

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
JULY 2, 2013**

The City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama met in a Regular Session in the Council Chambers of Columbiana City Hall at 6:03 p.m., Tuesday July 2, 2013. Mayor Handley called the meeting to order. The Mayor then asked City Clerk Mark Frey to call roll.

Present:

Council member Leslie Whiting
Council member Barbara Moore
Council member Rickey Ruston

Council member Kim King
Council member Ouida Mayfield
Mayor Stancil Handley

A quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes: - June 18, 2013 – Regular Meeting

Council member Whiting moved to approve the consent agenda. Council member Moore seconded the motion and the consent agenda was approved by all members present with a vote as follows:

Yea: Council member Leslie Whiting
Council member Barbara Moore
Council member Rickey Ruston

Council member Kimberly King
Council member Ouida Mayfield
Mayor Stancil Handley

Nay: None

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- **Streets** – Allen Reynolds reported that Liberty Day was behind us. The street department is cutting grass and had cleaned the streets after the Liberty Day festivities. The Mayor added that several people mentioned to him how hard the streets workers were working all during Liberty Day. He also noted that before the event – all employees were encouraged to have a good time as they worked.
- **Waste Water** – Dale Lucas reported that more parts for the new aerator system for the waste water treatment plant came in and he is expecting the remainder very soon. The project should start around August 1st and will take about 10 days to complete.
- **Rescue** – Chief Bray reported that there was an incident that happened after the fireworks on Saturday evening following Liberty Day. A child had run into the road and the grandmother was injured while trying to keep him from being run over. It was difficult to respond to this emergency due to the large volume of

people and vehicles that were blocking rescue personnel from exiting the football field. Everything was ok and no one was transported, however Chief Bray asked that this be addressed for next Liberty Day celebration. The Mayor added that the department heads are meeting in the morning and it will be discussed.

Rescue ran 202 calls last month. 1096 have been run in the first 6 months of this year. They had 3 trucks with 2 people per vehicle out for Liberty Day. Chief Bray noted that there is enough call volume to add another truck, but there has to be funds to pay for it. The Mayor noted that he is very pleased with the progress with Rescue and he feels more secure than any other time with the response of this crew. Mrs. Whiting added that the EMTs had presented a CPR Class at the detention center last week and it was a very good program.

- **Library** – Library Director Dutcha Lawson stated that the Summer Reading Program was going well and included: Story Time, Lego Party, and a Pizza Party. They are working on the Teen and the Adult Reading Program as well.

The Mayor asked about new legislation that is pushing for digital text books and making the library “electronic”. Mrs. Lawson said that she is familiar with the digital textbook push but also said that many people prefer the paper copies. Mayor Handley also asked for the Library to include the City Council in one of their future programs at the Library.

- **Marketing Director** – Helen Dean reported that Liberty Day was great and she had no idea how hard all of the departments worked during this day. She commended the Streets, Fire and Police Department for all of their hard work and going above and beyond what is expected to make this Liberty Day a success.
- **Police** – Chief Lamar Vick opened up discussion about speed limit signs on Meyer Street noting that to his knowledge there have never been speed limit signs on Meyer. The Mayor asked if we could table discussion of this until his report as he wanted to address this issue as well as Thompson Street speeding. Chief Vick agreed. The seniors from the Senior Center are planning a tour of the Police Department. The new police vehicles are being outfitted with equipment and are expected soon. Also the new graphics package on the older cars has been very well received. Mayor Handley thanked the PD for all of their hard work during the Liberty Day weekend.
- **Fire** – Chief Johnny Howard, Jr. reported that Allen Reynolds never stopped working all day on Liberty Day and everything went well. Everyone did a fantastic job and seemed to have fun. The street department guys even helped with crowd control during the event. The Mayor said that everything ran very smoothly and he saw the fire department doing things that had nothing to do with fire. Good attitudes are contagious and we had that on Saturday.

Mayor Handley also noted that it was a real collaborative effort to pull off such a great event. Council Member Whiting stated that he was excited to see the leadership and department heads out “leading by example”. Many people commented how great this Liberty Day was done.

Liberty Day Parade Awards Presentation

Best Overall Patriotism Award – Sweet Potato Queens

Most Originally Patriotic Award – Bethlehem Baptist Church

Spirit of Freedom Award – Shelby Life Worship Center

- **City Clerk** – Mark Frey noted that Liberty Day was overwhelmingly positive and Helen Dean was a huge part of that. We have been meeting with John DeLoach about preparing financial data for the council. John has asked that this be presented on the 2nd council meeting of the month as this would give adequate time to reconcile the books after the first of the month rush. The plan is to have a comprehensive budget report prepared quarterly for the Mayor and Council.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Allowing ADP to handle the payments of any judgments or levies for employees here in the office. There is a onetime \$10 set up fee, per judgment and \$2.96 per pay cycle for them to handle the tracking for each levy, processing and mailing of the payment to whoever has levied the judgment. We currently have 3 employees that we do this for. So basically we are looking at a onetime \$30 set up charge and then \$17.76 per month cost to let ADP process these payments. This cost will be passed on to the employee in an effort to decrease processing cost to the City.

ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE # 07-13-02 AMENDING ORDINANCE # 06-12-02 AN ORDINANCE CORRECTING ERROR IN EXTENSION OF CONSTRUCTION TIME

WHEREAS, the City of Columbiana, Alabama, conveyed certain real property to the Shelby County Arts Council (SCAC) by deed dated August 8, 2008; and

WHEREAS, one of the conditions in the deed and in the ordinance approving the deed was that the construction of a fine arts building on the property be completed within five years of the date of the deed; and

WHEREAS, at the request of SCAC, the City Council of Columbiana, Alabama, extended the time period to complete the building by three years; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance approving the extension (Ordinance # 06-12-02) contained an error by providing that the building be constructed “within three years of the date of execution of the deed” when it should have stated “within eight years of the date of execution of the deed.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF Columbiana, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 2 A of Ordinance # 06-12-02 be amended to read as follows:

“A. Subject to the condition that a building of at least 6,000 square feet be constructed and substantially completed on said real property within eight years of the date of execution of the deed, said building to be used as a Center for Fine and Performing Arts to support, nurture and promote arts and cultural organizations and artists in Shelby County, Alabama; to establish a base for arts education; to provide a home for the Shelby County Arts Council; and to provide a central gathering place for cultural programs in Shelby County, Alabama. Should such a building not be constructed and substantially completed within said time, or should the real property not be used for such purposes for a period of six consecutive months following such construction, then title to the real property shall revert to the City of Columbiana.”

Section 2. The Mayor shall execute and deliver to SCAC a document amending the conditions contained in the deed to SCAC to reflect the extension of the construction period from five years to eight years.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication or posting as required by law.

MAYOR’S REPORT

The Mayor read a letter from Heidi Collier requesting a “Slow Children at Play” sign on Thompson Street. He has also been contacted by two people on Meyer Street about getting a 15 MPH sign for Meyer Street as there are speeders. Heidi Collier, in attendance, asked for the floor and the Mayor allowed her to speak about the issue. She said that this raise awareness about the children who live in the area and frequent the sidewalks and cross the street. At the very least, she is requesting a “Slow – We love our children” sign, like the ones near the elementary and middle schools. Allen Reynolds noted that the cost should only be about \$30 dollars per sign.

There are 25 MPH signs on Thompson right now, but the Mayor wants to meet with Public Safety Committee about lowering the speed limits in some areas. Mayor Handley asked Chief Vick to start tonight with additional patrols of Thompson and Meyer Streets. Mrs. Collier said that she has seen an increased police presence and saw a patrol car today on Thompson Street.

Mayor Handley asked that the agenda be ready on Friday at noon in lieu of being in the box and on the website by Thursday at noon. This is being done to give an extra 24 hours of time to add to the upcoming agenda.

Kemp and Seagle report about the Summer Classics Property. The site plan will be presented in two weeks. The Mayor noted that Kemp and Seagle have saved the City a tremendous amount of money due to being persistent in getting the digital survey that was previously done and not requiring us to have that re-done.

Liberty Day was fantastic and the Mayor extended his sincere appreciation for all of the hard work that the city employees put in to make this year's festival a success.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council member Mayfield asked about the striping on Main Street and when could this be done. There was discussion about options that may be available to help with the safety of people pulling onto Main Street. Mayor Handley asked the City Clerk and Streets Department to look into the pricing of bumpers for these areas.

Council Member Ruston asked about removing of graffiti from buildings around the city. The city removed some of it but was unable to remove from the privately owned buildings.

Council Member Ruston added that there would be a Little League Tournament in town with 12 teams playing 8 games Friday night, 12 games on Saturday and 6 on Sunday. Having these events in town is a big draw and we are giving out flyers to people with list of restaurants so they will be encouraged to stay in town and eat and shop.

Council member Whiting mentioned that the Bobby Madison Basketball Camp was a huge success with over 125 children involved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

With no further comments, Council Member King made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Ruston seconded and the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Stancil Handley, Mayor

J. Mark Frey, City Clerk