

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 6, 2023

Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday November 6, 2023, 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, Magistrate/City Hall Aide Robyn Waters, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Fire Chief James “Jimmy” Lee, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, EDC Director Chance Jones, Chevy Glenn, Larry Goodgame, Cynthia Goodgame, 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 Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

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

Informational:

1. EDC Director Chance Jones addressed the Mayor and City Council concerning grant opportunities for the Industrial Park and the possibility of naming the Industrial Park to assist in the grant process. Director Jones advised the Economic Development Council had discussed naming the Industrial Park “Clay County Business Park”. Director Jones asked for feedback from the City of Ashland.

2. Mayor Fetner gave an update on the Urban Park. Council Member Gaither advised Contractor Allen Ryals has an idea for the Urban Park, and he will submit those plans in December or January.

3. Fire Chief Lee updated Mayor Fetner and the City Council on the Christmas Parade by advising the route will begin at Ashland Elementary School. Chief Lee asked about having horses and ATV’s. Chief Stanford expressed concerns about four wheelers and advised horses leave a mess that someone must clean up. It was agreed upon allowing side by sides if they have safety belts and horses. Council Member Gaither discussed the Grand Marshall.

4. Mr. Larry Goodgame from Central Alabama Community College addressed the Mayor and Council with a request to partner with Central Alabama Community College to provide them with a classroom. Mr. Goodgame advised Central Alabama Community College will supply the classroom with all the necessary equipment. Mr. Goodgame advised Central Alabama Community College will offer classes to the public for free. Mr. Goodgame advised their program was number 2 in the state in 2022.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner reported on the Veterans Day Program. Mayor Fetner also congratulated the City of Lineville on the success of Heritage Day and the Car Show.

Council Member Ballard did not report.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain reported the Arts League has started working in the park for Winter Nights Under the Lights. Council Member Cain also reported on the First Responders Sign.

Council Member Gaither reported Don Gaston has finished working in the Urban Park. Council Member Gaither also reported on the request for barn door.

Council Member Cantrell did not report.

Police Chief Stanford reported on agenda item number 15, and the success of Trunk or Treat. Police Chief Stanford advised the City of Lineville sends their “thanks” for the use of the Camera Trailer during Heritage Day/ Car Show.

Fire Chief Lee reported on calls received since the last meeting, agenda item number 13, meeting with ISO on Wednesday, ESO classes, and reported there is 24-hour monitoring at the Fire Department. Chief Lee also reported on the need for air packs for the Fire Department which will cost around \$91,000.00. Chief Lee also reported on a potential fund raiser of smoked turkeys or ham.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported on work recently completed including the Wynn Building parking lot paving and landscaping at the Wynn Building and Library. Supervisor Stinson also reported on repairs to the boat ramp at the Watershed and agenda item number 14.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn reported that the Hazard Mitigation Grant for storm shelters is still a possibility.

New Business:

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to approve the current bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$26,191.41. 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 LETS Access and Snap Entry for Ashland Police Department. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay Jacksonville State University \$1,250.00 for forensic services, consultation, and education services. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay Law Office of Gregory Varner P.C. \$3,287.50 for September legal fees. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to pay Woodard Brothers \$80,760.00 for partial road resurfacing/repairs of 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, and Tyson Road. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to pay Woodard Brothers \$27,00.00 for repaving of tennis court. Council Member Steed seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to purchase custom doors for the Urban Park from Ryan Poe with Ryals Construction at a cost of \$2,400.00. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to purchase (2) two Taser 7's from Axon at a total cost of \$5,549.47. (Annual payment \$1,109.91/year for 5 years). Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous. Chief Stanford explained the reasoning of the annual payment for 5 years.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to give Dispatcher Christy Yates an evaluation-based raise to Range 11 Step 1 effective October 27, 2023. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving to give Dispatcher Kerry Hamlin an evaluation-based raise to Range 11 Step 4 effective October 27, 2023. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to transition Officer Rashad Billingsley to Temporary Full-Time effective October 27, 2023 through January 31, 2024, and give him a raise to Raise 17 Step 1 \$18.42. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to give Sgt. Scott Parish an evaluation-based raise to Range 17 Step 4 effective November 10, 2023. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving to pay Alert-All \$1,580.00 for 2000 fire hats for the Fire Department (given out during fire safety visits). Council Member Steed seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay W&W Heating & Air \$1,728.00 to remove units off Robinson Building roof and seal openings. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion approving Chief Stanford to purchase a 2020 Chevrolet Tahoe (fully equipped) from the City of Jacksonville at a total cost of \$43,000.00 at his discretion. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Resolutions, Orders, Ordinances, and Other Business:

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

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Mayor

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Attest