

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
January 20, 2015**

The City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama met in a Regular Session in the Council Chambers of Columbiana City Hall at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday January 6, 2015. Mayor Stancil Handley called the meeting to order and then asked City Clerk Mark Frey to call roll after the invocation and pledge.

Present:

Council member Leslie Whiting	Council member Barbara Moore
Council member Ricky Ruston	Council member Ouida Mayfield
Mayor Stancil Handley	

Absent:

Council member Kim King

A quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes: January 6, 2015

Council member Whiting moved to approve the consent agenda and Council member Ruston seconded the motion which given to a vote and was approved unanimously by all members present.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- **Fire** – Rodney Reid reported that everything is looking good for the Fire Department. There is a new gentleman that has come down and wants to volunteer. The ladder truck is still out of service due to the hydraulics. Once the repair is made it will have to be inspected prior to being put back into service. Mayor Handley asked the public safety committee to meet immediately following the council meeting to make a decision about this repair and get it fixed.
- **Police Department** – Chief Lamar Vick reported that he has several vehicles that he is preparing to make surplus property at the next Council meeting. The plan is to also keep a couple of vehicles for parts. Chief Vick thanked the Council for getting his department's fleet into such great shape. Chief Vick also noted that he will be going to a Chief's Conference in Montgomery next week.
- **Rescue** – Rescue representative Matt Rush reported that the new ambulance is in service and a wonderful piece of equipment. He also said that Rescue expects to make approximately 900 trips in the next 12 months with this vehicle – logging over 60K miles. Mayor Hanley stated that he is excited to see these new ambulances in service and he noted that these new 4x4 ambulances are some of the nicest available.

- **Admin** – Department Head Mark Frey reported that his department has been busy working on business license renewals. He also stated that he had been contacted by 2 separate individuals with parcels of land that are on Carters Lane requesting to build new homes. Everything is going good in City Hall.
- **Streets** – Department Head Allen Reynolds reported that his guys are picking up brush and getting ready to work on lights at the ball fields. There are 40 bulbs that are out at the fields and the cost will be approximately \$1400 to change these bulbs. Mayor Handley explained that Allen’s guys have also gone through City Hall and replaced many bulbs and cleaned lenses on the lights.

This year will be the first year that we have a piece of equipment that can change the lightbulbs at the ballparks. The new bucket truck is in service and can reach all of our lights in the ballparks.

- **Environmental Services** – Dale Lucas reported that the Columbiana Housing Authority is inquiring about building 60 new apartments behind the PHA building. Dale’s department is preparing to do some smoke testing and the flow study that was authorized by the Council at the last meeting.

Jacob Welch has turned in his 2 week notice and Dale noted that this will make some of the projects more difficult. There are also some of our gravity flow lines that are flowing away from the treatment plant. These issues have become evident during the recent heavy rains. This flow study will tell us where to start with our repairs and reveal places where rain water is getting into our system.

Mayor Handley reported that last week he and Mark Frey had met with RiverTree Systems, Inc. to look at Business License, Sales Tax and Use Tax auditing and collection. This company specializes in helping municipalities in the identification of licenses and taxes that are not being correctly reported. The Mayor and Council asked City Clerk Mark Frey to contact RiverTree to come in and make a presentation to the Council in order to get all questions answered.

A proposed Vehicle Use Policy was presented to the Council and will be voted on at the next meeting.

Mayor Handley asked the Council to take a look at the Mayoral and Council pay. The Mayor noted that this is being discussed now but would not take effect until after the next election takes place in 2016.

Council member Mayfield discussed the different components of the City Seal. There are several options including the tree, lamppost and the combination. This will be decided at the next Council meeting.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Handley met with Arcpoint Labs. Currently the City of Columbiana doesn't do random drug testing. All testing is done on sight and should only take approximately 10 minutes out of the day for each employee tested. There was quite a bit of discussion about this program and how it will be implemented. Mayor Handley asked that the Policy Committee meet about the implementation of the new drug testing program and bring a recommendation back to the Council.

O'Reilly's Auto Parts has opened up and appears to be very busy especially during the nights and weekends when there are fewer choices in town open. A new women's boutique called Sassy Sisters will be moving into the old Doughnut Chef on the corner of Main Street and College Street.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

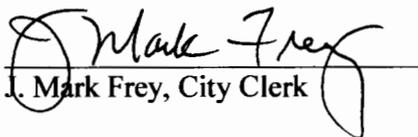
PUBLIC COMMENT

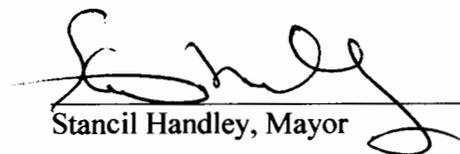
Nancy Davis asked about the progress on the Old Mill Square Park project. Mayor Handley reported that the plan is to work on the pavilion and restrooms as well as get the park into a usable space.

Helen Dean reported that Cowboy Day coming up and posters should be in about the end of next week. Seventh Heaven will have a ribbon cutting celebrating the new owners.

Helen reported that she will be moving to Nashville with her husband as he has taken a new job. Mayor Handley spoke about how invaluable Helen has been to the City and the diversity of her job requirements. Mrs. Dean thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to work for the City and expressed her desire to help with the training of the new employee insuring a smooth transition.

There being no further business, Council member Whiting moved that the meeting be adjourned, Council member Ruston seconded and the motion passed by vote of all members of the Council present. Mayor Handley declared the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.


J. Mark Frey, City Clerk


Stancil Handley, Mayor

