

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA  
July 7, 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 July 7, 2015. Mayor Handley called the meeting to order and 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 Kim King  
                         Council member Ouida Mayfield            Mayor Stancil Handley

Absent:            None. A quorum was present.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Minutes 06-16-2015 Regular Meeting.
- B. Approval for Police Chief Lamar Vick to use credit card for AACOP Chief's Summer Conference in Orange Beach on August 3<sup>rd</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> not to exceed \$500 for meals and accommodations.
- C. Approval for Marketing Director Jon Harrison to use credit card for Alabama Governors Conference on Tourism in Mobile on August 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> not to exceed \$800 for meals and accommodations.

After a brief discussion about conference cost and reasons pricing can vary; Council member Whiting made a motion to accept the minutes as written which was seconded by Council member King. This was followed by a unanimous vote of all of the Council present.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

- **Police** – Chief Lamar Vick reported that on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July at Hwy 62 and Chapman Road there was a domestic situation where shots were fired and 2 people were taken to the hospital. One arrest has been made in this case and other arrests are pending. One of the gunshot victims was released from the hospital and the second victim is still in the hospital.

Chief Vick stated that he would be attending the Police Chief's Conference in Orange Beach and he also updated the Council about the latest drug bust roundup. Chief Vick reported that every time the PD does another round-up there are fewer and fewer arrest made. This is a result of less drug dealing going on in the City. The Chief also noted that the conviction rate on these drug arrests was approximately 90%.

- **Environmental Services** – Chris Lee reported that during a recent lightning storm the pump station on the corner of Hwy 25 and Hwy 70 was destroyed. Chris reported that Officer Bradberry was a big help that night during the repair of the pump station. The repair on Mrs. Reed's driveway is being taken care of and should be finished up soon.

Chris reported that the new office is coming together nicely and they are building walls and replacing windows. Chris also said that Skyler Martin is learning quickly and doing well.

- **Fire** – Chief Howard said everything is good with the Fire Department and they had a low call volume during the month of June (17 calls). The new HURST Tool has been ordered

and should be delivered in the next couple of weeks. The guys will receive some basic training on the use of this new tool and its capabilities. Council member Ruston asked how many people it would take to run the new Hurst Tool. Chief Howard reported that one person can run it, but another is always there to assist and act as a back-up.

- **Streets** – Allen Reynolds reported that he and his guys have been busy picking up garbage and lots of brush. It is business as usual. They are recovering from Liberty Day. There is not much room left to dump brush on the City property located on the Hwy 25 Bypass and he plans on burning this brush after the burn ban is lifted in October.
- **Library** – Director Tom Rary reported that numbers are up approximately 20% over last year at the Library regarding the Summer Reading Program. This year they have 236 participants compared to last year's 173. Tom thanked Chief Vick and Chief Howard for their support of the Library. He reported that there are many events going on at the Library and they can all be viewed on the library's website. Author, Harper Lee's new book will be released on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August and the library will host an event to help promote her new book, *Go Set a Watchman*. The book will be available on July the 14<sup>th</sup>.
- **Admin** – City Clerk Mark Frey reported that he had been wrapping up Liberty Day and last week's Holiday. He reported that as we move into the next budget process we will be providing budgetary information to all of the Department Heads so that they will have time to get with the Mayor and discuss their needs for the coming fiscal year.

**Marketing** – City Marketing Director, Jon Harrison, reported that Liberty Day went well and he is getting with Fran in order to get the financial numbers together. Jon reported that there are also some remaining Liberty Day T-Shirts available for purchase. The Columbiana Merchants and Professionals will have a Karaoke Night planned for the last Music on Main. Mayor Handley thanked Jon for his hard work during Liberty Day.

#### **Temporary Office Trailer Discussion**

The Council discussed Mundy Motors temporary location and what options are available for him to continue with his location in Columbiana. His plan is to purchase (or build) a building and expand his lot; however there isn't a viable location currently available. Council member Mayfield asked that the business owner come and update the Council about where he is in the process of procuring a brick and mortar location. After much discussion; Council member Mayfield moved that Mundy Motors be granted an additional 6 month window of time to work on a plan to move into a permanent building. Council member Whiting seconded the motion followed by a unanimous roll call vote of all members present. The Council is allowing for an additional 6 months in the mobile office, but they would like to have Chris come to the next meeting in order to address the Council's concern about not having a permanent structure.

#### **Senior Center Director**

Mayor Handley reported that he received 2 applications for the new full-time Senior Center Director's position. The plan is to have a full time director and 2 part time employees that assist. Neither of the two applicants works for the City. Mayor Handley asked the Council for input regarding this new hire. The Council decided to discuss during next week's work session on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July.

## **MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor Handley reported that the sales and use tax revenue numbers are looking good in comparison with last year's numbers.

Clean up day for Columbiana went very well. There were the most people there of any Clean-up Event in the past. There was also corporate participation including Alabama Power who sent out a crew led by Bobby Maddison. Mayor Handley thanked everyone for their participation. He also addressed the fact that there is a tremendous amount of trash being thrown out - even now.

There was a meeting scheduled with 4 Cabinet Members from the State that didn't happen due to a special called meeting in Montgomery. The Mayor reported that we are pushing to reschedule that meeting as we search for funds that may be available for Columbiana.

Bobby Maddison had a great basketball camp and there were dozens of children involved in the basketball program. The Mayor along with several Council members and community leaders competed in a pick-up basketball game at the high school against Bobby and many other current and previous basketball greats.

Mayor Handley reported that City Clerk, Mark Frey had class down in Fairhope a couple of weeks ago and he would like to plan a trip with the Mayor and Council back down to Fairhope. He wants to talk about potential economic development for Columbiana.

Council member Moore reported that the owner of the old Falkner House on Center Street has approached the Planning and Zoning Commission about setting up a wedding venue. Mayor Handley asked the Council to talk about this again at the next Council work session.

Mrs. Moore also mentioned that her son-in-law would be competing in a Helena BBQ event this Saturday. Mayor Handley thanked Mrs. Moore and also mentioned that the following weekend will mark the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Shelby County Shindig here in Columbiana as well.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Handley asked the Bentleys to give a report about their building out on Old Hwy 25 Bypass. Mrs. Bentley stated that the building had been painted and they have cleared brush away. The next plan is to clear out the trees located behind the building in an effort to divert water away from the back of the building. Mayor Handley thanked the Bentley's for coming in to give the report.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

There being no further business, Council member Ruston moved that the meeting be adjourned, Council member King seconded and the motion passed by vote of all members of the Council present. Mayor Handley declared the meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

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J. Mark Frey, City Clerk

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Stancel Handley, Mayor