

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 20, 2020

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on July 20, 2020 at 6:00 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, Maintenance Supervisor Lester Robinson, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Fire Chief Brett Thompson, Lamar Dewberry with the Economic Development Council, Jordan Mann, and Keifer Smith 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 Cantrell made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of Item Number 4: Approval to accept bid on boat and trailer, and the addition of Item Number 14: Approval of amended quote to Southern Generator Services for generator start-up in the amount of \$600.00. 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 Smith seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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

Informational Items:

Mayor Fetner and Council discussed the COVID-19 Pandemic and City Buildings/Planning Meetings in light of the rising of positive cases. Mayor Fetner and Council decided to make no changes at this time, the lobbies will remain closed to the public, and planning meeting will continue with social distancing.

Council Member Cain updated the Mayor and Council on the ribbon cutting for the Susie Stringfellow Park. Council Member Cain advised it will be a virtual ribbon cutting on September 18, 2020 at 2P.M., and some Council Members may need to be available for interviews. Council Member Cain advised signage for the park should be here on July 27, 2020.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner did not report.

Council Member Smith reported a request to use concession stand to sell food during games at Westside. Council Member Smith advised he instructed those involved to get approval from the City Council at a meeting.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain gave an update on the City Library. Council Member Cain explained even though the Library is closed to the public, porch pick-up, summer reading packets, and virtual options are available to everyone. Council Member Cain also advised that, thanks to donations, the Library is able to give new free books to children this summer.

Council Member Gaither did not report.

Council Member Cantrell did not report.

Fire Chief Thompson reported the Fire Marshall will be inspecting a building next week, and Fire Chief Thompson will go through the inspection with him to learn the process. Mayor Fetner suggested including Code Enforcement Officer Tony Hubbard.

Police Chief Stanford introduced Mr. Jordan Mann potential Police Officer pending Council approval. Chief Stanford explained Mr. Mann has volunteered with the Reserve force for over a year. Chief Stanford advised there will be a press release on a recent arrest coming out soon, and he will be absent beginning August 4, 2020 to welcome his third child. Chief Stanford advised Assistant Chief Jordan will be available during his absence and will handle the Clay County Rodeo.

City Clerk/ Administrator Wynn advised the last day to quality for the 2020 Municipal Election is Tuesday, July 21, at 5:00 P.M. City Clerk/Administrator Wynn also advised Police Chief Stanford and herself worked on a Homeland Security Grant last week which is centered on events. City Clerk/Administrator Wynn also advised she is working with the Clay County Extension on dates for farmers to sell watermelons on the square, and a new restaurant, Quick Chick, will be opening in the previous Revive location soon.

New Business:

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$7,126.21. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Steed made a motion approving to give Senior Center Can Driver Kathy Freeman a two-step evaluation-based raise to Range 3 Step 5 effective July 13, 2020. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to purchase LEDs for snowflake lights at a total cost of \$4,788.00. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Smith made a motion approving to pay Edgar and Associates \$450.00 for audit work. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous. City Clerk/Administrator Wynn advised auditors will be in the office next week.

Council Member Steed made a motion approving to purchase mobile radio for the Police Department from Mobil Communications America at a total cost of \$889.50. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay Kerr Construction to demolish and remove structures on City property located next to City Hall at a cost of \$4,000.00. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

During Planning Meeting Council Member Cain asked if the building was salvageable. Maintenance Supervisor Robinson explained the back area of the building is collapsing.

Council Member Cain made a motion to purchase sneeze guard building supplies for Municipal Court from Planter's Hardware at a total cost of \$394.25. (to be paid from Municipal Court fund). Council Member Smith seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Steed made a motion approving to apply for Alabama Power Grant (for EDC website). Council Member Smith seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to purchase Investigator Shanon House a bullet-proof vest at a cost of \$738.00 from Survival Armor, to be reimbursed \$369.00 from DOJ Bullet Proof Vest Grant. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve to have Unit 171 (2017 Chevrolet Tahoe) repaired by Greens Body Shop at an estimated cost of \$750.00. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to purchase a printer from DataworksPlus at a total cost of \$1,780.00 for fingerprint machine. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to hire Jordan Mann as a Police Officer at pay Range 8 Step 1 effective July 24, 2020. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay East Alabama Commission \$304.20 for 4th quarter membership dues. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving amended quote to Southern Generator Services for generator start-up in the amount of \$600.00. (Originally \$400.00). Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous. Police Chief Stanford advised the generator is currently non-working, and he is working with the company on warranty issues.

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

Mayor

Attest