

**COUNCIL WORK SESSION
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
Tuesday, April 8, 2014**

The City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama met for a Work Session in the City Hall Conference Room, Tuesday, April 8, 2014. Mayor Handley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Council member Leslie Whiting Council member Ouida Mayfield
 Council member Barbara Moore Mayor Stancil Handley

Absent: Council member Ricky Ruston Council member Kim King

Mayor Handley declared a quorum present.

Council Attendance:

Mayor Handley asked the Council their thoughts about attendance at council meetings and work sessions. Council member Whiting stated that he felt that the regular council meeting is very important as well as any work sessions. The discussion amongst all in attendance was that there may be a better day for work sessions and it would be best to work towards finding a good time that all Council can meet.

Sign Ordinance:

Mayor Handley and the Council talked about the electronic signs use here in the City as well as the City's own scrolling sign. The Council asked the Mayor and City Clerk to prepare an amendment to the ordinance (sign) to allow for scrolling signs and wind feathers.

Abatement:

There is a list of properties up for abatement and nothing has ever been done. Mayor Handley brought out the issue that no one has followed through all the way till the end of the process. He would like to allow Hand Arendall, LLC. to take a commercial and a residential abatement through to completion to see if this process will better serve the City. After much discussion the consensus is that the City needs someone that can follow through to the end and see these properties cleaned up.

Special Event District:

The Council discussed the possibilities of having a dedicated Special Event District – sectioned off in order to be able to bring events into the City. There are opportunities to host events here in the town and this will expand the City's opportunity to be an entertainment destination. The Council will look at other cities ordinances that are in place and prepare an ordinance naming a dedicated Event District as well as having an Event Board to look at each event and group requesting events here in the City to determine granting license for these events.

Council Discussion:

Council member Whiting brought up the issues with crime going on over on Nelson Walker Road. He mentioned that the road blocks that were used in the past were very successful. Mayor Handley mentioned that there have been more drug arrest in our City in the last 6 months than there have been in the previous 6 years. The Council discussed a petition that was presented to the Mayor and Council from Larry Pickett in regards to the drug dealing going on in his area of town.

Council member Mayfield noted that it might be a good idea to write up in the Bugler that any input that we receive from citizens is appreciated.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Council member Mayfield made the motion to adjourn and Council member Whiting seconded the motion which was followed by a vote of all members present to adjourn. Mayor Handley declared the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Stancil Handley, Mayor

J. Mark Frey, City Clerk