

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2020

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on February 17, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. in the Ashland City Hall Auditorium with Mayor Larry J. Fetner presiding. Council Members present were Billy J. Smith, 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, Fire Chief Brett Thompson, Firefighter James Lee, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Assistant Police Chief Chase Jordan, Jennifer Parker, Amber Griffin with the Arc of Clay County, and Tammy Andrews with the Clay Times Journal.

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

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

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Item Number 12: Approval of the following documents to be used in conveying the Ashland Post Office property to the USPS and authorization for the Mayor to sign the same:

- a. Lease Termination Agreement;
- b. Owner's Affidavit;
- c. Affidavit re: survey;
- d. Broker's Lien Affidavit; and
- e. Exhibit A to Broker's Lien Affidavit

Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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

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

Informational:

City Clerk/ Administrator Wynn explained to the City Council the Clay County Chamber of Commerce has sponsorships available for the Clay County Fair. City Clerk/ Administrator Wynn advised in previous years the City of Ashland has been a silver sponsor at a cost of \$325.00.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving the City of Ashland to be a silver sponsor for the Clay County Chamber at a cost of \$325.00. Council Member Smith seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Amber Griffin from the Arc of Clay County addressed the Mayor and Council to request permission to utilize the Ashland City Library on Saturday mornings to assist the Arc of Clay County in offering ASL (American Sign Language) classes to all in Clay County.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving the Arc of Clay County to utilize the Ashland City Library on Saturday morning for ASL (American Sign Language) classes. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Beth Owens from Ashland City Library was not in attendance.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner did not report.

Council Member Smith did not report.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain did not report.

Council Member Gaither did not report.

Council Member Cantrell did not report.

Fire Chief Thompson reported the Department worked an accident near Wellborn Cabinet and a cleanup day is scheduled for February 29. Fire Chief Thompson also discussed agenda items that include purchasing equipment for the department.

Police Chief Stanford reported on firearms training. Chief Stanford advised he is working on a training schedule, and he will be out of town for training and Assistant Chief Chase Jordan will be in charge.

Maintenance Supervisor Robinson advised there have been drainage issues in town due to leaves being dumped in gutters. Supervisor Robinson suggested the need for an ordinance to address the problem. Supervisor Robinson advised the steps at Williamson Field have been replaced, and painting at the Senior Center is being done. Supervisor Robinson advised the caution light at the intersection of Hwy 77/ 2nd Ave has voltage loss, he has requested a copy of the maintenance agreement from ALDOT, but until it is received, he isn't sure if we have to replace the light or if it can be taken down. Supervisor Robinson stated he would get a price on replacing the caution light if the agreement requires.

City Clerk/ Administrator Wynn advised the Mayor and Council that herself and Assistant City Clerk Robin Catrett will be attending training until Thursday, February 20, 2020.

New Business:

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the bills received since the last council meeting in the amount of \$9,530.61. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to hire Jerry Weems as a Part-time Seasonal Laborer for the Maintenance Department at Range 6 Step 2 with a start date of March 09, 2020 and an end date of October 30, 2020. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous with the exception of Council Member Cantrell who abstained.

Council Member Steed made a motion approving to reimburse travel expenses for attendees of the 2020 League of Municipalities Annual Convention. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to approve the 2020 contract with Avenue Insights for Business License Discovery/Recovery Administration. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving Code Enforcement Officer Tony Hubbard to attend Annual COAA Education Conference in Orange Beach, AL May 4-8, 2020 with a registration cost of \$225.00, hotel cost of \$725.00 plus tax, and reimburse travel expenses. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to open and advertise for two weeks for a Senior Equipment Operator for the Maintenance Department. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Smith made a motion approving to purchase equipment from NAFECO for the Fire Department at a total cost of \$12,273.00 (paid from Fire Dept. Tax Fund) Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to give Library Aide Bethany Owens a 2-step evaluation-based raise to Range 3 Step 4 effective March 07, 2020. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Smith made a motion to hire Jennifer Parker as a Dispatcher at a pay rate of Range 4 Step 1 effective February 21, 2020. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving Sergeant Adam Otwell to attend Behavioral Analysis Interview Training in Tupelo, Mississippi from April 20-24, 2020 with hotel cost of \$141.00 per night plus taxes and reimburse travel expenses. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay Clay County Health and Wellness Center \$2,000.00 for 12-month membership for all City employees and volunteers. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to approving the following documents to be used in conveying the Ashland Post Office property to the USPS and authorization for the Mayor to sign the same:

- f. Lease Termination Agreement;
- g. Owner's Affidavit;
- h. Affidavit re: survey;
- i. Broker's Lien Affidavit; and
- j. Exhibit A to Broker's Lien Affidavit

Council Member Smith seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders, and More:

Council Member Cain made a motion to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2020-02-17-01 on the first reading. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Smith- Aye, Steed- Aye, Cain- Aye, Gaither- Aye, Cantrell- Aye

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-02-17-01 to sell city owned property previously leased to USPS that is no longer needed for public or municipal purposes. Council Member Smith seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Smith-Aya, Steed- Aye, Cain-Aye, Gaither- Aye, Cantrell- Aye

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

Mayor

Attest