

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2026

The Ashland City Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 5:30 P.M. in the Ashland City Hall Auditorium with Mayor Larry J. Fetner presiding. Council Members present were Dianne Ballard, Jessica Heath, Annette Gaither, and Tommy Cantrell. Also present were City Clerk/Administrator Chesley Wynn, Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Robin Catrett, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Fire Chief Josh Nelson, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor Sawyer Spratlin, Hope Hill, Mandi Hill, Leland Steed, Adam, Emily and Chael Deason, Jerry, Britney and Corban McVey, Glenn and Marilyn Ward, Richard and Becky Braswell, Mike, Tasha, Ethan and Braxton Hanners, BJ Searay, Ricky and Abby Smith, Stephen, Jessica, and Koby Denson, Cara, Preston, Stella, and Beckham Williams, Jennifer and Kale McVey, Stephanie and Bryce Sasser, Jaxon Wilson, Colby Swain, Anthony Avers, Kaleb Leonard, Cynthia Todd, Clair Brown, and Ray Stansell with the Clay Times Journal.

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

Council Member Ford, Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Ward, and Maintenance Supervisor Stinson were absent.

Mayor Fetner called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

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

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

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

Informational:

1. Mayor Fetner presented the FACS Football Team with a Proclamation in honor of their 1st State Championship win.
2. Cleanup Event- Discuss the need for someone to work at the collection site during the event.
3. Mayor Fetner discussed possibly giving employees their birthday off (day would be used within the month). Council Member Gaither discussed pros and cons and also the possibility of amending the holidays offered to city employees to include 2 federal holidays that aren't currently offered to city employees. Council Member Gaither advised she isn't against giving the employees another holiday but would recommend giving the federal holidays.
4. Temporary Food Truck Park Plan- Mayor Fetner advised he asked Council Member Gaither to get with Police Chief Stanford and Maintenance Supervisor Stinson to come up with a plan for the Food Truck Park. Council Member Gaither presented the plan they came up with.

Council Member Heath made a motion to approve the food truck park plan. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner

Council Member Ballard requested slow down signs near Bethel Baptist Church.

Council Member Heath did not report.

Council Member Gaither did not report.

Council Member Cantrell reported Director Ward advised he is learning a lot at the Parks and Recreation Conference.

Police Chief Stanford reported on an agreement with the Clay/Coosa Drug Task force. Chief Stanford advised he will serve on the board and advised in the future, if budgets allow, they may designate an employee to work full time on the task force. Chief Stanford also reported on power outages and using the Wynn Building as a warming Station. Chief Stanford also reported if the city wishes to use the Wynn Building as a warming station at generator may need to be installed in the future.

Fire Chief Nelson reported on researching grants for the Fire Department and recent calls.

Assistant Maintenance Supervisor Spratlin reported on work recently completed by the Maintenance Department.

Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Catrett reported on the Watermelon Festival and Pet Pageant.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn reported the Chicken Train event with 4H has requested to do the event at the Watermelon Festival.

New Business:

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to approve the current bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$11,032.91. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Robin Catrett and Magistrate Robyn Waters to attend the Regional Court Seminar March 5-6, 2026, in Huntsville, AL, pay registration, lodging, and reimburse travel expenses. Council Member Heath seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay the Law Office of Greg Varner \$1,800.00 for September legal fees. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay the Law Office of Greg Varner \$2,352.50 for December legal fees. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay Municipal Workers Compensation Fund \$16,321.19 for estimated contribution billing. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Heath made a motion to give City Hall Aide Hope Hill a 6-month evaluation raise to Range 5 Step 4 effective January 31, 2026. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to appropriate approximately \$2,500.00 for the Rural Hospital Investment Tax Credit for Clay County Hospital. Council Member Heath seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to give Dispatcher Braden Jones an evaluation-based raise to Range 11 Step 2, effective 01/31/2026 and remove him from probation. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to give Communications Sergeant Linda Parkhill an evaluation-based raise to Range 16 Step 9, effective 01/31/2026. Council Member Heath seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Resolutions, Orders, Ordinances, and Other Business

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

Mayor

Attest