

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 2024

The Ashland City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, October 7, 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, Police Chief Joseph Stanford, Maintenance Supervisor Phillip Stinson, Michelle Robinson, Sophia Jane, Cindy Atkinson, Jamie Zackery, Abby Duncan, and Ray Stansell with the Clay Times Journal.

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

Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk Robin Catrett and Parks & Recreation/Youth Sports Director Ward were absent.

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

Informational:

1. Cindy Atkinson-Alta Pointe Update:

Cindy Atkinson reported on activities that Alta Pointe has been working on.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Fetner thanked the Ashland fire department, Clay County Fire Association, Wellborn Cabinet, and the citizens of Clay and surrounding counties for their work and contributions to the victims of Hurricane Helene.

Council Member Ballard did not report.

Council Member Steed did not report.

Council Member Cain thanked the maintenance department for their work at the park including picnic tables and azaleas and for taking the rocking chairs to the square. Council Member Cain also mentioned things happening in the community, homeschool students helping the community, and that she would like to see the toy soldiers return for Christmas decorations. Council Member Cain also stated that a homeschool group would like to identify tree species and place signs on them at the park. The council agreed to allow the students to make the signs. Mayor Fetner asked for the topic of toy soldiers to be placed on the next agenda.

Council Member Gaither spoke on behalf of Fire Chief Lee thanking everyone for their donations for the victims of hurricane Helene.

Council Member Cantrell reported on upcoming basketball signups.

Police Chief Joseph Stanford reported on agenda items.

Maintenance Supervisor Stinson reported that lights on the square are now operational, columns on the square have been replaced, and dirt work at park has been completed for safety concerns.

City Clerk/Administrator Wynn did not report.

New Business:

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to approve the bills received since the last meeting in the amount of \$12,961.54. Council Member Gaither seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to pay the Law Office of Gregory Varner \$2,072.50 for legal fees for the month of August. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion to pay NAFECO \$8,107.39 for gear for the Fire Department (paid from the Fire Dept. Tax Fund). Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cantrell made a motion to approve the Agreement for Housing Municipal Jail Inmates with the Clay County Commission. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to approve the to pay MPH Industries, Inc. \$4,524.00 for radar units for the Police Department. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Ballard made a motion to approve the agreement with the Center for Applied Forensics with Jacksonville State University in the amount of \$1,250.00 for forensic services, consultation, and education services. Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to pay Clay County Commission and Clay County Sherriff's Office a total of \$13,209.28 for officer reimbursement for Officer Ethan Clark. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Cain made a motion to approve the Clay County Historical Society appropriation (included in budget). Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Council Member Gaither made a motion to approve to pay Reveal \$4,544.00 for 6 body cameras for the Ashland Police Department (to be reimbursed 50% by grant). Council Member Cantrell seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

Old Business:

Resolutions, Orders, Ordinances, and Other Business:

1. Resolution No. 10-07-01-2024: A resolution revising the purchase policy for the City of Ashland

Council Member Cain made a motion to approve Resolution No. 10-07-01-2024. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and all votes were unanimous.

2. Ordinance No. 2024-10-07-01: An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Ashland

Council Member Gaither made a motion to suspend the rules to consider Ordinance No 2024-10-07-01 at its first reading. Council Member Cain seconded the motion, and roll call vote was as follows:

Council Member Ballard:	Yea
Council Member Steed:	Yea
Council Member Cain:	Yea
Council Member Gaither:	Yea
Council Member Cantrell:	Yea
Mayor Fetner:	Yea

Council Member Gaither made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-10-07-01. Council Member Ballard seconded the motion, and roll call vote was as follows:

Council Member Ballard:	Yea
Council Member Steed:	Yea
Council Member Cain:	Yea
Council Member Gaither:	Yea
Council Member Cantrell:	Yea
Mayor Fetner:	Yea

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

Mayor

Attest