REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
March 3, 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 March 3, 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 Ricky Ruston
Council member Kim King
Council member Barbara Moore
Council member Ouida Mayfield
Mayor Stancil Handley

Absent:

None. A quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENGA

A. Approval of Minutes: February 17, 2015 – Regular Meeting.
B. Waste Water Department hiring of Skylar Martin at Pay Grade VII Step 1 as a Waste Water Operator Trainee.
C. Hiring of Jon Harrison at Pay Grade X Step 2 as the new Marketing Director for the City of Columbiana.
D. Recommendation of Department Head and Council to move Waste Water Trainee Chris Lee from Pay Grade VII Step 3 to Pay Grade VII Step 6.

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- **Library** – Columbiana Library Director Tom Rary reported that he was settling in and making plans to build on to the existing library programs. He thanked the City and Friends of the Library for the nice reception and welcoming him on board as the new Library Director.

- **Admin** – Department Head Mark Frey reported that he was in Montgomery yesterday working on his CPM II project focusing on the Heroin deaths. He also reported that the new M4A employee, Kathy Author, was working today in the Administrative Department. The City of Columbiana is a host agency that

provides training for seniors that are getting back into the workforce. Mark reported that Kathy was doing a great job and he felt that the partnership with M4A was great for the City.

- **Rescue** – Matt Rush reported that they had 175 total calls in February. He stated that Rescue was thankful that the icy weather didn't come through Columbiana last week; although they were well prepared for it.

- **Environmental Services –** Dale Lucas reported that he and his guys are working hard and continuing to gather data from the flow study. Skyler Martin came on board on March 2nd and he is doing a good job. Two weeks ago Dale and the Mayor went to a class in Jasper where they learned about the slip lining technique for repairing our aging sewer lines. This technique minimizes any impact to the streets or homeowners and is less expensive than many other repair options.

  Mayor Handley added that engineer Dave Bechtel is helping to develop a plan to address our aging sewers here in Columbiana. The City is in the middle of a 90 day flow study determining where to start with the maintenance of our sewer system.

- **Police Department** – Chief Lamar Vick reported that Cowboy Day went well last weekend. One officer has been off a few days due to a broken nose. This happened when Officer Peppers responded to a domestic disturbance at the Kangaroo. Chief Vick noted that this incident happened during a shift change and there were 3 other officers that were able to assist with this arrest.

  Officer Matt Johnson has gotten his RN degree and his last day of work at the PD is on Saturday. Chief Vick reported that he has gotten his new vehicle in and he is waiting on some equipment to be installed before he puts it on the road.

- **Fire –** Rodney Reid reported that everything is looking good for the Fire Department. He reported that everyone is on heightened alert due to the extreme cold weather. The ladder truck is in the shop awaiting repairs.

- **Streets** – Mayor Handley reported that Department Head Allen Reynolds was burned by some acid while cleaning out a drain, but he hasn't missed a day of work.

Mayor Handley reported that per the Council's request, he has met with Rob McElroy down at the Jeanette Niven House about the repairs that are needed. A crew has been working there for 3 days and they are making headway. The first step is preventing water from getting into the house.

Mayor Handley asked the Council about the Special Districts. He asked if there were questions about these districts. Council member Moore reported that Rick Williams is gathering information and the Council will know more about what other Cities are doing.

The Mayor reported that the Planning and Zoning Department will be making a recommendation when they have looked at all of the information.

MAYORS REPORT

The Mayor thanked Helen for her service to the City and invited everyone to the sending off party here at City Hall at 9am. Helen thanked the Council and said that this has been a wonderful experience for her and her family.

Mayor Handley asked the Council to familiarize themselves with the Governor's new tax plans. With the massive changes happening at the State level, the Mayor handed out information to each Council member regarding the automobile tax rate in surrounding Cities. The City has double the tax rate of most every municipality. Mayor Handley asked that the Council consider aligning our tax rate with that of other cities thorough Shelby County in an effort to encourage dealerships to locate within the City.

Mayor Handley asked the Council to come by and meet the new M4A employee, Kathy Author. He also asked that anyone who saw Officer Peppers to stop and wish him well this week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Mark Frey reported that the Trolly's morning shift will now be running from 8:30am to 12:30pm Monday – Friday. Mark stated that he is working on the Trolly rules and regulations and a printed handbook for riders.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

There being no further business, Council member King 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 7:02 p.m.

J. Mark Frey, City Clerk

Stancil Handley, Mayor

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