

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 01, 2021

Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, November 01, 2021 at 8:30 A.M. in the Ashland City Hall Auditorium with Mayor Larry J. Fetner presiding. Council Members present were Dianne Ballard, Kim M. Cain, and Annette F. Gaither. Also present were City Clerk/Administrator Chelsey Wynn, Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Robin Catrett, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Fire Chief Brett Thompson (8:42 A.M.), Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Raquil Ward, and Breanna Minter with the Clay Times Journal (8:45 A.M.).

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

Council Member Bobbie J. Steed, Council Member Tommy Cantrell, and Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson were absent.

Mayor Larry J. Fetner called the meeting to order, and Council Member Ballard gave the invocation.

Council Member Cain made a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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

Informational:

1. The Feed Wagon Food Truck (request to setup at Wynn Building and/or vacant lot next to City Hall) Mayor Fetner advised Maggie Williams has requested permission for The Feed Wagon Food Truck to set up on city property. Council Members discussed allowing The Feed Wagon Food Truck to set up. Council Member Cain advised as long as they have a business license, she would be good with them setting up.

Council Member Cain made motion to allow the Feed Wagon Food Truck to setup on city property. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

2. Christmas Lighted Trail at Park- Discussed setting up the lighted trail Council Member Cain advised there are 23 people who have confirmed they will help. Council Member Cain advised Maintenance wouldn't have to help unless they would like too. Council Member Cain also advised Maintenance Supervisor Stinson has expressed they have no issue with helping. Council Member Cain advised the lighted trail would be an added incentive for people to visit our town.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving the city to do the lighted trail in Ashland City Park this year. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

3. Tree City USA- City Clerk-/Administrator Wynn explained the program and the requirement for a tree ordinance and a proclamation for arbor day each year.

All Council Members agreed to draft a tree ordinance.

4. Discuss Animal Adoption Policy- Police Chief Stanford explained the need for an animal adoption policy. Chief Stanford also explained the animal shelter still isn't taking in animals on a regular basis. Chief Stanford also answered questions from the Council about an animal adoption policy. Mayor Fetner advised we may want to bring up a contract with the animal shelter. Chief Stanford advised he doesn't feel a contract would be approved by the shelter at this time.

All Council Members agreed to draft an animal adoption policy.

5. Raise spending limit for department (without council approval)- Mayor Fetner explained the need to raise the spending limit to \$1,250.00.

Council Member Cain made a motion to raise the spending limit without Council approval to \$1,250.00 for departments. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner commended city staff for their efforts in making trunk or treat a success. Mayor Fetner congratulated Council Member Gaither on receiving her advanced certification from Alabama League of Municipalities.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain did not report.

Council Member Gaither congratulated Mayor Fetner for receiving his emeritus certification from Alabama League of Municipalities.

Police Chief Stanford reported on the success of trunk or treat and thanked all departments for helping make it a success.

Parks & Recreation/Youth Sported Director Ward reported that soccer season ended last Thursday and Basketball signups will begin this Thursday. Mayor Fetner and Director Ward discussed repairs to tennis courts and fields.

Fire Chief Thompson reported on recent fire calls including a fire at Country Inn Motel where efforts saved the building. Fire Chief Thompson also advised they contacted the Red Cross to help citizens who were staying at the Motel.

Mayor Fetner thanked the volunteers for all of their work. Mayor Fetner also advised Chief Thompson to look into a fireman's challenge for the Watermelon Festival.

City Clerk/Administrator advised auditors will be here this week and also advised we need ideas on a float for the city and advised city hall is willing to help build the float if needed.

New Business:

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay the current bills received since the last meeting in the amount of \$902.71. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission \$306.00 for quarterly membership dues. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion authorizing Mr. Ronald Robertson, Revenue Commission of Clay County to assess and collect property taxes for the City of Ashland, AL. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay Virtual Academy \$495.00 for Virtual Academy Training 09/18/2021-09/18/2022. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay Law Office of Gregory M. Varner \$15,669.00 for attorney services for June-September 2021. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay match of \$2,500.00 for Library grant and material surcharge/freight charge not covered by grant \$982.00 with total of \$3,482.00. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to purchase uniforms for the Maintenance and Parks & Recreation Departments from Carhartt at an estimated cost of \$2,350.00. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay Ingram Paving \$1,250.00 mobilization fee for paving. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay approximately \$13,750.00 to Ingram Paving for paving of 2nd Street NW (to be reimbursed by East Central AL Gas Company). Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to pay Valent Group \$375.00 for quarterly consulting fees. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving agreement with Bailey's Bushhogging for cutting and spraying watershed. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay Mark's Cleaning Service \$700.00 to strip and wax floors at the Wynn Building. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to give Sherry Coryell, Senior Center Aide, an evaluation raise to Range 3 Step 7 effective October 30, 2021. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Resolution, Ordinance, Orders, and Other Business:

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

