

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2024

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 5:30 P.M. in the Ashland City Hall Auditorium with Mayor Larry J. Fetner presiding. Council Members present were Dianne Ballard, 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 James “Jimmy” Lee, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Raquil Ward, and Ray Stansell with the Clay Times Journal.

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

Council Member Steed was absent.

Mayor Fetner called the meeting to order, and gave the invocation.

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

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

Informational:

1. Angela Zachery to discuss traffic issues. - Unable to attend due to low temperatures.
2. Pickleball Court Update discussed in planning meeting.
3. Insite Engineering unable attend due to road conditions.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner discussed public safety concerning a warming station for the City of Ashland. Chief Stanford explained the light towers could be used as generators.

Council Member Ballard 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 the academy cadet by explaining Mr. Mitchell quit the academy and the city. Chief Stanford also reported on Officer starting pay scale. Chief Stanford also reported on recent activity at the police department.

Fire Chief Lee reported on activity at the Fire Department and announced a new member.

Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Ward reported on closing the restrooms at the City Park and discussed the speed bumps on 1st Street near the City Park.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported on agenda items. Supervisor Stinson also reported on orientation for the CDL.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn did not report.

New Business:

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving the current bills received since the last meeting in the amount of \$16,541.63. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to purchase 8.5 x 20 aluminum office trailer in the total amount of \$67,386.00 for the Police Department (to be reimbursed by homeland security grant). Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving 2024 contract with the Clay County Economic Development Council (\$12,000.00 appropriation in budget). Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving the 2024 Wellness Center Contract (benefit to employees included in budget (\$2,000.00)). Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to give Court Clerk/Assistant City Clerk Robin Catrett an evaluation-based raise to Range 19 Step 7 effective February 3, 2024. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to approve the amended quote from Cofield Asphalt Refinishing for striping of the tennis, basketball, and pickleball courts in the amount of \$5,100.00. (\$2,000.00 higher than previous quote). Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving the proposed starting pay and pay proposals of current officers. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to make Officer Rashad Billingsley a permanent employee with a pay of Range 18 Step 2 effective February 2, 2024. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to open and advertise the position of Police Officer. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay appropriation to Historical Society (\$1,500.00 included in budget). Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to pay Sylacauga Glass Co. \$2,700.00 for replacement windows for the old Robinson building next to City Hall. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving to pay Cofield Asphalt Refinishing \$2,000.00 for striping of Wynn Building parking lot. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to pay Fincher Fence \$29,470.00 for replacement of tennis court fence. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Resolutions, Orders, Ordinances, 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.

Mayor

Attest