

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 18, 2019

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on March 18, 2019 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, and Annette F. Gaither. Also present were City Clerk/ Administrator Chelsey Wynn, Assistant City Clerk/ Court Clerk Robin Catrett, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Maintenance Supervisor Lester Robinson, Fire Chief Brett Thompson, K9 Officer Adam Otwell, Dustin McGraw, Robert Richardson with Alabama Power Company, John Hornsby, and Justin McCullers with the Clay Times Journal.

City Clerk/ Administrator Chelsey Wynn called roll and deemed a quorum present.
Council Member Tommy Cantrell was absent.

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

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

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the previous planning meeting minutes. Council Member Gaither 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. Mr. Robert Richardson addressed the Mayor and Council concerning LED street lights. Mr. Richardson explained the cost and time frame for converting all street lights to LED.
2. Joanne Butler did not attend the Council Meeting.
3. Mayor Fetner requested the Council to think about a date to reschedule the Regular Council Meeting scheduled for May 06, 2019.
4. John Hornsby with the Clay County Chamber of Commerce addressed the Mayor and Council concerning Chamber News, Fair Sponsorships, and Summer in the Park.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner expressed gratitude to Tru-Cabinetry for the recent tour of the plant, and stated how proud he was to be a citizen of Ashland. Mayor Fetner also stated he is happy to see all of the growth in Ashland such as the Wellborn Cabinet expansion, the Koch Foods expansion, and the addition of First Bank of Alabama.

Council Member Smith did not report.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain did not report.

Council Member Gaither reported the Wynn Building is coming together and commended the Maintenance Department on their efforts. Council Member Gaither stated she is happy to see the City looking as good as it does.

Police Chief Stanford discussed agenda items and introduced Officer Candidate Dustin McGraw to the Mayor and Council.

Maintenance Supervisor Robinson advised the Maintenance Department has been very busy. Supervisor Robinson discussed agenda items, stated the canopy repairs should be completed this week, the limb route was completed today, and grass cutting has begun.

Fire Chief Thompson reported the Fire Department has been quiet, and he is awaiting a letter from the City Attorney concerning the Rescue Truck. Fire Chief Thompson also advised the AED recently ordered is on the way.

City Clerk/ Administrator Chelsey Wynn reminded everyone to complete their Statement of Economic Interest before April 30, 2019.

New Business:

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$22,710.14. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Smith made a motion approving to pay SEMS Fire Protection \$475.00 for annual pump test for the Fire Department. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay Alabama Law Enforcement Agency \$1,650.00 for SNAP (NCIC) and LETS access for January 01, 2019- March 31, 2019 for Ashland Police Department. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to approve Assistant Chief/ Investigator Corey Dickinson and Code Enforcement Officer Tony Hubbard to attend NRA Law Enforcement Firearm Instructor Development School at a cost of \$645.00 per person and reimburse travel expenses. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to give Police Chief Joseph Stanford a one-step performance evaluation raise to Range 18 Step 5 (\$21.97) per hour effective March 22, 2019. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion giving approval to apply for Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama Big Idea Grant to aid in the purchase of a splashpad. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous. It was understood this was for the pre application.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to pay Graves Fabricating, Inc. \$18,399.00 (\$18,074.00 already reimbursed from AMIC) for repair of awning on Court Square. Council Member Smith seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to be a Silver Sponsor (\$325.00) for the Clay County Fair. Council Member Steed seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Steed made a motion to hire Deborah Anderson as the Senior Center Van Driver at a pay of Range 3 Step 1 (\$8.15) per hour effective March 19, 2019. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Smith made a motion to table Item Number 10: Approval to hire Jeffrey Catchings as a Maintenance Equipment Operator at a pay of Range 8 Step 1 (\$10.90) per hour. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Steed made a motion to give Sarah McKemie a one-step evaluation raise to Range 7 Step 3 (\$10.91) per hour effective March 25, 2019. Council Member Smith seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to approving to purchase an In-House Built Small Computer and Microsoft Office 2019 Home and Business from Southern Data Automation at a total cost of \$838.99 plus installation. (to be split between City Hall and Court budget). Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Smith made a motion approving to pay Valent Group \$5,733.00 for Fire Department general insurance annual renewal. (paid from Fire Department Tax Fund) Council Member Steed seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay Valent Group \$52,100.00 for general insurance annual renewal (04/03/2019-04/03/2020). Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to give Officer Hunter Griffin a one-step evaluation raise to Range 9 Step 3 (\$12.26) per hour effective March 22, 2019. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to hire Dustin McGraw as a non-certified officer with a starting pay of Range 8 Step 1 (\$10.90) effective March 19, 2019. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving the purchase of ammo for Ashland Police Department from Gulf State Distributors at a cost of \$723.90. Council Member Smith seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to purchase ceiling tiles from Home Depot for Wynn Building renovations at a cost of \$880.00. Council Member Smith seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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

Mayor

Attest