

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 5, 2024

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, February 5, 2024, 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, Assistant City Clerk/ Court Clerk Robin Catrett, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Fire Chief James “Jimmy” Lee, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, Tiffany Young with Clay County Chamber of Commerce, Barron Rae Bevels, Senior Center Director Jeanette Johnson, and Ray Stansell with the Clay Times Journal.

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

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

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

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to approve the previous planning meeting minutes from January 16, 2024. 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. Angela Zackery – Traffic Issues- Ms. Zackery was not present at the meeting.
2. Tiffany Young discussed the 2024 Chamber Contract. Mrs. Young also discussed upcoming scheduled events for the Chamber of Commerce and tourism.
3. Barron Rae Bevels Candidate for Alabama 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District addressed the Mayor and Council concerning the upcoming election.
4. Regional CMO Training- Vestavia Hills June 20, 2024. City Clerk/Administrator Wynn advised we will need a head count for this training.
5. Alabama League of Municipalities Annual Conference May 15-18, 2024 Huntsville, AL- City Clerk/Administrator Wynn advised we need a head count.
6. Wagon Train March 8-9, 2024
7. Speed Breakers- Mayor Fetner discussed recently installed speed breakers. Council Members Ballard and Cain have shown interest in speed breakers in other areas of the city. Mayor advised the speed breakers are not very expensive. Council Member Cain advised the speed breakers Mayor Fetner has discussed are not the same ones she had in mind. Mayor Fetner advised if we see we want them we just need to vote on them. Council Member Gaither advised the current ones being discussed were not voted on, and a policy needs to be made clear so the procedure is followed. Chief Stanford advised he believes we need to have a standard for installing speed breakers. Chief Stanford advised the reasoning Parks & Recreation Director Ward had behind the speed breakers on 1<sup>st</sup> Street was due to traffic concerns and the presence of children at the park.

Council Member Ballard's concern in Westside is based on a child being hit and nothing being done about it.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner

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 reported on signups for baseball and t-ball.

Police Chief Stanford reported on the new ordinances concerning parking and noise on the agenda for a first reading. Chief Stanford advised if they Council decides to pass these ordinances, the Police Department will begin enforcing those ordinances.

Fire Chief Lee reported on calls received since the last meeting. Chief Lee also reported on recent training completed by members and upcoming training. Chief Lee also gave an update on reporting.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported on work recently completed by the Maintenance Department including road issues, curbs, gutters, drain issues, and the removal of the concession stand at Northside Field.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn did not report.

New Business:

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to approve the current bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$20,617.99. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to pay ALEA \$1,650.00 for LETS Access and SNAP Entry for Ashland Police Department. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to take Equipment Operator Christopher Elliott off probation and give him a one-step raise to Range 12 Step 2 effective January 20, 2024. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving to pay John Kelley Johnson \$43,364.19 for Attorney Fees from November 2017-October 2020. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to pay Municipal Workers Compensation Fund \$14,900.00 for workers compensation insurance for the City of Ashland. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving the 2024 Lease Agreement with Gary Martin. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to purchase 7 bags of Bermuda grass for the city park and baseball fields at a total cost of \$1,365.00 from S&S Feed and Supply. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay the Ashland-Lineville Airport Appropriation. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay Insite Engineering \$15,823.18 for Ashland City Park services. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to accept the resignation of Van Driver Michelle Wilson effective February 29, 2024. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving to hire Michael Brown as Senior Center Van Driver at a pay rate of Range 6 Step 1 effective February 5, 2024. Council Member Steed seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay the Law Office of Gregory Varner \$4,453.00 for November Attorney Fees. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving to pay the Law Office of Gregory Varner \$8,432.00 for December Attorney Fees. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving the 2024 Chamber Contract. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving for Police Chief Joseph Stanford to attend Winter Chiefs Conference in Montgomery, AL on February 18-22, 2024 with registration fees of \$200.00, lodging fees of \$197.00 per night, and reimburse travel expenses. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to give Records Clerk Linda Parkhill an evaluation-based raise to Range 14 Step 9 effective February 2, 2024. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to approve the alcohol application for Dollar General (location transfer). Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Resolutions, Orders, Ordinances, and Other Business:

1. Ordinance No. 2024-02-05-01 Noise Ordinance was presented for the first reading.
2. Ordinance No. 2024-02-05-01 Parking Ordinance was presented for the first reading.

3. Resolution No. 02-05-01-2024- surplus Ford Crown Victoria

Council Member Cain made a motion to approve Resolution No. 02-05-01-2024. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

4. Resolution No. 02-05-02-2024- surplus Dodge Charger

Council Member Gaither made a motion to approve Resolution No. 02-05-02-2024. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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