

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, September 18, 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, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Fire Chief James “Jimmy” Lee, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, Anthony Mathews, Sheila Brown, Martha McQueen, Richard McQueen, Jennifer Clarke, Charlie Clarke, Dennis Robertson, Chance Jones with Clay County EDC, 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 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 approving the previous regular meeting minutes. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Informational:

1. Discuss monument honoring First Responders. Council Member Cain presented ideas for the monument. Council Member Cain advised the Community Foundation of East Alabama is going to donate to fund the monument. Council Member Cain advised she can present an idea at the next meeting.
  
2. Planning Commission Chairman, Dennis Robertson. Mr. Robertson addressed the City Council concerning the potential rezone of 4<sup>th</sup> Street.
  
3. Special Called meeting 09/20/2023 at noon to discuss park plan. City Clerk/Administrator Wynn advised the landscape engineer will be here to discuss the plan.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner did not report.

Council Member Ballard did not report.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain reported on plans for the pollinator garden at Ashland City Library.

Council Member Gaither on behalf of Senior Center Director Jeanette Johnosn thanked Dr. Chip East and Danny Carrol for installing the garden at the Senior Center.

Council Member Cantrell reported on Youth Sports and handed out a game schedule.

Police Chief Stanford thanked the Maintenance Department for painting fencing at the Police Department.

Fire Chief Lee reported on calls received, upcoming training, and upcoming inspections from ISO.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported on work completed by the department, the sod at Williamson Field, and power installed at park.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn did not report.

New Business:

Council Member Cain made a motion approving the current bills received since the last regular meeting in the amount of \$22,549.85. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to purchase tobacco stamps from Meyercord Revenue Inc. at a total cost of \$3,407.49. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to appoint Terry Grogan to Ashland Waterworks and Sewer Board. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to terminate Officer Jasmine Graham effective September 18, 2023. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous. Chief Stanford advised Officer Graham failed to meet the standards of an Ashland Police Officer.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to pay Goodwyn Mills and Caywood \$5,500.00 for engineering fees for the Ashland ATRP SR-9 project. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving to give City Clerk/Administrator Chelsey Wynn an evaluation-based raise to Range 22 Step 9 effective September 4, 2023. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay the Law Office of Gregory M. Varner, P.C. \$2,551.50 for August attorney fees. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion approving to give Magistrate Robyn Waters a one-step raise to Range 11 Step 9 for completion of Magistrate Certification effective September 16, 2023. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion approving to pay SEM'S Fire an estimated cost of \$3,589.00. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous. Fire Chief Lee advised that is for full services for Engine 3.

Council Member Cain made a motion approving Mr. Ronald Robertson, Revenue Commissioner of Clay County to assess and collect property taxes for the City of Ashland, Alabama. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to hire Donnie Lester as a non-certified patrol officer at Range 12 Step 1 effective 9.20.2023 and purchase necessary equipment and uniforms. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Chief Stanford advised he will attend the academy in January.

Council Member Cain requested the new Officers attend a council meeting to allow Council Members to meet them.

Council Member Cain made a motion to hire Tim Mitchell as a non-certified patrol officer at Range 12 Step 1 effective 9.20.2023 and purchase necessary equipment and uniforms. Council Member Steed. seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to purchase Coolvu Tinite Ceramic 35 Tint for windows on building next to City Hall (Robinson Building) at a cost of \$3,406.00. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to pay Woodard Brothers Grading, Inc. \$69,825.00 for paving Wynn Building parking lot. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Resolutions, Orders, Ordinances, and Other Business:

1. Ordinance No. 2023-09-05-02 Amending Zoning Ordinance 2022-05-02-01- Certain Property from R1 Residential to R2 Multi Family Residential District.

Mayor Fetner made a motion to postpone voting on Ordinance No. 2023-09-05-02 Amending Zoning Ordinance 2022-05-02-01: Certain Property from R1 Residential to R2 Multi Family Residential District to allow voting members additional time to consider the Ordinance. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion.

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