

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2023

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, February 6, 2023 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, City Attorney Gregory Varner, Fire Chief James “Jimmy” Lee, Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Raquil Ward, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, 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 Gaither gave the invocation.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving the agenda with the removal of Item Number 8: Approval of lease agreement with Emily Stanford. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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

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

Informational:

1. Planning Commission recommendation to rezone. Mayor Fetner and Council Members discussed a recommended rezone from Ashland Planning Commission.
2. Potential property purchase at 83121 Highway 9.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss potential property purchase at 83121 Highway 9 and to return to regular meeting at 5:48 P.M. Council Member Cain seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Council Member Ballard - Yea

Council Member Steed - Yea

Council Member Cain - Yea

Council Member Gaither - Yea

Council Member Cantrell - Yea

Mayor Larry Fetner – Yea

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to resume the regular meeting. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to make a counter offer of \$100,000.00. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous

3. Mainstreet Alabama Network City. Council Member Cain explained they have attended several meetings but, due to time commitment, doesn't feel that the city should continue as a network city.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner reported on youth sports basketball games.

Council Member Ballard did not report.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain reported on a meeting with Dr. Chip East and the EPA concerning the Ashland City Park creek. Council Member Cain also reported on a pruning class happening on February 14, 2023 and a visit from the Natural Resource Engineer happening tomorrow at the city park.

Council Member Gaither reported on photo opportunities at the Urban Park and a meeting with Envirosark concerning a charging station for the city. Attorney Gregory Varner commented on concerns for Envirosark, a private company, using public resources.

Council Member Cantrell did not report.

Fire Chief Lee reported on calls received since the last meeting and gave an update on NFIRS. Fire Chief Lee also reported on upcoming training.

Police Chief Stanford reported on a flyer distributed concerning a community health roundtable to introduce our Mental Health Liaison. Chief Stanford also reported on agenda items. Chief Stanford also reported the new Patrol Officers are patrolling on their own now.

Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Catrett reported on behalf of Parks and Recreation/Youth Sports Director Ward baseball signups are tonight, 12 have signed up so far, basketball games are going great, and an end of season basketball tournament will be held February 16-17, 2023.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported on issues on Howard Ballard Drive, the installation of the pergola at the Urban Park, plumbing issues at the city park, and repairs to the conference room at City Hall.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn reported she is happy to be back.

New Business:

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving the current bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$27,876.66. Council Member Steed seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay Goodwyn, Mills, Cawood, LLC. \$5,500.00 for ATRP SR-9. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving a contract with Clay County EDC. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving a contract with Clay County Chamber of Commerce. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay NAFECO \$1,795.00 for turnout gear for Ashland Fire Department paid from the Fire Department Tax Fund. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving for Police Chief Stanford to attend “Problem Oriented Policing” conference in Boulder, Colorado on August 7-9, 2023 with registration fees of \$525.00, accommodations, and reimburse travel expenses. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to open and advertise the position of Magistrate/City Hall Aide. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving a lease agreement with Gary Martin. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving Sarah McKemie to attend ASADS Conference in Tuscaloosa, AL on March 20-24, 2023, pay accommodations, and reimburse travel expenses. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to give Linda Parkhill an evaluation-based raise to Range 13 Step 7 effective February 3, 2023. Council Member Cain 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 Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Mayor

Attest