Nelson reported on a major call. Chief Nelson reported his disappointment with the turnout. Chief Nelson advised he had 5 members show up. Chief Nelson also reported on speaking with a grant writer for the Fire Department.

Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Catrett reported on the cleanup event in April.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn reported on the food truck schedule arranged by our part-time employee Hope Hill.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported on work completed by the maintenance department and upcoming tasks to be completed.

New Business:

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to approve paying the current bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$22,205.44. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to accept the high bid of \$2377.22 from James Durham for 2012 Exmark lawn mower. Council Member Ford seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving the Clay County Wellness Center agreement for employee memberships and pay \$2,000.00 per agreement. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to pay Northeast Alabama Law Enforcement Academy \$3,499.00 for lodging and tuition for Non-Certified Officer Zachery Huddle. Council Member Heath seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion to pay Alabama Law Enforcement Agency \$1,825.00 for LETS Access and Snap Entry for Ashland Police Department. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving annual renewal of Leeds Online for Police Department in the amount of \$6,399.00 (to be split 4 ways and reimbursed-our portion to be \$1,599.75). Council Member Ford seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Heath made a motion to open and advertise for two-weeks for a part-time library aide. Council Member Ford seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion to accept the resignation of Police Office Rashad Billingsley effective January 23, 2026. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to give Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Robin Catrett an evaluation-based raise to Range 20 Step 10 effective January 31, 2026. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Resolutions, Orders, Ordinances, and Other Business:

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

Mayor

Attest