

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 06, 2021

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 06, 2021 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, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Assistant Fire Chief James “Jimmy” Lee, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, Luella Craig, Corey Bingham, and Ray Stansell with the Clay Times Journal.

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

Assistant City Clerk Robin Catrett and Fire Chief Brett Thompson were absent.

Mayor Fetner called the meeting to order. Council Member Cantrell 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 Cain made a motion to approve the previous special called meeting minutes. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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

Informational:

1. Luella Craig- Tent Revival at Westside Ballfield (July 7, 2021-July 21, 2021):

Luella Craig addressed the Mayor and Council regarding having a tent revival at Westside Ballfield between the dates of July 7, 2021-July 21, 2021 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Council Member Cain made a motion to allow Luella Craig to use Westside Ballfield for a tent revival July 7, 2021-July 21, 2021. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

2. Appointment to Animal Shelter Board:

Mayor and Council discussed the City’s appointment to the County’s newly formed Animal Shelter Board. Mayor Fetner stated that Beverly Latham would be a great candidate for the appointment given her passion for and background with the animal shelter.

Council Member Cain made a motion to appoint Beverly Latham as the City’s appointment to the animal shelter board. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

3. Library Window Update:

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson advised the Mayor and Council that a professional had looked at the windows and stated they were fine. However, the wood around the windows and damage caused would need to be replaced. The Mayor and Council asked Maintenance Supervisor Stinson to get a price on getting new, more efficient windows and replacing the damaged area.

4. Municipal Vehicle Policy:

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson addressed the Mayor and Council regarding the possibility of the Maintenance Department having take home vehicles. Maintenance Supervisor Stinson stated that it

would be a benefit for the city as well as the employees due to call ins that frequently occur. The Mayor and Council directed City Clerk Chelsey Wynn to work with the city attorneys to draft an ordinance for the Maintenance and Parks and Recreation Departments.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner did not report.

Council Member Ballard 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.

Police Chief Stanford reported on recent animal cruelty cases and thefts.

Assistant Fire Chief James “Jimmy” Lee reported on recent calls.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported on the progress of the Wynn Building bathroom renovations and that the department is still working on pressure washing the sidewalks.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn reported on \$10,840.88 FEMA reimbursement funds from Hurricane Zeta damage, \$33,603.10 reimbursement funds from the Homeland Security Grant, and on the City of Ashland’s 150-year Anniversary on December 19, 2021. City Clerk/Administrator Wynn addressed the Mayor and Council about possibly having an event or honoring the anniversary in some way.

New Business:

Council Member Gaither made a motion to approve the bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$4,383.71. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to purchase 19’ panel Christmas Tree from Jubilee Décor at a cost of \$12,010.57 (can be paid from Alcohol Fund). Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to approve to pay One Stop Environmental \$15,175.00 for asbestos abatement and \$2,200.00 for hazardous debris cleanup for the Old Horn Café property. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Upon a question regarding buying out officer contracts, Police Chief Stanford reiterated to the Mayor and Council why the City of Ashland had to buyback contracts on the newly hired officers.

Council Member Cain made a motion made a motion to approve to pay the City of Lineville \$7570.40 for Police Academy Reimbursement for Isiah Williamson. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous with the exception of Council Member Ballard who was opposed.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to approve to pay the City of Lineville \$10,749.75 for Police Academy Reimbursement for Kristopher Eatman. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous with the exception of Council Member Ballard who was opposed.

Council Member Steed made a motion to hire Raquil Ward as Parks and Recreation Director/Youth Sports at a pay of Range 16 Step 1. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous with the exception of Council Member Cantrell who abstained.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to purchase 4 tires for the Maintenance Department Chevrolet 2500 from Tire Hub at a cost of \$504.38. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Steed made a motion to approve a two-step evaluation-based raise to Range 3 Step 7 for Senior Center Van Driver Kathy Freeman effective 07.10.2021. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Resolution, Ordinance, Orders, and Other Business:

1. Ordinance Number 2021-07-06-01: An Ordinance to Lease City Owned Property that is No Longer Needed for Public or Municipal Purposes had its first reading.
2. Ordinance Number 2021-07-06-02: An Ordinance Levying a Privilege or License Tax Upon Persons, Firms, and Corporations Engaged in the Business of Renting or Furnishing Rooms, Lodgings, or Accommodations to Transients in the City of Ashland, AL had its first reading.

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