

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 04, 2022

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 04, 2022 at 5:30 P.M. in 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, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Fire Chief Brett Thompson, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Raquil Ward, 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 Cain made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Item Number 11: Approval to pay Southland Transportation Group \$6,186.82 for bucket truck repairs., and Item Number 12: Approval to accept the resignation of Dispatcher Viktorija McNeal effective April 15, 2022, and to open and advertise the position for two-weeks. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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

Informational:

1. Zoning Ordinance (Public Hearing)-Mayor Fetner and Council discussed the proposed Zoning Ordinance and a date or a public hearing. Council Members set the public hearing for 5:00 P.M. on April 18, 2022. Mayor Fetner advised the City Attorney and Code Enforcement Officer need to be in attendance.

2. Details for April Cleanup-Council Member Cain discussed a plan for April Cleanup for Clay County. Council Member Cain explained it needs to be a campaign that lasts longer than one month, and that the youth of Clay County needs to be involved. Council Member Cain also explained a social media campaign for litter awareness and cleanup efforts. Mayor Fetner advised there are plenty of litter bags at City Hall and anyone can come in and get them.

3. Spring Auto Swap Meet & Car Corral- May 20-22, 2022. Historical Society requesting to use City Industrial Park Property. Council Member Gaither expressed concern about hay harvesting around the same time.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving Clay County Historical Society to utilize the City Industrial Park on May 20-22, 2022 for Spring Auto Swap Meet & Car Corral contingent upon the hay harvesting schedule. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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 advised T&T Landscaping has started working on the city square landscaping.

Council Member Cantrell reported on maintenance for the ballfields. Council Member Cantrell suggested a program to ensure the preventative maintenance is completed.

Police Chief Stanford reported on agenda items including the request to hire a Non-Certified Officer, and the resignation of Dispatcher Viktorija McNeal.

Fire Chief Thompson did not report.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson advised the new cross walk for the Elementary School has been completed. Supervisor Stinson updated the Council on the paving project. Supervisor Stinson also reported on the progress for the Wynn Building restrooms. Supervisor Stinson also advised the lights at the storm shelter have been repaired. Supervisor Stinson also reported on agenda items.

Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Ward reported backstops have been completed, nets still need to be installed. Director Ward discussed the schedule for games. Director Ward reported on the tennis court progress and schedule for restoring the courts.

Mayor Fetner brought up concerns about the park restrooms being opened for public use. Mayor Fetner advised to make sure the restrooms are open for public use.

Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Robin Catrett explained agenda item number 5.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn discussed agenda items, and advised a \$10,300.00 grant was awarded to the Fire Department

New Business:

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay the bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$7,945.74. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay Law Office of Gregory M. Varner, P.C. \$1,275.50 for February attorney fees. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to consult Architect Bill Whittaker, PC. For Urban Park Annex project. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving the appropriation to Clay County Historical Society in the amount of \$1,500.00. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving a new firewall 3-year network protection, and installation from Southern Data in the amount of \$2,322.15. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to hire Phillip Bickers as a Non-Certified Police Officer, contingent upon passing psychological evaluation, at a pay of Range 8 Step 4. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous. Chief Stanford advised Mr. Bickers passed the psychological evaluation on April 01, 2022.

Council Member Cain made a motion to amend previous approval of \$51,266.00 to \$54,835.00 (difference of \$3,569.00) to Valent Group for insurance premiums. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to accept the resignation of Library Aide Maria Tibbits effective April 01, 2022. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to pay Valent Group \$5,636.00 for Fire Department insurance premiums. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to give Jeff Catching an evaluation-based raise to Range 8 Step 10 effective April 02, 2022. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay Southland Transportation Group \$6,186.82 for bucket truck repairs. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to accept the resignation of Dispatcher Viktorija McNeal effective April 15, 2022, and to open and advertise the position for two-weeks. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Ordinance, Orders, Resolution, and Other Business:

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

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Mayor

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Attest